

PROJETO: **IdEAL**

Construir a Identidade Europeia: Cultura, Educação Alimentar e Línguas
(Construire l'Identité Européenne : Culture, Éducation Alimentaire et Langues)

MEETING IN PORTUGAL

Moita, 17th-23rd January 2016



ROYAL MONASTERY OF SANTA MARIA DE BELÉM

Welcome to the Royal Monastery of Santa Maria de Belém, also known as Monastery of the Jerónimos.

This Monastery was built by D. Manuel I, in the year 1501. It was intended for the monks of the Order of the Hermits of Saint Jerome, who lived here until 1833.

In the 16th century the Monastery looked like this.

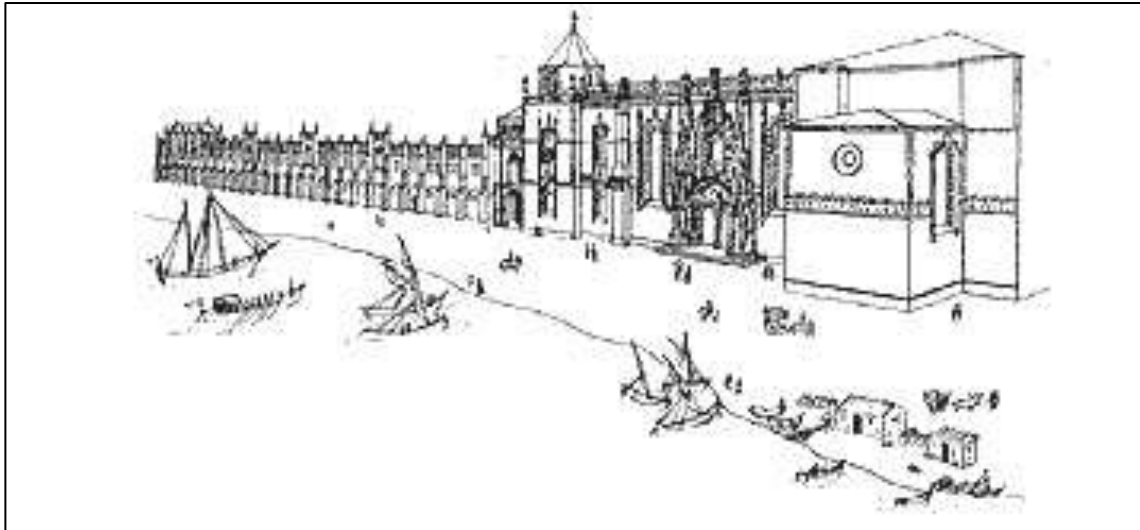


Image 1 (© mosteirojeronimos.pt)

This is the way it looks today.

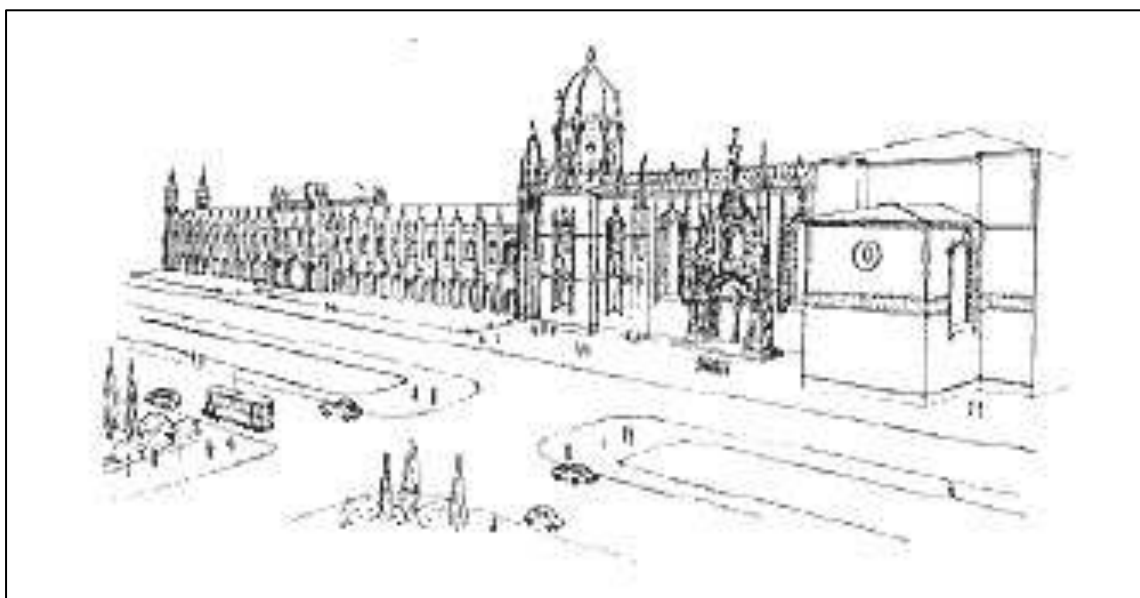


Image 2 (© mosteirojeronimos.pt)

P1. Compare the two images and signal with a cross the 3 major differences between them.

As you can see in image 1, there was a beach in front of the Monastery, from where the Portuguese sailors departed to discover new worlds: it was the time of the Great Discoveries.

Now, let's begin the visit by looking at the façade.

South Doorway

Facing the river, this doorway is the center of the façade, rising 32 meters high, in a triangular peak with the Archangel Saint Michael, patron of Portugal.

P2. Above the door, there is a statue representing:

- a) A Madonna. _____
- b) A peasant. _____
- c) A king. _____



Image 3 (© mosteirojeronimos.pt)

Next, head to the Main Entrance of the Church.

Main Entrance



Image 4 (© mosteirojeronimos.pt)

In this door, we can see several statues of saints, of the queen and of the king who ordered the construction of the Monastery.

P3. Write the name of this king.

Church

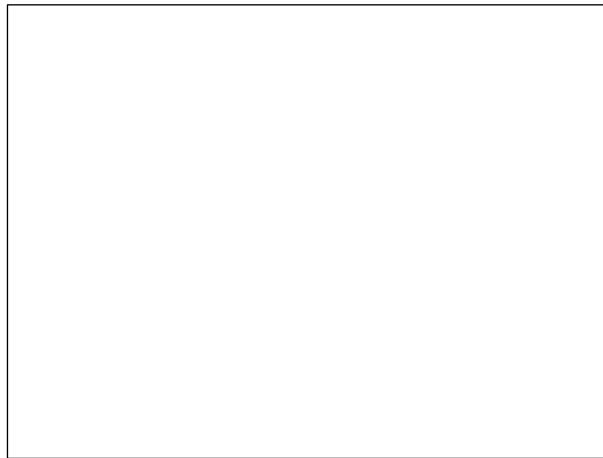
Now, go into the church. Don't forget this is a sacred place. So, be quiet...

Walk to the tomb of Vasco da Gama, on your left side. Vasco da Gama was a Portuguese navigator, the first to reach India by sea, in the year 1498.



Image 5 (© mosteirojeronimos.pt)

P4. Look for a ship on the side of the tomb and draw it.



Next, walk to the tomb of Luís de Camões, on the right side.



Image 6 (© mosteirojeronimos.pt)

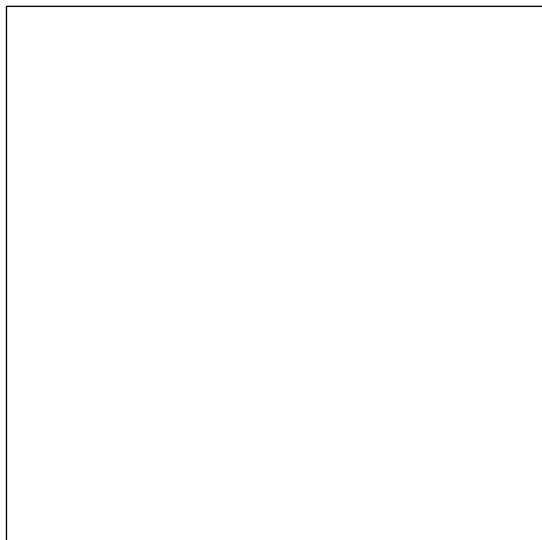
Camões was a portuguese poet of the 16th century, who wrote an epic poem about Gama's journey and the Portuguese history (Lusiadas).

P5. Identify the animals supporting the tomb.

Now, walk through the church, along the main axis of the nave.

Seat on the front benches and look around you. Notice the height of the pillars and the splendid lacework of the stone.

P6. Make a drawing of a pillar, with its decoration.



Look at the beautiful stained glass windows on your right. These windows were made by putting together little pieces of colored glass in order to get a picture. A lead wire was used to unify the pieces of glass.

P7. These pictures of these stained glass windows represent _____.

Main Chapel

This Chapel is very different from the rest of the church, because the Monastery 100 years to be built. Notice the pillars and the vault.

In here we can see the tombs of the king D. Manuel I and his family.

P8. The stone used in their construction was _____.



Image 7 (© mosteirojeronimos.pt)

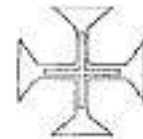
Cloister

Here, the monks spent their time reading, meditating and praying. It was a very calm space in the Monastery.



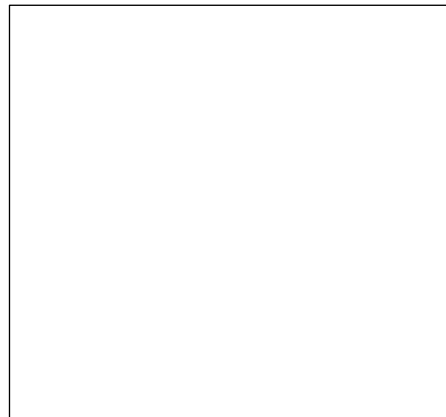
Image 8 (© mosteirojeronimos.pt)

Look up. Search on the vaults for the symbols drawn bellow.



These nationalist symbols are characteristic of the "manueline architecture", used on the monuments built by D. Manuel I. There were also used ropes, shells, plants and animal from foreign countries(Asia, Africa, Brasil...).

P9. Draw a decorative element used in the cloister.



Make a stop at the **Lion's Fountain**, where the monks used to wash their hands before their meals at the Refectory. If you want, make a wish, touching the lion's paw.

In the Cloister we can still find the **Refectory**, the **Chapter Room** and the ancient **confessionals**.

Upper Choir

Here, the monks spent about 7 hours a day praying and singing in chorus. When they felt tired they were allowed to rest for a while, leaning on the chairs of the choir.



Image 8 (© mosteirojeronimos.pt)

P10. In the Upper Choir we can see an image of Christ, made of:

Stone _____

Wood _____

Metal _____

Leave the Choir by the door leading to the upper floor of the Cloister. There, you'll find indications to leave the monument.

We hope you have enjoyed this visit.

