

FORTALEZA DE ALMEIDA

FORTIFYING THE LIMITS

A strip of 1300 km stretches between Portugal and Spain: the world's oldest border. Furthermore, it is one of the best-fortified cities in Europe, with unique historical and cultural features that epitomize humanity's outstanding achievement.

CHRONOLOGY 1039 1156	1190	1296	1297	1508-1509	1510	1641-1643	1642	1663	1665	1695	1732	1736	1761-1762	1764	1810	1811	1928
Conquest of Almeida by Ferdinand the Great of León and Castile. The Moors conquered Almeida by order of St Julião, under the jurisdiction of the Kingdom of Leon.	Portuguese reconquest of the lands of Beira Alta, including Almeida by Paio Guterres (the "Almeidão"), and later alternating between Portugal and León.		Signature of the treaty of Alcañices. Portugal fixed its borders, and Riba- -Como and Almeida were part of the territory.	"Livro das Fortalezas" by Duarte D'Armas, with a complete description of the kingdom's borders, which includes Almeida.	New Charter was awarded to Almeida by Manuel I.	Fortification of Almeida, under the direction of João Saldanha e Sousa, soon to be followed by the Arch. David Alvares.		The troops of the Duke of Ossuna attacked the stronghold, which resisted and succeeded in defeating the besiegers. For this feat, the name Almeida appears on the monument of the Restauradores in Lisbon. On 2 July, Almeida celebrates this feat.	June refers to the construction activity of Antonio Piabla Dobles and Pedro	Demolition of several structures of Almeida's medieval castle, due to the action of lightning, with the fall of the keep. The repair created a modern fort with a considerable bomb-proof powder magazine.	A military academy was established at Almeida.	Date of the oldest known plan of the modern fortress of Almeida, including projects by Manoel de Azevedo Fortes, chief engineer of the kingdom.	Beginning of the Fantastic War or the Seven Years ' War. Spain's Carlos III and France's Louis XV occupy Almeida under the Marquis of Sarriá.	In Almeida, Miguel Luis Jacob began restoring and adapting the fortification.	Under the command of Massena, the third French invasion led to the siege of Almeida and the explosion of the large powder magazine. The stronghold was surrendered as a result.	French garrison escape to Spain from the stronghold of Almeida. By Wellesley's order, the English General Robert Crawford destroyed the Fuerte de la Concepción.	fortress is
FORTIFY THE LIN	MITS					1	Double R			Bulwark of São						ortes (1660 - 1749)	
Almeida lies on a plateau ne Unlike its Spanish neighbour 63 km away, the Fortress ove the entire landscape.	r Cuidad Rodrigo,		10			type ir the Dou	example of the N in the Iberian Per uble Ravelin is th porate work in A of the Vauba	ninsula, le most Ilmeida		The bulwark of São João de ensive construction program with 20 vaulted comp a hallway and a centre of the highest artiller bulwark, wi	n (about 250 artments fla al patio. It ha	0 m ²) nking is one of any		capacity in the fid The Brig of the A external strongh The aut	y and sense of missic eld of bulwarked arc gadier determined th Imeida stronghold's I works. During 1737/ old construction for	Portuguêz", a two-vo	gineering I. iiguration mal and eida's
The bulwar a paved pla It is there	k of Santa Bárbara k has 23 cannons and atform for mortar fire. e that John Beresford, hew of Beresford, lies.	. /		Praça A Tomb of John Beresford	Alta S			Casa da Roda dos Expostos						The Mu compar The site barrack has a pr a mused a militar	tments and a mega had different uses; s, and prison during rotected water mine um in the 21st centur	complex with 20 vau lithic roof, a unique t it served as a food s the Civil War. The p and a well. It was a y (2009). The Muser to chronological sect	feature. store, property idapted into eum exhibits
Gunpow Magaz	der	rdhouse			R	House o Marshal N Leitão de Ca	lanuel	São	ar (Manor Hou o João mória House	ISE) Nobre House	3			Revelin dos Ar		Mother Chu Former Conver	
		1		Clock tower		Terre	António Júnio	Prontão en compositivamente de la compo		João Dantas da Cunha House				Bulwar	Francisco	Senhora do Lor barracks and f	
Stronghold of Nose Senhora Brotas	50	G	Castle Ruins and unpowder Store		R.	Ve	iho	Main Guardhouses		Church of Mercy	F	0		""	In de th w Be co	f São Francisco the 17 th century, the e S. Francisco was bine outer Gate of S. Fr as built in the early 1 oth have a side case ompetent passive de ad to the troops' fac	ouilt, and rancisco 19 th century. emate with efences that
Almeida Centre for Military Architecture Studies Ravelin of St António				sulwark t António		A.	G	overnor's House	(VI century Equ	Timer Town Hall	Bulwark S. Pedro			Revelim da Cruz	Entrance	P	

FROM THE LEONESE **RIBA-CÔA TO THE** MEDIEVAL PORTUGUESE FORTRESS

As a result of conflict between Christians and Muslims between the centuries X and XII, the territory of Riba-Côa was fortified from Castelo Melhor to Sabugal.



THE MANUELINE FORTRESS AND ADAPTATIONS **TO GUN RANGE CALCULATION**

After developing gunpowder-based weaponry around 1340, Portuguese monarchs sought to adapt castle to this new reality. Nevertheless, in the XV century, the medieval Gothic castle and its remaining defensive structures were adapted for firearm installation, as shown on maps in the "Livro das Fortalezas" by Duarte d'Armas (1508-1510) concerning Almeida or Elvas.

FORTRESS IN THE RESTORATION WAR

It is an ex-novo fortification. As a stronghold, this was a military key to the area. It created or adapted the urban setting following the principles of an ideal city. Its construction began in 1641/44, mirroring the most advanced influences of the art of national and international fortification throughout its construction journey.

D'el Rey Arena (Ammunition depot)

Initially operating as an ammunition depot and arsenal, it has undergone several adaptations. There were forges for manufacturing and repairing war equipment and artillery barracks.



A23 / E802 Fundão Lisboa

Praça da Liberdade, 6350-130 Almeida Tel.: +351 271 570 020 camara@cm-almeida.pt www www.cm-almeida.pt

Municipality of Almeida



LEGEND 1 Information

So Viewpoint P Parking Public toilets



Double Gates of Santo António Designed by Jerónimo Velho de Azevedo at the beginning of the 17th century (with inscribed dates of 1667 and 1674), Porta Magistral de Santo António" xhibits a curvilinear layout. he "Porta Exterior de Santo António" has a straightforward design with guardhouses on both sides and a bomb-proof slab roof.

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FORTALEZA AND BORDER MEMORY

Quartel das Esquadras

of this baroque building.

das Esquadras" building, which contains 82 independent houses for at least 500 soldiers. There are regular openings and chimneys on the sober facades

The Riba-Côa region remains a place of movement, contact, convergence, and sharing between communities on both sides of the border, as evidenced by Eurocities Ciudad Rodrigo-Fuentes de Ooro-Almeida-Vilar Formoso, which promotes Luso-Hispanic policies in education, tourism, and culture. Almeida's municipal and cultural institutions have mainly promoted the town's modern history and fortifications. The historical recreations performed by the GRHMA - Grupo de Reconstituição Histórica do Município de Almeida (Almeida Historical Reenactment Group) are essential testimonies. As part of the "Siege of the Stronghold" (Cerco à Praça), the town was besieged and occupied in 1810 during the Third French Invasion of Portugal by Napoleonic forces commanded by General Massena to attract tourists and citizens.

Evolution of Almeida's uniforms and regiments

Almeida Infantry and Cavalry Regiments uniforms according to the decree of 1764 (Count of Lippe, 18th century) and Infantry Regiment 23 and Cavalry Regiment 11 uniforms according to the 1806 Uniform Plan (19th century)