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Welcome



Welcome has taken on a whole new meaning, as doors open, opportunities arise, new experiences await, and the sun shines down on what we believe will be a better tomorrow. We are appreciating things we once took for granted – time with friends and family and work colleagues for starters – and if we play our cards right, hopefully hugging will be back on the agenda in the not too distant future.

In recent months, behind the scenes, businesses have been working hard in readiness of re-opening, and here at AlgarvePLUS, we've been focusing on bringing you more than ever before.

We've just launched our new website and the message it gets across is clear. Our passion is directed at exciting original content that will broaden your knowledge, delight your senses, and have you coming back for more. Our top-flight writers follow our briefs, research in depth, and deliver the best; their work is integral to our mix of comment, opinion, advice and entertainment.

Take a look at algarveplussmagazine.com and especially the 'What readers say' section. This one made us particularly proud:

Was picking your magazine up every month and thoroughly enjoying it and since being back in the UK, I am getting my regular fix online at your website. In a world where second rate has sadly become acceptable, it is a pleasure to see real quality, and from names that I recognise and respect.

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UP front

Packing up

Kipling luggage is a favourite of ours. This lightweight wheelee, named Spontaneous S, is €179 and comes in a range of colours. Its four 360° rotation wheels make gliding through busy airports a breeze. Check out the other options at kipling.com/pt



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COOL MAN

Zara's newest men's collection is super-stylish. There are print shirts, polos with shape, T-shirts with a message... all the things we've been missing in the past year. Go shop now, in store and online. This handsome number is just €29.95.



IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE



UP front



TAKE NOTE

On Poeta Azul's new, website (poetaazul.pt) you can see its enchanting handmade pieces - carved rulers, art stamps, trivets and coasters in burel wool, olive wood, cork and clay and decorated with patterns relating the local heritage.

The fish market series, includes notebooks with hand-crafted screen prints. Buy online or at Colectivo 28 in Loulé, or the stockists listed on the site.



BARKING

ACH is one of Portugal's very top names in exclusive decorative pieces. This handpainted sheepdog is from the Ceramic Pets collection of extravagantly fabulous four-legged friends that includes a dalmation, a greyhound and a chihuahua. He sits 78cm high and is priced at €1,476. achcollection.com



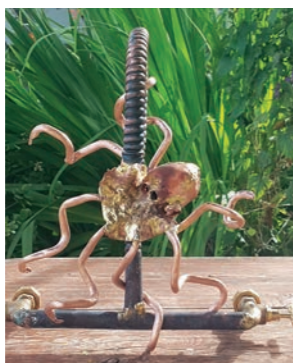
Light fantastic

No, this is not an outsize bag. But it has outdoor lighting in the bag! The handcrafted Barloon outdoor lantern from Germany is weather-proof and rust proof, and can withstand temperatures from -30 to +70°C. Barlooons come in small, medium and large sizes, starting at €145, plus the lighting and assembly kit. Choose from eight different colours (you could match one up to your favourite plant!). Visit barloon.com/lampions



SIDE ORDERS

Want to make a statement? This handsome bevelled mirror console table, Siuol, comes from Simple Taste, Almancil and Albufeira. Priced at €485, it looks a million dollars. simpletaste.pt



STYLE ON TAP

Why settle for a you-can-get-it-anywhere tap for your outdoor/indoor kitchen, bathroom or shower, when metal sculptor Mondo can make you a bespoke piece in brass and copper from discarded plumbing metals. Contact him direct on 911 077 936 and find out more at mondoworks.co



SOLE MATES Time to join the chain gang - a hot trend for summer. Chestnut leather sandals with a chunk of metallic gleam. Zara, €35.95



Going green

One: Pot, Pan, Planet by Anna Jones gets the thumbs up for limiting the pans and simplifying the ingredients for all-in-one dinners that keep things quick and easy. This celebration of vegetables delivers knock-out flavour in one-tray dinners, like a baked dhal with tamarind-glazed sweet potato, quick dishes like tahini broccoli on toast, one-pot soups and stews as well as fritters, pancakes and a golden rosti with ancho chilli chutney. A marvellous link between thrift, convenience and the environment, Jones gives practical advice and shows how every small change in planning, shopping and reducing waste will make a difference. In a world where we all need to think about reducing our carbon footprint, this is a marvellous link between thrift, convenience and the environment.



Well cushioned

Based in Tavira, Casa and Quinta is a small artisan online business that offers bespoke ceramic tiles, ready-to-frame-prints, acrylic clocks and heritage tile cushion covers. The latter are in a heavyweight (334gsm) vegan suede material, measure 45x45cm, and come in three designs and six different colourways. Visit casaandquinta.com or email casaandquinta@gmail.com and talk to Deborah Lucas about her latest additions.



PERFECT PITCH

If the idea of a tent adventure appeals, but the thought of lugging around poles and tarpaulins doesn't, this pop up job that sets itself up is the answer (and if your enthusiasm for the outside life diminishes, the kids will love it!). Rain resistant, with a door and two windows with mozzie nets, it measures 290x200x130cm when set up, and can accommodate three to four people. Heading home, sling it on over your shoulder. €79.99. coolstuff.de

Are you registered for your Covid vaccination?

The Public Health Authorities will notify you by SMS with a date and place for your vaccination. You can check online at <https://servicos.min-saude.pt> if you are registered at the health centre in your area of residence.



It was from this distant little corner of Europe that the great voyages of discovery were conceived at Henry the Navigator's school in nearby Sagres.

IN GEOGRAPHICAL terms, every country has its own list of extremes such as its longest river, highest mountain, lowest point, deepest cave etc. that helps to define the country when comparisons are made with its immediate neighbours on its own continent or, indeed, the entire world.

The ancients who pushed their empire's boundaries across Europe believed that the world ended in the west where the sun sets into the ocean. Two such places, one in France and the other in Galicia, were named Finistère and Finisterre respectively, meaning the 'land's end' or the edge of the world. However, Christopher Columbus went on to prove that this was not the case, by finding more world west across the ocean, even if it wasn't Japan, his original goal.

Going to extremes

Portugal holds the distinction of being the location for two geographic extremes. It has the most westerly and south-westerly points of mainland Europe, and Eurasia in fact, at Cabo da Roca, just north of Sintra, and at Cabo São Vicente here in the Algarve, close to the historical town of Sagres.

The ancient Greeks called this area 'Ophiussa'



or 'land of serpents' and the Romans named it 'Promontorium Sacrum' or 'sacred promontory'. Its current name comes from the story of the Spanish martyred Saint Vincent, who became the patron saint of both Lisbon and of winemakers. After his brutal death in 303AD, his followers retrieved the body and set sail from Valencia.

In an attempt to get as far away as possible from his persecutors, they headed south and then west out of the Mediterranean, where they eventually took shelter at Sagres, and brought the body ashore to bury it on the cape. Legend has it that a flock of ravens settled near the burial place and remained there until 1175 when King Afonso Henriques had the remains moved to the capital, once again by sea.

The ravens are said to have travelled with the ship and are now depicted on the coat of arms for the city of Lisbon.

What's the catch

The safe harbour of Sagres, called Baleeira today, is a busy fishing port with a commercial fleet of 65 vessels that work the deep inshore waters for what is considered to be the best quality and most sought after fish in the entire region. Species such as sea bream, mackerel, cuttlefish, sole, monkfish and lobster are abundant. Sagres is a top-selling wholesale market for lobster, and in recognising the importance of sustainability and conservation, the fishermen voluntarily close the catching season during the months of October through December each year.

The quality of the fish is reflected in the local cuisine with stuffed squid, grilled bream, caldeirada, skate and ray, limpet stew and lobster rice among the favourites.

For a small flavour of the many restaurants in Sagres, try A Sereia and A Tasca, both in the harbour area – how fresh can you get? ►

Opposite page: The lighthouse at Cabo São Vicente. Left: the idyllic village of Odeceixe. Inset: Yes, an otter

WEST SIDE STORY

AND WHAT A STORY IT IS. STEEPED IN HISTORY AND LACED WITH TRADITION, WHERE SURFERS RIDE THE WAVES, WALKERS STRIDE THE LAND, AND FISHERMEN HANG HIGH OVER THE CLIFFS WAITING FOR THE NEXT BIG CATCH. THIS IS AS FAR WEST AS YOU CAN GET

Words: BRIAN REDMOND





And further into the town, A Sagreson Ecovia do Litoral, and Retiro do Pescador on Rua dos Murtórios.

Going wild

If you like your great outdoors wild and rugged, look no further than Sagres, Vila do Bispo and the stunning Costa Vicentina coastline all the way up to Odeceixe and beyond to Zambujeira do Mar.

The coast has more pristine and wild beaches that you can imagine and is a magnet for surfers. There is a road that takes a direct route from Sagres to Vila do Bispo and from there to Praia do Cardoama, which is a massive broad beach, totally unspoilt, with zero crowds. It has a beachside restaurant, great access, plus plenty of parking, and there are always surfers out on the water.

Often, the sea fogs come rolling in here to shroud the sands in a magical luminescent blanket. Some other surfing favourites further up the coast include the beaches of Bordeira, Amado and Arrifana.

Praia da Bordeira is great for families and the river that flows into the sea here is home to otters that can sometimes be spotted fishing in the water.

If horse riding is on your list of favourite pastimes, then be prepared for one of the best equine experiences in this corner of the world.

Yvonne is a passionate horse woman who runs *adventure-riding.com* based in Vale da Telha in Aljezur and offers a memorable day out in spectacular surroundings. She has developed trails and treks along the cliff tops overlooking the ocean suitable for all levels of riders. She keeps groups to a small size and ensures each rider is as capable as the rest. And in the off-season, she can bring the groups down to the beaches for a full-on seaside gallop!

Visit Aljezur

The town of Aljezur is worth a stopover. A castle overlooks the town which hosts an annual sweet potato festival at the end of November, when permitted. This unique

event runs over three days and attracts huge numbers of visitors keen to sample the certified regional variety of 'Lira' potato, plus other gastronomic delights.

A little further north, we reach another seaside town with yet another spectacular beach. Odeceixe is where the districts of Beja and Faro meet and where the 'Fishermens Walking Trail' continues uninterrupted for 75kms all the way up to Porto Covo in the district of Setúbal. On the way, the trail passes through Zambujeira do Mar and Vila Nova de Milfontes.

Hang on in there

The fishing harbour, Porto de Pesca, near Zambujeira, is on the route. Here you can marvel at the skills of the boatmen as they negotiate the turbulent entrance to the harbour. Here you will also get to come into contact with a unique type of fisherman, of the cliff top variety.

These characters will set themselves up on a small cliff top ledge suspended up to 80 metres vertically above the deep water

at the base of the cliff. Some of the 'spots' are accessible only with the help of ropes that are sometimes tied to the cars that they have parked on the cliff edges. Their tackle is long rods and reels packed full of line, and a capture net that is used to make the lift of the catch easier by lowering it down the cliff to grab the fish on its upward journey. They fish mostly for sea bass and huge skill is needed in landing the fish if it weighs more than two or three kilos.

There have been stories of manageable-sized fish being hooked only to become 'bait' to larger species like shark that have snatched so hard as to nearly upend the fisherman off his perch. Sadly, there are a few fatalities every year, mostly not from falling, but from drowning. Life jackets are compulsory but only for night-time fishing, which is very bizarre.

Wild fishing is practised, too, at the cliffs around the lighthouse at Cabo São Vicente. There has been a light beacon on this site since the 16th century but it was not until the 19th that serious work began in constructing a fully working lighthouse built in a Franciscan convent on the clifftop site.

The first lamp was powered by olive oil and shone for a distance of 11km. Nowadays, the lamp is the second most powerful lamp at work in Europe, with a range of 60km.

This headland, on one of the world's more important shipping routes, sees traffic from Africa, the Mediterranean, and South America and was once believed to be one of the last places on earth. But it was from this distant corner of Europe that the great voyages of discovery were conceived at Henry the Navigator's school in Sagres.

It is remarkable that so much extreme energy, concentrated right there from all corners of the known world, changed history and geography so utterly. 🌐

If you like your great outdoors wild and rugged, look no further than Sagres, Vila do Bispo and the stunning Costa Vicentina coastline up to Odeceixe and Zambujeira do Mar.



Opposite page top: The huge compass rose at the Fort of Sagres; stuffed squid, a local delicacy; the village of Aljezur, where the Sweet Potato Festival is held each year. Below, left to right: Adventure Riding in Vale da Telha in Aljezur; the seafood catch of the day and the working fishing boats in the port at Sagres. This page: a fisherman perched high on the clifftop



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OUR SOMMELIER DISCOVERED MORE THAN WONDERFUL WINES WHEN HE WENT ON A TASTING VISIT TO CONVENTO DO PARAÍSO IN SILVES. HE WAS OVERWHELMED BY THE HISTORY OF THE TOWN ITSELF, THE BEAUTY OF THE SURROUNDING AREAS, AND THE PASSION OF THE TEAM WORKING TO PRODUCE WORLD-CLASS WINES



Words: JUSTIN O'HANLON Photography: GARRETT WALSH

NESTLED ON THE sunny hillsides and left bank of the Arade river, the leafy sentinels and attentive rows of industrious endeavour look patiently over the water at the citadel city of Silves. It is a fortifying reminder of the long and sometimes bloody history of this place, a thousand-year tapestry of intertwined histories and cultures, a myriad of monarchies, different anthropologies and countless cultural curiosities. From Roman rule to Moorish order, trading kings and new world attitudes, the vibrant veins of local history flow through the cobbled streets where kernels of antiquity are still evident today.

A steep descent and sharp incline, as if burrowing the way back through time, lead you away from the modern monstrosities of motorways and high-rise buildings down into this little capsule of times gone by – a hugely important historical site, a centre of commerce, strategic vantage point, prosperous prize to be envied, coveted and

conquered with unerring regularity over the centuries.

The town of Silves was rebuilt, and reborn in many different guises, each new inhabitant, cuckolded conqueror and short-lived, self-styled emperor engaging in public works, ramparts and re-fortification.

So much akin to the evolution of the town itself, from Quinta de Mata-Mouros to the modern interpretation of Convento do Paraíso, we see history's relentless march forward, the expansion of ideas and ideals, one concept built upon the bones of its predecessor, while at the same time using them as foundations for their future.

Whether the winery I came to see originally took its name from the area's grizzly repatriation, or from the meaning 'Forest of the Moors', is uncertain; it may well be that some element of both is involved. What struck me on arriving though, was how verdant, how inviting, how appealing the whole place was.

Warmly welcomed and introduced to the property and concept by owner Vasco Pereira Coutinho and family members, we were talked through a little of the thinking ►



The team at Convento do Paraíso want to prove not only to the Portuguese community but to the world at large, that the Algarve, and specifically the Silves area, is capable of producing wines as good as any wines being made anywhere



behind what can only be described as an ambitious, heart-felt project with deep roots and irrefutable merit.

Growing passion

Convento do Paraíso is the collaborative effort of the landholders at the Silves-based property and one of Portugal's most forward-thinking wine producers, the Soares Family, internationally accredited for their avant-garde efforts at Malhadinha Nova in the Alentejo.

The team at Convento do Paraíso share one underlying goal: they want to prove not only to the Portuguese community, but to the world at large, that the Algarve – and specifically the Silves area – is capable of producing wines as good as any wines being made anywhere.

A number of key factors are at play. Silves was built on stone-filled red clay soils, which make for hard work when planting vines but for vigorous growth once rooted. Add to this the cooling influence of the Algarve's prevailing winds, its proximity to the sea and Arade river, perpetual sunshine, and the industrious efforts of the accomplished Soares oenology and viticulture team, and it is easy to see from where those involved draw their inspiration and confidence. And it is underpinned by the formidable experience brought to the equation by viticulture experts Manuel Letras and Rui Venaneco, titans of oenology Luis Duarte and Nuno Gonzalez, and the sterling work of Irina Balsinha, oenologist and public relations manager for Convento do Paraíso and Malhadinha Nova.

Situated on a site with natural springs, lush and lively horticulture, busy biodiversity, and the 12th-century convent building, there are so many facets to this property and project that it is easy to forget that the key goal is the production of world-worthy wines.

First choice

The first production under this new guise was in 2012. The site today covers 12 hectares under vine, ten of which are for the production of red varieties: Touriga Nacional, Cabernet Sauvignon, Sousão, Alicante Bouchet and Aragonez, and a further two hectares for white varieties, Arinto and Alvarinho.

Wines of particular note for me are Convento do Paraíso Tinto, a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Sousão, Touriga Nacional and, in more modern vintages, some Aragones. My own preference is for the 2014 vintage, still available from Soares while stocks last, a meatier, fuller, more robust offering. The single varietal Sousão is also exceptional, a largely

unknown and often overlooked grape varietal, it has natural fresh acidity, elegant mouth feel, and thin-skinned fine grain tannin, all this hinting at an ageing potential not yet tested, but enthusiastically suggested.

The single varietal Cabernet Sauvignon from 2014 is for me their flagship wine. All the hallmarks of a very considered new world Cabernet, this is more Napa and Sonoma than Saint-Estèphe and Saint-Julien.

Certainly these are the three wines that really lead me to believe that this ambitious endeavour may be well on its way to the national and international recognition those involved so crave, and deserve to achieve.

I will enjoy watching how their story unfolds over the next few years, but right now I suggest purchasing younger vintages of the three top-tier reds for cellaring purposes. There is great ageing potential there and value to be had before the world catches wind of this prevailing production.

Worth noting, too, is the Euphoria range, which is an excellent example of what a well-made Algarvian offering can be; the white, red and rosé drink well above their price point. The informative introduction to the wines we received from Irina, enthusiastic insights to their concept and ethos that Vasco was so free to impart, and my own experience with the Soares family and Malhadinha Nova lead me to believe there is much more to come yet from this little slice of paradise. 🍷

special offer to
Algarve Plus readers



Convento do Paraíso and Garrafeira Soares are offering our readers an exclusive 15% discount on all wines from Convento do Paraíso during May. Present the magazine in a Soares store to claim your discount, or use the code ALGARVEPLUS-15 to purchase online at garrafeirasoare.pt



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20 questions...

TEDDY GOLDING OPENED HIS ALMANCIL GALLERY, FRESCO, JUST BEFORE THE PANDEMIC TOOK THE WORLD BY SURPRISE AND HE'S SPENT 18 MONTHS PREPARING FOR WHEN THE GOOD TIMES RETURN

1 When did you open the gallery? I November 2019 – not the best timing!

2 Was it the realisation of a long-held ambition? I had a natural break in my career in London so it seemed like a good time to go for it.

3 What profession were you in? I was trading oil derivatives on a City trading floor, and now I'm trading oil on canvas in the Algarve.

4 Why the Algarve? My family has been here on and off since 1999, so in a way it was returning home.

5 Do you come from an art-related background? My family has always been very into the arts generally. My mum is gallery mad so she was the real driving force. My twin sister is the best painter...

6 Any formal art training yourself? I'm more an appreciator than a creator! But I studied art at school and also art history at university, although I didn't major in it.

7 How did you get started? We looked at a lot of different places – Porto, Lisbon, London, Faro and more. We found a good space down here and just ran with it.

8 How do you find your artists? There is a network of well-known local artists here, so I try to bring something different to the area. Instagram has changed the way artists connect, so that is a useful tool. I work with a professional curator and a lot of artists approach us.

9 Do your artists work to your brief? When we take an artist on board there has to be a commercial angle – we won't be around for long otherwise. But we must be true to the artists – otherwise we're a painting shop not an exhibition gallery.

10 When you have collectives, are there ever clashes of temperaments? Naturally there can be divergent opinions, but we try and enjoy ourselves!

11 What was the gallery before you took it over? I think it was a gym with

treatment rooms. The space is great because it only has windows at the front so we can control the lighting inside. People don't realise how big the gallery is from the street.

12 How much of an investment of time has it required so far? It's been all-consuming. Luckily, we have an understanding landlord and we've been able to grow during the lockdowns by adding on an arts café.

13 Your first big show? It was last August. We had to scramble to put it together but it was a big success with artists like Meinke Flesseman and Jessica Dunn, urban upstarts from Faro, and a few international names.

14 How have you worked with your artists during the pandemic? It's been a tough time to sell but a great time to create, so that's what I've said to them.

15 And the next chapter? We've grown the gallery with a new room and added the café where artists and locals hangout.

16 Has your new show been in the planning stages for long? It was loosely imagined a year ago and firmed up early this year. There's always a crescendo of activity as the date nears.

17 What criteria do you set before agreeing to represent an artist? There are no fixed criteria. As a starter I like to see a conceptual progression in the body of work.

18 If you could own any painting in the world, which would you choose? Dali's *Young Woman at a Window*.

19 How many events will you stage in the next year? Two solos and one collective. In a 'normal' year we'd look to do six to eight.

20 Price range of the works you show? In our new show with Tom Leamon, originals are around €5,000. 🍷

FAVOURITE THINGS

During the many months of lockdown, the entrance to Kit & Caboodle's showroom in Almancil was firmly shuttered. But behind the scenes, Sue Jenkins and the K&C team were busy decorating, planning and arranging new and re-loved pieces. They are open again for business now, with a big, ready-to-go collection that will add a new dimension to your home décor, inside and out. We picked some sure favourites...

▽ **TRIPOD LAMP**
Wood base, fabric shade,
64cm tall, €49



△ **EMBROIDERED CUSHION**
Velvet-backed,
40cm square, €9.95

▽ **CANDLE HOLDERS**
Ceramic, with ropes
handles,
10.5cmH, €9.50



△ **DESIGNER SIDEBORD** Wood with
crackled paint effect, gold trim,
82cmH x 119cmW x 51cmD, with
matching mirror, €290



GRECIAN-STYLE FIGURINE Italian stone, 65cmH, €129



△ **COFFEE TABLE**
Wood and glass, 44cmH x
100cmW x 39cmD, €59

Shelves of gift ideas for when you need to buy a present



△ **HIGH BACK CHAIR**
Metal, comes with
matching console table
and mirror, €128 the set



LEAVES Metal on wooden base, 51cmH, 25cmW, €22.50

▷ **GARDEN SERVICE**
Bamboo composite of
sustainably-grown and fast-
renewable organic materials
Pieces start at €7.95



△ **HOME SIGN**
Solid wood, each
letter 21cm x 15cm.
€24.50





The lesser known

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PORTO IS A VISITOR'S PARADISE, A CITY OF BEAUTIFUL WEATHER, GREAT FOOD, WONDERFUL ARCHITECTURE AND STUNNING HISTORY. GET A LOCAL GUIDE AND SEE MUCH MORE THAN JUST THE TOP TEN TOURIST SITES - BUT DON'T WORRY, WE HAVE LISTED THE MUST-SEES OVERLEAF

Words: ANNA ZIELAZNY

BONFIM is an artistic district of Porto, filled with local galleries and great little tascas to stop at and cherish a good drink and food. From there, you can head to Fontainhas, to take in a view of the spectacular Douro River that is very different to the one you see on most postcards.

On the border of Bonfim is Jardim Marques de Oliveira, a perfect place to enjoy a piece of nature in the middle of the city. The garden is not big in size but it is in atmosphere. There are blossoming flowers here and sculptures scattered in between branchy trees. It's a centre of life for the older locals who visit there every day, set up plastic tables and chairs, and play cards until sundown.

Now stray from the beaten track and, instead of heading down from Santa Catarina, step up to the stunning Batalha square. São Ildefonso church, which you cannot miss, has one of the most beautiful azulejo facades in the whole of Porto. No matter the time of day, the 11,000 tiles create a

spectacular picture and reflect bright light.

Across the square is the São João National Theatre. It was built in 1911, yet its history is much older. Take the time to have a peek inside at the beautiful interior.

Stunning View

Let's now go straight to the walls that grow from the ground and cover the view of the river. The Fernandine Walls, Muralha Fernandina, are one of the oldest remaining constructions in Porto, built in the medieval era to protect the city from enemies. Now they are a relic of the past that creates a unique landscape around the Luís I Bridge. Bypass them to get to the top part of the bridge. This amazing iron construction was designed by one of the students of Gustav Eiffel, Théophile Seyrig.

From here you can admire a view of the UNESCO-listed Ribeira, with colourful properties and squares filled with people, street musicians, and chatter. When you look around you might also notice a sad side of Porto, where empty buildings turn into ruins, forgotten by time. ▶

Opposite page: The colours dazzle even in back streets where buildings are tiled top to bottom; above: the Pérgola do Foz, on the seafront at Matosinhos, an area famous for its fish restaurants



The construction of the bridge, so innovative at the time of its creation, might impress, but look down at the slopes of granite – nature sculptured the banks of the river that seems invincible itself, and the builders of Porto reached for these natural resources to build a strong city.

Muralha Fernandina and the Sé do Porto cathedral seem to be a natural extension of the stunning view of the Douro river. The tissue of the city harmonises with the natural order of the slopes.

From the top of the bridge, you can head to the cathedral, visit São Bento station and see its famous tile friezes, and then head to Avenida dos Aliados.

The grandeur of the buildings

This avenue is one of the most spectacular in Porto. Here, you forget about medieval views and narrow streets: modern urban planning is highly visible.

Stand in the middle of the avenue and admire some of the finest art deco and neoclassicist buildings in the city.

ON THE TOURIST TRAIL

- ◆ **The riverside area**, Cais da Ribeira
- ◆ **Luis I Bridge**
- ◆ **Livraria Lello**, the book shop with a true history
- ◆ **Port Wine tasting** in one of the cellars on the south bank of the Douro
- ◆ **Clerigos Church**
- ◆ **São Bento Station** for tiles as much as travel
- ◆ **Igreja de São Francisco**, gothic and gorgeous
- ◆ **Porto Cathedral**
- ◆ **Igreja do Carmo and Igreja dos Carmelitas**, two churches that stand almost side by side.
- ◆ **The Serralves Foundation**, the best deco building, wonderful grounds and great contemporary art
- ◆ **Check out** the 6 Bridges Douro river cruises, the weekly craft fair, Casa do Infante Museum, and the Palácio da Bolsa Stock Exchange building.



Even though the street is lined with banks and exclusive hotels, it's also a place that unites people.

Here, citizens of Porto come to celebrate all-important holidays, unite during a football match, and fight for their freedom. Praça da Liberdade has long been important – the scene of many revolts, starting with fighting during the Civil War in 1828-34, through demonstrations against Salazar, to modern-day political protests.

While interiors of exclusive hotels might not be for everyone, you can still admire stunning examples of art deco architecture. Don't miss the extraordinary McDonald's building; you don't have to buy a burger to enjoy the stunning chandeliers, the ornate ceiling, reliefwork, and stained glass that dates back to the 1930s. At the time of its original splendour, it was the Imperial Café, where Porto's artists hung out. And Café Guarany, on the other side of the avenue, still exudes the spirit of creativity that was celebrated between a sip of a coffee and a bite of pastel de nata.



Opposite page, top left clockwise: Possibly the most photographed shop in Porto; an outside stone, dressed with tiles; São Ildefonso church. This page, below, clockwise: the interior of the world-famous Livraria Lello; 1872 River House hotel; a favourite dish at Tapabento; one of the designer rooms at Cocorico Luxury Guest House



Tiles that dazzle

In Porto, azulejos proliferate. Dressing the outside of buildings, adorning interiors and even used, mosaic-style on rocks in the street. From shop fronts to railway stations, tiles are the design feature: at the Bank of Materials, you can admire thousands of tiles that builders can refer to when developing a property.

On the way to the next spot, you won't miss Clérigos Church, the most beautiful baroque structure and an emblematic spot of the city. The tower was used as a tool to measure time but also to inform merchants about ships arriving; it is sumptuous in every way, so no surprise that it was used as a background for the first-ever TV advertisement in Portugal.

Back in time, this was where Porto came to an end and the olive groves that once covered the area are now just a historic memory. Head further out to reach Cordoaria Park, with its Platanus trees and their weirdly-shaped trunks, the result of a disease that attacked the trees when they were planted. Nowadays, it's a perfect spot to hide from the burning sun, but back time it was used by rope sellers, hence the name, Cordoaria, which simply means rope.

And don't forget...

If you visit Porto for more than one day, or have already seen the most important landmarks, hop onto tram number 1 and head towards Foz, away from the hustle and bustle of the city where the Douro river meets the ocean. This district has a rich history – it was once where the monasteries were based. Today you can see the grand summer residences, and stroll through Jardim do Passeio Alegre.

Foz is a perfect place for chilling on the sandy beach or strolling under the romantic Pêrgola da Foz that dates back to the 1930s. In the summer, you can have a swim and eat ice cream, and during winter admire high waves and warm up with a hot portion of castanhas. Go there, and next to the lighthouse that leads ships home, listen to the songs of seagulls carried by the wind. ☺



TRAVEL TIPS

We asked travel expert Julie, owner and founder of Julie Dawn Fox in Portugal, who has been quoted on, among others, CNN, Huffington Post and DK, for her recommendations of hotels and restaurants in the city. Visit her website juliedawnfox.com for more valuable suggestions – her insider tips and resources have helped thousands of savvy travellers create unique itineraries.



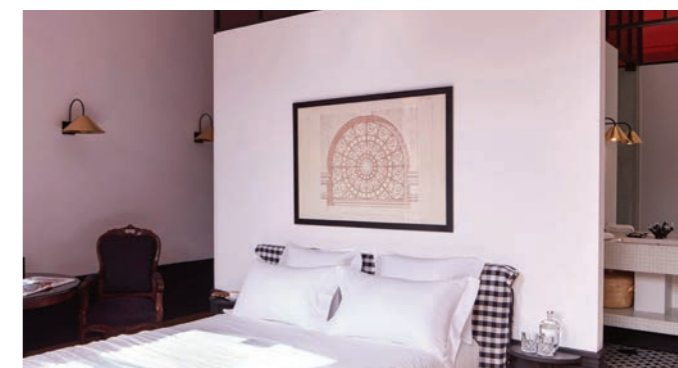
WHERE TO STAY

Here are Julie's tips for hotels: For a 5-star luxury hotel in Porto city centre, **InterContinental's Palacio das Cardosas** is your best option. Not only is the location ideal for exploring Porto on foot, but the 18th-century palace-turned-hotel is gorgeous, especially if you appreciate inlaid marble floors and the convenience of an onsite spa and restaurant.

As the name suggests, the 4-star **Porto A.S. 1829** is in a 19th-century building at the end of the revitalised Rua das Flores, mid-way between Ribeira and Aliados. There's a swish restaurant beneath the comfortable, spacious rooms.

Cocorico Luxury Guest House is a gorgeous collection of unique rooms, many of which have original stucco ceilings and touches of old world glamour mixed with modern comforts.

The best 3-star hotel in Porto is **Ribeira do Porto Hotel**, and the best boutique guest house is **1872 River House**.



AND WHERE TO EAT

Of course, big city means countless options, but these restaurants come highly recommended. Call to check out opening hours, which may have changed recently, and visit websites for a look at the ambience and the menu.

- ◆ **Tapabento** 912 881 272 tapabento.com
- ◆ **Confeitaria Bolhão** (café and bakery) 223 395 220 confeitariadobolhao.com
- ◆ **Restaurant Traça** 222 08065 restaurantetraca.com
- ◆ **Cafeína, Foz** 226 175 286 cafeina.pt
- ◆ **DOP Rui Paula** 222 014 313 doprestaurante.pt
- ◆ **O Paparico** 225 400 548 opaparico.com
- ◆ **Zé Bota** 222 05 697 restaurantezбота.eatbu.com



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Tracy Carson

Where born: Liverpool, but grew up in Edinburgh

How long here: 4 years
Specialisation: Portraiture pen using pointillism techniques on paper and acrylic on canvas.

Inspiration: I studied a myriad of art techniques. I always loved life drawing, I found it very relaxing.

Andrea M Bird

Where born: North of England

How long here: 5 years
Specialisation: Lampwork, mosaics, mixed media, electroforming, sculptural mosaics, inks and resin.

Inspiration: A piece of work I saw prompted me. I began with making jewellery, and went from there.

Jessica Dunn

Where born: London

How long here: 30 years
Specialisation: Today, primarily abstract landscapes.

Inspiration: My father, who was a performer but also a very keen artist. He built a studio in his garden in Boliqueime which I now use as a private gallery. My work has always been inspired by the Algarve.

Toin Adams

Where born: Kitwe, Zambia

How long here: 19 years
Specialisation: sculpture

Inspiration: Seeing X-rays of leg operations as a kid - I thought them the most beautiful thing I'd ever seen.

Jane Rodenburg

Where born: Surrey

How long here: 30 years
Specialisation: Fibre art

Inspiration: When I inherited my grandmother's tapestry loom and took my first workshop in tapestry and weaving, I became totally hooked (literally).

THE FAMOUS FIVE

BETTER KNOWN AS THE QUINTA ART COLLECTIVE, THIS GROUP OF ARTISTS - EACH SPECIALISING IN A DIFFERENT FIELD - IS MAKING A BIG IMPRESSION ON THE COMMUNITY AND COLLECTORS ALIKE. A NEW EXHIBITION WILL SHOWCASE SOME STUNNING PIECES

The Collective – whose idea was it?

Andrea M Bird It was mine. We are all so similar but with very diverse artistic styles and the idea of forming a collective that allowed us to support each other while offering something eclectic and different was hugely appealing.

What was the ‘plan’ right from the start?

Toin Adams To support each other.

Tracy Carson To be a collective of artists and conquer the world through the medium of art whilst riding unicorns and painting rainbows.

Andrea M Bird To establish a group of likeminded artists and to bring our work to market through exhibitions, as well as via social media, pop up shows, workshops

etc. We want to be as accessible to as many people as possible.

Jane Rodenburg We were already friends and coming together as an art collective meant we could use our individual talents and strengths to help create a supportive and energetic forward momentum for our work.

Jessica Dunn We all work very differently and in different mediums; we complement each other as friends and as artists.

Do you have forward-planning meetings and what’s on the agenda?

Toin Adams Yes, regularly. World domination. We meet about once a month to discuss new work and upcoming events.

Tracy Carson We have many fabulous ideas and we do our best to help support the local vineyards and keep them in business!



The idea of forming a collective that allowed us to support each other, while offering something eclectic and different, was hugely appealing.

Andrea M Bird We spent a lot of time planning for the filming of Channel 4’s *New Life in the Sun*, which featured Jane and Weave Deck, and are now focused on promoting our upcoming exhibition. We brainstorm ways to get our work in front of people and discuss general trends in the art world and new emerging artists in our individual disciplines.

Arguments – sorry, heated discussions – do you have them, and how are they resolved?

Toin Adams Argue? If we had them they’d be resolved by food and alcohol.

Tracy Carson Nope, it’s all peace ‘n’ love, man.

Andrea M Bird The collective is about pulling together and supporting each other as women in the art world which can be a very lonely place. We all have different strengths and we are all able to discuss things reasonably

so we can work to a consensus. Ultimately, we are all on the same page and, most importantly, we are all good friends, and that’s key to our relationship.

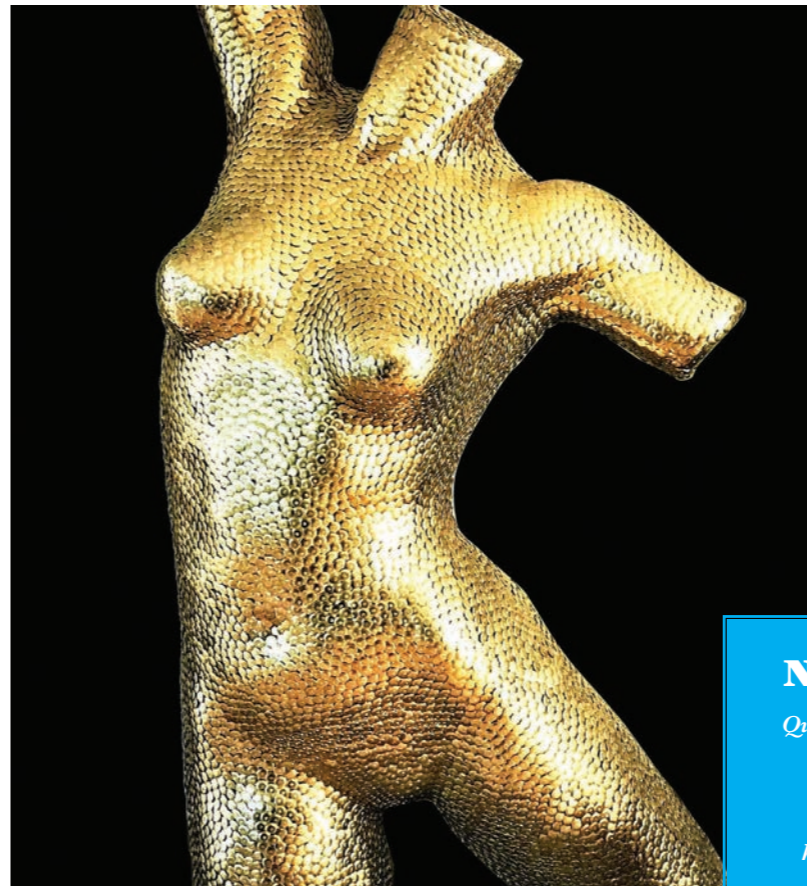
Jane Rodenburg We appreciate and respect one another and are really good at communicating our thoughts. So, no, arguments are not our style at all.

Jessica Dunn We’re pretty much on the same page about most things. At meetings our biggest problem is going off topic and succumbing to over-excitement and wine-induced silliness.

We have a wonderful leader in Andrea; she keeps us in line!

Shows past and planned?

Andrea M Bird Our inaugural exhibition was at Aderitas Artistic Space in Vale do Lobo in October and our next one is at Republica 14 in Olhão, opening this month. As individuals, we have shown at other galleries.



Not to be missed:

Quinta Art Collective at Republica 14, Olhão, from 7 May for six weeks. For more info call 962 544 650, email hello@quintaartcollective.com visit quintaartcollective.com

Jessica Dunn I’ve been in the art business for a long time, working with galleries and other art collectives over the years, so I have a lot of experience in exhibiting. I think that’s my main contribution to the group.

What do you expect of the new show in Olhão?

Tracy Carson Hopefully everyone will love our new work and want to adorn their homes with it!

Jane Rodenburg I hope that we all sell all of our work and that everyone who comes to the exhibition and visits this beautiful, historic building has a great time.

Jessica Dunn We are hoping to gain a new audience from the Eastern side of the Algarve. It will be fantastic to meet new people and discover more about Olhão, which has a large artistic community. The Associação where we are exhibiting is run by musician Fernando Judice and his wife Maria João who are the co-founders.

Where do you see yourselves in two years’ time, and in five years?

Toin Adams Making giant sculptures for public areas here and all over the world. And smaller ones with water and light for gardens in the Algarve.

Tracy Carson I don’t think about the future as it’s not in my control, nor is the past. I live in the moment. As John Lennon once said: “Life is what happens when you’re busy making other plans.”

Andrea M Bird I love what I do and I want to evolve, but in my own time and my own pace. In two years, I see the collective well-known locally and across Portugal. I see more publicity, more exhibitions and more kudos. In five years, I would like to have a steady stream of customers whom come to me for my work and understand that you can’t rush artwork – the conception and planning often takes longer than the work itself.

Jane Rodenburg I’d simply like to continue to make my art, and for Quinta Art Collective to grow from strength to strength. I want us to have a network of happy clients from all around the world, so that we can continue to do what we love and support each other on our individual journeys.

Jessica Dunn I’m allergic to

thinking about the future and don’t dwell on the past either. I live very much for now, but one thing I’m pretty sure of is that in two years or five years, we’ll all be friends and hopefully will have taken over the world.

The individual piece each of you are most proud of and why?

Toin Adams *Phoenix*, (London), which I made with a genius fabricator/artist, Marco Cristovam, blacksmith.

Tracy Carson The new painting I’m working on called *Aqua Girl* because I’ve never painted water before and it was a big learning curve for me. Like mastering a giant jigsaw puzzle.

Andrea M Bird *Nefertiti* is my favourite piece at the moment. She was a labour of love, created through the first lockdown when I had nothing to disturb me. She evolved before my eyes and I wanted her to radiate a woman’s strength with an armour that was both sexy and strong.

Jane Rodenburg My latest one, *Into the Waves*. It represents a sketch that I did when I was first learning to weave.

Jessica Dunn I’m really enjoying my Blue series, which I keep adding to but at the moment my oil painting *Experience* is my favourite. It’s an abstracted land/seascape in golds and cerulean blues, painted after canoeing at Caramujeira beach with my two daughters last summer.

What you each love best about living here

Toin Adams Light. Space. The Portuguese people.

Tracy Carson A more chilled lifestyle and being able to be outside so much.

Andrea M Bird I love the climate, mostly! I love the people and I love the beauty of Portugal, I love to mountain bike and there is nowhere in the world quite as beautiful as the Portuguese hills and mountains.

Jane Rodenburg The clean air, the light, the space, the people, the safety, the way of life... and my friends.

Jessica Dunn The wonderful light, which is perfect for a painter. The wild rugged landscapes and coastlines are also a constant source of inspiration for my work. ☺



Favourites: This page, top: *Experience*, oil on canvas, 101x101cm, by Jessica Dunn; left, top: *Into the Waves*, recycled yarn and Portuguese wool, 63x58cm, by Jane Rodenburg; *Cameleão*, patinated steel, 1.60m, by Toin Adams. Opposite page, left: *Boudica*, life-size bust in brass and resin by Andrea M Bird; right: Tracy Carson’s *Aqua Girl*, acrylic on canvas, 90x110cm

SHOPPING AROUND

Around the corner, that is

YOU'RE READY TO SHOP. TO TREAT YOURSELF TO A NEW LOOK. AND TO MAKE THAT LOOK SPECIAL. THE NEW MARTINA FASHION BOUTIQUE IN LOULÉ HAS FINALLY OPENED AND IT IS A CELEBRATION OF GREAT TASTE

Words: **SUSI ROGOL-GOODKIND**

Images: **LARS HINSEHOFEN**

MARTINA KAISER already has legions of fans who first become regulars at her design shop in a Loulé back street, where handmade jewellery and artisan homewares were the signature. Opened in 2012 and in fact opened on a whim – Martina is an interior architect by profession but went on to study creative skills like silversmithing. She had no retail experience but her little store attracted local artists and designers looking for a platform to showcase their work. With talents and merchandise spilling out, she moved to larger premises on a corner of the pedestrian street, Rua das Lojas, and word spread fast about her very different offering.

Martina travelled the country, always in search of new talents and inspired ideas. She discovered ceramic factories with unusual stoneware and tableware, which became a major part of her growing product palette, alongside jewellery and accessories.

The look is distinctive, underplayed and confident, exactly what you would expect from this interior architect-cum-jewellery designer-cum-retailer, to whom the move into fashion and a wonderful new store is a natural progression



Six years later, in 2017, she fell in love with a beautiful line of linen dresses at a trade show and, recognising the potential of the fashion and jewellery combination, she decided to buy into the collection.

Every piece Martina bought sold out fast and clients repeatedly asked for more. Two years on, and again the shop was bursting at the seams. “I think I was unconsciously looking for additional premises in Loulé for a while,” she recalls. “The town was bustling, and attracting newcomers with its beautiful Saturday market, new cafés, great restaurants, and artisan studios. But for fashion lovers there was nothing to be found.”

Timing!

Then, right bang in the middle of the pandemic, Martina came across a big corner shop facing the side of the municipal market, which had, in its previous life, been a wine and spirits store. She was hooked again! The handwritten telephone number in the window caught her eye and she investigated.

“The rent was reasonable – the times, after all, were anything but

– and with the spread of Covid-19, we were very close to another lockdown. What a time to take on a fresh business challenge!”

Martina talked to family, to friends and to clients to gather opinions. “Despite the challenging climate, everyone loved the idea of a new fashion shop in Loulé and, without exception, they encouraged me to go ahead. So I went for it: a big 100m², with four large shop windows, and an ugly interior in need of love and attention. But I could see the potential, and that inspired me to move forward and realise the dream.

“In the next five months, we turned everything upside down and transformed a dark and old-fashioned space into an open, modern and welcoming shop. As an interior architect, I could visualise right from the start how I wanted it to look at the end. Only installations like the electrics, the fire system and metal work were outsourced; the rest was completed by us.”

Sourcing the perfect ranges

During the detailed renovation process, Martina not only had to supervise works to ensure that they reached her exacting design ▶

I want my story, and my collections, to be distinct, with a choice of labels that offer timeless, yet contemporary design-led statements and become key wardrobe pieces.



standards, but she also had to focus on finding the right labels that made a statement about her business and, of course, enough stock to fill the new premises.

"I already had brilliant connections with the established collections I had been selling previously but I also set out to discover young Portuguese designers with a distinct handwriting, whose work would sit perfectly in my new environment.

"I have never wanted to be all things to all people. I want my story, and my collections, to be distinct, with a choice of labels that offer timeless, yet contemporary design-led statements and become key wardrobe pieces that continue to be favourites, rather than one-season wonders.

"My vision is simple and my look understated: dresses, tops, trousers in linen, cotton, silk and special materials like rayon and Tencel. Each collection consists of only a limited number of pieces, sometimes only one piece per size. I want to look after my clients and ensure there is little chance of their seeing someone in the same outfit at a local event. To me, it is also crucial that fashion itself respects the environment – sustainability is a vital responsibility that we must all share, and that's where the right selection of fabrics comes into play."

Expect to see

The shop is spacious, a statement of contemporary cool, flooded with light, with big windows opening onto the street. There are burnished metal wall rails (Martina's own design), hanging bags and baskets from Africa, pieces suspended on the wall, and some great artworks. The

whole impression is one of newness, and a fashion freshness you don't often see here on the Algarve. Martina's favourite kaftan dress is in fine linen – great for lunch on the beach but just as good-looking on city streets. And there's an adventurous Italian label that's best described as having a 'nomadic and curious soul', and that means relaxed, colourful and happy clothes.

The offering doesn't stop at fashion, either. Alongside essential basics – beautiful t-shirts, chic little day dresses, perfectly-cut shorts in cotton and linen, and accessories like summer hats, scarves, sandals and socks – you will find a delicious selection of hand-picked interior decoration pieces like lampshades, blankets, beach towels. "That's the advantage of having space," laughs Martina.

"I will have two seasons," she says. "A summer season with a big selection of sunshine-right labels and a winter season with a carefully developed range that's perfect for that time of year. The pricing and sizing structure, too, have been key to my buying decisions; I am looking at a €50 to €200 price range, and sizes 36-44."

Martina will, of course, continue to design her own jewellery collection (clients would never forgive her otherwise!) and create one-off pieces to compliment a particular outfit, making the finished effect customised to the wearer. And what about menswear – is that on the horizon? "At this moment my focus is on womenswear, but believe me, I am looking to find the designers and collections for men that will underpin the Martina message. It won't be long!"

And the 'old' shop? It remains the place to go for ceramics, jewellery and accessories. ☺

MARTINA / Homes: Rua das Lojas, R. 5 de Outubro, 68
Fashion and accessories: Rua José Fernandes Guerreiro, 39
OPEN: Monday-Friday 10.00-13.00; 15.00-18.00; Saturday: 10.00-14.00
martina-loule.com / instagram: martina.loule

Corte-Real Algarve Art Gallery



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RECIPE of the month...

Strictly Vegan! Chipotle mushroom & black bean burgers with peanuts

BARBECUES ARE TRADITIONALLY ASSOCIATED WITH CARNIVOROUS COOKING, BUT WHEN YOU ARE ENTERTAINING VEGGIE GUESTS OR PREPARING A FLEXITARIAN FEAST, GOING MEAT-FREE IS ESSENTIAL. WE'VE FOUND A NEW COOKBOOK WHERE OVER HALF THE RECIPES ARE PLANT-BASED AND SUITABLE FOR VEGANS. QUICK, EASY, AND FUSS FREE - THAT'S THE WAY TO DO IT

SERVES: 4 / PREP: 20 MINUTES / COOK: 25 MINUTES

INGREDIENTS

50g smooth peanut butter
1 x 400g tin of black beans, drained, but not rinsed
2 small cloves of garlic, peeled
2tsp chipotle chilli flakes
1tsp ground cumin
1tbsp olive oil
1 heaped tbsp rye flour
1 lime, zest only
1tsp sea salt flakes
250g chestnut mushrooms

TO SERVE:

1 lime, cut into 4 wedges
A handful of chopped salted peanuts
A handful of chopped fresh coriander
4 burger buns

METHOD

- 1 Put the peanut butter into a food processor with 60g of the black beans, the garlic, chilli flakes, cumin, olive oil, rye flour, lime zest and sea salt flakes, and blitz until you have a very thick paste. Tip it into a large bowl and stir in the rest of the black beans.
- 2 Tip the mushrooms into the processor - no need to wash them - and pulse until you have a dry mushroom mince. Stir this into the black bean mixture.
- 3 With damp hands, form it into four thick burgers and arrange them on a lined baking sheet.
- 4 Bake in the oven at 180°C fan/200°C/gas 5 for 25-30 minutes. When they've got 10 minutes left, gently flip them over so they can crisp up on the other side.
- 5 They're ready to serve straight from the oven, but for a nice bit of smokiness you can let them cool down, then finish them on a medium barbecue for a couple of minutes per side.
- 6 Squeeze over the lime wedges and top with a handful of chopped peanuts and coriander, then sandwich them into lightly grilled burger buns.



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PLAYTIME

*Swing along
the Algarve*

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QUINTA DA RIA ◀

First opened: 2002
Course Architect: Rocky Roquemore
Number of holes: 18
Most challenging hole: 10 (stroke index 1)
Course par: 72
Membership fees 2021: Single €2,160; Couple €3,200
Buggy rental: €42

Vila Nova de Cacela
T: 281 950 580
w: quintadaria.com

QUINTA DA CIMA CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE ◀

First opened: 2002
Course Architect: Rocky Roquemore
Number of holes: 18
Most challenging: 14 (stroke index 1)
Course par: 72
Membership fees: Single €2,160; Couple €3,200
Buggy rental: €42

Vila Nova de Cacela
T: 281 950 580
w: quintadaria.com/pt-pt/campo-de-golfe-quinta-de-cima

PINHEIROS ALTOS GOLF COURSE ▽

First opened: 1992
Course Architect: Ronald Fream and Jorge Santana da Silva
Number of holes: 27 holes (three different 9-holes, named Pines, Olives and Corks)
Most challenging hole: 8, Pines

Course par: 36 over all
Green fees: On request
Buggy rental: €50
Membership fees 2021: On request

Urbanização Pinheiros Altos 175
T: 289 359 900
w: pinheirosaltos.com



BENAMOR GOLF ◀

First opened: March 2000
Course Architect: Sir Henry Cotton
Number of holes: 18
Most challenging hole: 8 (par 3)
Course par: 71
Green fees: Depending on season and time:
 Nine holes, €30-€50
 18 holes, €45-€84.50

Buggy rental: €3-€25 depending on type
Membership fees 2021: Single €2,220; couple €3,530
Member benefits: Guests pay €25 for nine holes and €45 for 18 holes. Members get 10% discount in the bar restaurant and shop.
Extras: individual golf clinics, and group lessons

Quinta de Benamor, 8800-067 Conceição de Tavira
T: 281 320 880
w: benamorgolf.com

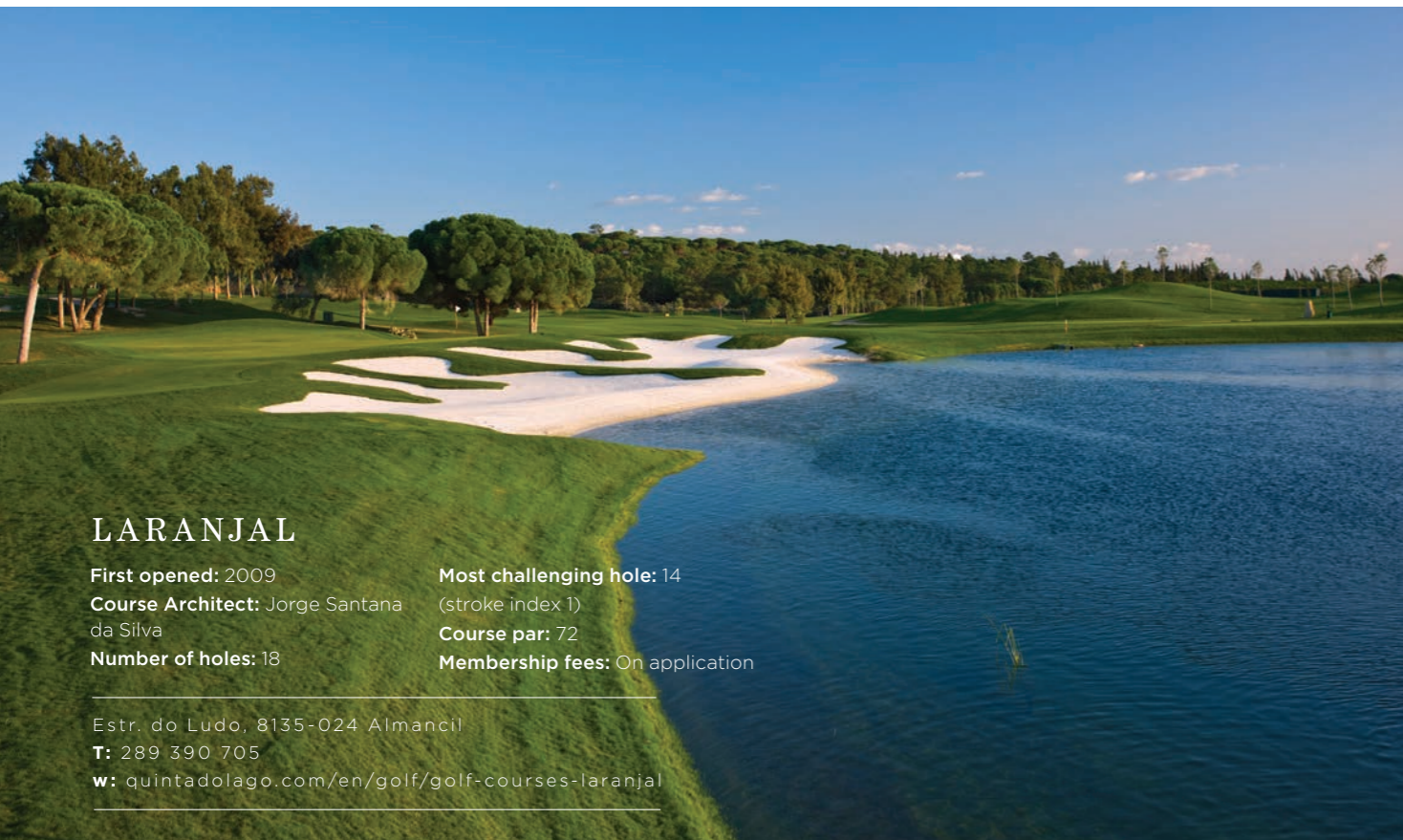


SAN LORENZO GOLF COURSE △

First opened: 1988
Course Architects: Joseph Lee and Rocky Roquemore
Number of holes: 18
Most challenging hole: 18; most famous 5 and 6

Course par: 72
Green fees: On request
Buggy rental: €50
Membership 2021: On request

Quinta do Lago, 8135-162 Almancil
T: 289 396 522
w: sanlorenzogolfcourse.com



LARANJAL

First opened: 2009
Course Architect: Jorge Santana da Silva
Number of holes: 18
Most challenging hole: 14 (stroke index 1)
Course par: 72
Membership fees: On application

Estr. do Ludo, 8135-024 Almancil
T: 289 390 705
w: quintadolago.com/en/golf/golf-courses-laranjal

PENINA RESORT & ACADEMY GOLF COURSES ▽

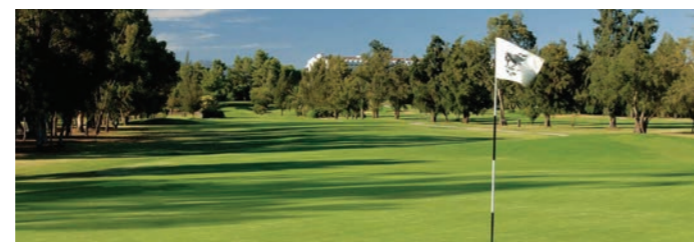
First opened: 1972
Course Architect: Sir Henry Cotton
Number of holes: Each 9 holes
Most challenging: Resort course 3, Academy 5
Course par: Resort par 35, Academy par 30
Green fees: On request
Buggy rental: €50
Membership fees 2021: On request

Penina Golf Resort
 EN 125 - Penina, Portimão, 8501-952
T: 282 420 200
w: penina.com/golf/penina-golf-academy
w: penina.com/golf/golf-courses/resort-course

SIR HENRY COTTON CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF COURSE PENINA GOLF RESORT △

First opened: 1966
Course Architect: Sir Henry Cotton
Number of holes: 18 (the first 18-hole course on the Algarve)
Most challenging: 13
Course par: 73
Green fees: On request
Buggy rental: €50
Membership fees 2021: On request

Penina Golf Resort
 EN 125 - Penina, Portimão, 8501-952
T: 282 420 200
w: penina.com/golf/golf-courses/sir-henry-cotton-championship-course



QUINTA DO LAGO NORTH COURSE △

First opened: 2014
Course Architect: Redeveloped by renowned American golf architect Beau Welling in close collaboration with 2014 European Ryder Cup captain Paul McGinley.
Number of holes: 18
Most challenging hole: 14 (stroke index 1)
Course par: 72
Membership fees 2021: On application

Quinta do Lago Off Roundabout 1, 8135-024 Almancil
T: 289 390 700
w: quintadolago.com/en/golf/golf-courses-north

Since its inception in 1972, Quinta do Lago has been at the forefront of international golf, hosting eight Portuguese Opens

QUINTA DO LAGO SOUTH COURSE ▽

The South Course is currently closed for renovation. A €7 million investment into improving the course is underway, to ensure sustainability and reduce environmental impact. The South Course will reopen in September.

AND MANY MORE

ALBUFEIRA

- ◆ Balaia Golf Course
- ◆ Pine Cliffs Golf Course

ALCANTILHA

- ◆ Amendoeira Faldo course

CARVOEIRO

- ◆ Silves Golf
- ◆ Vale da Pinta

CASTRO MARIM

- ◆ Monte Rei Resort
- ◆ Monte Rei North
- ◆ Quinta do Vale

HERDADE DE SALGADOS

- ◆ Salgados Golf Course

LAGOS

- ◆ Boa Vista
- ◆ Espiche
- ◆ Palmares
- ◆ Santo Antonio

PORTIMÃO

- ◆ Alamos
- ◆ Alto Golf
- ◆ Morgado

VILAMOURA

- ◆ Dom Pedro Victoria Golf Course
- ◆ Old Course Golf Club
- ◆ Millennium
- ◆ Pinhal

VILA SOL

- ◆ Vila Sol Golf

VALE DO LOBO

- ◆ Ocean Golf Course
- ◆ Royal Golf Course



QdL

In addition to eight Portuguese Opens, Quinta do Lago has hosted numerous other international tournaments. Home to three world-class golf courses, the resort also boasts a wealth of cutting-edge practice facilities.

Quinta do Lago's TaylorMade Performance Centre is the only facility of its kind in Portugal and is located on the resort's expansive driving range.

Opened in May 2013, the centre is operated by trained TaylorMade technicians, offering golfers a custom-fitting experience testing hundreds of club and iron options, ensuring the best combination for every player's swing. It also has a fully equipped Tour standard workshop and utilises FlightScope X2 radar technology to measure the entire flight of the ball from impact to landing whilst displaying its 3D trajectory in real time.

The resort is also home to the only Paul McGinley Academy in the world.



I do not do things that are logical. I might be an eccentric inventing strange ideas and random figures that do not exist. They're different – nonsense, inspired by Portuguese artisans, Greek and Roman mythology and African art.

ALSO KNOWN as 'art brut' or raw art, Outsider Art includes all those images created by people who are uneducated in the conventions of fine art. Graffiti is a good example, as are primitive and naïve paintings. Increasingly recognised as an insightful form of expression, there are major exhibitions in art museums and galleries. Giving voice to ordinary people, children, prisoners and the mentally unstable, this type of artwork has no boundaries. The individuals involved are self-taught; they don't belong to any art movement or school and, for the most part, are personally motivated.

Like Idalécio, they are not associated with the mainstream art world but are identified as a vibrant and creative force. In 2016, when it was exhibited in Porto, Idalécio's animated work received much acclaim. Futuristic and inventive, he seems to have tapped into the mains electricity of his imagination. Ignoring the prevailing attitudes towards beauty, good taste and high culture, instead he produces paintings and sculptures that are instinctive and full of fun.

Living in an extraordinary world, he is surrounded by diverse collections of personal memorabilia, ceramics,



woodwork, basketwork, metalwork and popular art. Packed into every nook and cranny of his home and studio this assortment of objects is a source of stimulation.

"Maybe my collection is worth nothing," he says. "Maybe I should get rid of it all. I do not do things that are logical. I might be an eccentric inventing strange ideas and random figures that do not exist. They're different – nonsense, inspired by Portuguese artisans, Greek and Roman mythology and African art."

Once a soldier in Mozambique, Idalécio has led an interesting life. Brought up in a village near Aveiro, he encountered people who left a lasting impression. A blacksmith dedicated to the church; a tailor who yearned to be on stage; a shoemaker who made art. The stereotypical and conventional left him cold.

Whilst growing up he learned a set of skills so that he could work with metal. At first, he organised his time making tools and toys, gradually diversifying into free expression. Today he works full-time as an artisan-cum-artist. Enjoying every hour of every day, he is unconcerned if what he is producing is saleable or not. Spontaneous and carefree, Idalécio is a genuine source of Outsider Art. See his work at Galeria Côte Real in Paderne. 📍



KEY COLLECTIONS

♦ The Outsider Art Museum, Lisbon, Portugal

Dating back to its origins as a hospital in the 19th century, it was known as the Pavilhão de Segurança.

Recently renovated, it is contained in an enclosed circular courtyard where the mentally-disturbed were constantly supervised. The museum includes 3,500 paintings, sketches and sculptures created by patients. The location and exhibits are of equal interest.

Call 213 177400 for opening hours.

♦ Château de Beaulieu, Lausanne, Switzerland

Artist Jean Dubuffet was the inventor of the concept of Art Brut and from 1945 onwards he gathered together works by self-taught artists, often the marginalised, detainees or prisoners. He later donated the collection to the City of Lausanne.

♦ Whitworth Museum, Manchester, England

More than 1,153 individual artworks by over 129 artists, brought together by curator Monika Kinley and gallerist and curator Victor Musgrave over a period of 30 years, from 1979 to 2010.



INSIDE AN OUTSIDER

BRIMMING WITH ARTISTIC ENERGY, HE IS UNTRAINED, IMPULSIVE AND HUGELY CREATIVE. BASED IN THE CITY OF PORTO, IDALÉCIO IS A MUCH-HERALDED PRACTITIONER OF OUTSIDER ART

Words: CAROLYN KAIN

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DRAW ON *the experience others*



WHATEVER YOU FANCY LEARNING, YOU WILL FIND A MULTITUDE OF OPTIONS ONLINE. IN EVERY ISSUE, WE GET OUR INTREPID EXPERIMENTER TO TAKE UP A NEW CHALLENGE AND RATE THE RESULTS. THIS TIME AROUND, IT'S ONE THAT IS STRICTLY FOR THE BIRDS

Words: STACEY BARTLETT

LIKE MANY people, I have taken up and then given up various hobbies over the years. My sister is an expert knitter but I only got as far as a doll-sized scarf and have not picked up the needles since. I often use the excuse that I simply don't have the spare hours to devote to a hobby and, while this is true for something that requires dedication, attention and practice, it is possible to develop new skills with just a small investment of time each day.

When I was briefed by AlgarvePLUS to take up a hobby online, the first thing that came to mind was drawing. As a child, birds were my favourite subject – my grandmother's house was full of my pictures of chaffinches, blue jays, sparrows and more. As drawing does not require much equipment (and does not create much mess), it seemed like a sensible choice, and one that I might even commit to long-term. To narrow down the many thousands of tutorials online, I decided to stick to my favourite childhood subject: birds. I chose six, and have rated them out of ten depending on how useful I personally found them, but you may have a different view depending on your existing skills and what you are hoping to achieve. The following videos are all available for free on YouTube.

1. SKETCHING A BIRD – GETTING' SKETCHY LIVE

This video aims to show you what you can create in less than 30 minutes. It is part of a bigger programme of drawing instruction on thevirtualinstructor.com, where there are longer videos that go into detail about equipment and techniques.

As this is a live video, it takes quite a while to get started as the artist complains about his internet connection and other issues. Once stuck in, he makes motivational statements explaining the value of practice and the joy that can be achieved by learning



2. HOW TO DRAW A ROBIN – LETHAL CHRIS DRAWING

My next attempt was a robin. This video is more complicated as it involves different colours, so I had to raid my daughter's pencil case before starting.

Narrating the video himself, the artist explains the materials that he uses but then also reassures the viewer that you do not need the whole kit to be able to copy his image.

Initially, the drawing involves more of a freehand style which means that it is easy to make mistakes with proportions and I found myself rubbing bits out and re-doing them.

The artist explains the

thought process that he uses to create a realistic looking robin, and explains the colours that he has chosen and why they are suitable. It is necessary to pause the video frequently to ensure that you have the correct colours at hand and that you do not miss any of the steps.

Drawing realistic feathers – obviously a skill that the artist has crafted over time – is not easy, but I am sure that with some practice and experimentation with colours your ability will improve. Mine certainly did.

youtu.be/sdLbsOw8-Uk

Narrating the video himself, the artist explains the materials that he uses but then also reassures the viewer that you do not need the whole kit to be able to copy his image.

3. HOW TO DRAW A BIRD – ART PRO

Using geometric shapes, this video has no sound or text and is accompanied by relaxing but slightly-distracting spa music. At only just over three minutes, the instruction is very short but the bird that is created is simple yet effective. It is necessary to pause the video regularly if you want to make sure that you don't miss anything but the use of shading is good and it is amazing to see what you can achieve such a short space of time.

youtu.be/UMwx4raERDs

My score: 5/10



a new skill. Copying from a photograph of a bird, he explains how to recreate the image with light, freehand strokes and he makes regular adjustments to his picture to ensure that the proportions and angles are right.

This video is good, if you are prepared to watch or forward through the technical issues and other waffly bits! youtu.be/qq13FazF1xg and thevirtualinstructor.com

My score: 6/10



4. HOW TO DRAW A PEACOCK - ART FOR KIDS HUB

With a completely different look and style, this video is designed to appeal to children rather than people looking to create realistic pencil or charcoal sketches. The artist speaks to the viewer and is accompanied by a boy of about 12, who copies along to show just how easy it is to draw the image. Each part of the bird is carefully explained with easy-to-follow instructions. You could watch this video with children and encourage them to follow along, too.

Using Sharpie pens and crayons to colour, the image that is created is almost cartoon like with its clear lines and colours, although some shading is added to make it look more realistic. This is a fun and light-hearted introduction to drawing that I enjoyed and one that I will definitely play again with my children to see what they can create.

youtu.be/EphQnqqsJfw

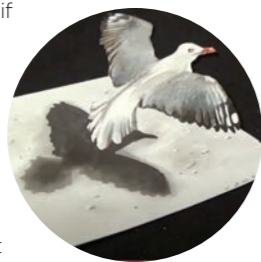
My score: 7/10

6. DRAW A 3D FLYING BIRD - VAMOSART DRAWING

This is a fun video to watch. It is speeded up so if you want to copy each stage you would need to pause regularly so as not to get left behind. There is no narration while the artist draws a bird that is quite cartoon-like in style using lots of black lines and block colouring and shading. The clever bit, though, is the shading underneath that looks like the bird's shadow. The top section of the bird is then cut out and it looks like the bird is flying up and out of the paper which is a clever illusion and definitely one worth trying.

youtu.be/Z5KWJWJQjow

My score: 5/10



5. HOW TO DRAW ANIMALS: HOW TO DRAW A HOUSE SPARROW

This video has written instructions alongside the image of the artist drawing. I liked the addition of the text as it made it easy to follow. Each stage of the drawing is shown in detail with guidelines about proportions, which some of the other videos do not offer. This method of drawing is very geometric with circles on top of triangles, but that makes it fairly fool proof and, once your drawing is shaded in, you cannot see any of the guideline shapes.

There is a simple but good explanation of how to draw the feet which, like the hands or feet of a person, are always going to be tricky and can ruin the finished effect if they are not done correctly.

This video is good for beginners and enables you to draw a well-proportioned bird using shapes. If you want more detailed instruction you can visit how2drawanimals.com where they break down each step in detail and explain more clearly what you need to do. On the website there are lots of other animals and birds to choose from, many of which have both sketch and cartoon versions.

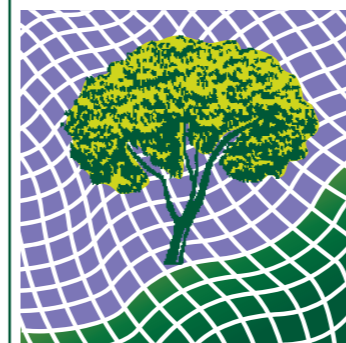
youtu.be/6AiSQvfze70

My score: 8/10

Please PAUSE the video after each step to draw at your own pace.



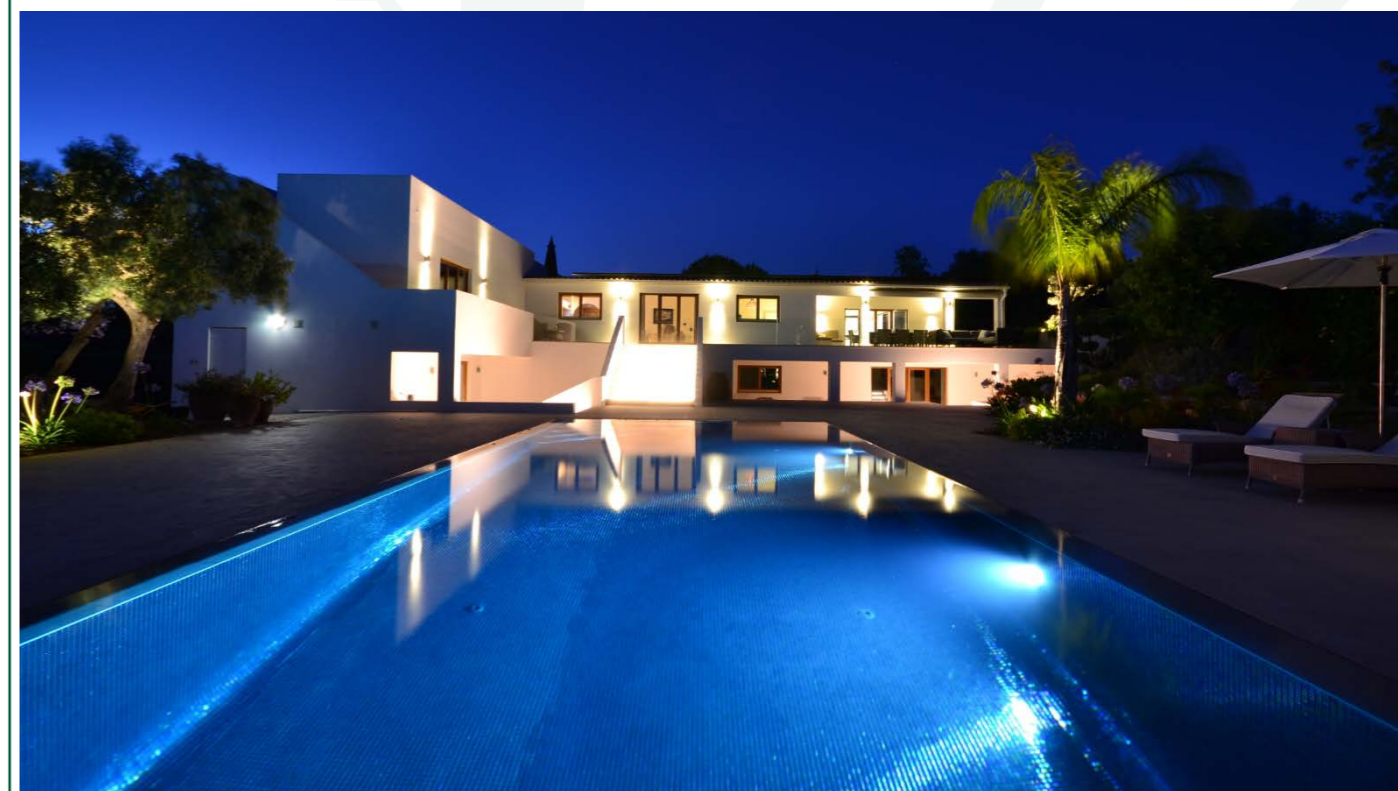
In summary, the online resource for something like learning to draw is immense and a vast amount of it is free, meaning that this is an inexpensive hobby to take up. All you need is paper, some pencils, and several rubbers – these are essential, especially at the beginning when it is easy to get the proportions wrong. I focused on birds simply to narrow down the options, but you could learn to draw almost anything. People, buildings, vehicles...



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PROPERTY of the month



BEDROOMS

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GROUNDS

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PARKING

Carport plus garage



POOL

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- ◆ Large roof terrace
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- ◆ Construction: 189m²
- ◆ Price: €750,000
- ◆ Ref: WDG-V

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DAWN ANNANDALE'S SELECTION THIS MONTH INCLUDES A HARD-HITTING BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE PRINCE PHILLIP, WRITTEN TO CELEBRATE HIS CENTENARY; A COUPLE OF SPOOKIES; THE BOOKER PRIZE WINNER, AND PIERS MORGAN'S NO-HOLDS-BARRED ROUTE TO A BETTER WORLD. LOTS TO READ, LOTS TO THINK ABOUT



THE DUKE: 100 CHAPTERS IN THE LIFE OF PRINCE PHILLIP

By Ian Lloyd
Publisher: The History Press
Genre: Biography

This book was released in February 2021 in honour of Prince Philip's hundredth year. I'm sure there will be many more biographies released following the death of the Prince on 9 April 2021, but I love the fact that this book is a celebration rather than a commemoration.

The Archbishop of Canterbury called him 'bloody rude', courtiers feared he was 'a foreign interloper out for the goodies', daughter-in-law Sarah Ferguson found him 'very frightening' and the Queen Mother labelled him 'the Hun'.

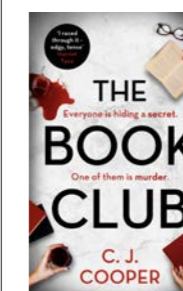
Journalists have continually portrayed him as a gaffe-prone serial philanderer, with European outlets going way off-piste and claiming he has fathered 24 illegitimate children and even had a fling with a former French president. Prince Philip says 'the impression the public has got is unfair', though he doesn't go to great lengths to defend himself – his interviews with broadcasters or writers are done grudgingly.

The Duke sets out to explore the man behind the various myths, drawing on interviews with relations, friends and courtiers, as well as Prince Philip's own words. Ian Lloyd brings to life some rare aspects of his character, from a love of poetry and

religion to his fondness for Duke Ellington and his fascination with UFOs. Lloyd also explains why for over seven decades the Duke of Edinburgh has been the Queen's 'strength and stay', and why he is widely regarded as a national treasure.

This really is an insight into the life of the Duke from his turbulent childhood to the incredible long service he gave with willingness and dignity to the United Kingdom. He was a gentleman and I salute him with gratitude and respect.

Book of the month



THE BOOK CLUB

By CJ Cooper
Publisher: Hachette UK
Genre: Psychological Thriller

Impossible to give a decent review of a psychological thriller without giving the plot away. Suffice to say, this is a delicious tale of twists and turns about a book club that unravels dark and scandalous secrets between one circle of neighbours.

I stayed up far too late reading Cooper's book and then had the willies and couldn't sleep. I loved it but it scared me too – all those complex and dangerous personalities and questioning if they do exist in real life?

I shall view the members of my own book club in a different light at our next meeting! ▶



★★★★★

SHUGGIE BAIN

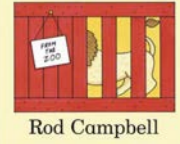
By Douglas Stuart
 Publisher: Picador
 Genre: Book Prize Winner 2020

It is 1981, in a dying Glasgow where good families must grit to survive. Agnes Bain has always expected more from life. She dreams of greater things: a house with its own front door and a life bought and paid for outright (like her perfect, but false, teeth). But Agnes is abandoned by her philandering husband, and soon she and her three children find themselves trapped in a decimated mining town. As she descends deeper into drink, the children try their best to save her, yet one by one they must abandon her to save themselves. It is her son Shuggie who holds out hope the longest.

Shuggie is different. Fastidious and fussy, he shares his mother's sense of snobbish propriety. The miners' children pick on him and adults condemn him as 'no' right'. But Shuggie believes that if he tries his hardest, he can be normal like the other boys and help his mother escape this hopeless place. *Shuggie Bain* lays bare the ruthlessness of poverty, the limits of love, and the hollowness of pride.

Sad beyond words and a slap of reality that enforces my gratitude for my terribly nice upbringing juxtaposed with the hunger, abuse and barrenness of the lives of the poor of Glasgow.

Dear Zoo



★★★★★

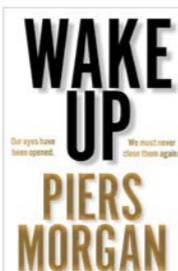
DEAR ZOO

By Rod Campbell
 Publisher: Macmillan
 Genre: Children's pop-up book

Suitable for up to three years old. Young children will love lifting the flaps to discover the animals the zoo has sent – a monkey, a lion and even an elephant. With bright, bold artwork, a catchy refrain and a whole host of favourite animals, *Dear Zoo* is perfect to share with children over facetime or Zoom.

I bought a copy for me and one for my great-nephew. It's adorable to see him as he giggles with delight when we count to three and then lift the pages simultaneously and make daft animal noises! The thick card pages, chunky-cased cover and sturdy flaps make it perfect for small hands.

It's so important to stay in touch during these trying times and through books I have managed to retain that all-important bond with the children of the family.



★★★★★

WAKE UP: THE WORLD HAS GONE NUTS

By Piers Morgan
 Publisher: Harper Collins
 Genre: Opinion

Love him or hate him, Piers Morgan has a point. In 2020, the world faced its biggest crisis in a generation: a global pandemic. In the UK, it exposed deep divisions within society and laid bare a toxic culture war that had been raging beneath the surface. From the outset, Piers Morgan urged the nation to come to its senses, once and for all, and held the government to often ferocious account over its handling of the crisis.

Stockpilers and lockdown-cheats revealed our grotesque levels of self-interest and the virtue-signalling woke brigade continued their furious assault on free speech, shutting down debate on important issues like gender, racism and feminism.

Yet just as coronavirus exposed our flaws, it also showcased our strengths. We saw selfless bravery in the heroic efforts of healthcare staff; a greater appreciation of migrant workers; a return of local community spirit. And inspiring, noble acts from members of the British public such as Captain Sir Tom Moore.

Wake Up is Morgan's rallying cry for a united future in which we reconsider what really matters in life. It is a plea for the return of true liberalism, where freedom of speech is king. Most of all, it is a powerful account of how the world finally started to wake up, and why it mustn't go back to sleep again.



★★★★☆

DEAR LUCIFER

By L.A. Davenport
 Publisher: Self-published
 Genre: Tales of argh...

This is a bit different – a collection of spooky short stories with a twist of evil chucked in. I'm not generally a fan of short stories but really enjoyed this lot.

There is the tale of a man who thinks he's seen an angel; an interesting one of a night out in London seen through drunk eyes; a goddess snatching a holidaymaker down to the underworld; a desperate husband seeking help for his dying wife; a man stuck down a manhole after his stag do; the tell-all story of the ups and downs of a global pop band; the reminiscences of a faded actor; an appeal to His Satanic Majesty for help.

Davenport explores the meaning of life in the modern world, laced through with a rich seam of satire and wit. You won't have nightmares but it's definitely thought provoking.

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THIS MONTH, AMERICANS EVANNE
AND RAY SCHMARDER TALK ABOUT
THEIR JOURNEY



ALGARVE PLUS | 53



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EVANNE SCHMARDER worked in the 9-5 world of corporate travel management; Ray was a union stagehand, working everything from rock shows – think Bruce Springsteen, The Eagles, The Rolling Stones, and singing onstage with Jackson Brown – to opera and dance, including *The Phantom of the Opera*.

In 2000, they chunked out nearly everything – careers, house, possessions, outdated ideas – and hit the road. For the next 18 years, they were what are referred to as full-time RVers, living in an efficiently-designed 200 square-foot road abode. And then they discovered Portugal...

Objectives in place

“Our plan was simple. We’d move to the gorgeous capital city, Lisbon, and experience everything that it had to offer for two or three years. At that point, we reasoned, we’d be priced out of the real estate market and ready to get back to nature. And that’s exactly what happened.

We spent our first six weeks in Mouraria, finding our way around and figuring out how to secure appointments with the SEF office for our first temporary resident permits. Although we arrived in September, our appointments were set for the following March. We printed out the official appointment paperwork and kept it in our passports with our affixed D7 visas. (We’re thrilled to report that our initial SEF appointment, as well as our next, went off without a hitch).

Knowing that we needed to make a move in a matter of weeks, we visited a local real estate agency. They welcomed us in and we sat down. After general pleasantries, the fellow asked us where we were currently living.

“Mouraria,” we replied.

“I’m sorry, where?” he asked.

Slower this time, we replied: “Mouraria.”

With a puzzled look on his face, he asked the receptionist to help. “We are living in the bairro of Mouraria,” we told her.

“Oh,” she said, nodding to the fellow with understanding.

Then they both smiled, with more nodding, and said: “Mouraria!” in unison.

Once we wrapped up that quick meeting, we headed down the road to a funky little Middle Eastern hole-in-the-wall, called Ink Farm Foods, and had the best Israeli falafel balls we’d ever eaten.

It didn’t work out with that agency – or any other, actually. Yet despite the tight rental market, we secured a large flat (unusual for the neighbourhood) in the historic Alfama district from an absolutely delightful Portuguese gal, a filmmaker who spends half her year in Brooklyn, New York. We stayed seven months, soaking in everything that was happening around us before taking off for an extended summer holiday in Italy, a stopover in Dublin, and a few fun Ray-rock gigs back in the United States.

As luck would have it, the across-the-hall neighbour in our old Mouraria building was moving into a new flat and looking for ▶



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renters right around the time we planned to return to Portugal. One wonderful thing led to another. We moved into her beautifully cared-for flat and made a great friend in the process. In fact, we have built our Portuguese circle of friends in this manner. We are close to the couple who owned our first Mouraria place and also developed a friendship with their apartment manager. Our Alfama landlady has become a dear friend and we enjoy the commonality of countries.

The connections and generous nature of the local people are things that always stand out to us. For Ray's first birthday in Portugal, we took a day trip to Setúbal. We had heard about their fabulous fish and farm market, and it seemed like it would be a charming city to explore.

Looking around

We boarded the ferry that took us to the train which took us to Setúbal, though we got off the train one stop too early and had to wander around and walk our way to the heart of town. We easily found the market and, after all that traipsing around, we were hungry. Like many markets, the perimeter was a useful collection of meat stalls, cheese stands, and snack bars. Ray spotted one that specialised in bifanas, a new-to-us taste sensation, so we headed over to sample their wares. A bifana is simply a pork steak, seasoned with garlic and spices, then placed inside a bread roll.

With our limited Portuguese language skills but open hearts, we were able to communicate to the folks behind the counter that we had just come from Montreal. It turned out that the fellow who was the owner and husband of his co-worker, had spent time in Montreal on a military ship. He must've had quite a colourful time there because before you knew it, everyone was joking and laughing. The dozen or so individuals in the snack bar couldn't seem to get



They set up the shot glasses and the ginjinha, a Portuguese liqueur, poured freely. There were toasts. There were laughs and more shots of ginjinha. There were selfies and warm wishes all around. It was a fabulous introduction to these wonderful people and a birthday memory that will last forever.



Evanne and Ray have combined their writing, cooking, and communication skills with their insatiable curiosity and interest in all things food and Portugal, and created *Relish Portugal*. This award-winning English-language food and culture magazine is a free, subscription-only magazine for Portugal-curious home cooks, delivered to subscribers' email boxes quarterly. To find out more, visit relishportugal.com

enough. Finished with our delicious bifanas, somehow it slipped that it was Ray's birthday. It was everyone's lucky day then. They set up the shot glasses and the ginjinha, a Portuguese liqueur, poured freely. There were toasts. There were laughs and more shots of ginjinha. There were selfies and warm wishes all around. It was a fabulous introduction to these wonderful people and a birthday memory that will last forever.

Just as predicted, and again true to form, we were now ready to try something new. After having observed the real estate market and feeling ready to make Portugal our true home, it was time to buy a place of our own. Sure, we could find a place in Lisbon within our budget, but it would be a shoebox. As much as we loved the capital city, we needed room to grow and were yearning for a bit more nature. Having always been ocean people, we began to explore Portugal's ample shorelines. We looked to the north and loved what we saw but remembered the cold, rainy Portland winters. No can do. The Silver Coast was very alluring but dedicated to being car-free, we couldn't live with its limited public transportation options. Setúbal was in play for a while, but without an easy walk to the ocean, we felt that, even though we loved the small city vibe and everything that it brought, it was too similar to Lisbon. That left the Algarve to explore.

Looking south

Digging deeper, we created a checklist of everything important to us in a hometown. We wanted to be within walking distance of the ocean, with pleasant weather, good grocery options, a fresh food market nearby, international dining options and neighbourhoods, and easy-to-access public transport. The infrastructure was first, but equally important, we wanted to love where we lived, the town, the community, and yes, the home itself.

We looked from Tavira to Aljezur. Each had a lot of 'something specials' and were worthy of deep consideration, but from our list of personal needs, they each missed a tick or two. Finally, swayed by the embarrassment of coastal riches combined with a pleasant walking city, an international community, a reasonable transportation hub, and great food, Lagos ticked all the boxes. That's where we set our sights.



We joined every Portuguese-selling real estate site known to man (at least it felt that way) and pored over the daily listing updates. Maybe this one would work, maybe we should consider this other one? We had to head down there and get a feel for what was on offer.

The couple of places we looked at did not set our hearts aflutter. That's when, during an exploratory trip in October 2019, our Airbnb host told us about an area in Lagos that might meet our needs. We took a walk, had a look, and fell hard. We kept our eyes peeled for a listing in that neighborhood but, because it's a mostly Portuguese community that uses different (mainly Portuguese-speaking) realtors, we didn't find anything on the standard sites normally used by expats to find real estate.

In a passing conversation, new Lagos-loving, California-RVing friends we had recently met, Dave and Phyllis Johnson, mentioned a realtor that they clicked with, Joey Decoz at Abacoz Algarve, and suggested we give her a call. After really listening to our likes, dislikes, and specific needs and asking questions, Joey promised to scour the market and send us anything that she felt was a match. After we hung up, and just for fun, we sent her some photographs we had taken of the community we'd fallen in love with six months earlier. Lo and behold, we kid you not, the next morning she sent us a listing that was being handled by an agency she frequently partnered with. It was exactly what we were looking for! Exactly." 🇵🇹



FIND OUT MORE

Alyson Sheldrake is an Algarve-based artist and author. Her anthology, *A New Life in the Algarve, Portugal*, is available now on Amazon worldwide. Alyson's other books are detailed on her website, alysonsheldrake.com



THE RIGHT TIME

IN THE START OF A NEW SERIES LOOKING AT SOME OF THE BEST, LONGEST-STANDING AND MOST-ADMIRED OF PORTUGUESE, AND PORTUGUESE-INFLUENCED, HERITAGE PIECES, WE GO BACK TO THE 1930S AND THE SWISS WATCHMAKING BUSINESS

Words: CAROLYN KAIN

YOU MAY have come across the type of guy who drives a high-end car with personalised plates; he wears designer sunglasses and has a Rolex on his wrist. Personally I find it rather 'naff' to admire such noticeable accoutrements of material wealth and as far as luxury watches are concerned let me suggest a less obvious and more imaginative timepiece he could wear.

Originating in Switzerland in the 1930s, it gained a following in Germany where its unusual Portuguese ancestry was admired by connoisseurs. The story of this watch involves some chance-encounters that may stretch your imagination. What's more, the evidence of poor punctuality in Portugal makes the tale seem most unlikely, but don't let that deter you from reading on.

In the 1930s, it wasn't unusual for tourists to visit the Swiss town of Schaffhausen; located nearby is Europe's largest waterfall, the Rhine Falls, which was a huge attraction. But when two Portuguese businessmen – Teixeira and Rodrigues – strutted into town, they were on a different mission. Travelling more than 2,000km from Lisbon, once in Schaffhausen they showed no interest in the waterfall but headed for the International Watch Company; already established for more than 60 years, the company's expertise in watch making was renowned.

Teixeira and Rodrigues placed a large and curious order

on behalf of the captains and officers of the Portuguese merchant fleet. They requested a number of outsize stainless steel wristwatches. These timepieces needed to be more accessible than a pocket watch on a chain and as reliable as a marine chronometer.

Unlike anything that had previously been invented, the Swiss watch-makers were faced with a challenge; to produce a wristwatch of the highest precision and instant readability

had never been done before. For the new construction, they chose a hunter watch as the base. It was an obvious choice since the crown of a hunter – like that of a wristwatch – is located at the right-hand side of the case instead of at the top. The invention was distinctive, being the first ever wristwatch that used a pocket watch movement.

The diameter of the watch case was 43mm and its key design elements were a streamlined dial with Arabic numbers, a very thin bezel and easy-to-read leaf hands.

Satisfied that the new watch matched their specifications, the Portuguese twosome returned home and distributed models to their nautical clients. Nothing is known of the merchant navy's reaction to the unique design, nor if any of these

original watches survives today.

In Switzerland, executives at the International Watch Company had hopes for the new design and endeavoured to launch this large-sized wristwatch as a commercial venture. ▶

At IWC, Teixeira and Rodrigues placed a large and curious order on behalf of the captains and officers of the Portuguese merchant fleet.



The watch developed for the Portuguese market did not have a name at first, but carried the reference number 325. Since its inception, there have been many versions of what became known later as the Portugieser.

The Portuguese Grande Complication, includes ceramic components, a calendar programmed until 2499, a perpetual moon display, and a chronograph.



The timing – forgive the pun – was not ideal. Art Deco was the zeitgeist and fashion-conscious watch-wearers were looking for sleek, rectangular models. Geometry, symmetry and minimalism were the preferred designs and a watch case generally smaller than 33mm was considered to be ideal.

As decades passed, the International Watch Company never gained sufficient popularity to justify large-scale production of the piece. In Germany, a few hundred were sold giving the watch its new name the 'Portugieser' but, despite the enthusiasm of some collectors, the watch seemed to be headed for a silent decline.

In the 1950s, a new watch-making genius, Albert Pellaton, joined the company, introducing and patenting a bidirectional automatic winding watch. With such new

innovations the Portugieser fell into oblivion, forgotten about by the company as it developed many other lines to please its selective clients.

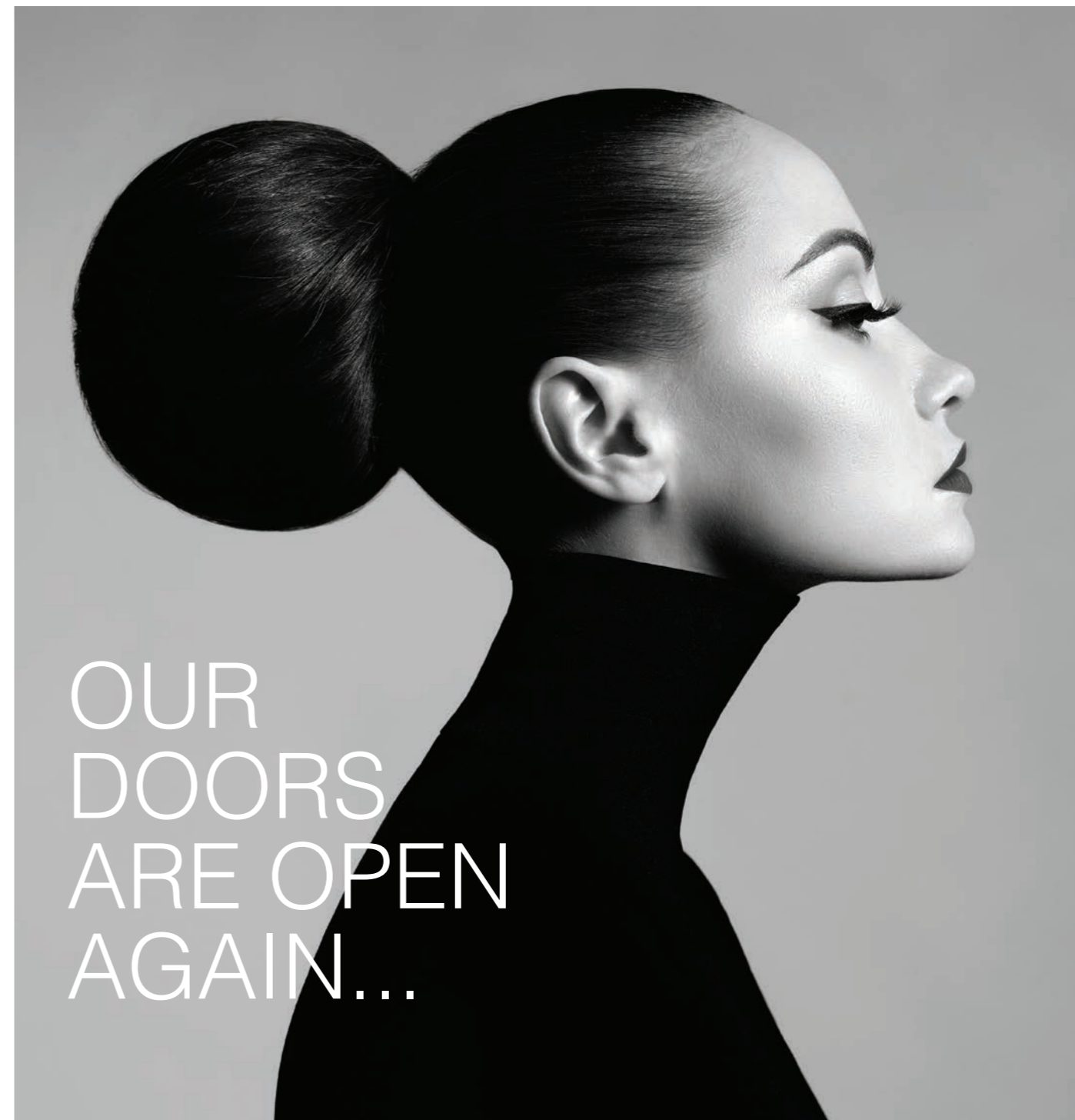
It was 40 years later when the Portugieser had a change of fortune. A German client crossing the border into Switzerland entered the company's atelier wearing one on his wrist. In the workshop that day was the legendary Kurt Klaus – at that time known as the Einstein of watch-making. Awed by the appearance of the watch, he pointed out that it was the precursor of the large wristwatches that had in recent years become so popular. This was certainly the grandfather – o avô – of present-day watches. Searching back into the company's records and order books, its authentic Portuguese pedigree was a source of fascination.

In the 1990s, Kurt mounted a re-launch to coincide with the company's 125th anniversary. A limited edition referred to as the Jubilee had a transparent sapphire back revealing the moving parts. One thousand were produced in stainless steel, 500 in rose gold and 250 in platinum.

The revival was so successful that the Portugieser was reborn and 12 different models were instated. Top of the range, the Portuguese Grande Complication, features a host of the greatest achievements in watch-making. It includes non-wearing ceramic components, a calendar mechanically programmed until 2499, a perpetual moon display and a chronograph.

In recognition of the Portuguese merchant navy, a sextant is engraved on the back cover reminding wearers of its origins almost 90 years ago. And some men who are fortunate enough to own a Portugieser use it as an after-dinner talking point. ☺

Over the years IWC has had many proud ambassadors. Those of the Portugieser include, top; Tom Brady; below left: Sean Fitzpatrick; right: James Marsden



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**TONY
WOODS**



THE INDIAN
WHERE Sarasota, Florida
WHEN January 2016
WHAT'S SPECIAL This was taken at the annual Thunder on the Bay event where around 20,000 bikers from across the USA meet for a festival lasting three days. I thought this was a wonderful bit of artwork on a Harley-Davidson.
ADVICE TO OTHERS Don't always look at the bigger picture but try to find the unusual.
CAMERA Canon 5Dmk2 24-70mm

GARRETT'S VIEW
"The contrast between the bright colour and the black & white background make this photo jump at me, adding to the crisp sharpness of the photo."



**ANTÓNIO
PIRES**



ABANDONED
WHERE Combos, Eira da Palma, Tavira
WHEN October 2014
WHAT'S SPECIAL That something so old can still tell really good stories.
ADVICE TO OTHERS Aspire to get off the beaten track and explore.
CAMERA Canon 1Ds MKII

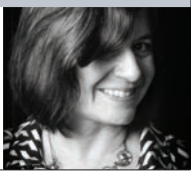
GARRETT'S VIEW
"The composition, lighting and colours immediately attracted me to this photo. Getting this balanced lighting between shadow and exterior is difficult but it is done well here."



Garrett Walsh (algarvephotography.com) was given the task of choosing his five favourite submissions in the Algarve Photographers Group's latest collective, entitled 'Wheels'. Here is his selection, numbered but not named when he saw them, and what he considered made each one special

INTERPRETATIONS

**TRACEY
SMITH**



WHEELS GALORE
WHERE São Brás Museum
WHEN March 2021
WHAT'S SPECIAL It was the angle that I took the photo and the composition of the photo. I liked the 'linear' arrangement of the various wheels and the different colours. In addition, I took the photo through a wheel which helped to frame the image and lead the viewer's eye towards the line of wheels.
ADVICE TO OTHERS Be prepared to take a photograph from various angles when considering the composition, even if it means lying down on your stomach, back or otherwise.
CAMERA Panasonic Lumix G2

GARRETT'S VIEW
"On this I liked the simple infinity of 'wheels' of various colours."



**FRED
BOS**



WHEELS OF TIME
WHERE Utrecht, Netherlands
WHEN December 2017
WHAT'S SPECIAL The intricate cogwheels of a church clock.
ADVICE TO OTHERS Select a high ISO to prevent camera shake.
CAMERA Nikon P7800

GARRETT'S VIEW
"The intricate collection of wheels and cogs, grabbed my attention. Also I like the soft colours that would look nice as a printed wall piece."

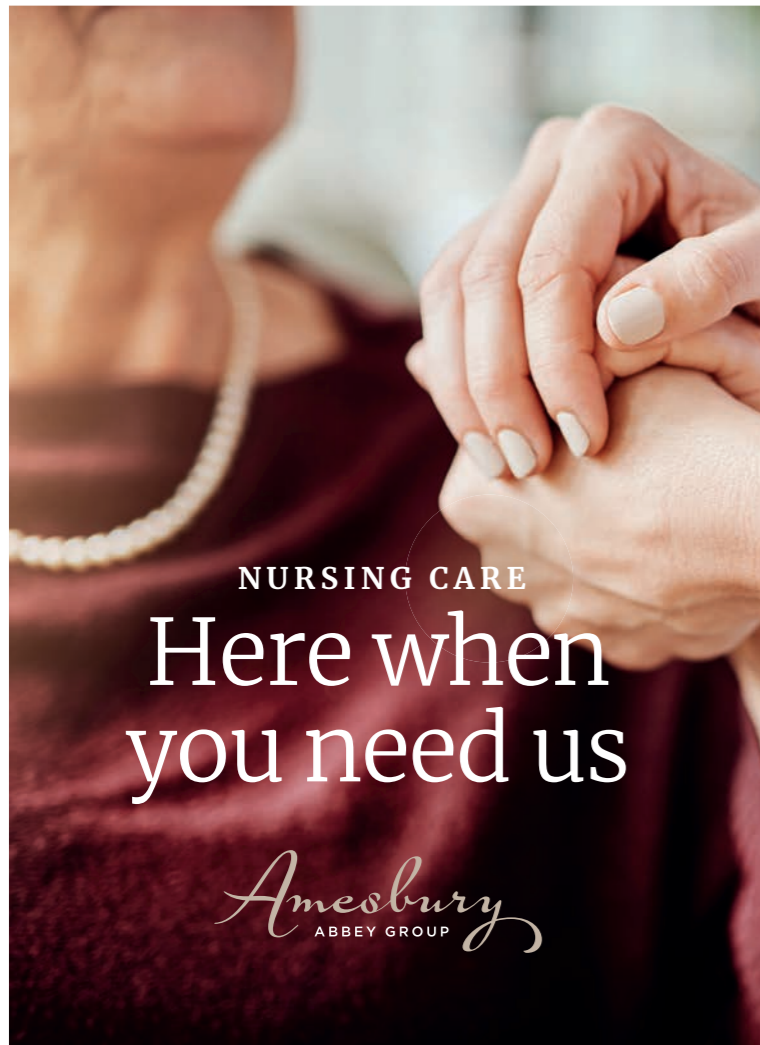


**RUTH
VERA**



OLHÃO
WHERE Fisherman's Wharf
WHEN January 2020
WHAT'S SPECIAL Going by bike to catch octopus.
ADVICE TO OTHERS You're never short of a shot with Olhão's many fishing attractions.
CAMERA Fuji XT20

GARRETT'S VIEW
"The clean, sharp, contrasting lines captured my attention. On a closer look, the composition and lighting were perfectly balanced."



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Words: CHRIS PARTRIDGE



I AM A BIG fan of payment by smartphone. I don't carry cash or cards any more – if the shop, café or bar does not display that contactless sign, I take my business elsewhere. I even pay the window cleaner direct to his mobile phone.

And I am not alone – around 20 per cent of adults in the UK have activated a 'digital wallet' on their smartphone that enables them to pay at points of sale and online. And some 40 per cent of 25 to 35 year olds are registered, according to UK Finance.

Part of the appeal of using your smartphone instead of cash or cards is simplicity – you carry your mobile anyway, so why carry a real wallet as well?

But the main reason for ditching cash and cards is security. Cash is eminently stealable, and contactless cards can be used to buy stuff until you alert your bank, but a digital wallet can only be used if you have entered your PIN, pressed the fingerprint reader or used facial recognition to open the phone.

And your phone records all the payments you make so you never lose track of the money you are spending, even on the wildest shopping spree.

Because digital wallets use international payment

systems such as Visa and MasterCard, they can be used in most countries without difficulty, reducing the tiresome and expensive business of obtaining foreign currency.

Apart from the need to ensure the phone is on, making a payment is as simple as using a card – just hold the phone next to the payment terminal. There will be a noise, and the amount you have just paid will appear on screen, which is always reassuring.

The numbers

Enabling a digital wallet could not be simpler. Choosing the right one for you is mainly a matter of what phone you have (see overleaf). Once the wallet is installed, all you have to do to activate it is link it to a debit or credit card by holding the card to the phone's camera so it can read all the numbers. You will also need to enter the security number on the back. Your bank then authorises the wallet and you are away. You can also enter loyalty cards.

Anywhere that accepts contactless payments should accept digital wallets. If you really need cash, you can use them with contactless ATMs. ▶

Because digital wallets use international payment systems such as Visa and MasterCard, they can be used in most countries without difficulty, reducing the tiresome and expensive business of obtaining foreign currency.

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Above: A digital wallet allows you to pay for goods by your phone in shops, and online



Above: It couldn't be easier or quicker. Contactless transactions also offer real security and peace of mind

And a digital wallet can also be used to make instant payments for online purchases, removing the need to enter endless numerals.

Using your digital wallet abroad raises the same issues as any card payment. Using a UK debit card in Portugal may attract charges as well as a rotten exchange rate, so it is often better to use a credit card, which also provides insurance benefits. It is a good idea to have your digital wallet linked to all your cards.

Another possibility is to start an account with one of the new smartphone-only banks such as Starling or Monzo. Starling offers a euro account, Monzo doesn't, but both allow charge-free payments from their

standard GBP accounts. Smartphone payments have taken off dramatically during the pandemic, which has limited people's ability to get to an ATM.

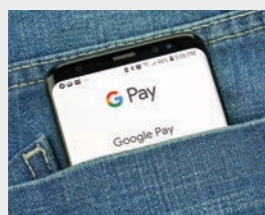
It's global

In China, everyone pays for everything using Alipay, a service from the Chinese equivalent to Amazon, Alibaba. The technology is slightly different as the phone generates a QR code (one of those squares of random blocks), which is presented to the checkout scanner to make the payment, but it is simple and effective. Alipay has a staggering one billion users and is now accepted in many European tourist destinations to help Chinese visitors spend lots of money. Alipay is backed by Barclaycard in the UK and Pagaqui in Portugal.

Another digital wallet that uses QR codes is Tesco Pay+, which makes payment at the Tesco checkout easy. You don't even have to produce your loyalty card – the points are added automatically.

Digital wallets have started to appear on smartwatches such as the Apple Watch, various Android watches including Samsung Galaxy Watches, and Garmin fitness trackers. All you have to do is hold your wrist to the terminal and the payment is made. You don't even have to have your phone with you, though this means they don't have access to the phone's security features and act more like a contactless card and will be subject to the same payment limits. ☹

digital wallets



Google Pay

Most Android phones come with Google Pay already installed, so all you have to do is link it to your cards, including any loyalty cards, and your PayPal account if you so desire. Contactless payments are a breeze – just wave the active phone over the card reader. Other services like paying friends, family and tradesmen instantly are also available.

Pro: Simple and secure. Preloaded on most Android phones.

Con: No contactless payments on iPhones.



Apple Pay

The first smartphone payment system and possibly still the easiest to use. Apple Pay is built-in to iOS so no app to install – just go through the process of linking your debit and/or credit cards to get shopping. You can even send money via iMessage simply by telling Siri.

Pro: Easy to use. Preloaded.

Con: Apple only.

Samsung Pay

The South Korean giant's wallet is baked in to its Galaxy range, providing a large number of payment options including contactless, QR codes (useful in China) and even old-fashioned magnetic stripe card readers by means of an electromagnetic coil in the back (useful in India). Samsung Pay is free and even offers rewards for using the system.

Pro: Wide range of payment tech options and reward, preloaded on Galaxy phones.

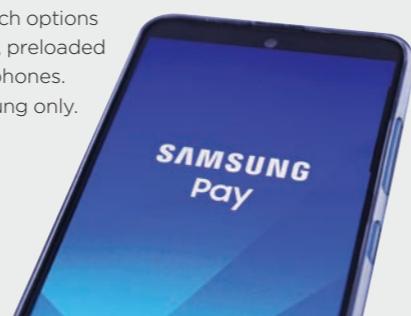
Con: Samsung only.

Garmin Pay

Runs on Garmin's fitness-tracking smartwatches so you can buy an isotonic drink halfway round your morning run. The only smartwatch payment system to run on both iOS and Android so if you change systems you won't have to buy a new watch as well.

Pro: Runs on iOS and Android.

Con: Few UK banks support it as yet.



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60s



ESTHER-OFARIM/IDE

ESTHER OFARIM

Anyone who was a pop fan in the '60s will remember the huge novelty hit *Cinderella Rockefeller* by Esther and Abi Ofarim, which topped the British charts for three weeks in 1968, and was a Top Ten hit in at least ten other countries.

Esther, an exotic beauty from a Syrian-Jewish family, had been singing since she was a young child and specialised in local folk songs as a teenager. She was a dance student when she met the dancer who was to become her husband and singing partner, Abi.

Esther did her national service in the Israeli army, and won a small part in the movie *Exodus* in 1960.

Esther and Abi moved from the Middle East to Switzerland in 1963 and represented their new country in Eurovision in the same year, only to be pipped at the post by Denmark.

The couple had considerable success in Europe, but it was *Cinderella Rockefeller* that made them international stars.

Unfortunately, by the late '60s, their personal partnership was falling apart and they divorced in 1970. Esther later married

TV director Philipp von Sell, and their son David is also a musician.

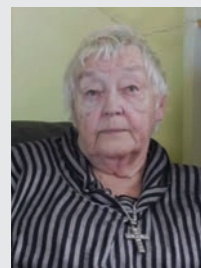
Esther's career continued – she was comfortable singing in French, Italian, Hebrew and English – and she is still performing, and making videos that are featured on YouTube. In a return to her 'folk' roots she recorded a version of the English folk classic, *Scarborough Fair*. Sadly, Abi Ofarim died in 2018.



WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...

THIS MONTH, SINGERS FROM THE '60s AND '80s WHO HAVE NEVER GIVEN UP THEIR PASSION FOR PERFORMING, ONE WOMAN WHO CHANGED LONG-HELD ATTITUDES, AND A GARMENT THAT MANY ARE HAPPY TO FORGET

Words: JILL ECKERSLEY



ERIN PIZZEY

Until the redoubtable Erin Pizzey started Chiswick Family Rescue in the UK back in 1971, domestic violence was hardly spoken about. She drew attention to the problem – and more than that, did something about it.

After a peripatetic childhood, living in China, South Africa, Lebanon and Canada, she returned to the UK in the '60s and joined feminist 'consciousness-raising groups' as part of what was then known as Women's Lib. When she became aware of the number of women being assaulted by the men who were supposed to love them, she wrote her book *Scream Quietly or the Neighbours will Hear*. Published in 1974, it caused an instant sensation at a time.

CFR was the first refuge in England, and immediately crowded with desperate women and their children, who had nowhere else to go; it became the forerunner to Refuge, the national charity, campaigning for changes in the law. However, there were fundamental disagreements between Erin and other feminists. She refused to ban men from CFR, claiming in later writings that some women were 'violence-prone', and she subsequently became an advocate for men's rights.

A best-selling novelist, she left the UK for New Mexico, the Cayman Islands and Italy; when she returned, she joined A Voice for Men, and became Patron of Compassion in Care campaigning against elder abuse. Married twice, she has two children, and currently lives in London.



70s

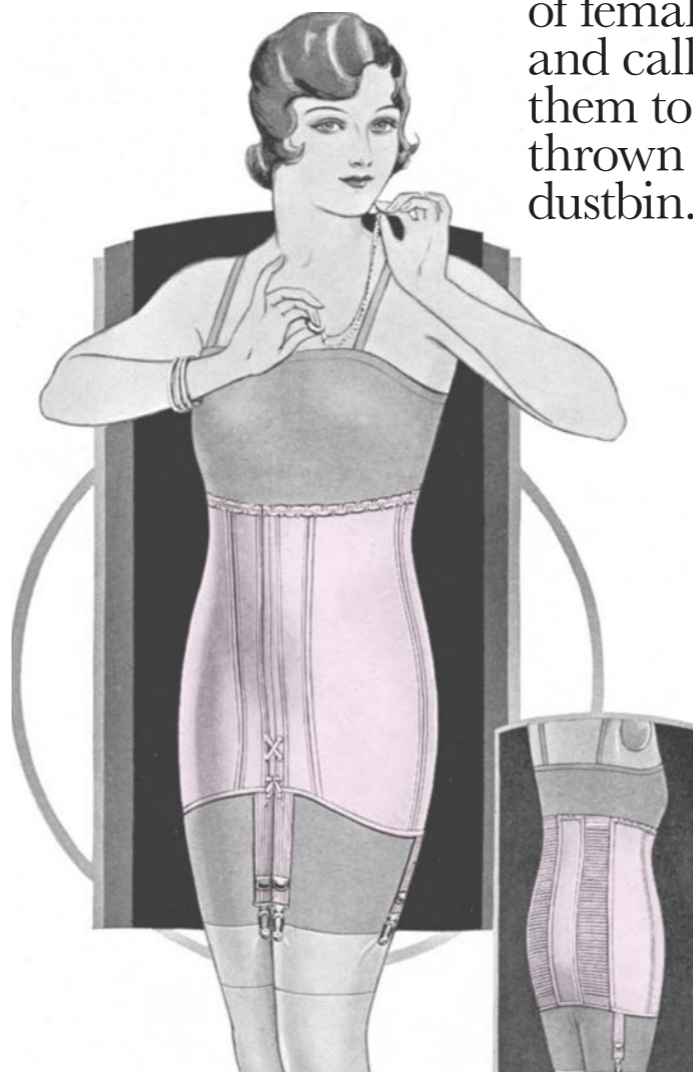
Way back

THE GIRDLE

Back in the days when men and women wore loose, non-form-fitting clothes, a girdle was nothing more than a belt-type structure to which useful items like a purse, knife or trinket could be tied. As clothes became more close-fitting, whalebone corsets were worn to provide the requisite fashionable shape. At the end of the 19th century, these garments became longer, S-shaped, and controlled the body between waist and thighs. The term 'girdle' came into use around World War One, when rubberised elastic made them more comfortable. Then suspenders were added, and the 'flappers' of the 1920s often wore them to hold up their stockings. Women routinely wore girdles until the late 1960s when 'tights' (pantyhose in the USA) came in, making them redundant. This coincided with the rise of women's liberation and, in 1968, a Miss America protester described them as 'instruments of female torture' and called for them to be thrown into the dustbin. However, even into the 21st century, some women still prefer to shape their bodies with a special garment – hence the rise of 'shapewear' in newer and much less restrictive fabrics than an old-fashioned girdle.



In 1968, a Miss America protester described them as 'instruments of female torture' and called for them to be thrown into the dustbin.



KRESTINE HAVEMANN



RTE

80s

JOHNNY LOGAN

Sometimes known as 'Mr Eurovision' – and the only contestant to have won the contest twice, Irish singer Johnny Logan also wrote the winning song for Linda Martin in 1992, *Why Me*. He was actually born in a suburb of Melbourne, Australia to Irish parents; his father was the highly-successful singer, Patrick O'Hagan.

The family returned to Ireland when Johnny was three and by the time he reached his early teens, he was playing the guitar and writing his own songs. After leaving school, he trained as an electrician, but show-business beckoned and he began playing the guitar in local pubs. His first breaks came in stage plays and musical theatre.

His first success in Eurovision with *What's Another Year* came in 1980 and made him a star, but sadly record-company and financial problems meant that he wasn't able to capitalise on his success until he won the contest again in 1987 with the self-penned *Hold me Now*.

After that there was no stopping him and his career ever since has embraced duets with other singers such as Monserrat Caballé. He has also played the London Palladium more than 20 times and entertained, among others, the Queen, Prince Charles, and the Pope.

He says he's looking forward to some post-Covid concerts and meanwhile is trying to keep fit for them at

his home in County Meath. "I'm busier than ever," he has said "and happy to sing *What's Another Year* as long as people are happy to hear it!"



Branding

- Brand Strategy
- Naming
- Logo design
- Brand Identity



Brief: to update branding in line with company evolution

Digital

- Web Design
- Web Development
- Social Media
- Online Advertising
- Newsletters
- emailings



Brief: to create a calling card that will be remembered

Graphic

- Brochures
- Catalogues
- Leaflets
- Advertising
- Stationery
- Outdoor billboards
- Stands
- Signage



Brief: produce a befitting catalogue for art gallery event



Brief: Create a hardwearing but luxurious room directory



Brief: create upmarket brochure to case study projects



Brief: create a harmonious sign system to locate villas



Brief: create an office interior to meet client expectations



Brief: create an upmarket magazine for members in Quinta do Lago resort



ESTATE PLANNING IN PORTUGAL

AN AWARENESS OF PORTUGAL'S SUCCESSION RULES WILL HELP ENSURE THAT YOUR ESTATE WILL PASS TO CHOSEN HEIRS IN THE MOST TAX-EFFICIENT WAY, SAYS **ADRIAN HOOK**, PARTNER, BLEVINS FRANKS

1 Family status determines who pays tax Instead of inheritance tax, Portugal charges a 10% 'stamp duty'. This applies only to Portuguese assets – mostly real estate – passed on as an inheritance or lifetime gift, regardless of where the donor or beneficiary is resident.

While spouses and direct family are exempt from paying this tax, Portugal takes a fairly traditional view of the family. Partners who are neither married nor in a civil partnership will be liable for stamp duty on Portuguese assets inherited or gifted between each other, as will step-parents and step-children. However, after two years of living together, a couple can be considered married for tax purposes if they have informed the Portuguese authorities. Legally adopted children will also be recognised as direct family.

2 It is the recipient, not the donor, who pays Unlike the UK, where tax is generally paid before an inheritance or gift changes hands, in Portugal tax is paid by the person receiving it. However, as in the UK, ownership of an asset cannot be transferred until the tax is paid – you cannot sell the asset to pay the tax. With stamp duty due within six months after death, some heirs may find it a difficult tax to pay, particularly on higher-value inheritances.

Remember, stamp duty is charged on Portugal-based assets, irrespective of residency, so this could affect any heirs in the UK not directly related to you.

3 The law can determine who receives your legacy Portugal's succession law imposes 'forced heirship'. If you are a Portuguese resident, this means that a fixed portion of your estate will automatically pass to your direct family (according to the state's definition of family). This affects not just Portuguese property, but all your worldwide assets, excluding non-Portuguese real estate.

As a result, your spouse, children (biological and adopted) and direct ascendants (parents and grandparents) could get a minimum of half your estate, regardless of whether that's your intention. However, it is possible to ensure your wishes are fulfilled by establishing specific arrangements to override this rule.

4 You can choose whether UK or Portuguese law applies to your estate Before August 2015, Portuguese law automatically applied the law of your nationality to your estate. Now, under EU regulation, Brussels IV, the default is that the laws of your resident country apply. Although you still have the freedom to nominate the relevant UK law – and therefore override Portuguese forced heirship – you must now expressly state this in your will. If you have not updated your will since mid-2015, you should urgently review it to take these rules into account.

What about Brexit? Although it is an EU regulation, your eligibility to apply Brussels IV hasn't changed. It applies to anyone who is resident and/or owns assets within participating countries in the bloc, regardless of nationality.

Note that Brussels IV only affects succession law – you cannot choose which country has taxing rights to your estate. That said, applying Brussels IV is complex and could have unwelcome tax implications, so make sure you explore all the available options to establish what would work best for you and your heirs.

5 You could still face UK inheritance tax Even after living in Portugal for years, UK nationals could still be considered UK domiciled by HM Revenue & Customs. This could result in UK inheritance taxes of 40% on your worldwide assets.

Domicile law is extremely complex so take specialist advice to establish your position and plan accordingly.

Ultimately, it is important to understand how Portuguese succession rules apply to your personal objectives and unique situation, and how they affect your UK liability. You should also consider how your legacy will be received by your heirs – an extra gift you can leave them is having their inheritances structured in a tax-efficient way to maximise their value.

With careful planning and specialist, cross-border advice, you can get peace of mind that you have the most suitable estate plan in place, for yourself and your chosen heirs. ©

All information is based on Blevins Franks' understanding of legislation and taxation practice, in the UK and overseas at the time of writing; this may change in the future.

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MÚSICA
14 mai // SEX. 21H00
CALVÁRIO, UMA VIDA DE CANÇÕES
ANTÓNIO CALVÁRIO

MÚSICA
26 mai // QUA. 19H00
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YOUR money

RICARDO CHAVES OF ALL FINANCE MATTERS IS ON THE PLUS TEAM AND HERE TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS ON THE ISSUES THAT AFFECT YOUR LIFESTYLE IN THE ALGARVE. THIS MONTH, IT'S PROPERTY PURCHASING, AND PAYMENT CARDS

I have been looking at a property here as a potential buy-to-let. I understand from the agent that the finished house does not actually tally with the agreed plans, which is why the price is particularly attractive – the owner, who no longer lives here in the Algarve, wants a quick sale. What problems could I face if I go ahead and buy? It is things like the position of the pool and the addition of an extension to the side and a garage that are not according to the plans on record.

Anyone who is looking to purchase a property in Portugal, should seek advice from a professional, either a lawyer or a solicitor, with experience in real estate law.

Your lawyer will be able to assist you and check whether the house is fully compliant with plans, the land register, the tax register, etc. If it is not, then this should be sorted by the vendor prior to the transaction being finalised.

The risk of purchasing a property where the agreed plans do not meet with the finished build is that you are very likely to have the same problem when re-selling the property at a later date. Also, if you are looking to obtain a rental licence, there is every chance that you will not be granted it as the property won't pass an inspection required by the council.

Make sure you ask all these questions of your lawyer or solicitor.

Although Portugal is my home now, I am still a British citizen and have a flat in the north of England, and as soon as travel is permitted again, I envisage visiting the UK regularly to see clients (I am a design consultant). I would like to know, now that the UK and Europe are no longer a family, what sort of credit/debit card would be the most sensible.

You should be able to get the information from your bank, either in Portugal or UK, and find out if your credit/debit card provider charges fees for foreign exchange or withdrawing cash abroad.

You can normally use your debit card abroad to make purchases and to withdraw local currency from cash machines just as you would at home (look for the Visa or

MasterCard logo) but you'll generally be charged one or all of the following fees:

– For purchases, you'll usually pay a non-sterling transaction fee for converting the local currency, which applies every time you use your card to pay.

– At worst, some providers add a non-sterling purchase fee on top, often of fixed value (eg £1.50) but it can also be a percentage of what you spend.

– Cash withdrawals at a foreign ATM incur a non-sterling transaction fee for the conversion as well as a non-sterling cash fee (as a flat fee or a percentage).

Avoid using a debit card to make lots of small payments, as the charges can quickly escalate.

A good idea may be to search online, as there are some portals that rank the cheapest cards to use abroad.

I became a resident and got my CRUE back in November last year. I then returned to the UK as I plan to spend six months a year there and six months Portugal while continuing to work. Since then its been very hard to get back so I applied for my NIF and changed to my Portuguese address in 2021 and I've also successfully got my NHR. My question is if I'm a tax resident in the UK in my first year of my NHR, will that mean I can't use the NHR for the following nine years when I hope to spend more of my time in Portugal and live off the rental income from my UK property? Also, when do I file a tax return if I got my NIF this year?

As you are registered as a tax resident in Portugal, you need to declare your worldwide income here. The IRS tax declaration must be submitted between April and June of 2022, as you became resident in 2021.

The fact that you have dual tax residency implies good tax planning ensuring that you are not taxed in both jurisdictions, as per the Double Tax Agreement in place.

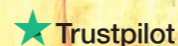
In any case, as an NHR, the income from foreign rental income is declared in Portugal but not taxable, if there is a double tax agreement with the country of source. As this is the case between Portugal and UK, it means that during your NHR period, from 2021 to 2030, you will be declaring this rental income in Portugal, but not paying tax on it. ☺



Here to help

If you need to move money to or from Portugal we'll help you save time and money with:

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- ✔ Flexible transfer options
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Email your finance questions for Ricardo to martin@algarveplusmagazine.com for inclusion in the first available issue of AlgarvePLUS.

To consult directly with Ricardo Chaves, email ricardo@allfinance.pt

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PROPERTY: TOP TIPS

PLANNING TO BUY A PROPERTY IN PORTUGAL IN 2021? THIS BRIEF GUIDE FROM **JOSE ALMEIDA** IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE THE BASICS AND HELP MAKE THE PROCESS AS SMOOTH-RUNNING AS POSSIBLE



Do your due diligence

When you've found the right property, it's vital to check that any work that has been carried out has had proper planning consent, that there aren't any outstanding debts attached to the property, and that a dispersion of ownership won't make it a nightmare to buy. Engage the services of a reputable lawyer: they'll provide support with the legal paperwork.

Anticipate the costs

As is the case in the UK, buying a property in Portugal involves various extra fees and costs. While these can vary, depending on whether the property is a new build or had previous occupants, it's generally advisable to put aside around 10% of the purchase price to cover costs and fees. Tax makes up the largest portion, with up to 8% Transfer Tax (IMT) applied to a resale property or a standard VAT tax rate of 23% applied to new builds (although this is normally included in the property price).

In addition, you'll need to consider bank charges, notary fees, su rveyor fees (optional), legal fees, and deed registration fees.

Obtaining a visa

In the wake of Brexit, UK nationals by default can spend only 90 days in Portugal in any six-month period. If you wish to live in Portugal permanently, you'll need to apply for a visa. Fortunately, due to the longstanding relationship between the two countries, Portugal has sought to ensure that the process for Brits to gain residency is fairly relaxed. Below is a quick rundown of the two main visa options available:

- Golden Visa: Anyone purchasing a property valued at a minimum of €500,000 (for a new-build) or €350,000 (for an existing home in need of renovation) is automatically granted a five-year residence permit, with the option to apply for permanent residency once this has expired.
- D7 Visa and Residence Permit: This will be granted if you can prove you have a monthly income of at least €635. It lasts for 120 days, during which time you can apply for a one- or two-year permit.

Keep an eye on exchange rates

If you're seeking to maximise your buying budget, you would be wise to keep an eye on exchange rates. The currency market is notoriously volatile, and this can have a major impact on your return when transferring money abroad to buy a property.

For instance, at the start of April 2021, the GBP/EUR exchange rate hit a one-year high of €1.18. If you made a transfer of \$400,000 to purchase a property at that time, you would have received €472,000. However, just a week later the exchange rate fell to €1.15. While a few cents discrepancy may not sound like much, the same transfer would have been worth €460,000, a difference of €12,000.

Shifts in exchange rates can be unpredictable, but by staying up to date with the latest currency news you can be better informed about the best time to move your money.

Using a currency specialist

Many people make the mistake of using their high street bank to transfer money abroad, facing additional transfer fees and non-competitive rates. A specialist currency transfer provider like Currencies Direct, will help you secure excellent rates and move your money without fees. It can also help your money go even further.

For instance, by using a forward contract you can fix an exchange rate for up to a year ahead of making your transfer, meaning you won't have to worry about unfavourable shifts in the market. You would miss out if the exchange rate strengthened, but you'd be protected from any sudden shifts.

Another popular service is a limit order, where you target an exchange rate above the prevailing rate and your transfer is made automatically if that level is hit. This is useful when you don't need to make a transfer immediately. Looking into your currency transfer options early on is key if you want to maximise your return when moving money to Portugal. ☺

Currencies Direct has helped over 325,000 individuals and businesses move money abroad since 1996. It has an 'Excellent' Trustscore on Trustpilot, over 20 global offices and a team of more than 500 currency experts.

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For more detailed information, please contact the local office T: **289 395739** or register at currenciesdirect.com/portugal to get regular updates on the currency markets, (use AlgarvePLUS magazine as the reference).

Time to get out there and enjoy!

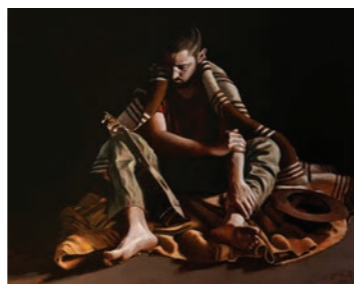
THE agenda



GONE FISHING

Galeria Corte Real, Paderne
961 528 679

Arwana hand-carved vintage wall-mounted fish, 200x80cm.



FLAVIO HORTA

Tavira d'Artes, Tavira
962 012 111

Horta paints people of the Alentejo, his homeland. His amazing attention to detail captures every expression. 100x120cm.



ANDREW KINSMAN

ArtCatto, Loulé
912 267 351

Regeneration, oil on canvas, 100x70cm. Beginning May, at the Conrad, Tommaso Ottieri and Nimrod Messeg.



ART

ON THE SPECTRUM

Fresco Gallery, Almancil, 911 765 566

Solo exhibition by Tom Leamon, co-founder of the Art Cultural Association here, whose comical portraits and vibrant abstracts put an emphasis on mark-making, symbols and gestures.



ART AT THE MUSEUM

Museu do Traje, São Brás, 1 May–14 June
10am–1pm and 2pm–5pm

Artworks by the Musuem Art Group – Annemie Tieman, Dorothea Walter, Richard Hoke, Gill Jones, Jeffrey Richie, Esther Sewalt, David Ashby, and Magda Dexters.

AMIGOS DE MUSICA

Os Agostos, Santa Bárbara de Nexe,
18 May and 20 May

Georgian pianist, Dudana Mazmanishvili, will give two performance on each day, at 11am and 7pm. For details of the programme and reservations, email reservasconcertos@gmail.com

For theatre listings check here

Albufeira: Municipal Auditorium, cm-albufeira.pt
Faro: Teatro das Figuras, teatrodasfiguras.pt
Faro: Teatro Lethes, actateatro.org.pt
Lagos: Centro Cultural, 282 770 450
Loule: Cineteatro, cineteatro.cm-loule.pt
Portimao: Teatro Municipal, teatromunicipaldeportimao.pt
São Brás: Cineteatro, cm-sbras.pt
Tavira: Fado com Historia, fadocomhistoria.com

LOULÉ CRIATIVO

Workshops galore – call for details and to register

8 May: Making cakes with vegetables and herbs. 966 660 943

8 and 15 May: From market to kitchen, Algarve snails. 966 789 387

15 May: Painting with watercolours. 966 660 943

22 and 23 May: Making a Folar cake. 966 789 387

Other options include Lime Painting, 964 782 462; tile painting, 914 184 801

sporting life

THE ALGARVE BOXING ACADEMY

Five days, date to be announced
team@unifiedpromotions.co.uk

The Algarve Boxing Academy will give fighters the opportunity to train alongside former world champion Johnny Nelson and former European champion Spencer Oliver here on the Algarve, which is quickly becoming a training Mecca for boxers. The camp will offer 'all-inclusive' packages that include accommodation, meals, training, equipment, nutrition advice, physios and osteopaths as well the opportunity to pick the brains of ex-pros who have seen and done it all.



MARKETS

MUNICIPAL MARKET

Loulé
Monday to Friday
7am–2pm
Saturday
7am–1.30pm



FARMERS MARKET

Quinta Shopping
First Sunday of the month
From 2 May
10am–1pm



GYSPY MARKETS / FLEA MARKETS / CAR BOOT SALES

Check myguidealgarve.com/usefulinfo/markets-on-the-algarve

THE agenda

SPORTS

47TH ALGARVE TOUR

Various locations
5-9 May

The 47th Volta ao Algarve cycling event will cover 765.8 km over five stages, two of which have a mountain finish. The race starts in Lagos and ends at the top of Malhão, Loulé. More than 25 teams will take part in this year's event that attracts premier league participants from the international cycling arena. More info at voltaoalgarve.com



KEEPING VERY FIT

Vale do Lobo, Ongoing

There's something every day - including yoga, running training, clinical pilates, bootcamp. Find details and updates at valedolobo.com/en/events/ as new options will be added all the time now, including happenings on the Praça. Tickets can be booked through eventbrite.pt/o/vale-do-lobo-resort-26231668261



annie@wetravelportugal.com gave us use of this photograph. She says: "Praia de Faro and the Ria Formosa are now watched over by a sculpture of a seahorse by the talented @bOrdalo_ii. Made of plastic waste found in the Ria Formosa, it is both a beautiful and haunting reminder of what is happening to the lagoon, and waters around the world. Hopefully this piece of artwork can inspire us all to make better and more informed choices when it comes to the waste we create."

Rotary's bid to save and protect the seahorse

Seahorses in Portugal's Ria Formosa are under threat. In 2001 we had the largest colony in the world. Since then, numbers have fallen by a massive 96%, due in main to loss of habitat and illegal fishing commissioned by makers of medicines in the Far East. If urgent action is not taken, it is likely that two species will become extinct. It is proposed that refuge areas are created within two

new Marine Conservation Areas where navigation and fishing is excluded. Seagrass habitats will be re-established at lower depths and artificial holdfasts will be deployed where seagrasses no longer occur but seahorses can still thrive. Similar methods have proven successful with the conservation of other species in many parts of the world. Almancil Interational Rotary Club is looking to

fund the infrastructure for this project and needs to raise €50,000. Ongoing monitoring and maintenance will be the responsibility of its partners CCMAR (Centro do Ciencias do Mar) and ICNF (Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e das Florestas). You can donate to the cause via gofundme.com/f/seahorse-sos/donate?member=9364966 For more details, visit rotaryalmancil.org

CHARITY

AUCTION FOR ALERTA

FACEBOOK
30 MAY-2 JUNE

Alerta is a registered association, Forest Fire Alert, which keeps the community informed of the fire situations during the summer months via its Facebook page, and supports the Bombeiros of the Algarve and the bordering towns of Odemira, Ourique, Almodôvar and Mértola, 365 days a year. Alerta helps with supplies of water and energy bars throughout the summer, food supplies, toiletries and basic medical needs during big fires and, at the end of the season, excess funds go to replacing vital fire PPE.



Like everyone else, the Bombeiros have been hit financially by the pandemic, losing valuable income, so right now it is more important than ever before to show community support, and the online auction provides a real opportunity. Alerta is asking for items and services that can be auctioned over this four-day fundraiser. Furnishings, household and decorative pieces, giftware, vouchers from restaurants, shops and hairdressers etc, will help Alerta help the Bombeiros, who are there to look after us. Email Bombeirosalgarve@gmail.com

IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE



Membership Networking Online Programme



5th Edition Wednesday 19 May, 3pm

This initiative is in direct response to suggestions from our Membership which recognises the importance of adopting current trends of communication (whilst being compliant with ongoing restrictions) yet striving to retain some of those aspects we all once enjoyed from close contact networking.

To optimise the effectiveness of the sessions, we shall endeavour to ensure fair representation from all sectors, geographical regions, and company size.

At the beginning of each session each participant will be invited to briefly introduce themselves before moving into smaller break-out rooms where more in-depth collaborations can be explored.

[See what our members have to say about this event!](#)

We very much hope that you can participate and take advantage of this event to meet Members you might not otherwise encounter.

Contact us for more information: info@bpcc.pt



AND *finally*

COULD HE HAVE BEEN ANOTHER BILL GATES? UNLIKELY. BUT **ANTHONY MARTIN** RECKONS HE HAS IT IN HIM TO BECOME AN INFLUENCER WHO WILL BE PAID HANDSOMELY TO PROMOTE PRODUCTS TO A VAST AUDIENCE



I HAVE ALWAYS thought of myself as being tech savvy. After all it was I who, in 1982, bought his daughter a computer for her tenth birthday and after a week of her ignoring it, took it back. It was a strange gadget, a flat pad with rubber buttons, that you would firstly plug into a cassette player and then into a television which would show green letters on a black screen.

It had a manual, of sorts, which explained an operating system called 'Basic' which was perfectly named. I read it studiously, it took all of 30 seconds and, after a couple of days, I managed to write my first programme. I typed in 'Hello' and instantly the answer flashed up on the screen 'Hello Anthony'.

I jumped up, shouted "Eureka," did a little dance and called my wife over to show her what a genius she had married. She was singularly unimpressed and asked if I didn't have better things to do with my time.

Around this same period, on the other side of the pond, a certain Bill Gates was doing exactly the same thing in his parents' garage. If his mother had treated him in the manner of my wife, and if my wife herself had been a little kinder, I could be writing this in MartinSoft™ Word but, after many hours of asking my new machine about the weather, football results and the name of the Prime Minister, and always getting the answer 'Hello Anthony', I figured that the machine had a lot to learn, and yes, I had better things to do.

But so began my fascination with the tech revolution in all its guises. I'm fine with the hardware, the programs, the problem-solving qualities etc, but what I can't get my head around are certain aspects of social media, and particularly Instagram. Yes, it's great for commerce, as a tool for getting your product out there – indeed, this very magazine uses that platform with great success – but why the personal pages?

I've just had a browse and, among all the photographs and videos for commercial promotion, films of the family pets doing strange things, and instructions of how to make a climate-controlled two-car garage

out of discarded pallets and plastic bottle-tops, there are a lot – and I mean a LOT – of photographs and footage of particularly attractive, designer-dressed and accessorised ladies with many thousands of 'likes', who are somewhat top-heavy (somewhat top-heavy being Brit understatement for pneumatic, well-endowed ladies – indeed ladies so well-endowed that each of their endowments deserve their own Instagram account).

After a couple of hours or so of checking that I hadn't strayed on to an eastern European innocent-farm-girls-seeking-new-life-in-the-west site, I surmised that these young ladies were either the most narcissistic beings on this earth or, possibly, wannabe influencers who are building up their follower base; or probably both.

Not being au-fait with this influencer lark, I asked my man of all things geeky. Evidently the more followers someone has, the greater their influence, which in turn equates to earnings.

According to him, a minor – or as they say in Silicon Valley, a nano – influencer with only a few thousand followers can take home anywhere from \$30,000 to \$100,000 per annum in sponsored posts. A micro influencer, however, with 50,000-100,000 followers can make up to \$100,000, and when you get to the Kylie Jenner level (yes, I had to look her up as well) with 224 million followers, then the sky's the limit.

I am now wondering whether it's too late for me to get in on the act. I reckon I could do wonders

for stair lift fitters, hip/knee prosthetic manufacturers and funeral directors but, in order to garner followers, I need to promote my image, and therein lies the problem: I have no image.

It is now that I bitterly regret giving up the gym and swapping my self-imagined six-pack for an all-too-real paunch, not to mention the lack of hair. Mine is not an look that could convince a few thousand strangers to buy a particular product that I was pushing.

I'm going to need some coaching, and I know just the person to do it. She has 39,000 followers, looks exquisite, and has... 📸

“
I reckon I could do wonders for stair lift fitters, and hip/knee prosthetic manufacturers
”



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