

Templar Tourism



PORTUGAL

Templar Tour

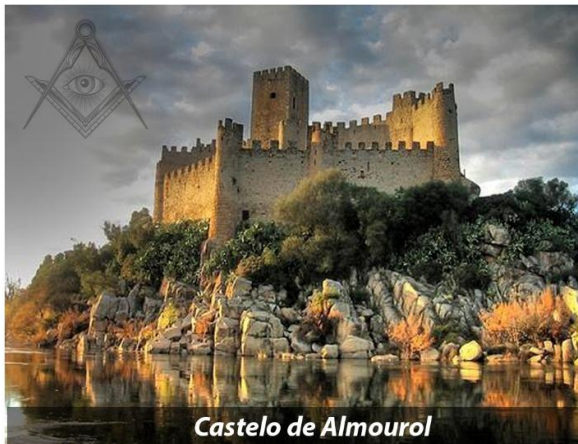
A complete experience through the lands of the Order

(Private guided tour by car)

Explore the legacy of the Knights Templar with a carefully balanced itinerary that offers a deep dive into its three great pillars: military power, religious faith and mystical symbolism.

Our suggested 8-hour itinerary, departing from Lisbon, takes you on an unforgettable journey combining history, landscape and spirituality:

Almourol Castle – An icon of Templar military architecture, isolated on a small island in the Tagus. Access is by boat, making the arrival an enchanting experience. This fortress, shrouded in legend and mystery, represents the strategic and warlike arm of the Order.



Castelo de Almourol



Castelo de Almourol

Curiosity:

Although it is a symbol of the Templar presence in Portugal, Almourol Castle has origins that predate the Order of the Templars. It is believed that there was a Roman or Visigothic fortification there, which was later taken by the Moors. When the Templars conquered it in the 12th century, under the command of Gualdim Pais, they rebuilt it entirely on the ruins, transforming it into one of the most emblematic castles of medieval military architecture.

In addition, its strategic location – on an island in the middle of the Tagus River – was not only defensive: the place is shrouded in legends, such as that of a Moorish princess in love with a Christian knight, who supposedly cast a spell on the castle. It is said that on nights with a full moon, it is still possible to hear whispers coming from its towers...

Entrance to Almourol Castle and Convent of Christ included.

Food and optional tours are not included.

Prices subject to change without prior notice.



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City of Tomar

Stroll through the medieval streets where the Templar influence can still be felt. The atmosphere of the city invites you to contemplate and delve into the religious traditions of the past, feeling the pulse of a deep religious past. The city was planned by the Templars themselves, and every corner tells a story.



Curiosity:

The origins of Tomar date back more than 30 thousand years, as revealed by the various archaeological findings that prove the presence of humans in the territory. We know that the Romans, Barbarians, Suevi, Visigoths and Arabs were here – and all left their mark.

It was in 1159 that D. Afonso Henriques, the first king of Portugal, donated this territory to the Order of the Temple, as a reward for the help provided in the formation of the kingdom and for the great military feats achieved. A year later, it was the Knights Templar and Grand Master Gualdim Pais who ordered the construction of the Castle, which would become the headquarters of the Order in Portugal, and founded the town of Tomar.

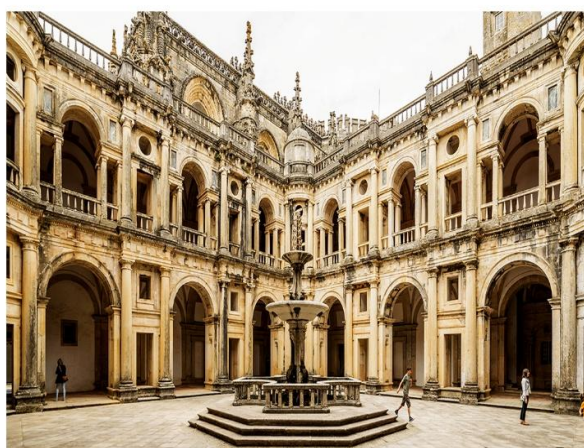


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Convent of Christ

The highlight of the tour. This imposing building, classified as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, is a true book in stone. The Charola – the old Templar church – reveals influences from the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. The famous Chapter Window, rich in symbolism and enigmas, represents the most symbolic and esoteric side of the Order. The architecture mixes styles and eras, bearing witness to the power and influence of the Templars and the Order of Christ over the centuries.



Interesting fact:

The Chapter Window - One of the greatest attractions of the convent is the Chapter Window, a masterpiece of the Manueline style. It is filled with symbols of the sea, faith and royal power, with ropes, seaweed and the cross of the Order of Christ. It is considered one of the most emblematic windows in Portuguese art.

Templars and the Order of Christ - After the extinction of the Order of the Templars in 1312, King D. Dinis created the Order of Christ to protect the assets and members of the old order.

A convent that is a labyrinth - The architectural complex is made up of eight cloisters, secret passages, winding corridors and spiral staircases. Exploring the convent is almost like deciphering a code: in each room, a new element, a new symbolism, a new story.

Mystery and symbolism

Many scholars and visitors point out possible links between its decorative elements and concepts of Freemasonry and alchemy.

Duration: 8 hours (Guide and private transport)

Investment:

1 to 3 people: €422 / 4 to 6 people: €468

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