

## House of the Rural World of Prados

The House of the Rural World of Prados seeks to portray an era in which agriculture, together with grazing, were the main economic activities of the population, thus practicing an economy of self-sustenance.

This museum center also recreates a period in which the facilities inside a house were virtually nonexistent, recalling the experiences of older people, showing generations what it would be like to live in a house without running water, electricity or a bathroom.



## Schoolhouse Museum of Salgueirais



### **Church of Misericórdia**

At Largo da Misericórdia you can go inside the temple, which belonged Saint Isidoro and was extinct in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It then became a Misericórdia when this social welfare institution was founded in Linhares in 1576. With Romanesque foundation, it was greatly changed in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. It has a baroque carved altarpiece, interesting 17<sup>th</sup> century transition paintings in the chancel and a precious procession flag, which was present in 1958 at the Exhibition Commemorating the Birth of Queen Leonor, founder of Misericórdia, alongside many others, and was considered one of the most beautiful in the country.



## Church of Santa Maria

It is the main church of Celorico da Beira and is classified as a National Monument. It is located in the heart of the Historic town center, near the Castle.

Being a majestic building, it is not possible to precisely date its foundation, but there are historians who claim it remounts to the period of the Moors, and that it was originally a mosque.

One of the first documents where it is cited dates back to the time of King Afonso III, when he donated it to the Bishop of Guarda. The church was built in granite and cannot be defined in one style, because in four different times it suffered successive reconstructions and changes.



The facade has two towers in stone dated from 1796, according to the inscription on the front door. On the side of the church there is a Renaissance portal framed by two Ionian columns.

The chancel, which is quite spacious, and the sacristy date from the 17th century. It has seven altars and the main altar is made of carved gilded wood.

Worthy of note is the coffered ceiling designed by Isidoro de Faria, a 17<sup>th</sup> century painter, born in Trancoso, who painted religious motifs.

The interior walls of the church are covered with beautiful tiles. It has some graves dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and it should have had many more but unfortunately they were destroyed when the church underwent repairs, the last one took place in 1936.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, during the French invasions, this church was ransacked and jewels of great value were stolen. In this period it was closed and was used as blood hospital until 1821.

### Main Church of Nossa Senhora Assunção

Among the many buildings built along the times in the town's perimeter, there is the "Main Church of Nossa Senhora Assunção of Linhares da Beira", located on the slopes near the castle, with walled forecourt. Although it belongs to modern times, some of its elements, such as the lateral portal, indicate the existence of another temple erected in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. These traces can also be seen in a cornice in the body of the nave, carved with half spheres, as well as in dogs decorated with anthropomorphic and zoomorphic motifs.



Nevertheless, this is a single nave church, with sacristy and adjoined "Custom House", two chapels and bell tower with square ocular windows and pyramidal crown.

Separated from the rest of the temple by a rounded roman arch flanked by two altars made of carved gilded wood, the chancel has squints on both sides and two straight lintel doors with paintings on wood in its sides (some of which - *A Adoração dos Magos*, *O Descimento da Cruz* and *A Anunciação* - attributed to Grão Vasco) and covering coffered ceiling, the latter probably placed in the six hundreds (ibid.).

The main facade, possibly rebuilt in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, has a portal with a depressed arch decorated with shell motifs, lateral volutes and curved pediment topped by a large window with the same type of arch and angled gable-end.

## Mills of Rapa



## **Museum of Farmers and Cheese**

In honor of the shepherds / farmers, the local authorities have rehabilitated an old building, located in one of the town's entrances, to install the Museum of Farmers and Cheese. This museum is part of a strategy to enhance this product and integrates the "route" of Serra da Estrela cheese.

The purposes of this museum are:

To convey, to all the current and future generations, the diversity, richness and multifaceted nature of their own culture, achieved with a lot of sacrifice and sometimes even hunger. We are proud to exhibit the best of what was built by these people in particularly difficult conditions.

Today this place is the memory of old times, for others it will be something new.





## Clock Tower

The Clock Tower, located in the historic center of Celorico da Beira, next to Plaza 5 de Outubro and nearby Church of Santa Maria.

The chronology of construction and its function raise questions, given that the authors who have already studied the subject are not unanimous regarding the chronology of its construction and what its real purpose was.

For some authors, this building has been built in the 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> centuries, and was associated with a barbican, and together these would be the first line of defense of the Celorico Castle. However, other authors argue that the timing of construction of this building is much later, having occurred in the 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> centuries, with the function of receiving a public clock, in a time where the installation of these equipments was found in several cities from north to south of the country.

During the last decades there has been a progressive deterioration of the building, until finally the municipality proceeded to requalify this area, aiming to recover the clock and make the Clock Tower a cultural space.

