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EM TERRA DE SANTA MARIA
30 JUL › 10 AUG 2025
DRESSING UP AS A FAMILY
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DRESSING UP AS A FAMILY

» HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF THE 28TH EDITION

Afonso V – The County of Feira

Afonso V was acclaimed king at the age of six and married early to his cousin Isabel of Lancaster, with whom he had three children. Until he came of age, his uncle, Infante D. Pedro, Duke of Coimbra, served as regent and governor of the kingdom.

Shortly after reaching adulthood, the House of Braganza launched a series of intrigues and conspiracies against the regent, leading to a conflict that culminated in the Battle of Alfarrobeira, where Infante D. Pedro was killed. This unfortunate event, which displeased the king, became known across the European courts and sparked condemnation, including from the Holy See.

Queen Isabel, a protector of the Loios friars, died in 1455, and despite several possible marriage alliances, King Afonso V was betrothed, in 1475, to his niece, D. Joanna, queen *de jure* of Castile. This marked the beginning of his involvement in the struggle for succession to the Castilian throne.

The five-year conflict led to the Battle of Toro (1476), a royal confrontation often compared to the Battle of Aljubarrota. Political propaganda on both sides gave the impression that each had emerged victorious.

King Afonso V entered history with the epithet "The African," bringing the spirit of the Crusades to the lands of Mauritania, conquering the strongholds of Alcácer Ceguer (1458), Anafa, Arzila, and Tangier. At his side were brave and loyal knights who fought in these campaigns. Though flattered by the great lords, he was well aware their intentions were not always honest, *"but rather driven by hidden motives"*.

Nevertheless, he continued to bestow titles and establish counties, such as the County of Feira, which is believed to have been created around 1472. The title was granted to Rui Pereira, lord of the Land of Santa Maria and its Castle, in recognition of the aid and military deeds he and his squires and men-at-arms performed during the conquest of Arzila and the surrender of Tangier. He would later take part in the Battle of Toro, commanding one of the wings of the royal army.

According to the chroniclers, Afonso V was a man of Arts and Letters — *"he wrote well, had an excellent memory, maturity of thought, and a subtle mind."* He ordered the reform of the royal archive (Torre do Tombo) and the royal library, established scholarships for noble youths versed in Law, and founded a second university in Coimbra, along with other cultural centers throughout the kingdom.

He enjoyed appearing among the people and mingling with them. A devout follower of Saint Anthony, he was a deeply committed Christian: "a man of great humanity and human nature".

A man of his time.

» EXPERIENCE DESCRIPTION

There is no tradition passed down from generation to generation quite like the Medieval Journey.
Therefore, because without family there is no history, come experience the medieval tradition alongside those who make up your realm.
Dressed and characterized in full medieval attire, you will feel part of history on a day full of truly royal memories.

» THE EXPERIENCE INCLUDES

- VIP parking spot for 1 vehicle;
- Access to the event area for 2 adults and 2 children up to 12 years old;
- Complete medieval costumes (for the duration of the experience) plus characterization;
- A Guided Tour with History accompanied by a Court Jester, who will take you through the nooks and crannies of the Medieval Journey and, between songs and stories, will tell tales—sometimes funny and comic, other times full of meaning and knowledge;
- Four reserved seats in the stands for two large-scale shows of your choice, subject to availability;
- Voucher worth €5.00 to spend at the physical Vila da Feira Official Store on purchases over €20.00.
- Invitation to the Royal Procession for the experiences held on Sundays, August 3rd and 10th.

» ACCESS CONDITIONS

- €160.00 per family (2 adults + 2 children aged 3–12 years);
- Limited to 2 experiences per day;
- Meeting Point: Experience Point (HMC Sports Feira Desk – Santa Maria da Feira Municipal Swimming Pool).

» ENJOY YOUR EXPERIENCE IN FULL COMFORT

- Comfortable footwear, preferably sneakers or similar;
- Comfortable clothing suitable for the weather;
- Water bottle;
- Light jacket or cover-up for cool summer evenings;
- Small backpack, bag, or pouch to carry only essential items.

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INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS
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