

Viana do Castelo

ugal. This is suggested by some Manueline elements, like the « Torre da Roqueta », located in the south-west bastion of the actual fortress. At the end of the 16th century, the fortress was the target of successive works of improvement. It was under Filipe II (Filipe I of Portugal), at the time of the Spanish domination, that the actual fortress with a polygonal plan, was built from a project of Filipe Terzi, the most famous designer of military edifications of this time.

conceived by the Italian scenographer, Manini and made by Hercule Lambertini. This recently renovated theater is without any doubt, the main cultural space of the city.

enlarged in 1719 by the initiative of the canon Domingos de Campos Soares. The Soul Chapel is a typical example of small baroque temples of the 18th century.

and renovated in the 16th century, this building was constructed to shelter the « Santiago de Compostela » pilgrims. The facade is the result of the modifications of the 16th century. This can be seen with the Manueline windows and thanks to the original eroded inscription above the door (since arabic figures were not used in 1468). The stone sculpture and the niche in the facade, above the door, dates of the 17th century. The courtyard from the 16th century can be reached by crossing three wide and abated arcs of beveled corners.

1 | The Praça da República Fountain (16th century)
The fountain was erected, or at least concluded, in 1559, and it is a fine work of the master mason Joao Lopes « o velho » (« the old »). A few years earlier, he had accomplished the Caminha fountain and, probably, other similar fountains we can see nowadays in Galicia cities as Pontevedra. It was, during several centuries, the drinkable water supplying point for the Viana inhabitants and, due to its monumentality and its localization, one of the urban references of the borough.

30 | The Small Fort of Arousa (17th/18th century)
The interesting example of military architecture of the 17th century was built to prevent some possible Spanish assaults during the Restoration war (1640-1668). It is part of a defensive line, strategically built on Minho's river-side and along the Atlantic coast. It succeeded thanks to the restoration of former fortifications- as it is the case of the Castles of Valença, Vila Nova de Carreira and Santiago da Barra (Viana do Castelo)- or thanks to the edifications of new forts as the Lobelo (Vila Nova de Cerveira), Insa (Caminha) and Paço (Carreço) one, among others. Some of these fortresses have had an important role, not only during the Restoration war but also during the Napoleonic invasions. Moreover their strategic military function has sometimes been reactivated during the liberal struggles of the 19th century.

22 | The Convent and the Church of Saint Anthony (17th/18th century)
23 | The Church and the Convent of the 3rd Order of S. Francis (18th century)
24 | The Train Station (19th century)
25 | The House of the Melo Alvim (16th century)
Built in the early 16th century, the House of the Melo Alvim, is considered being the oldest manor-house of the city. It shows Manueline windows and battlements, and some enlargements originate already from the 16th century. Inside are some elements of the 16th and the 17th centuries, especially the majestical staircase in granite. It was renovated in the 90's to create a hostelry.

14 | The Church of S. Bento (16th century)
15 | The Eiffel Bridge (19th century)
It was inaugurated on the 30th of June 1878, in the time of the iron architecture. Designed by the famous Eiffel House, the metallic bridge crossing the « Rio Lima », allowed the railway traffic and also replaced the old wood bridge that linked the S. Bento in Viana to the left bank of the « Rio Lima » (which is called «Darque»). With 563 meters long and 6 meters large, 2 000 000 kilos of iron had been required for the construction of the platforms basing on 9 granite squared stone pillars. Their length can reach 22 meters.

16 | The Malheiras Chapel (18th century)
The so-called « Chapel of the Malheiras » (as an allusion to the owner family- the Malheira Reimão), is one of the most beautiful examples of the Portuguese rococo architecture. Its construction was ordered by D. Antonio do Destreiro (Malheiro) at the time of the Rio de Janeiro Bishop. In addition to the graceful front, which for some authors is a work of Nicolau Nasoni or of his school, this chapel presents a remarkable retable in polychrome carving. According to Robert Smith, this is one of the best examples of carving of the Minho in a rococo style.

2 | The Old Town (16th century)
This Town Hall, which was the former meeting place of the Council, was created out of the early 16th century city walls. Before that, the place was occupied by the Church of Santa Maria Maior (today's Cathedral). As a lot of other similar constructions of the Hispanic North-West, this building is wooden floored, having on the first floor, the Town Hall and the Town Council meetings. On the ground floor we will find an archway to shelter the people and the scribes who were redacting the literates, the request and other documents, intended to the Town Hall.

31 | The Saint Lucia Basilica (20th century)
The temple of the Holy Heart of Jesus edified on the west spur of the Saint Lucia Mountain, from where the dominants and « blesses » the city is certainly one of the most famous and emblematical monuments of the country. This is an excellent example of the revivalist architecture congregate in a huge but harmonious way, neo-Roman, neo-Byzantine and neo-gothic elements. It was made by one of the most locally and internationally well known architect of the time, Miguel Ventura Terra (1866-1919), an inhabitant of the Upper-Minho, author, for example, of the modifications done in the Palace of S. Bento (Lisbon), the actual Parliament. Even if the project dates of 1898, the work only began in the early 20th century. The temple was open to the cult on the 22th of August 1926, after the death of its author, and completed only in 1943, almost a half decade later.

26 | The Municipal Museum/ The Small Palace of the Barbosa Maciel (18th century)
Situating in a distinguished patently mansion of the 18th century, the Municipal Museum of Viana do Castelo has one of the most important and precious collections of old Portuguese earthenware of the 17th and 18th century. This collection includes several pieces of the Crockery Fabric of Viana. In addition to an important quantity of paintings, drawings and parts of sacred art, one can point out the fine Indo-Portuguese furniture collection of the 18th century. Here, it is also possible to discover remains of an « azulejaria » (tiling) Portuguese and hispano-Arabic, unique for its variety and wealth.

17 | The House of the Alpuins (16th/17th century)
18 | The House of the Abreu Tavora (« of the Earls of the Carreira ») (16th century)
Built in the middle of the 16th century, the Abreu Tavora Palace, renamed some years later « the Earls of the Carreira House », is one of the most beautiful seigniorial houses of the city. It is particularly remarkable for its Manueline doors and windows, which have been preserved throughout the alterations and the amplifications, also giving it more splendour and wealth. Since 1972, the Town Hall is established in this building.

7 | The House of the Niches (15th century)
The so-called « House of the Niches » is implanted in the middle of the « Rua de Viana », former « Rua do Cais ». Although it has undergone modifications, mainly on doors and windows, the house presents two gorgeous gothic sculptures, headed by small canopies in rock representing the Annoucement scene.

3 | The Misericórdia and the Church (16th century)
The Misericórdia was created in 1520. Since the brotherhood had developed very well, their administration committee decided, in the second quarter of the 16th century, to construct the so-called « Casa das Varanadas ». This building of 1589 is a unique copy of the architecture inspired by the Renaissance and mannerist styles, with Italian and Flemish influences. In 1716, renovations of the Church had started and were handed to the military engineer of Viana, Manuel Pinto de Vilalobos, inside, the church presents a rich decoration corresponding to the tendency of the time. The gilded carved wood altarpieces in national style by Ambrosio Coelho, the wall tiles by Policarpo de Oliveira Bernardino, or the frescos on the ceiling by Manuel Gomes are a few examples. It represents without any doubt, one of the best baroque patterns of the whole country.

32 | The pre-roman city fortified
The pre-Roman fortified city, locally known as « Cidade Velha » (« Old Town »), is one of the most famous « Castros » of the North region and, without any doubt, one of the most important for the Proto-History and Upper-Minho Romanization studies. Its strategic localization allows it to dominate wide areas of the marginal coastal zone. Moreover, it enables to control the inland-out movements in the « Rio Lima » mouth, which in the classic antiquity was mainly peevigable. The village presents very proper characteristics, mainly concerning the architectonic structures, especially the polygonal equipment used in some houses having a circular plan with a vestibule or hall that in some cases sheltered the bread oven.

27 | The Church of Saint Dominic (16th century)
The Church of St. Dominic is the part that remains from the former Santa-Cruz (Holy Cross) convent founded by the Dominican D. Frei Barolomeu dos Mártires (the Saint Archbishop, recently beatified (2001)) by the Pope John Paul II, and famous for its participation in the Council of Trent. It is a temple of the 16th century, built between 1566 and 1576, designed by the Dominican Frei Juliao Romero, the one who designed the Church of Sao Goncalo in Amara-ntara. Inside, one can contemplate several gilded altars which have a graceful carving. More particularly, there is a magnificent retable on the north arm of the transept in « large carving », made by the master of Braga, José Alvares de Araujo from a drawing ordered by the Rosary Brotherhood in 1760 to the master Andre Soares. The respected specialist Robert Smith has classified it as, « the masterpiece of the rocaille style in all of Europe ».

19 | The House of the Werneck (19th century)
20 | The Church of Charity/The Saint Anne Convent (16th/20th centuries)
The construction of the Church of Our Lady of Agony, dating from the middle of the 18th century, is the result of the reconstruction of an old chapel which was the last point of the Way of the Cross. In this baroque example it is possible to point out some influences of the Iuso-Brazilian baroque style. A case in point is the remarkable retable of the altars decorated with « large carved wood », especially the cenotaph of the Passion designed by André Soares. The tower of 1868 was built disjoined from the rest of the building, to allow the peregrinations around the Church.

9 | The House of the Arches or « The House of the Olds » (15th and 16th century)
10 | The Luna's House (16th century)
11 | The Costa Barros House (16th century)
This seigniorial house of the discovery time is remarkable for one central window. Indeed its unusual size is inspired by Renaissance style decorated with « Manuelines » and « Plateresque » designs. Built in the middle of the 16th century it certainly is the most beautiful and the most imposing window of the 16th century in the city.

4 | The House of Sá Soutomaior (16th century)
5 | The Museum of Traditional Clothes (20th century)
Located in the heart of the historical center, the building of the former bank of Portugal, shelters since 2004, the Museum of Traditional Clothes. The Museum enables us to learn about the ethnographic wealth of the traditional clothes of Viana, and exhibits also tools used for the handicraft confection of clothes. Apart from the permanent exhibition « The wool from the flax in the Upper-Minho costume », the Museum of the Traditional Clothes also has an important number of temporary exhibitions about costumes and the ethnography of Viana.

33 | The Gil Eannes Ship
Built in 1955 in Viana do Castelo, the hospital-ship Gil Eannes, has seconded, during decades, the codfish fleet which was on the Newfoundland and Greenlandic banks. The reversion project transformed it in a Museum and a Youth Hostel, offering to its visitors an unforgettable experience. Today, it undertakes itself as an attractiveness pole for the city, by receiving since the opening to the public in 1998, about 400 000 visitors.

28 | The Church of Our Lady of Agony (19th century)
The building of the Church of Our Lady of Agony, dating from the middle of the 18th century, is the result of the reconstruction of an old chapel which was the last point of the Way of the Cross. In this baroque example it is possible to point out some influences of the Iuso-Brazilian baroque style. A case in point is the remarkable retable of the altars decorated with « large carved wood », especially the cenotaph of the Passion designed by André Soares. The tower of 1868 was built disjoined from the rest of the building, to allow the peregrinations around the Church.

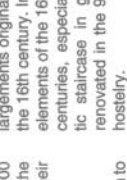
13 | The Soul Chapel (XIII/XVIII centuries)
Until the construction of the actual Cathedral, built inside of the surrounding walls, in the middle of the 15th century, the Soul Chapel has been Viana's first Cathedral. Traditionally known as « Matiz Velha » (« Old Cathedral »), it was renamed « Capela das Almas » due to the fact that, until the end of the 19th century, its churchyard was a luneral place since Afonso III of Portugal. Only an arcossolium on the south wall of the temple and the Headboard Cross remains from the original structure, after had been re-edified and

29 | Fort or Castle of Sao Tiago da Barra (15th/17th century)
The first fortification implanted on the border of the « Rio Lima » mouth, dates from the D. Alfonso 3rd, reign. However, the oldest known date is the 15th century, when a fortress was built and completed under Manuel I of Por-

6 | The Old Pilgrims Hospice (15th/16th century)
Founded by João Paes « o velho » (« the old ») in 1468



23 | The Church and the Convent of the 3rd Order of S. Francis (18th century)



25 | The House of the Melo Alvim (16th century)



16 | The Malheiras Chapel (18th century)



18 | The House of the Abreu Tavora (« of the Earls of the Carreira ») (16th century)



28 | The Church of Our Lady of Agony (19th century)



21 | The Municipal Theater Sã de Miranda (19th century)



32 | The pre-roman city fortified



27 | The Church of Saint Dominic (16th century)



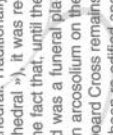
33 | The Gil Eannes Ship



29 | Fort or Castle of Sao Tiago da Barra (15th/17th century)



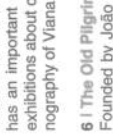
19 | The House of the Werneck (19th century)



11 | The Costa Barros House (16th century)



4 | The House of Sá Soutomaior (16th century)



6 | The Old Pilgrims Hospice (15th/16th century)