

## **Guided Tour Regulation**

### **Preamble**

Considering the rich historical and cultural heritage of the town of Mértola, it is necessary to promote it in order to boost tourist activity, so it is crucial to make guided tours available for the general public. This service shall be provided by qualified personnel, i.e. staff from the Mértola Museum and the Tourist Information Office.

Making use of the regulatory powers conferred upon local authorities by Article 241 of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic and within the scope of Article 64(7) and Article 53(2)(a) of Law no. 169/99, of 18/09, as amended by Law no. 5-A/2002, of 11/01, we drew up this regulation.

### **Article 1**

#### **Recipients**

1. This regulation is aimed at the general public and groups of all levels of education.
2. The group must have a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 30 people.
3. Any deviations from the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 must be authorised by the Supervisory Authority.

### **Article 2**

#### **Objectives**

Our aim is to promote and dignify the activity of group visits, so that visitors acquire basic knowledge about the historical and cultural heritage of the Municipality of Mértola.

### **Article 3**

#### **Description**

Visits will include all or part of the Mértola heritage circuit and the Mina de S. Domingos Mining Complex, according to the routes defined below.

### **Article 4**

#### **Routes**

Taking into account the specificity of the Mértola Museum, made up of various museum units spread throughout the town of Mértola, and the interest of other monuments and sites, several routes were defined according to historical/cultural themes:

**A) Mértola Museum:** Weaving Workshop, Castle, Blacksmith's Forge, Islamic Art, Sacred Art, Roman House, Palaeo-Christian Basilica (duration: 3 hours).

**B) Islamic Period:**

1. Groups of children up to the age of 12 (inclusive): Main Church (Old Mosque), Alcazaba, Islamic Art (includes pedagogical suitcase activities) (duration: 2 hours)

2. Other age groups: Weaving Workshop, Main Church (Old Mosque), Alcazaba, Castle, Islamic Art (duration: 2 hours).

**C) Roman Period and Late Antiquity:** Alcazaba, Castle, River Tower, Roman House, Palaeo-Christian Basilica (2 hours).

**D) Historic Centre:** Main Church (Old Mosque), Alcazaba, Castle, Blacksmith's Forge, Islamic Art, Sacred Art. During the tour of the historic centre, themes related to architecture, spatial organisation and natural heritage will be introduced, which include: town wall, spatial organisation, architectural typology and building renovation (e.g. Yellow House, the Town Hall building, Skylight House and Tile House), other places of interest (River Tower, Clock Tower, Roman roads, convent of St. Francis). Issues related to the Guadiana River and its importance in the past and present of the town of Mértola will also be addressed (duration: 3 hours). A visit aimed at groups of adults who wish to explore in greater depth issues related to local history/memory (duration: 3h/3h30).

E) Guided tours of the Mina de S. Domingos mining complex which includes two types of visits:

1. Exhibition on display at the Cine-Teatro building, industrial area of the S. Domingos Mine and Miner's House (duration 1h30/2 hours).

2. Exhibition on display at the Cine-Teatro building, industrial area of the S. Domingos Mine, Miner's House and the Ore Route (17 km, requiring the participant's own vehicles, which must include a guide. Duration 3h/3h30).

## **Article 5**

### **Calendar**

All those interested may book visits for any day of the year, except on days when the Museum is closed (Mondays, and on 1 January, 1 May and 25 December).

## **Article 6**

### **Bookings**

1. Bookings may be made in person at the tourist information office, or in writing.

2. For routes in Mértola, booking requests in writing may be sent by post to the following addresses: Câmara Municipal de Mértola, Praça Luís de Camões 7750-329 Mértola, or Posto de Informação Turística, Rua da Igreja, nº 31, 7750-338 Mértola. They may also be sent by fax to 286610101, by e-mail, to [turismo@cm-mertola.pt](mailto:turismo@cm-mertola.pt) or [museus@cm-mertola.pt](mailto:museus@cm-mertola.pt), or calling the following numbers: 286610100/286610109.

3. For routes in Mina de S. Domingos, booking requests in writing should be sent to Fundação Serrão Martins, Rua de Santa Isabel, 30-31 7750-146 Corte do Pinto. They may also be sent by fax to the number 286647534, by e-mail to [fserraomartins@gmail.com](mailto:fserraomartins@gmail.com) or calling the following numbers: 286647534 or 961940458.

4. Bookings will be accepted only if received at least 48 hours in advance.

5. Deviations from the provisions of the preceding paragraph can only be made with authorisation from: one of the members of the Executive Board, the Head

of the DCDT, the Director or coordinator of the Museum and the Coordinator of the Serrão Martins Foundation.

6. Cancellations must be communicated at least 48 hours in advance.
7. In the event of a no-show of which the services are not informed in due time, the group will be charged the amount stipulated in the Table of Fees and other Municipal Revenues of the Municipality.
8. Late arrivals should be communicated to the Tourist Information Office or the Guide, where possible: delays of more than 30 minutes are subject to the guide's availability and the services' timetable.

### **Article 7**

#### **Costs**

1. For visits in Mértola, visitors will be charged the amount stipulated in the Table of Fees and other Municipal Revenues of the Municipality.
2. Payment will be made on the day of the visit, to the technician responsible for the visit or at the Tourist Information Office employee.
3. For visits in Mina de S. Domingos, please refer to the specific Regulation.

### **Article 8**

#### **Omissions**

1. The legislation in force shall apply to all that is not foreseen in this Regulation.
2. Omissions shall be analysed and interpreted by the Executive Board.

### **Article 9**

#### **Revocation and entry into force**

1. This Regulation revokes any other regulation on this matter.
2. This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication on the Official Gazette.