

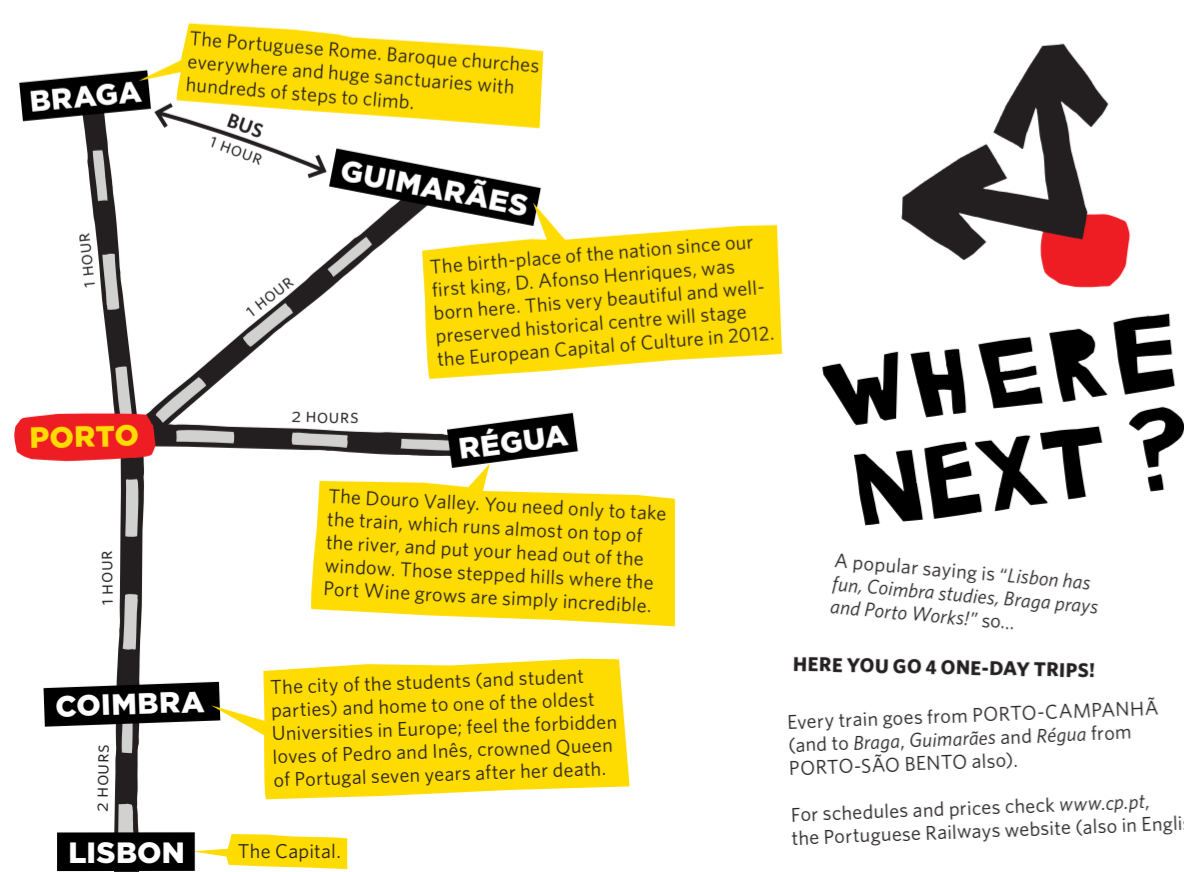
PORTO

MAP FOR YOUNG TRAVELLERS

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ACT LIKE A LOCAL

- Oporto vs. Porto** - just to make it clear, both names refer to the same city. Porto is the portuguese name. Oporto in English. Yes, it's silly that they're so close - only 1 letter difference. But, as it happens, the Brits didn't understand that the "O" they placed before "Porto" is actually the masculine article in Portuguese, placed before the name of the city. They assumed this "O" was part of the name.
- We rarely drink Port wine** - that's for tourists. But of course we all have one very good expensive bottle at home, which we only use for special occasions with family or friends.
- Kissing protocol**: once might be acceptable sometimes, but the standard number is two in every situation; more than two kisses - never! Boys kiss girls as soon as they're introduced and shake hands with other boys, but it's normal for boys to kiss a male member of their own family. Apart from this, to kiss other boys means you are gay. For girls it's more simple - just two kisses for everyone.
- You almost never see people on bicycle in Porto**. It's not because we don't like it, but look: this place has steeper hills than San Francisco! But feel free to try. Drivers are quite polite and it's free to take bikes onto the Metro and suburban trains... and it's quite flat by the riverside and at the seaside!
- "A galinha da vizinha é sempre melhor do que a minha"** is a typical Portuguese saying that means "my neighbour's chicken is always better than mine". Yep, we like to complain. And we're never satisfied with what we have. Complaining is the national sport in Portugal. It's like the *Fado* thing: we know Portugal was great, but that's the past...
- We all get crazy at São João**, our city festival on the night of June 23rd, when we celebrate the saint who guards over Porto. The city centre and riverside are amazingly full of people dancing to popular music, drinking and eating grilled sardines and smashing each other on the head with plastic hammers! No kidding. But we love it!
- We like to go out, but we start late**. So don't be surprised to find the bar empty at 10:00 and the club not yet filled at 2:00 or 3:00. We're probably still at the dinner table or starting off with a drink at somebody's flat. Come back later and the whole city will be stuffed with party people! But what's that car for - the one they go to order a drink! He entered the club? Well, when you go to order a drink the barman will ask you for it and will write what you had. At the end of the night, you pay for everything at the same time and give the card back to the doorman when you want to leave - so, don't destroy or lose it!
- Be a fan of FC Porto**, they're real champions!
- Don't drink Sagres** (brewed in Lisbon), drink *Superbock!* This is the beer brewed here, in Porto. We also drink a lot of wine - well, we are a wine country. Try a glass of good cold *Vinho Verde* (white dry wine) to refresh your hot summer afternoons!
- We're quite genuine and say whatever is on our minds**. Thus, even if we're not angry, we use a lot of insults like 'murçó' (which means 'asshole') or 'coraço' (which is 'fucking'). These are two very typical ones from Porto. We use these words as part of normal conversation, like Americans do, and it has nothing to do with being impolite, rude or rough.
- Eat a lot!** Eating is not about feeding yourself, it's pleasure and culture. In the morning we start with strong coffee and a sweet pastel de nata, then we go to a tasca to get *Aroz de Cabidela* (rice with chicken cooked in blood). Around 16:00-17:00 you need another coffee and a croissant. A good dinner could be *Isco e Bacalhau...* and later, when going out, we get a *Bifana*. A lot of calories, but still, we're not fat. Yeah, it's all about metabolism... Keep in mind eating schedules are quite strict in Portugal. It's possible to find a place serving dinner until late - for example at 22:00 or 23:00, but don't even think of showing up before 20:00. It's uncommon to get lunch outside of typical lunch hours (12:00 to 15:00 at the latest) as most restaurants are not even open. Apart from that, cafes and bakeries are all over the city and you can have breakfast or an afternoon bite anytime from very early morning until 19:00-20:00.
- If you're a student, wear a black cape**. Being a student comes with a lot of old-fashioned traditions. These are bizarre, infantile habits like humiliating first year students on the street, carrying a gigantic wood spoon as a hierarchical status symbol, and blocking the whole downtown for a day with the "Cortejo da Queima das Fitas" parade which even involves trucks with noisy music to "celebrate being a student".
- Where's everybody?** On Sundays Porto is dead - most restaurants and cafes are closed, and so are most shops, bars and clubs. What to do on a Sunday then? Museums are open and the parks and beaches are crowded if the weather's nice. But what families really like is window shopping at one of the multitude of huge shopping malls spread on the outskirts.
- HOW TO PISS OFF THE LOCALS - OR, HOW TO GET SMACKED**
 - "I like Lisbon better"
 - "Why don't you speak Spanish?"
 - "Álvoro Siza Vieira...um, who?" (the world-famous architect, still alive and a Porto native)
 - "I don't like Portuguese food."
 - "Wasn't Port Wine invented by the Brits?"
 - "What bridges?"



WHERE NEXT?

A popular saying is "Lisbon has fun, Coimbra studies, Braga prays and Porto Works!" so...

HERE YOU GO 4 ONE-DAY TRIPS!

Every train goes from PORTO-CAMPANHÃ (and to Braga, Guimarães and Régua from PORTO-SÃO BENTO also).

For schedules and prices check www.cp.pt, the Portuguese Railways website (also in English).

'Women are like Port Wine, both get better with age' goes the saying, which is precisely why Gaia's Ribeira (across the river from Porto) is full of cellars showing off their company names. Wine is stored there, either in bottles or in wooden barrels, to mature - a process that will change it's colour and flavour and can last for 10, 20, 40 or even a 100 years. This drink that the city gave it's name to is sacred, which is why we don't like tourists boldly asking for a glass of port wine, either in a restaurant while eating their steak - this is not just a wine, but a unique digestive drink or starter!

There is no big mystery behind Port Wine. Basically, when the wine is made the fermentation process is stopped at an early stage (2 or 3 days from the start) by adding *guardante* (a neutral grape spirit), which means not all the sugar gets turned into alcohol which makes the wine sweeter and stronger.

Port Wine comes in different varieties: *Brown* - White Port - is the only one that should be served cold. The rest are red and don't even think of chilling them: *Ruby, Tawny, Colheita* and some other special categories like *Single Quinta, Reserva and Vintage*. For example, *Vintage* is the highest classification a Port can get and it's made with grapes from a particularly good year - 2 or 3 out of every 10 years are considered good enough to be declared *Vintage*. It ages in a barrel for about two years and then in a bottle for as long as you resist from opening it. (There are bottles from 1870 still available, and you can imagine the price!)... but once open, you must drink it within several hours.

IMPRESS THE LOCALS

- 2nd century BC** - Portus Cale (nowadays just Porto) is a peaceful Roman city, serving as a trade centre and meeting point for Roman routes. Eventually the name spreads to the whole region, and later to the land of Portugal.
- 1095** - Count D. Henrique, from Burgundy in France, helps King Alfonso VI of León y Castilla to drive away the Arabs who had invaded Iberia. As a gift for his bravery, he's given the county of Portucale, which back then covered more or less from the south of Galicia to Coimbra.
- 1139** - 'From here, the name Portugal is born.' Portucale, now Portugal, becomes officially independent and the Muslims to take Lisbon from the Muslims - for some reason 'Lisbon' is not the name of this country!
- 1394** - On Ash Wednesday, considered to be an unlucky birthday, Infante D. Henrique is born in Ribeira. In 1415, he begins the *Descobertas* - the 'Discoveries' - leaving to conquer Ceuta in North Africa and thus starting the longest lasting colonial Empire in History, because we supported him so much, we give him and his descendants the meat, and those left in the city eat tripe.
- 1498** - After a trip to the south of Spain where the King falls in love with Arab *azulejos* (tiles), the first ones are brought to Portugal. Since then, as is visible, they become a hallmark and any empty spot is filled with them.
- 1756** - By royal decree, Marquês de Pombal declares the Douro Valley to be the exclusive production region for Port Wine, thus becoming the world's first wine region with a formal demarcation, and the second (after Tokaj in Hungary) with appellation control. (The historical and national pride of those who first did what first is convoluted...)
- 1809** - On the 29th of March, Napoleonic Troops invade the city in what's known as the 2nd French invasion. In panic, the city's population tries to escape to the other side of the river by crossing the fragile Boats Bridge. Under such weight it collapses, causing around 4,000 people to drown in the Douro. This was such a massive tragedy that we still now light candles in memory of the deceased at the *Miradouro da Ponte* (Souls of the Bridge). But with the help of the British, we kicked the French out...
- 1820** ...and afterwards came under British rule. The liberal Porto starts a revolution driving the British oppressors away, resulting in the country's first liberal constitution being approved.

PORT WINE

So, who invented this *nectar of the Gods*? Some think the British invented Port Wine. For sure the British would like to have invented it... but they didn't. References to this way of making wine date back as far as the 17th century, and most like the idea of adding aguardente to the wine came about as a way of preventing it from rotting and becoming vinegar.

At the beginning of the 18th century Britain's main wine supplier was France - for obvious geographic reasons - but they became again involved in some new war and suddenly didn't want to buy French wine anymore. This was our chance! In 1703, the 'Methuen Treaty' was signed, stipulating no taxes could be charged for Portuguese wines exported to Britain or British textiles exported to Portugal. The Port Wine industry boomed and thus began its worldwide reputation. This also shaped the city, and a heavy British presence is still felt with the English Factory House, the Oporto British School (the oldest in Europe), the Oporto Cricket and Law Tennis Club and the British Club. This shows just how big the wine business is and why a good portion of brands are actually English.

- 1834** - A Heart in a Jar. Because we supported King Pedro IV, fighting for liberal ideals during the one year Porto Siege (1832-33), he decides his heart must remain here after his death - it's at the Lapa Church, and the rest of his body is in Brazil.
- 1896** - In Porto, Aurélio da Paz dos Reis shoots the first moving pictures in Portugal and shows them at Teatro do Principe Real (now known as Teatro Sã da Bandeira, in downtown). Just less than a year after the first public presentation by the Lumière brothers.
- 1958** - Porto and hearts again! During the hardcore fascist period, a crowd of 200,000 gathers in Carlos Alberto Square to support Humberto Delgado, the opposition candidate who lost, obviously due to fraudulent elections. 'My heart will always be in Porto,' he stated. Seven years later he was murdered by the PIDE, the Political Police. The dictatorship only came to an end on the 25th of April 1974, with the 'Carnations Revolution'.
- 1960's** - You can eat it on every corner, it's a calorie-bomb, but we just love it! It's said that Daniel da Silva, a Porto emigrant, and returned from France created the *Francesinha*. He adapted the French 'croque monsieur' toast to the Portuguese taste and called it 'little French girl'. The Francesinha is a sandwich made with bread, well cured ham, linguica, fresh sausage and pork, steak or roasted meat, covered in molten cheese, served with a thick sauce made from beer and tomatoes plus some more secret ingredients!
- 1996** - UNESCO declares the Historic Centre of Porto to be a World Heritage Site.
- 2001** - Porto is European Capital of Culture, in partnership with Rotterdam. After decades of decay some big investments are made. For example, the first Metro lines are opened with some more now being built. Casa da Música is under construction, and the building is an icon even before the foundations are finished.
- 2008** - Portugal hosts the UEFA European Football Championship. The opening game is here, at the newly built Estádio do Dragão, and although Portugal lost first place to Greece, for one summer this city was all football.
- 2008** - The 'Downtown Euphoria' starts. For years a desert where nothing happened, downtown suddenly springs to life, proving that Porto is not dead and didn't lose the capacity to re-invent itself. New shops and bars open every day and the underground art and music scenes are more alive than ever.

TRANSPARENT BUILDING

Finished on time for Porto European Capital of Culture 2001, just after its completion someone realised the building had absolutely no purpose or function and couldn't be used for anything due its structure. When questioned, both the Catalan architect and the commissioner replied they didn't have to answer that sort of question! It gained the nickname of TRANSPARENT BUILDING and for years newspapers and websites made 'ideas contests' trying to figure out a solution. In the end it became a mixture of restaurants, shops and exhibitions, all with an amazing view to the sea.

Even if you don't feel like peeing, go to CASA DE BANHO for the ultimate toilet experience! Built in the early 20th century as one of the first public toilets in the city, it features amazing hand painted toilet seats (now just for display since post-refurbishment you can't pee on them anymore) and a weird hexagonal set of six urinals with a water tank on top - exclusively for boys but girls can see if they sneak in!

CLASSIC GOOD CLUB

Despite 20 years of existence, INDUSTRIA (Fri-Sat) is still a known sight for the nightlife scene as a club where widely recognized DJ's and musicians perform (Miss Kittin or Chicks on Speed were here) and where music is the main concern. And if you happen to stay late, don't miss the sea in the morning light, just across the street!

PEE, BUT IN STYLE

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D.I.Y. PICNIC

When you come to this area, whatever the reason is, it's almost mandatory to stop at AUGUSTO (Mon-Fri 9:00-20:30, Sat/Sun 10:30-13:30/15:30-20), the grocery store where you can buy a piece of home made cake, yogurt or some bread and a few slices of good presunto (smoked pork ham). They put everything into a small bag you carry happily in your hand until you decide whether to eat in the park or looking at the sea. (You will see more bags like yours around.)

CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM WITH A PARK

In Portugal, Serralves equals exhibitions, concerts and performances. The main building, designed by the world famous Portuguese Álvaro Siza Vieira, houses the CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM (Tue-Fri, 10:00-17:00, Sat/Sun 10:00-20:00). There's also a concert hall, an art library, a bookshop and a restaurant (the perfect place to get diabetes since for 3.80€ you can eat as many delicious desserts as you wish if you choose the just 'desserts buffet', lunch time only). But Serralves is also a magnificent park filled up with contemporary sculptures (ask for a map at the entrance!) which used to be the private garden for the family that lived in the beautiful art deco pink mansion (exhibitions inside sometimes) which faces one of only two art deco gardens in the world. And if you happen to be here on the first weekend in June don't miss 'Serralves em Festa', a 40-hour non-stop free festival with live music, performances, theatre, dance and exhibitions.

RESTAURANT ON THE RIVER

Build right by the river, almost under Arabida Bridge and covered with glass all around, CASA D'ORO (Sun-Wed lunch&dinner, Thu-Sat 12:00-24:00) feels more like a boat than a building - not to mention the beautiful view of the old city and the Gaia side, very impressive also at night. As the name indicates, it's an Italian restaurant with a pizzeria on the top floor and terrace (around 10€) and a more sophisticated (and expensive, around 20€) restaurant on the lower level.

BONAPARTE

Low lights and packed to the top with antiques: beer advertisements on the walls, a gramophone from another, little boat and leather sofas, BONAPARTE (everyday, 19:00-2:00) is a very nice place and good to try some foreign beers - the most popular here is Erdinger - and in the summer you can even sit outside facing the sea.

ARCHITECTURE FACULTY

If you're in an architecture mood, then a stop at the ARCHITECTURE FACULTY is highly recommended (and it's always open since the students are slaves here). Porto is world famous for it's architecture school where names like Fernando Távora, Souto Moura and Siza Vieira studied (the latter built this remarkable building) and where young talents are being brewed. Ironically, the next door Faculdade de Letras (Humanities Faculty) is one of the most awful post-modern buildings we have - it's commonly referred to as the 'Bullring' and it's so ugly you can't miss.

COMICS AT THE MALL

Inside Brasilia, the first shopping mall to open in Portugal back in 1976, is MUNDO FANTASMA ('Ghost World', Mon-Sat, 10:00-20:00, Sun/Holidays 15:00-19:00, 1st floor, shop 509/510). Every comic aficionado makes his way through the dark labyrinth of now mostly closed shops to get to the biggest bookshop dedicated to comics in the country, where you can find everything from the very underground manga to collectors' stuff. There's also a gallery with regular exhibitions dedicated to the 9th art.

MUSICAL METEOR

CASA DA MÚSICA replaced the weather as the most popular topic for bus-stop discussions some years ago. Designed by the world renowned Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas, immediately hated by some and unconditionally loved by others, it was planned as the highlight of 2001 when Porto was European Capital of Culture (although it actually opened in 2005 with a classic Portuguese delay). Now the polemic arguments over its weird shape are gone and everyone recognizes 'the meteor' as a symbol and the building that put Porto on the architect world map for good, attracting lots of architect-tourists from all over. For a bite, try the Artists' Cafeteria (everyday, 10:00-20:00, or 23:00 if there's a performance, located at street level under the main access stairs) and if you're lucky one of them might even play something on the piano! Visiting most of the inside is free, but if you want to see every corner of the building guided tours (3€) are also in English, and not boring.

TO THE BEACH!

Coming to Portugal and not going to the beach is like going to Rome and not seeing the Pope. Going to the beach doesn't mean it has to be a dead hot day and you don't have to roast until you look like a red lobster. The coast can be nice even on some winter days when we go there just to provide some company to the Sunday fishermen or to simply enjoy the power of the Atlantic. Keep in mind that Porto is at the same latitude as New York, so if you open your eyes maybe you can even spot the Liberty Statue's torch!

NORTH - MATOSINHOS DISTRICT

Porto-based world renowned architect Álvaro Siza Vieira grew up in Matosinhos and his first works are here (don't doubt it)! It might seem silly to build a saltwater tidal swimming pool among the rocks, but wow! PISCINAS DE LEÇA (Leça Swimming Pools, 1966; open May to September, everyday 9:00-20:00), is quite a building and it's like swimming in a sea without waves! Don't feel like swimming? Walk 15 min towards Siza's first big job and another amazing building situated on the rocks: CASA DE CHÁ DA BOA NOVA (Boa Nova Tea House, 1956). Now it's both a restaurant and a tea house, but if you don't feel like having even a coffee don't worry, the staff won't stop you from just having a look inside to get a feel for the architecture. Feeling hungry? Lobster? Shrimp? Octopus? Grilled fish? Don't know what to pick? Matosinhos is the seafood district and by default is full of very good restaurants. A fisherman's village, where you can visit the LITORAL STATION OF AGUDA (Mon-Fri, 10:00-12:30/14:00-18:00, Sat/Sun 10:00-18:00), a building that combines a Fishery Museum and an Aquarium that displays local marine fauna and flora. Walk about 20 minutes from Aguda to Miramar, to the CAPELA DO SENHOR DA PEDRA ('Chapel of the Lord of the Rock'). At the water's edge, the rock that the chapel is built on used to be a pagan altar which was properly Christianized by the chapel in the 17th century, but where strange 'ceremonies' still happen when the moon is full... so don't get too scared if you happen to see huge amounts of wax from burned candles and/or 'magical' remains of any other sort. Either in Miramar or Aguda you can get the train back to the centre, or you can keep walking and take the train back from any of the upcoming stations... or just lay down and rest on the sand!

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21 CRYSTAL PALACE
Of the long gone 1865 PALÁCIO DE CRISTAL (8:00-19:00 October to March; April to September 8:00-21:00) just the name remains. Before it was replaced by an atomic mushroom-shaped sports palace, (built in 1951 when Portugal hosted the hockey championships and we believed we were going to win it all), there really was a Crystal Palace. A smaller version of the London one, it was built for the 1865 Opport World Exposition. (Nowadays this event is called EXPO, something that came to Lisbon only in 1998, more than 100 years later). The gardens are still quite unchanged and keep their Romantic feeling, complete with peacocks walking around trying to steal your food!

22 NATIONAL MUSEUM
Named after the famous 19th century Porto-born and based sculptor NATIONAL MUSEUM SOARES DOS REIS (Tue 14:00-18:00, Wed-Sun 10:00-18:00) hosts a fine collection of mainly Portuguese 19th and 20th century painting and sculpture. The big masterpieces and names are represented - Soares dos Reis' sculpture 'O Desterrado' (The Exiled), and Aurelia de Sousa's powerful self-portrait - as well as some of the could-have-been-big names if the artist hadn't died of tuberculosis in his 20s. They also have a nice collection of furniture, metalworks, jewellery and ceramics from the 16th century onwards, and one piece you can't miss: the 'Namam Screens' is a set of two Japanese hand-painted screens depicting the arrival of those strange men with long beards, pale faces and weird clothes - the Portuguese, the first Europeans to get to Japan.

23 34 DOWNTOWN EUPHORIA I - READY, SET... GO A-R-T-Y!
For many years Miguel Bombarda Street was simply home to most of Porto's art galleries and suddenly... puff! It became the 'Arts Block', with a variety of everything in alternative: clothes and accessories, decoration, restaurants, cafés... Bombarda is more than just a street; it's where the young, art and alternative Porto mingle. Well, don't stick to this map too much, just go and explore for yourself! Keep in mind artists don't wake up early (in other words nothing is open before noon).
The ART GALLERIES (Tue-Sat 15:00-19:00) are too many to list. They are listed up - just dedicate 2 hours of your day and see them all. If you happen to be in Porto on one of those Saturdays when galleries instead open new exhibitions (16:00-20:00 or 21:00), try not to miss the event... Just follow the info on the big 'Bombarda' posters everywhere in town, and pop in and out of any gallery as you like.
If second-hand clothes sounds to you like 't-shirt-with-a-stain-for-50-cents', you must see RE USE (Tue-Fri 15:00-19:00, Sat 10:00-13:00). The three ladies who run this place carefully select every single YSL pair of shoes and D&G purse they sell. Don't get put off by all the brands (as they're not that cheap) since they have stuff for 1€ as well. And Saturday mornings are guaranteed shopping fun, at least for girls because they have a lot of stuff for 200€! From there, check out PORTO BELO (Sat 13:00-18:00), the open-air market everyone goes to sell their self-produced clothes and 'designer' items. What? A Shopping mall in this area? No way! Well, forget about Zara and H&M.
CENTRO COMERCIAL BOMBARDA

35 37 BIG LITTLE STREET
Pão-de-ló, our traditional Easter cake, has several versions in different parts of the country: salted (PÃO-DO-SAL) (Mon-Sat around 12:00 or 14:00-2:00) you have the chance to try one of the most famous ones. Since time began this shop has sold this cake, plus jams and marmalades and it's now a very nice café as well. Pão-de-ló is amazingly dry here, so you'd better include a cup of tea in your order. No more sweet homemade stuff! Go for a beer and a game of snooker at ESPACO 77 - so popular there's even a crowd drinking outside in the evening! For Portuguese old-school postcards, matches, books, stamps and similar things, check COLLECTUS (Mon-Fri 9:30-13:00, Sat 10:00-13:00). It's a collector's shop, but nevertheless you might find that perfect gift you're looking for! But the tiny Travessa de Cedeifeiros is also home to a variety of other shops, like the alternative BLOW UP where you have a bunch of hand made clothes and you can even order your custom-made shoes!

38 STYLISH AND CHEAP VEGGIE
If what you're looking for is a good vegetarian restaurant PALADAR DA ALMA ('Taste of the Soul'; Mon-Sat Lunch from 5€, Thu-Sat Dinner from 8.5€) might be the place. Have your Mushrooms Vol-au-Vent in a minimalist but comfortable setting - or for the warmer days, on the terrace out back.

39 CONTAGIOUS?
CONTAGIARTE (Tue-Sat, evenings) is a big house and garden where several things happen at the same time, from a belly dancing workshop to jazz concert or a poetry session. You never know if you will get jazz/fusion/latin or rock and reggae, but on 'Baleuburda' (last Thu of the month) you have guaranteed fun - it's the folk night when just listening is not enough because you must join the group and dance!

40 47 DOWNTOWN EUPHORIA II - SCREWS VS. RECORDS
Everyone in Porto knows Rua do Almada because if you need screws, taps, metal wires or anything D.I.Y. construction-related you don't bother looking anywhere else. But a few years ago, a parallel market began to emerge next door to the decades-old (sometimes centuries-old) shops: it's water pipes and screws vs. records and vintage CD's! Every evening you'll find a record store and a music shop. RETRO PARADISE (Tue-Sat 14:00-19:00) is at the front, and great second-hand vintage clothes at the back (but Elisa got a bit bored of selling garments, so now you must make an appointment to see them). For more records, you have ZORRO (Mon-Sat, 14:00-20:00) where you can buy your own vinyl record - the songs must be copyright-free, so forget about Louis Lige (Mon-Sat 10:30-13:30/14:30-19:00), sells all kinds of music - new or used, from the latest releases to the classics - and shares a space with the LOGO GRAPHIC EMBASSY (Tue-Sat 15:00-19:00), but for more rock/punk/progressive stuff we go to LOST UNDERGROUND (Mon-Fri 13:00-20:00, Sat 14:30-20:00). Take a break at MARIA VAI COM AS ORELHAS (everyday 16:30-20:30/22:30-00:00), a literary café and shop where you can also ask for a game to play.

42 RETRO ICE CREAM
The décor is so outdated it became pure vintage but don't try to pronounce the name in a fancy trying-to-sound Italian way. SINCÉLO (Tue-Sat 12:30-00:00, Sun 14:00-00:00) is just the name for a soft kind of snow. Ironically, it's better to have the ice cream with pancakes or in a milkshake, rather than eat it on its own!

43 CAFÉ LUSITANO
Don't feel intimidated by the huge chandelier, CAFÉ LUSITANO (Mon-Thu, 12:00-00:00; Fri&Sat 12:00-4:00) is a very calm and friendly neighbourhood where you can have a very mixed clientele goes either for meal, a piece of homemade cake or just a drink. On Friday and Saturday nights you won't believe your eyes - it gets packed with a mostly gay crowd and the room at the back turns into a dance floor!

44 Cakes, Cakes and Cakes
If you're fat obsessed, watch out! There's a Portuguese saying that 'a disgrace never comes alone' and you won't be able to resist these two delicious places next to one another. LEITARIA DA QUINTA DO PAÇO (Mon-Sat 9:00-20:00, and Sun after 14:00) bakes the best eclairs in the city (with perfect whipped cream filling and dark chocolate topping) and the neighbouring tiny-but-always-crowded PADARIA RIBEIRO (Mon-Sat, 7:00-20:00) seems to turn basically everything they touch into gold. Their cookies - like almendrados (almond cookies), pastel de nata, and passion-fruit pies are all highly recommended.

45 A CROWD
PIOIHO (closed on Sun) ('Louse', the parasitic bug that lives in hair) is one of those references you can't avoid making. It's a 100-year-old student's café that also serves, on weekend evenings, as a meeting point for hundreds of people. The top car has been far away. If you have no clue what to do, go there and for sure something will come up. For a good ice cream (or a faster beer) CREMOSI is just next-door.

46 EXPENSIVE PALM TREES
It was the 19th century French-made iron fountain, featuring some weird winged lions, that gave its popular name to the square: PRAÇA DOS LEÕES ('Lions Square'). But please, don't point your camera at them when you can visit the world's most precious palm trees 10 years ago, in order to solve tragic parking issues in the city, it was decided to build an underground car park beneath this square, and half the city went crazy over the thought that these palm trees might be removed. So, the car park was dug around the palm trees, which for their part were protected by a metal structure. The whole procedure increased the cost of the car park several times, but the palms are still there and in good health. The big building behind is the headquarters of the University of Porto, and you can visit the GALERIA DE LEÕES (near the main entrance and turn right, go through the Shop and it's at the back; Mon-Fri, 10:00-19:00), an art gallery where the Fine Arts Faculty students show their fresh work.

49 51 THE CROWD
PRAÇA FILIPA DE LENCASTRE is the newest spot on the 'Downtown Euphoria' map. This square is small but gathers surprising amounts of people on Friday and Saturday nights, when everyone is just outside drinking with friends. AVIZ (Mon-Sat 7:00-2:00) is a big café plenty of students go during the day, and also very popular in the evenings - and if you're hungry, they have some snacks like risotto (meat dumplings) and good fresh pasta. DIVAN (everyday 12:00-2:00 or 3:00) is probably the oldest kebab restaurant in the city and one of the most popular ones; if you feel like Kurdish music, eat your kebab upstairs at one of the 'arabic' rooms and smoke a water pipe. Get drinks at PRAÇA (Tue-Sun, 15:00-3:00), a bar specializing in cocktails with a bunch of different ones. If you're looking for a more cosy and calm indoor café, ROSA ESCURA ('Dark Rose' Tue-Sun, 21:00-00:00 or 2:00) is just around the corner.

52 DOWNTOWN EUPHORIA III - THE ODYSSEY BEGINS
Imagine this street just a few years ago: there were empty buildings everywhere, like everywhere in Porto. Felipe and his twin brother João decided not to go to Lisbon to make a living, as so many young Porto people were doing at that time, but instead started their own business, which suddenly changed and brought to life an entire block. That's how PLANO B, the first club to open in the area, came to life. At first a small venue to host the occasional party, it's now an impressive club with mutant decor (now it has fake Greek statues and fountains), parties with everything from heavy electro to rockably and a café that's open during the day where you also find some small exhibitions. For a smaller and more decadent late night rock club TENDINHA DOS CLERIGOS (Tue-Sat) is a possibility. After so many years when everyone just complained about the near-death state of the city, it seems something changed and the downtown came to life again. Now every young guy and girl comes here to mingle, to shop to have drinks, to meet friends and to dance. On Friday and Saturday nights it is especially booming: going from one end to the other of GALERIAS DE PARIS (the street was named this because the original plan included a glass roof cover as was fashionable in 19th century Paris) can easily take 10 minutes because it's so dense with people drinking and chatting. But it's also a nice area to visit during the day, when everything is quiet. CAFÉ AU LAIT (Mon-Sat, 12:00-2:00) is a relaxed spot for a salad or a piece of cake, with some DJ in the evening. Next door GALERIAS DE PARIS (Mon-Sat, 9:00-2:00 or 3:00) is a restaurant with lovely brioches à brucha decorated with lovely having a nice breakfast for 1.5€ (!!) (only until 11:00), a buffet lunch (5€) or dinner (8€). Across the street, the more exquisite CASA DO LIVRO (Tue-Sun, 20:00-2:00, 5€ to get in on Fri&Sat) is perfect for a 'long' coffee and next to it ITAPUÍ (until 2:00) is a bakery that will supply you with cheap snacks like empadas or lanches and beer for the night; ERA UMA VEZ NO PORTO (Mon-Sat, from 16:00, entrance n° 162, then up the stairs) has a nice balcony and it's good for either coffee or drinks until late.

53 HUMAN FURNITURE
If they're not there, it's only because something terrible is happening elsewhere in the country! The TWO POLICEMEN standing on this corner are as much of a landmark as the building they're guarding on the opposite side of the street. It's the Bank of Portugal's doors they watch all day long (and no, it's not the same two guys every day!)

54 SUGAR BABIES
For decades a synonym for top quality chocolates and almonds, ALCÁDIA (Mon-Fri 9:30-19:00, Sat until 13:00) is where we go to when we need a gift for an aunt we love at Christmas or a friend when we don't know what to get for his birthday. But what this shop sells that's really special are the liquor-filled sugar almonds (and in fact, just the name) - they're hand painted one by one, with shapes and colours ranging from olives and carrots to strawberries, beans and even babies! (100 grams for 3€) A playful and tasty Porto souvenir.

55 CODE NAME: WHITE TEA
Long gone are the days when high society ladies used to come to ATENEIA (Mon-Sat 8:00-20:00) at five o'clock to have their scones and tea. Nothing unusual if 'white tea' wasn't the code for the waiter to bring a beautiful teapot filled up with... white wine! These respectable ladies in their fur coats in this way could get drunk peacefully and unnoticed, at a time when women were not supposed to touch a drop of alcohol... Nowadays there is no codified 'tea' but you still can feel some of the old charm if you come here for your scones at breakfast or afternoon tea with Hungaros (butter cookies covered with chocolate).

56 JAIL TURNED MUSEUM
Our grandparents still remember the shouts and screams coming from this building as they took their Sunday walks in the garden out front. That's because it was a jail until 1974 and the city still refers to it as 'Cadeia da Relação' (Relação Jail). Nowadays it's the PORTUGUESE CENTRE FOR PHOTOGRAPHY (Tue-Fri 10:00-12:30/15:00-18:00, Sat/Sun 15:00-19:00) and regularly hosts several temporary photography exhibitions and a permanent collection of hundreds of historically relevant cameras. It's free, so at least you can go inside and imagine how it would have been to live among famous prisoners, such as Camilo Castelo Branco, a notable 19th century novelist kept imprisoned there for having sex with a married woman.

57 BEAUTY KING
Those who say every Portuguese man has a moustache have never been to SALÃO VENÉZIA (Mon-Sat 9:00-13:00/15:00-19:00, Sat 8:00-13:00). As you will notice, Porto still has some barbershops left and they have a lot in common, they didn't change much in the last 50 years and they all have the same popular Rádio Festival playing. Go and offer your face to an 80-year-old guy! Not for girls... sorry!

58 SAFE ART
Have you ever been in a bank vault, like the ones you see in movies? Going for an exhibition at CULTURGEST (Mon-Sat, 10:00-18:00, free), housed in a former bank, might be the chance you never had! The safe where the money used to be kept is downstairs, and nowadays is used to exhibit works of art. Useless to think about taking the money & running.

59 GOURMET COW INSTINES
Portos people's nickname is 'tripeiros' (meaning something like 'tripe eaters' - and by tripe we really mean cow intestines). The origin of the dish is uncertain and may date back to the 15th century. Legend has it that the city gave all its meat to the sailors that went to conquer the future colony of Ceuta, with only tripe remaining for the people to eat. True or not? Tripas à Moda do Porto (Porto Style Tripe) is the city's dish, which consists of a thick stew with cow tripe and beans. Honors should be paid to Mrs. Filomena, from CASA CORREIA (Mon-Sun; lunch), who every Thursday cooks for us the best tripe we could possibly ask for, and in such huge portions we can share them between four and still feel full.

60 BARROQUE TOWER
Towers are symbols of power and Porto, as an important city at the time, had its own TORRE DOS CLERIGOS in the 18th century (Winter 10:00-12:00/14:00-17:00, Summer 9:30-13:00/14:30-19:00, last admission 30 min before closing, 2€). Built as the bell tower for the church it's next to, it's still the highest building around and the tallest - only 23 steps - there's a breathtaking view over the city.

61 WAX ORGANS
Portugal is 99% Catholic but, as elsewhere, the Church was always quite efficient at adapting pagan rituals into respected traditions. DEPOSITO DA NOVA FÁBRICA DE VELAS (Mon-Fri 9:00-12:30/14:30-19:00, Sat until 13:00), a century-old shop where time stood still, sells wax variations of virtually every part of the body - liver, stomach, hands, legs, ears... and 'those ones' as well - for believers to take to the church, making a promise in order to have whatever disease cured in whichever organ they offer.

62 SMALL CAFÉ - CONCERT
O MEU MERCEDES É MAIOR DO QUE O TEU (Wed-Sat 22:00-4:00, Rua da Lada, 30; the name means 'My Mercedes is bigger than Yours') is a small café and concert venue in the basement of a medieval building which hosts regular concerts of mostly rock and indie bands. It's a bit dead now, but used to be a big thing.

63 SOULS OF THE BRIDGE
Bring a candle and check 'IMPRESS THE LOCALS'.

64 A HEART OF JESUS, PLEASE
For genuine religious kitsch (which is not cheap) CASA DO CORAÇÃO DE JESUS ('House of the Heart of Jesus') is here to serve you! The shop is small but beautiful with neo-gothic style wood carvings that give you an impression how things used to look in the once-very-posh, 19th century Rua Mouzinho do Silveira.

65 CATHEDRAL
Far from it's former glory, SÉ CATEDRAL (Mon-Sat 9:00-12:15/14:30-18:00, Sun 14:30-18:00), is now quite medieval looking compared to the golden baroque peak it was 70 years ago (the dictator Salazar, who ran the country from the 30's until 1968 didn't like it and burnt all the gilded wood inside). Left of the main altar is the smaller Silver Altar, an offer from the city's goldsmiths. Most people still believe the reason it wasn't stolen during the French Invasions is because we had the genius idea of painting it in white and the stupid French thought it was wood! Unfortunately that's not true and documents prove we just paid the invaders not to take it. Still, it's a beautiful legend you will hear everywhere and even though Porto is known as the 'Invicta' - the Unbeatable City.

66 BOOKS, BOOKS AND MORE USED BOOKS
There are four floors of used books, mixed in with old records and music boxes and used cameras and hats that survived wars at CHAMINÉ DA MOTA (Mon-Fri 9:00-19:00; Sat until 13:00), a 25-year-old bookstore that caters for every taste and wallet. Just ask Mr. Pedro, the owner and a true book lover since childhood, to help you find that bizarre one you won't find anywhere else! You'll also notice that their shop windows are always displaying something: posters from the 20's or even the 1950's. The program for São João festivities during 1950...

67 VEGGIE CENTER
ORIENTE NO PORTO (Mon-Sat, lunch), also referred to as 'The Hare Krishna', is a vegan canteen-style-restaurant that cooks just one really tasty dish everyday. But the view over the city, the open-air terrace, and the overall atmosphere make you forget that you can't choose what you eat. (6€ normal price, 4.5€ with a student card).

68 HIDDEN RESTAURANT
Do you know those '1001 ways' cookbooks? There is one (or several) on how to cook bacalhau, the dried and salted fish that's a Portuguese national dish (we eat it for Christmas) even though it comes from Norway, Iceland or Canada. A typical way of serving it is dipped in egg and flour and then fried - it's called Isca de Bacalhau (4€) and ESCONDIDINHO DO BARREDO (at the bottom of 'Escadão do Barredo' but no name on the door; Tue-Sun 13:00-21:30) a typical Ribeira restaurant with an open kitchen where Dona Cremilde cooks in front of your eyes and fries dozens of them a day. Don't forget to order something like *salada de feijão fradinho* as a side (cold black eyed peas salad).

69 HARD CLUB
For 9 years housed on the other side of the river, HARD CLUB established itself as "the" independent alternative venue for concerts. Now they're just reopened on the historical 19th century Ferreira Borges fruit market, with even bigger ambitions: keeping music as the main field you can also find performances of other kind as well as exhibitions, films and, of course, some parties. The place is giant, so there is really room for everything. Anyway, better check the program in advance because you don't want to miss a good gig!

70 POSTCARD VIEW
Save money on postcards and take the picture yourself! Just cross the upper deck of the bridge (do it on foot, it's more impressive than by Metro) and prepare yourself for the view! Add some romantic touches: go there on the sunset and make a picnic at JARDIM DO MORRO.

71 BAD HABITS
From outside, you would never guess that on top of this garage is MAUS HÁBITOS ('Bad Habits', Wed-Sun from 2:00), a former penthouse flat with a view of the whole city and enough room (and rooms) for a café and bar, concerts by mostly independent bands, parties, exhibitions by emerging artists, occasional small art fairs... all good reasons to take the lift up to the 4th floor!

72 LITTLE FRENCH GIRL
Arguing about where to eat the best 'Francesinha' (something like 'little French girl') with the best sauce is a polemic and hot topic! Inspired by the French 'croque monsieur' and 'croque madame', this adaptation is served in a bun and tomato sauce (plus other secret ingredients!) With or without fries or egg or even both, it's an amazingly popular meal or snack - this calorific buffet FASE (Mon-Sat 12:00-16:00/18:00-21:30) an excellent place to try it, where you'll have in 'little French girl' is prepared right in front of you!

73 COFFEE AND A VIEW
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75 GOLDEN CAVE N°2
In northern Portugal, Baroque means gold since we had tons of it coming in from Brazil, a colony at the time. SANTA CLARA CHURCH is a hidden and rather small church - cross the gate and enter that door after the courtyard - best described as a Golden Cave, covered from top to bottom with glittering gilded woodcarvings (a very Portuguese specialty) and the result is impressive, to say the least. Some would say it's almost kitsch, but you simply can't miss it!

76 RIBEIRA AND MIRAGAIA
RIBEIRA (literally 'next to the river') was the epicentre of Porto centuries ago, but now it's a mainly where tourists come. The Ribeira is a World Heritage site and surely deserves the title: it's amazingly beautiful and, something rare in places like this, it's genuine. Of course the main square, that one with the FONTE DO CUBO ('Cube Fountain') and the strip next to the river are for tourists. But if you move back a street and explore all those alleys where you can't even open your arms fully, and go up those stairs which are actually streets, you will find an area that has not change much since the 15th century, with the same people living here since time began. These people are tough but somehow the essence of Porto: simple and strong. Come to Ribeira to stroll around during the day, but don't go to the touristy restaurants at night. Rua do Reboreiro is one of the oldest in the city and so narrow you can practically shake hands with the neighbour on the balcony across from yours. Take this and you're on the way to Miragaia (literally 'looking at Gaia'), another labyrinth of tiny narrow streets with tall houses above and stairs leading to unpredictable spots - another great area to get lost in, but far less touristy than Ribeira.

77 TOP TOURISTY CAFÉ
To see what tourists can do to a place, go to CAFÉ MAJESTIC (everyday 9:30-00:00). Yes, it's beautiful art nouveau. Yes, a coffee connoisseur's heaven (with prices more than the average price). And yes, waiters sometimes speak English even to the increasingly scarce Portuguese customers coming here to get their afternoon tea and croissant. This place used to be a pearl, now it is what it is.

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Experimental? Rock? Electronic? As an alternative to the downtown night scene euphoria, you can enjoy a circuit of concerts happening at Passos Manuel, Casa Viva, Mercedes, Maus Hábitos, Porto Rio, Plano B, Armazém do Chá, Café au Lait... Every week there's a bunch of them! Porto's circuit is actually becoming an international reference in music!

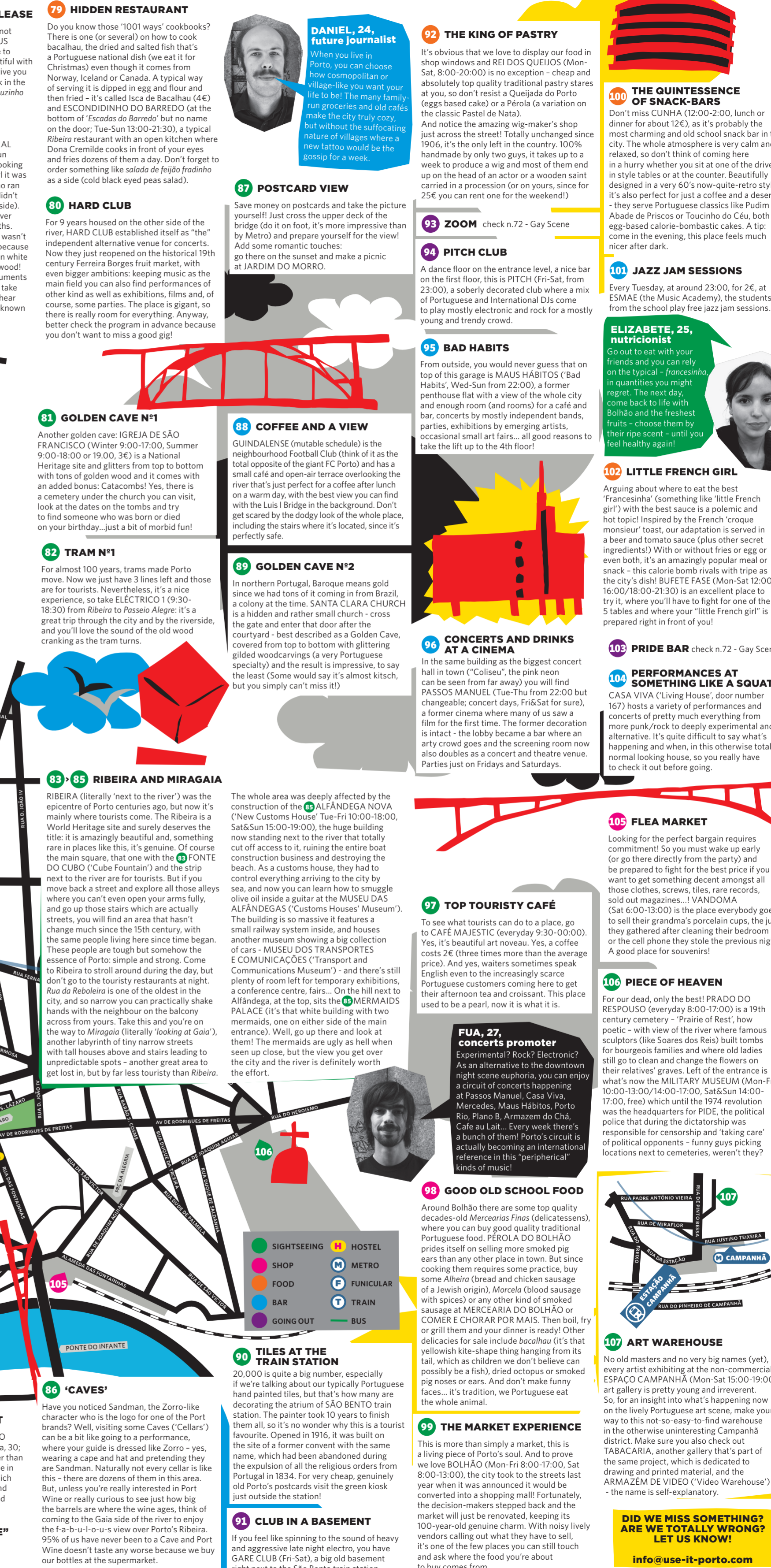
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Around Bolhão there are some top quality decades-old Mercarias Fins (delicatessens), where you can buy good quality traditional Portuguese food. PEROLA DO BOLHÃO prides itself on selling more smoked pig ears than in any other place in town. But since cooking them requires some practice, buy some Alheira (bread and chicken sausage of a Jewish origin), Morcela (blood sausage with spices) or any other kind of smoked sausage at MERCERIA DO BOLHÃO or COMER E CHORAR POR MAIS. Then boil, fry or grill them and your meal is ready! Other delicacies for sale include bacalhau (it's that yellowish kite-shape thing hanging from its tail, which as children we don't believe can possibly be a fish), dried octopus or smoked pig noses or ears. And don't make funny faces... it's tradition, we Portuguese eat the whole animal.

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This is more than simply a market, this is a living piece of Porto's soul. And to prove we love BOLHÃO (Mon-Fri 8:00-17:00, Sat 8:00-13:00) the city took to the streets last year when it was announced it would be converted into a shopping mall! Fortunately, the decision-makers stepped back and the market will just be renovated, keeping its 100-year-old genuine charm. With noisy lively vendors calling out what they have to sell, it's one of the few places you can still touch and ask where the food you're about to buy comes from.

81 TILES AT THE TRAIN STATION
20,000 is quite a big number, especially if we're talking about our typically Portuguese hand painted tiles, but that's how many are decorating the atrium of SÃO BENTO train station. The painter took 10 years to finish them all, so it's no wonder why this is a tourist favourite. Opened in 1916, it was built on the site of a former convent with the same name, which had been abandoned during the expansion of all the religious orders from Portugal in 1834. For very cheap, genuinely old Porto's tiles, go to the green kiosk just outside the station!

82 CLUB IN A BASEMENT
If you feel like spinning to the sound of heavy aggressive laid right electro, you have GAFEL CLUB (Fri&Sat) a big old basement right next to the São Bento train station.

83 DID WE MISS SOMETHING? ARE WE TOTALLY WRONG? LET US KNOW!
info@use-it-porto.com



84 DANIEL, 24, future journalist
When you live in Porto, you can choose how cosmopolitan or village-like you want your life to be. The many family-run groceries and old cafes make the city truly cozy, but without the suffocating nature of villages where a new tattoo would be the gossip for a week.

85 POSTCARD VIEW
Save money on postcards and take the picture yourself! Just cross the upper deck of the bridge (do it on foot, it's more impressive than by Metro) and prepare yourself for the view! Add some romantic touches: go there on the sunset and make a picnic at JARDIM DO MORRO.

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From outside, you would never guess that on top of this garage is MAUS HÁBITOS ('Bad Habits', Wed-Sun from 2:00), a former penthouse flat with a view of the whole city and enough room (and rooms) for a café and bar, concerts by mostly independent bands, parties, exhibitions by emerging artists, occasional small art fairs... all good reasons to take the lift up to the 4th floor!

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97 THE KING OF PASTRY
It's obvious that we love to display our food in shop windows and REI DOS QUEIJOS (Mon-Sat, 8:00-20:00) is no exception - cheap and absolutely top quality traditional pastry stars at you, so don't resist a Queijada de Porto (eggs baked cake) or a Pírola (a variation on the classic Pastel de Nata). And notice the amazing wig-maker's shop just across the street! Totally unchanged since 1906, it's the only left in the country. 100% handmade by only two guys. It takes up to a week to produce a wig and most of them end up on the head of an actor or a wooden saint carried in a procession (or on yours, since for 25€ you can rent one for the weekend!)

98 PITCH CLUB
A dance floor on the entrance level, a nice bar on the first floor, this is PITCH (Fri-Sat, from 23:00), a soberly decorated club where a mix of Portuguese national DJ's come to play mostly electronic and rock for a mostly young and trendy crowd.

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