

Cascais Fort - '5 Star': Cascais Coast, Near Lisbon

Summary

Overlooking golden beaches on the west coast of Portugal, this 5 star Cascais boutique hotel is a show-stopping sight on the coastal road out of Lisbon. Its imposing fortress-like exterior hides a small luxury hotel, oozing with medieval opulence, which is a favourite beach retreat for wealthy Lisboetas. Just on the outskirts of Cascais, the playground beach resort of Portugal's glitterati, and only 20 minutes from Lisbon, this boutique hotel feels a world away from the bustling capital. A stylish retreat for romantic holidays or honeymoons in Portugal, and perfect as a relaxing addition to a city break in Lisbon.

Details

The ancient Fort has been carefully restored over the last few years and still retains many original features, not least of which are the two cannons guarding the hotel's grand entrance. Inside, the atmosphere is one of opulent medieval grandeur, with spiral stone staircases, lofty ceilings and huge portcullis-style doors. The guest lounge and gourmet restaurant with Michelin starred chef, with huge fireplaces and vast velvet sofas, look out over the crashing Atlantic. Outside, the terrace enjoys panoramic views over long stretches of sandy beach, famous for its surf.

The guest rooms, arranged around a leafy internal courtyard, are styled as medieval boudoirs, with rich colours, sumptuous fabrics and embroidered quilts piled on their elaborate bedsteads. All have sea views and vaulted stone ceilings.

Take one of the hotel's gourmet picnic hampers down to the beach where you can learn to surf at the world-renowned Guincho surf school. Enjoy a romantic boat trip along the coast or explore the countryside on a 4x4 wilderness safari.

The upmarket beach resorts of Cascais and Estoril are just moments away (the hotel offers a free daytime chauffeur service into Cascais). Here you can indulge in some designer shopping or sample the many smart bars and eateries on offer (sharp dressing is essential for the more modish venues). Or for a romantic night in, the hotel's own gourmet restaurant is an excellent choice.

You can even try your luck at Estoril Casino, which was Ian Fleming's inspiration for "Casino Royale". Lisbon, Portugal's capital, is just 20 minutes away by train or car. Its seven hills provide a wealth of interest and a cornucopia of art, culture and history. Further afield you can head north to Coimbra, an elegant university town and the beaches of the Silver Coast, and to the south lies the stunning Alentejo coast. Sintra, just to the north of Cascais, is a fairytale town of castles and palaces set among botanic gardens and redwood forests, and is not to be missed on a day trip.

A round trip incorporating stays in Lisbon, the Cascais coast and the dreamy redwoods of Sintra is perfect for a longer holiday in the area.

For more images see www.c-boutiquehotels.com
To book this hotel call **08717 500070**



Facts & Figures

27 Guest Rooms and Suites:

- Courtyard Double – Off the internal courtyard, on ground floor with side sea views
- Terrace Double – On first floor of the internal courtyard with full sea views. Most with either enclosed or open balconies
- Junior Suite – Larger open plan rooms with full sea views. Most with either enclosed or open balconies.

All rooms have: Ensuite bathrooms – Sat TV – Minibar – Telephone & Internet Access – Air-Con/Heating – Safe – Hairdryers

Hotel facilities: Terrace, Bar & Gourmet Restaurant with Michelin Starred Chef – Drinks Service – Jogging Track – Beach – Free daytime shuttle to Cascais

Also at and around hotel (extra cost): Golf (discounts for guests) – Wine-tasting – Massages in room – Baby-Sitting – Watersports (sailing, surfing, windsurfing, kite-surfing) – Boat Trips – 4x4 Wilderness Safari – Horse-riding

Regional Highlights

- Cascais and Estoril Beach Resorts with many watersports and boat trips
- Estoril Casino (Ian Fleming's original inspiration for the James Bond book, "Casino Royale")
- Lisbon's many colourful districts, museums, art galleries and historic sights, tram rides and city viewpoints
- Designer shopping
- Nightlife in Cascais and Lisbon with Fado Houses, Clubs, Restaurants and Bars
- Sintra, the town of fairytale castles and palaces set amid protected redwood forests
- To the south, the natural beauty of the Alentejo Nature Reserve and to the north, the long sandy beaches of the Silver Coast
- Championship golf courses

Location

Nearest airports:

Nearest railway station:

Nearest restaurants:

Nearest shops:

Nearest Beach

Lisbon (30 mins drive)

Cascais – 5 min drive

Beach restaurants doorstep or Cascais (5 mins drive)

Cascais – 5 mins drive

Doorstep

