

## **CRAFT-OA – Summer School 2025 – FAQ**

### **Date & Place**

23–27 June 2025

University of Coimbra – RÓMULO - Science Centre of the University of Coimbra

University of Coimbra – Alta and Sofia is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

RÓMULO – Science Centre of the University of Coimbra is a resource centre for the teaching and learning of science and the dissemination of scientific culture and Open Science.

### **Who can participate?**

### **Programme**

### **Living Handbook**

### **How much does it cost?**

### **Speakers**

### **How to get there**

#### **From Lisbon (Humberto Delgado) International Airport**

**By train:** you will need to take the metro or to catch a taxi to Lisboa Oriente railway station; the journey should take approximately 10 minutes. Trains to Coimbra run every hour and you should expect the journey to take approximately 2 hours.

There are one railway station in Coimbra: Coimbra-B – Estação Velha, “The Old Station”. All trains stop at Coimbra B. Once there, you should take a bus-shuttle to Coimbra-A (your train ticket already includes this short trip). That will be the best choice, if you’re staying downtown looking for your accommodation or if you intent to come directly to the University.

In order to get to the University from Coimbra A Station you can take a 15-minute walk or the bus number 103. This bus will stop right at the University.

If you prefer to take a taxi or a uber, you should ask the driver to go to the Rua Larga – Departamento de Física.

You can check here the CP – Train Schedules: <https://www.cp.pt/passageiros/pt>

**By Express Bus (Rede Expressos):** you will need to catch a taxi or to take the metro to “Sete Rios” Bus Station; the journey should take approximately 10 minutes. Express buses to Coimbra run every hour and you should expect the journey to take approximately 2 hours and a half.

You can check here the Rede Expressos – Bus Schedules: <https://rede-expressos.pt/pt>

**By Flixbus:** you will need to catch a taxi or to take the metro to “Oriente” Bus Station; the journey should take approximately 10 minutes. Express buses to Coimbra run every hour and you should expect the journey to take approximately 2 hours and a half.

You can check here the Flixbus – Bus Schedules: <https://www.flixbus.pt/>

**By transfer:** the shared transfer service Coimbra Airport Shuttle offers numerous daily shuttles going to or departing from the airport of Lisbon.

You can check here the Coimbra Airport Shuttle offers: <https://www.airportshuttle.pt/>

### **From Porto (Francisco Sá Carneiro) International Airport**

**By train:** you will need to take the metro or to catch a taxi to Gare da Campanhã (the main train station in Porto). It is recommended that you travel to this station by taxi or underground metro. You will find taxis readily available at the front of the airport and the underground station as well. You should expect the journey to take approximately 30 minutes. Several trains run from Porto to Coimbra daily. You should expect the journey to take one hour and a half.

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**By Express Bus (Rede Expressos):** you will need to take the metro or to catch a taxi to Campanhã Intermodal Terminal. It is recommended that you travel to this station by taxi or underground metro. You will find taxis readily available at the front of the airport and the underground station as well. You should expect the journey to take approximately 30 minutes. Several trains run from Porto to Coimbra daily. You should expect the journey to take one hour and a half.

You can check here the Rede Expressos – Bus Schedules: <https://rede-expressos.pt/pt>

**By Flixbus:** you will need to take the metro or to catch a taxi to Campanhã Intermodal Terminal. It is recommended that you travel to this station by taxi or underground metro. You will find taxis readily available at the front of the airport and the underground station as well. You should expect the journey to take approximately 30 minutes. Several trains run from Porto to Coimbra daily. You should expect the journey to take one hour and a half.

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## **In the city**

To navigate within the city, the municipality offers some mobile applications for this purpose:

1. **SMTUC app:** Coimbra Municipalised Urban Transport Services have launched an official app that offers real-time information on timetables, routes, bus arrival times at stops, vehicle locations and nearest stops. It also allows you to set notifications when a bus arrives at a particular stop, making it easier to manage your journey time. The app is available for free for Android and iOS devices.
2. **Moovit:** This global urban mobility app integrates information from several cities, including Coimbra. Moovit provides bus timetables, maps and arrival times in real time, allowing you to plan journeys with confidence. It is available for free for Android and iOS devices.

In addition to these apps, Google Maps also offers features for planning public transport routes in Coimbra, providing route options, timetables and stop information.

## Where to stay

There are a lot of hotels and private apartments in Coimbra. The prices vary from 40 to 200 EUR per person per night. You can easily find your best option via booking.com or Airbnb.pt, but these are our recommendations:

## Hotels

- **Sapientia Boutique Hotel:** A charming hotel located in the heart of the historical center, just a short walk (5-10 min) from the University of Coimbra. Offers elegant rooms and a rooftop terrace with stunning city views.  
Find more here: <https://www.sapientiahotel.com/>
- **Hotel Oslo Coimbra:** A family-run hotel with modern amenities and a rooftop bar offering panoramic views of Coimbra. Close to the train station and a 10–15-minute walk from the university.  
Find more here: <https://www.hoteloslo-coimbra.pt/>
- **Tivoli Coimbra Hotel:** A 4-star hotel with spacious rooms, a fitness center, and a great location for exploring the city. It's also a 10–15-minute walk from the university.  
Find more here: <https://www.tivolihotels.com/pt/tivoli-coimbra>
- **Hotel Quinta das Lágrimas:** A luxury hotel surrounded by historic gardens, known for its connection to the famous love story of Pedro and Inês. It's on the other side of the Mondego river, about a 20–25-minute walk from the University. It's a beautiful walk, but it involves a bit of a climb.  
Find more here: <https://www.quintadaslagrimas.pt/pt/>

## Guesthouses & Budget Options

- **Serenata Hostel Coimbra:** A stylish and affordable hostel located in a historic building near the University and Sé Velha. Less than 5-minute walk from the University.  
Find more here: <https://tinyurl.com/2dxx9us2>
- **CSI Coimbra & Guest House:** A comfortable guesthouse offering budget-friendly accommodation near the city center. It's a little further away from the University, about a 20-minute walk.  
Find more here: <https://www.csicoimbra.com/>

## Apartments & Unique Stays

- **Zero Box Lodge Coimbra:** A trendy, modern concept hotel with box-style rooms, perfect for minimalist travelers. In the city centre, close to downtown Coimbra, about 15-minute walk from the University.  
Find more here: <https://coimbra.thezerohotels.com/>
- **Casa da Sé Cathedral Suites:** Beautiful apartments in the historic center, ideal for longer stays and families. Less than 5-minute walk from the University.  
Find more here: <https://www.casadasecoimbra.com/>

Most hotels in Coimbra accept credit and debit card payments. However, it is always advisable to check directly with each establishment to confirm the payment methods accepted.

Whether you're looking for luxury, budget-friendly stays, or a cozy apartment, Coimbra has plenty of great options!

## What to do

During the week of the Summer School, two guided tours are planned: one to the University and its surroundings and the other to the most emblematic points of the city of Coimbra.

Coimbra, one of Portugal's most emblematic cities, combines history, culture and nature in a unique way. Here are some of the best activities to do in the city:

1. **Enjoy a stroll along the River Mondego:** The Mondego River offers many outdoor activities, such as bat trips along the river, walking or cycling along the bank or relaxing in the Mondego Green Park. There are several companies dedicated to these tours, such as Basófilas Coimbra and Serranas do Mondego.
2. **Visit Portugal dos Pequenitos:** This park has miniature replicas of Portuguese monuments and buildings and is a great way to learn about the country's history and architecture.  
Find more here: <https://www.fbb.pt/pp/>
3. **Explore the Botanical Garden:** Founded in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Coimbra's Botanical Garden is the perfect place for a relaxing stroll, with exotic plants and historic greenhouses.  
Find more here: <https://www.uc.pt/jardimbotanico/>
4. **Attend a Coimbra Fado Show:** Coimbra's Fado is unique and can only be performed by students from the university. Venues such as 'Fado ao Centro' offer

authentic performances of this musical tradition.

Find more here: <https://fadoaocentro.com/>

5. **Discover Quinta das Lágrimas:** This palace and historic garden are linked to the tragic love story of Pedro and Inês. A romantic place full of legends.

Find more here: <https://www.quintadaslagrimas.pt/>

6. **Visit Museums:** Coimbra has a rich variety of museums that reflect its history, culture and science. Here are some of the main museums you can visit in the city:

- **Machado de Castro National Museum:** This is one of Portugal's most important museums, named in honour of the prominent Coimbra sculptor Machado de Castro. The museum is housed in a space whose history dates back 2,000 years, presenting a significant collection ranging from archaeological finds to paintings and sculptures from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Find more here: <https://www.museusemonumentos.pt/pt/>

- **Science Museum of Coimbra University:** Located in a beautiful 18<sup>th</sup> century building, this interactive museum aims to make science known to audiences of all ages. It presents collections of natural history and scientific instruments, considered among the rarest and most important in Europe.

Find more here: <http://www.museudaciencia.org/>

- **Coimbra Municipal Museum:** Divided into various centres, this museum explores different themes related to local culture. It includes the Chiado Building, the Almedina Tower, the Anto Tower and the City Room, each with different exhibitions ranging from contemporary art to the city's medieval history.

Find more here: <https://tinyurl.com/4vfushcv>

- **Exploratório – Coimbra Ciência Viva Centre:** An interactive space ideal those curious about science, offering exhibitions and activities that promote scientific learning in a playful way. These museums offer a comprehensive view of Coimbra's cultural, historical and scientific wealth, providing enriching experiences for all visitors.

Find more here: <https://www.exploratorio.pt/>

7. **Other sightseeing tours:**

- **Comboio do Património (The Heritage Train):** Comboio do Património provides transport for visitors to Coimbra on a route that passes by some of the city's most interesting landmarks. It starts and finishes at Santa Clara.

Find more here: <https://tinyurl.com/47rz3b83>

- **Tuk Tuk Experience:** Tuk Tuk are small electric vehicles that circulate around the city's main sites and allow you to get to know Coimbra's most emblematic places through panoramic and guided tours.

**8. Coimbra by night:** The nightlife in Coimbra is very lively and offers plenty of options for visitors, as the city is known for having one of the oldest universities in Europe. Here are some suggestions to enjoy the nightlife in Coimbra:

- **Praça da República:** This is one of the places where much of the city's nightlife is concentrated. The streets surrounding this central square of Coimbra are full of cafés, bars and discos, as well as places to have a snack, a quick bite to eat or even dinner.
- **Largo da Sé Velha (Old Cathedral Square):** The heart of Coimbra's historic centre, Largo da Sé Velha is another popular nightspot. In a unique setting, characterised by steep alleyways that maintain the city's medieval layout, there are several nightlife establishments that operate alongside houses, student unions and historic monuments.
- **Quebra Costas:** The area of the city marked by a steep staircase linking the Alta and Baixa neighbourhoods is now a popular spot for those who like to go out at night. Side by side with the time-worn steps, there are small shops with designer products and gourmet specialities, tapas and snack houses and small bars where Fado is often a regular feature. During the summer months, the Quebra Costas steps host the QuebraJazz Fest, an urban jazz festival that presents several free open-air concerts.

## Where to eat

Coimbra offers a variety of restaurants that reflect the richness of Portuguese gastronomy. Here are some suggestions for places to enjoy a good meal in the city:

### 1. Traditional Portuguese Restaurants:

- **Zé Manel dos Ossos:** Located at 12 Forno Alley, it serves typical Portuguese dishes such as bones with beans. Small and very busy, but worth the wait!  
Find more here: <https://shorturl.at/0huNc>
- **Restaurante Nacional:** Located at 12 Mário Pais Street, stands out for its homemade Portuguese food, with well-served meat and fish dishes. It's suitable for vegetarians and offers Gluten-free options. Accepts credit cards.

Find more here: <https://www.restaurantenacional.pt/>

- **O Trovador:** Located in Sé Velha Square, it offers a cosy atmosphere and traditional dishes such as duck rice and octopus à lagareiro. It has vegetarian, vegan, and Gluten-free options and accepts Visa credit cards.  
Find more here: <https://www.otrovador.pt/>

## 2. Fine Dining Restaurants:

- **Arcadas da Capela (Quinta das Lágrimas):** Located in António Augusto Gonçalves Street, it stands out for its exquisite cuisine in a sophisticated atmosphere. Excellent wine list and dishes inspired by contemporary Portuguese cuisine. It has vegetarian, vegan, and Gluten-free options and accepts credit cards.  
Find more here: <https://shorturl.at/4AAdJ>
- **O Palco:** Located at 55 Dom Afonso Henriques Avenue, it offers dishes made with local ingredients, a modern atmosphere and excellent service. This restaurant is recommended by the Michelin Guide 2025. O Palco has vegan and Gluten-free options.  
Find more here: <https://www.o-palco.pt/>
- **Sete Restaurante:** Located at 10 Dr. Martins de Carvalho Street, it stands out for its innovative cuisine, combining modern techniques with traditional flavours. It has vegetarian, vegan, and Gluten-free options and accepts Mastercard and Visa credit cards.  
Find more here: <https://shorturl.at/UpERr>

## 3. Pubs and Snacks:

- **Petisqueira Portuguesa:** Located at 23 Montarroio Street, it stands out for its cosy atmosphere and traditional dishes in snack format, such as roast chorizo, regional cheeses, pataniscas and pica-pau. It has vegetarian and Gluten-free options and accepts credit cards.  
Find more here: <https://shorturl.at/UGs3y>
- **Tapas nas Costas:** Located at 19 Fernandes Tomás Street, it offers Portuguese tapas with a contemporary twist and a good selection of wines. It has vegetarian, vegan, and Gluten-free options and accepts Mastercard and Visa credit cards.  
Find more here: <https://shorturl.at/yXm6d>
- **Boutique Tapas & Petiscos:** Located at 51 Fernandes Tomás Street, it stands out for its small plates, which are ideal for sharing and a great option for a relaxed dinner. It offers Gluten-free options.  
Find more here: <https://shorturl.at/Y5tZI>



#### 4. International cuisine:

- **No Tacho:** Located at 11 Simão de Évora Street, it is a fusion of Portuguese and international flavours, fresh and seasonal ingredients. It has vegetarian, vegan, and Gluten-free options. Accepts Mastercard and Visa credit cards and digital payments.  
Find more here: <https://www.notacho.pt/>
- **Refeitro da Baixa:** Located at 1 Moeda Street, it offers modern dishes in a cosy atmosphere inspired by old taverns. It has vegetarian, vegan, and Gluten-free options and accepts credit cards.  
Find more here: <https://shorturl.at/JcfSQ>
- **Restaurante MA:** Located at 13 Norte Street, you can find sushi and Japanese cuisine with fresh, well-prepared ingredients. This restaurant is listed in the Michelin Guide and only serves dinner. Accepts Mastercard and Visa credit cards.  
Find more here: <https://rb.gy/7ev0yw>

#### 5. Pastries and Typical Coffees:

- **Pastelaria Briosa:** Located at 211 Ferreira Borges Street, you can find Pastéis de Santa Clara, arrufadas de Coimbra and other convent sweets. Ideal for breakfast or brunch. Accepts credit cards.  
Find more here: <https://www.pastelariabriosa.pt/>
- **Café Santa Cruz:** Located in Praça 8 de Maio, it's a famous historic café in the city, great for a snack or coffee. Ideal for breakfast, brunch, and late-night drinks. Accepts credit cards.  
Find more here: <https://cafesantacruz.com/>
- **Pastelaria Vénus:** Located at 131 Calouste Gulbenkian Avenue, it offers fresh custard tarts and other pastry specialities. It is suitable for vegetarians and serves breakfast, brunch and lunch.  
Find more here: <https://rb.gy/acc0lv>

#### 6. Vegetarian and Vegan Restaurants:

- **Green Side:** Located at 31 Parreiras Street, it offers vegetarian and vegan dishes, creative salads, natural juices and desserts without animal products. It's a cash only restaurant.  
Find more here: <https://rb.gy/kvbxxv1>
- **O Burrito:** Located 90 Mártires da Liberdade Street, you can find vegetarian and vegan burritos and tacos, made with fresh ingredients and intense flavours.  
Find more here: <https://tinyurl.com/msdy7t3f>

- **Legumes & outros Vícios:** Located on Rua de Angola, you can find vegetarian and vegan burritos and tacos, made with fresh ingredients and intense flavours. It accepts digital payments, and various credit cards, such as American Express, Discover, Mastercard, Visa. Its suitable for lunch, dinner, and brunch.

Find more here: <https://legumeseoutrosvicios.pt/>

### **Cash and Card Payments Policy**

The currency used in Coimbra, and all of Portugal, is the Euro (€ - EUR). In Coimbra, as in much of Portugal, both cash and card payments are commonly accepted. Most restaurants, shops, and tourist activities in Lisbon will take credit and debit cards.

However, cash remains a prevalent payment method, especially in smaller establishments or for minor purchases. It's advisable to carry some cash, as certain small shops and bars may only accept cash, particularly for purchases under €5.

Merchants in Portugal have the discretion to decide which brands and types of payment cards (prepaid, debit, or credit) they accept. However, they cannot limit acceptance of cards of the same type and brand; for example, if a merchant accepts payments by debit card of a particular brand, they should, as a rule, accept payments with all debit cards of that brand, regardless of the institution that issued the cards. Merchants are also required to inform customers about which cards and payment brands they accept at their points of sale.

While card payments are widely supported, it's important to note that cash is still very common in Portugal. Therefore, carrying a small amount of cash is advisable to ensure smooth transactions, especially in situations where card payments might not be accepted.