

PROMPT  
GUIDES



1 day



# 1-day Lisbon City Guide

A preplanned step-by-step time line  
and city guide for Lisbon.  
Follow it and get the best of the city.



# Other Destinations

London, Barcelona, Paris, Boston,  
Athens, Amsterdam, Rome,  
Budapest ...and more

[See all PromptGuides destinations >](#)

# Overview of Day 1

	<b>LEAVE HOTEL</b> <a href="#">Tested and recommended hotels in Lisbon &gt;</a>	
	Take Tram nr 15 from Cais de Sodre stop to Mosteiro Jerónimos stop	
10:00-11:00	<b>Jerónimos Monastery</b> — UNESCO World Heritage Site	Page 5
	Take a walk to Belém Tower - 20'	
11:20-12:20	<b>Belém Tower</b> — Iconic Lisbon attraction	Page 5
	Take a walk to the Monument to the Discoveries - 20'	
12:40-13:00	<b>Monument to the Discoveries</b> — Iconic Lisbon monument	Page 6
	Take a walk to Praça do Império - 10'	
13:10-13:40	<b>Praça do Império</b> — Largest square of the Iberian Peninsula	Page 6
	<b>Lunch time</b>	
	Take Tram nr 15 from Mosteiro Jerónimos stop to Praça do Comércio stop	
15:30-16:00	<b>Praça do Comércio</b> — Neo-classical square	Page 7
	Take a walk to Rua Augusta - 10'	
16:10-17:10	<b>Rua Augusta and the Baixa streets</b> — Lisbon's lively pedestrian street	Page 7
	Take Tram nr 28 from Rua da Conceição stop to Sé stop - 20'	
17:30-18:00	<b>Sé Cathedral</b> — Lisbon's oldest church	Page 8
	<b>END OF DAY 1</b>	

Overview of Day 1





## Attraction Details

10:00-11:00

### Jerónimos Monastery (Praça do Império, 1400-206 Lisbon)

**Opening hours:** May - Sept, Tue - Sun: 10am - 6:30pm, Oct - Apr, Tue - Sun: 10am - 5:30pm, Monday: Closed, January 1, Easter Sunday, May 1 and Dec. 25: • **Admission:** 7 €



#### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Jeronimos Monastery is Lisbon's most celebrated monument, a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1983, and Vasco de Gama's resting place
- King Manuel I commissioned the building in 1502 to commemorate Vasco de Gama's successful return from India and to thank Virgin Mary for the success
- The monastery symbolizes Portugal's power and wealth during the Age of Discovery. It is one of the most important examples of Manueline (Portuguese late-Gothic) architecture
- The visual centerpiece of the exterior is the richly decorated south portal with elaborate carvings
- Inside, along with Gama, important figures of Portuguese history are entombed such as kings and queens or writers Fernando Pessoa (1888-1935) and Luis de Camões (1524-80)
- The nave's 6 columns are beautifully decorated with characteristic Manueline carvings of ropes and exotic flora
- The cloisters showcase Manueline carvings at their best. Each column is differently carved with coils of rope, sea monsters, coral, and other sea motifs evocating the heroic Age of Discovery

#### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Admire the beautiful Manueline architecture of the monastery from the outside
- Start your tour by walking around in the church to see the tombs and the elaborate decoration
- Head upstairs to the choir to take in the church from above and admire the carved choir stalls
- Walk on to see the real highlights: the cloisters (with Manueline carvings) and the refectory

#### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- It is less crowded late afternoon or off-season
- Free admission with Lisboa Card
- Free admission on Sundays and holidays until 2pm
- Do not miss the best pastries in town: the café Antiga Confeitaria de Belém (near the monastery) serves delicious custard tarts since 1841

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

11:20-12:20

### Belém Tower (Av. de Brasília, Belém Lisbon)

**Opening hours:** May - Sept, Tue - Sun: 10am - 6:30pm, Oct - Apr, Tue - Sun: 10am - 5:30pm, Monday: Closed, January 1, Easter Sunday, May 1 and Dec. 25: Closed • **Admission:** 5 €



#### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Belém Tower is a fortress built in 1515 by King Manuel I to protect the city and its harbor. The tower is a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1983
- It is a superb example of Manueline architecture. Elaborate carvings of motifs typical of the style decorate the building: ropes, exotic flowers, animal heads, and crosses
- In 1580, under Spanish control, the fortress was turned into a prison and continued to function as a prison after the Spanish left in 1640. Later it became a custom house
- The nearby red suspension bridge is called April 25th Bridge and connects Lisbon with Almada. It was inaugurated in 1966
- The bridge takes its name after the date of April 25 1974 when Portuguese people came out to the street and ended Dictator Salazar's rule in a bloodless revolution

#### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Admire the white castellated tower from outside
- Enter the building and discover its interior
- Climb the narrow steps to the top of the tower for impressive views over the river Tejo, the bridge April 25, and the Cristo Rei statue

#### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- Free admission with Lisboa Card
- Free admission on Sundays and holidays until 2pm
- It is a very popular site so be prepared for a crowd
- Be cautious when climbing to the top as the steps are very narrow

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

## Attraction Details

12:40-13:00



## Monument to the Discoveries (Av. de Brasília, 1400-038 Lisbon)

**Opening hours:** May - Sept daily: 10am - 7pm, Oct - Apr, Tue - Sun: 10am - 5:30pm • **Admission:** 2.5 €

### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- The Discovery Monument pays homage to those who took part in the the Golden Age of Discovery. It was first erected in 1940 for the Lisbon World Exhibition
- In 1960, the 500th anniversary of the death of Prince Henry the Navigator, the original monument was pulled down and a new one was erected in concrete
- The monument takes the shape of a caravela with its sails billowing in the wind. Caravela is the type of ship Portuguese explorers used in the period
- In the front of the ship stands Henry the Navigator who played a leading role in the development of Portuguese explorations
- Henry is followed by important historic figures such as King Manuel I (holding an armillary sphere), poet Camões (with a paper scroll), Vasco da Gama, Magellan, Cabral, and other famed explorers, cartographers, monks and crusaders

- The only woman in the group depicts queen Felipa of Lancaster, Prince Henry's mother, the mastermind behind the discoveries
- The square in front is decorated with a mosaic (a gift of South Africa) representing a compass. The map in the center shows the routes Portuguese explorers followed

### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Admire the impressive monument
- Enjoy the view of the river Tejo and bridge April 25 in the background

### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- Inside there is an exhibition space with temporary exhibits
- An elevator takes visitors to the top for some bird's-eye views of Belem and its monuments
- Discount with Lisboa Card

[\*\*MORE Info and Photos >\*\*](#)

13:10-13:40



## Praça do Império (Praça do Império, 1400 Lisbon)

### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Praça do Império (Empire Square) is a large city square in Lisbon
- It was built for the 1940 Portuguese World Exhibition
- With its size of 280m by 280m, it is the largest square of the Iberian Peninsula and one of the largest in Europe
- On the north side the magnificent 15th century Jerónimos Monastery borders the area
- A beautiful city garden occupies the center of the square. The garden is 3.300 m2 (35520 ft2) large and has a sizable fountain in the middle

- The square commemorates the power and greatness of the old Portuguese Empire

### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Relax in the beautiful garden enjoying the view of the majestic Jerónimos Monastery

### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- To cross the road to reach the sea front go through the tunnel
- Do not miss the best pastries in town: the café Antiga Confeitaria de Belém (near the monastery) serves delicious custard tarts since 1841

[\*\*MORE Info and Photos >\*\*](#)

15:30-16:00

## Praça do Comércio (Praça de Comércio, 1100 Lisbon)



### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Commerce Square is Lisbon's main plaza on the bank of river Tejo with a broad riverfront
- Elegant arcades surround the square on three sides. They were built after the Great earthquake of 1755. More than 100,000 people died in the catastrophe
- The bronze statue in the middle pays homage to King José (1750-77) for rebuilding the city
- King José was an ineffectual king. Marquês de Pombal held the true power and was the real man behind the reconstruction
- Arco do Triunfo (Triumph Arch) marks the entrance to the buzzing Rua de Augusta, a pedestrian street in the Baixa neighborhood
- Pombal erected the original arch after the Great earthquake. After his dismissal the arch was torn down. A new arch was put in place 100 years later in 1873

- The figures on top of the arch represent Glory, Genius, and Valor

### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Walk around the square and take a look at the statue of Dom Jose I and to the Triumph Arch
- Enjoy the view over the river Tagus (Rio Tejo)

### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- Pick up information and tourist discount cards from the Lisbon Welcome Center
- Several sightseeing tour buses, trams, and buses also stop here

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

16:10-17:10

## Rua Augusta and the Baixa streets (Rua Augusta, 1100 Lisbon)



### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Baixa is a neoclassical neighborhood in Lisbon with grid-like streets. It was developed after the 1755 earthquake devastated the area
- Before 1755 opulent palaces stood here. Now simple and uniform buildings, built for tradesmen and merchants, occupy the area
- The neighborhood starts at Praça do Comércio (Commerce Square). The square was once the city's trade center with finance ministries and port authorities
- The Baixa's streets retain their original names. The names match the trades of the people that once worked here: ouro (gold), prata (silver), sapateiros (cobblers)
- The area's main street is called Rua Augusta that connects Praça do Comércio and Praça de Pedro IV (a.k.a. Rossio)

- This is a buzzing pedestrian street with street sellers, artists, restaurants, outdoor cafés and shops

### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Explore the streets from Commerce Square to Rossio Square and watch life go by
- Follow Rua Augusta all the way to Praça de Pedro V (Rossio), or zigzag through the side streets
- Do some shopping

### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- You will find great restaurants all along the street

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

## Attraction Details

17:30-18:00

**Sé Cathedral** (Largo da Sé, 1100 Lisbon)

Opening hours: Daily: 9m - 7pm • Admission: Free

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- Sé Cathedral is Lisbon's oldest church dating back to 1147
- It was built by Dom Afonso Henriques, Portugal's first king, after he reconquered the city from the Moors who ruled the city for 4 centuries
- The city's main mosque was torn down and this Romanesque cathedral was erected on its site
- The Romanesque main façade with two castellated towers and a beautiful rosette window above the main portal is one of the highlights of the church
- Today the church exhibits a number of architectural styles as a result of reconstructions and extensions (Gothic side chapels, tombs and iron portals)



- The remains of Lisbon's official patron saint, St Vincent, are kept here. Look for the casket in the sacristy along with other treasures and sacred objects

**THINGS TO DO THERE**

- Admire the Romanesque main façade and the towers of the church
- Enter the cathedral
- Walk around and enjoy the interior that is a mix of different architectural styles

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**

[\*\*MORE Info and Photos >\*\*](#)





# Spice up your holiday

Turn your regular holiday into something  
extraordinary

See all fun activities in Lisbon. [Click here >](#)

## Photo credits

### Cover page

Cover photo #1: Photo by [M@rg](#)

Cover photo #2: Photo by [Ferdí's - World](#)

Cover photo #3: Photo by [paul.carmona](#)

### Map

<http://www.bing.com/maps>

### Attraction details

Jerónimos Monastery: Photo by [brilliam](#) • Belém Tower: Photo by [wjhall31](#) • Monument to the Discoveries: Photo by [B G](#) • Praça do Império: Photo by [Charalampos Konstantinidis](#) • Praça do Comércio: Photo by [hamadryades](#) • Rua Augusta and the Baixa streets: Photo by [das21](#) • Sé Cathedral: Photo by [timcowlishaw](#)



Like PromptGuides  
on **Facebook** [Click here>](#)

[facebook.com/promptguides](https://facebook.com/promptguides)

# PROMPT GUIDES

[PromptGuides.com](https://PromptGuides.com) (web)

[twitter.com/PromptGuides](https://twitter.com/PromptGuides) (twitter)

[PromptGuides.com/blog](https://PromptGuides.com/blog) (blog)

[facebook.PromptGuides.com](https://facebook.PromptGuides.com) (facebook)

[flickr.com/photos/PromptGuides](https://flickr.com/photos/PromptGuides) (flickr)