



Before the bridge

ROUTE

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- 3 Raul Lino buildings
- 4 Church of São José do Hospital
- 5 São Francisco Garden
- 6 Church of the old convent of São Francisco
- 7 Atalaia Barracks
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- 9 Church of the old Convent of Santo Antônio dos Capuchos
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Route covering approximately: 1,8 km



garden you will also find various old insignia, tombstones and remains of gothic chapels from the old cloister. To the right of the garden, you will find the **6 Church of the old convent of São Francisco** (Saint Francis), founded in the late 13th century. The old convent was once one of the most preeminent buildings of the mediaeval Algarve; however, it has been hit by various disasters, most notably earthquakes (1722 and 1755), collapse (1840) and a terrible fire (1881). Today, the church's outline is different from the original, but some Gothic elements have been preserved, mainly in the current vestry.

Turn right on leaving the church. On the left, you will find the **7 Atalaia Barracks**. Built from scratch in 1795 to house troops, it is imposing due to its size and its Pombaline-influenced features. Carry on past the main door and take the next street on the right (Rua 9 de Abril). Follow this street until you encounter the **8 spa building**, where the *Clube de Vela de Tavira* is based. Cross the road in the direction of the Rua de Santo António. There, you can admire the **9 Church of the old Convent of Santo António dos Capuchos** (Saint Anthony of the Capuchins), which began to be built in 1612. The church has a simple layout with a rectangular single nave and chancel. In the second half of the 18th century the main façade was remodelled. Inside, you can admire a noteworthy eighteenth-century set of clay sculptures representing stages in St Anthony's life. Return to Rua da Atalaia and walk around the PSP police station, which you will see on the left after you pass the sports court. This is the street where the **10 Álvaro de Campos Municipal Library** is located; it resulted from the conversion of the old Tavira civilian jail, built in the 20th century.



Atalaia Barracks

Eighteenth-century set of clay sculptures representing stages in St. Anthony's life (Church of the old Convent of Santo António dos Capuchos) (left)

Álvaro de Campos
Municipal Library
(right)

This project, designed by architect João Luís Carrilho da Graça, is an example of how historical heritage and contemporary architecture can be combined in such a way that they can coexist in perfect harmony.

Opposite the library, you will find the **11 Chapel of São Sebastião** (Saint Sebastian), a small church of mediaeval origin dedicated to the worship of the martyr considered a protector against epidemics and contagions. It was rebuilt in 1745 and redecorated in baroque fashion.

In the chancel, there are paintings by the local painter Diogo de Mangino, which form the most complete visual representation of the life of Saint Sebastian in Portuguese art. After leave the chapel turn to the left and, carry on until you

reach the **12 old Monastery of Nossa Senhora da Piedade or das Bernardas** (Our Lady of Piety or of the Bernardines). This building, founded by King Manuel I in 1509, features a side portico from that era; it has been altered several times and used for various purposes over the years. In 2012 it was restored and adapted for housing by the architect Souto Moura. If you look towards the ocean you will see the salt pans in the Ria Formosa Nature



Painting of the Chapel
of São Sebastião



Gothic-Manueline portico
of the old monastery
of Nossa Senhora da
Piedade

Salt pans (below)



Municipal Library

📍 Rua da Comunidade
Lusitana

☎ +351 281 320 585 / 576

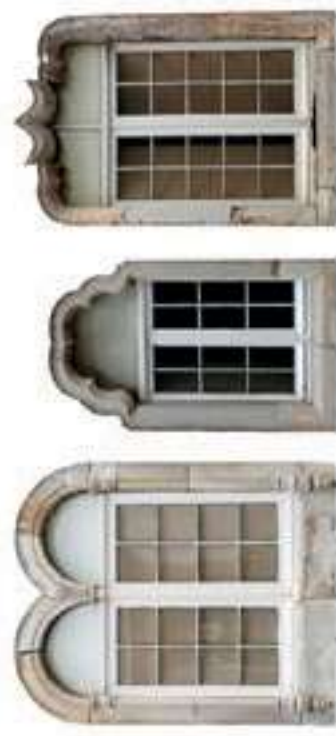
🕒 Check the opening
times here
www.cm-tavira.pt



Park and in front of you is the **13 Municipal Market**, where you can buy fruit, vegetables and fresh fish in the morning from Monday to Saturday.

Now head to the hotel opposite, carry on towards the Ponte dos Descobrimentos bridge and cross the car park next to the hotel. You will find yourself facing the River Gilão. Turn left onto Rua José Pires Padinha and enjoy a stroll along the riverbank where, early in the morning, you can watch the fishing boats arrive. Follow the same street until you reach the old **14 Mercado da**

Ribeira (Waterfront Market). This historical iron building opened in 1887 and was restored in 2000 to serve its current purpose as a leisure, dining and shopping facility. Next cross the Jardim do Coreto (Bandstand Garden) and turn left at first kiosk that you find onto the Travessa D. Brites lane, where you can admire the **15 Manueline and Renaissance windows** on the top of the building on the left.



Windows in Travessa D. Brites

Painted wooden roof in illusionist perspective in the Church of Nossa Senhora das Ondas (left)

At the end of the lane, on the left, you will find the **16 Church of Nossa Senhora das Ondas** (Our Lady of the Waves), a church for fishermen and sailors with a magnificent 1765 illusionist painted ceiling inside. The chancel features eighteenth-century altarpieces and images of Our Lady of the Waves and Saint Pedro González Telmo, protector of fishermen. After this visit, turn right to face the

Casa André Pilarite
(right)



Bandstand

17 Casa André Pilarite (House), probably built by the famous master builder for whom the building is named and who was responsible for building Távira's Church of Misericórdia (Mercy). On the ground floor, part of a Manueline span still remains; its expressive stonework formed a concave arc decorated with a small human face. The second level opens onto a Renaissance balcony with a border dating from 1520-1540. The ground floor has been used as a venue for exhibitions by various local and regional artists and organisations since 2005. Continue on Rua Estácio da Veiga towards the public garden where you will find the **18 bandstand**; it was inaugurated in 1890 and was the main centre for city celebrations for a century. The headquarters of the **19 Ginásio Clube de Tavira** are located at number 8 to 14 on Rua José Pires Padinha. This space, which has hosted many excellent sporting moments in cycling, is located in an old manor house built in the 18th century. Various alterations were carried out on it at the end of the 19th century, which added the moulding and the tiling on the façade.

Return to the starting point at the Praça da República or take your time to enjoy a rest at one of the open-air cafes along the Rua José Pires Padinha or at the waterfront market.

Praça da República

