

Info kit

66th International Volunteering Work Camp
**Archaeological
Excavation**

2nd – 16th

September 2024

Junta de Freguesia de Picote,
Miranda do Douro • Portugal

WHO IS THE ORGANISATION?

Palombar

Associação de Conservação da Natureza e do Património Rural
(Association for Nature and Rural Heritage Conservation)

Palombar is a non-profit organization, founded in 2000, whose main goals are conserving agricultural, wild and forest ecosystems, as well as preserving its built heritage and respective traditional construction techniques.

Its mission is to preserve natural and built heritage, ensuring their continuity by conserving resources and transmitting knowledge, through a pedagogical and cooperative approach which is expected to be enriching to individuals and to bring dynamism to the rural world.



Supporting partners:



Obra Kolping Portugal



WHERE WILL YOU WORK?

In Picote, in the Northeast of Portugal, near the Douro River and in an area that borders with Spain, and which is commonly known as the Miranda Plateau. Even though it is a very small village with only a few inhabitants, it is home to more than 30 traditional dovecotes and other priceless heritage elements – both built and natural.

We find here one of the most important archaeological sites of the Mirandês Plateau. Site linked to proto-history and romanization, where three *berrões* and a collection of twenty one funerary stelae were discovered, and a rock engraving and chalcolithic stelae were also identified. All these finds, highlight Picote as an important historical site with a significant human occupation of the region.

The archaeological sites were the target of intervention projects, by the university of Porto, intended to study, build and interpret the history of the Village of Picote. In 2024, with the motivation of the President of the Parish Council of Picote and the Palombar Association, we will continue the archaeological work, with the support of the Miranda do Douro City Hall. The Roman House, will be the area of intervention, where several archaeological remains from Roman times appeared. It is hoped that this work will result in the musealization of space.



Picote, Miranda do Douro (Bragança)

Work: 41.399431, -6.367725

Volunteer acomodation: 41.386764, -6.352258



Explore

<http://www.palombar.pt/pt/>

<https://www.icnf.pt/conservacao/rnapareasprotegidas/parquesnaturais/pndourointernacional>

<https://www.cm-mdouro.pt/viver/concelho/historia>

<https://www.frauga.pt/?pID=1>



WHAT WILL YOU LEARN DURING THIS HERITAGE VOLUNTEER WORKCAMP?

From uncovering ancient settlements to excavating burial sites, each day will present new challenges and discoveries. Whether you're sifting through layers of soil or carefully brushing dirt from fragile artifacts, you'll experience the thrill of uncovering the past firsthand.

Get ready to dive into the mysteries of the past with our archaeological excavation workshop. Led by skilled archaeologists, this experience will provide you with a comprehensive understanding of excavation techniques and the meticulous process of uncovering ancient artifacts.

Planned work:

- Workshop of archaeological excavations techniques;
- Make demarcations of the excavation area;
- Cleaning the area for excavation;
- Start the excavation;
- Study, wash and inventory parts (if we can)





Excavation Techniques: Under the guidance of experts, you'll learn the step-by-step process of archaeological excavation, from site preparation to the delicate uncovering of artifacts. Through practical demonstrations and hands-on participation, you'll master techniques such as stratigraphic excavation and artifact documentation.

Artifact Identification: Our team will teach you how to identify various types of artifacts, ranging from pottery shards and tools to architectural fragments and personal belongings. Through careful observation and analysis, you'll learn to interpret the significance of each discovery within its historical context. As you unearth artifacts from the past, you'll gain valuable insights into the lives and cultures of ancient civilizations.

Cataloging and Documentation: Once artifacts are excavated, meticulous cataloging and documentation are essential to preserving their integrity and historical significance. You'll receive training in proper cataloging methods, including artifact labeling, photography, and detailed record-keeping. By documenting each find with precision and accuracy, you'll contribute to the ongoing study and interpretation of our region's rich archaeological heritage.

By participating in this workshop, you'll play a vital role in preserving our cultural heritage for future generations. Your contributions to archaeological research and conservation efforts will help safeguard our region's history and ensure that its stories endure for years to come. Join us as we delve into the depths of history and unlock the secrets of the past through the art of archaeological excavation.

ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME

66th International Volunteer Workcamp 2nd to 16th September

The workcamp will run from 2nd to 16th September. Day 2 of September will be the day of arrival, and the works take place from 3rd until the 15th, leaving day will be at 16th of September. The daily work will start at 7:00 am until 1:00 pm, and most of the afternoons will be reserved for leisure activities.

Daily Schedule

- 07:00 – 13:00 Work on archaeological excavation
- 13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break
- 15:00 – 19:30 Leisure activities
- 19:30 – 21:30 Dinner time

Leisure activities

Palombar will organize leisure activities aimed at the volunteer's integration in the local community and their discovery of the region's extraordinary natural and cultural heritage. Among these activities will be a visit to:

- Traditional Dovecotes' Interpretation Centre
- Miranda Donkey Valorization Center
- Bathings in the Angueira River
- Algosó castle and birdwatching in the castle tower
- Visit to Miranda do Douro and São João das Arribas' Viewpoint
- PINTA- Iberian Tourism and Adventure Park



Do you want to see more for yourself?

Here are some local attractions that we recommend you explore on your days off:

Nature Reserves: While exploring the natural beauty of Vimioso, take a break to visit the Termas de Terronha. Nestled in the valley of the Angueira River, these thermal baths offer therapeutic treatments for musculoskeletal issues, rheumatism, and respiratory conditions. There's nothing like taking a walk on nature: from Uva to the river (1,5km), from Uva to Algosó (12km), and many more! If you prefer to contemplate amazing views, try Picote viewpoint.

Historical Sites: Discover the cultural heritage of Uva, with Mrs. Fernanda's loom and Mr. Adérito's knives. And also, Vimioso iconic landmarks, starting with the Ethnographic Museum, and then maybe Algosó Church and the Cabanal de Caçarelhos.

Local Markets and Fairs: Experience the bustling atmosphere of the Feira Quinzenal de Vimioso, held every 10th and 25th of the month in the heart of the town. Browse through stalls offering a variety of local products, including fresh produce, artisanal crafts, and traditional delicacies.

Gastronomic Delights: For a true taste of Mirandese cuisine, head to Restaurant "A Lareira" in Mogadouro, or Restaurant "Vileira" in Vimioso. Indulge in the exquisite flavors of the *posta mirandesa* paired with the region's specialties, including the famous *alheira* sausage, commonly called the "jews sausage" for the traditional lack of pork meat. For dessert, treat yourself to the delightful *pastéis de amêndoa* and cheese with quince jam.

Integration in the local community + discovery of the region's extraordinary natural and cultural heritage



WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING?

- ✓ Passport or identity card;
- ✓ Working gloves;
- ✓ Sleeping bag;
- ✓ Comfortable work clothing (warmer clothing for the cold spring evenings);
- ✓ Clothing for leisure;
- ✓ Shoes for work and shoes for leisure;
- ✓ A head torch for the night.
- ✓ Towels;
- ✓ Swimsuit;
- ✓ Sun hat;
- ✓ Raincoat;
- ✓ Typical recipes, instruments, music, specialties from your country of origin.

**If you are a European citizen, you should ask for your
European health insurance card.**

Complementary info

Being an isolated territory the mobile phone network in the village is very low or almost nonexistent; However, you have internet in your accommodation and in Palombar headquarters.

Keep in mind that bringing valuables (computer, camera etc.) with you is at your own risk and responsibility. In the event of breakage or theft, neither Palombar or the sending association can be held responsible!

VOLUNTEER ACOMODATION

Upon arrival will be accommodated in the community center of Barrocal do Douro, consisting of a spacious dormitory with bunk beds. There are a total of 12 rooms, each room with two bunk beds, a bathroom and a fully equipped industrial kitchen. As there is no public transport to/from Barrocal, transports will be arranged at the moment of arrival and departure from/to one of the nearest bus stations.

Participation

Participation fee: 150€

Includes: Food, accommodation, insurance during your stay, leisure activities, Technical support of the municipal archaeologist, monitors, and fantastic cooks.

Not included: Transportation costs to and from the site of activity.

You must organize the journey to and from the workplace by yourself. Considering the remote place where the volunteering will take place (Picote), you should find a transport to Sendim (Miranda do Douro), where we will go to meet you to take you to Uva.



HOW TO REACH THE HERITAGE UVA SITE?

How to access our site

By Plane

To: Lisbon or OPorto

Websites:

www.ryanair.com

www.easyjet.com

www.flytap.com

www.airfrance.com

By Bus

From: Paris

To: Bragança

Company: Eurolines

Website: <https://www.eurolines.de/en/home/>

By Bus

From: Oporto

To: Vimioso

Company: Rede Expresso

Address: Campo 24 de Agosto, Porto

Tel: +351 222 005 637

Website: www.rede-expressos.pt/en

By Bus

From: Lisbon

To: Vimioso

Company: Rede expresso

Address: Gare do Oriente, Lisboa

Tel: +351 218 956 850

Website: www.rede-expressos.pt/en

Access to the site

Bus station – Sendim (distance to **Picote**: 8 km) - **ideally**

Bus station – Miranda do Douro (distance to Picote: 17 km)

Bus station – Mogadouro (distance to Picote: 33 km)

Bus station – Vimioso (distance to Picote: 38 km)

Bus station – Bragança (distance to Picote: 88 km) – **Last option**

We arrange transport in the moment of arrival and departure from/to one of the nearest bus destinations, as there is no public transport to Picote from any of them.

41°29'28.3"N 6°30'41.0"W

Palombar location

41.38682508470241, -6.35244954270334

Accommodation location

**If you need help, we will be happy to help you
find transport to a bus stop near PICOTE**

Do not hesitate to write us!

Contact person before the project starts:

Américo Guedes

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T 00351 926 862 971

Palombar Association

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www.palombar.pt

