

ROAD MAP THROUGH THE STATE PROPERTY OF CANIÇO



município de **santa cruz** madeira



The exuberant chancel, which opens in a triumphal arch full of stonework painted with scales, has a deep dressing room and pairs of twisted columns, articulating with the white and gold carving that decorates the side walls. Here we can see some paintings by Nicolau Ferreira and his disciples, such as the temptations of Santo Antão, the theological virtues or the triumphs of the Eucharist. An interesting canvas by the Immaculate Conception with donors (1646), by the painter Martim Conrado, from the Chapel of Salvation, in Caniço, is found today on the wall of the main chapel, on the side of the epistle. The sacristy houses a 16th century Santo Antão tablet, which probably came from the previous ruined chapel.



Painting of the Immaculate Conception, by Martim Conrado

The unusual high bell tower dates back to the 19th century, which underwent an expansion, with the introduction of a concrete spire, in the following century to house the bells.



Detail of the churchyard

It is worth highlighting the exquisitely carved churchyard in the traditional Madeiran cobblestone, in rolled pebble from the sea, which is composed of a carpet with geometric and vegetal designs, in white limestone from the island of Porto Santo.

7 SOLAR DOS REIS MAGOS *Promenade dos Reis Magos*

The Solar dos Reis Magos is a ruin of a property, from the 18th century, built on a basaltic stone device, with several staggered volumes and multiple roofs, featuring a characteristic sight-ship tower on the east side to the face of the main facade. This tower presents an interesting and well executed hinged window door, in regional stonework, with raised shoulder pads, volutes and wide entablatures with pronounced cornices and ornaments. On the back of the property, it is still possible to observe the various kitchen ovens in red stone from Caniçal.



West perspective of the building South Facade

This property, of proto-baroque language or of late mannerism, belonged to the Agrela family. Erudite vocabulary building articulates with a small fort defending the coast against pirates and corsairs, located right in front of the house.

Built in the 18th century, it has a quadrangular plan, composed of a guardhouse to the north, with a window and terrace with three cannons, facing the sea. In the 80s of the 20th century a concrete slab was added to adapt the fort to the summer residence, but it was not completed due to the embargo. The Solar dos Reis Magos is privately owned.

8 FORTE DO PORTO NOVO *Porto Novo*

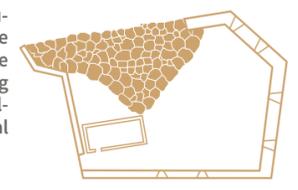
The Porto Novo Fort was ordered to build in 1828 by Lieutenant Paulo Dias de Almeida to defend the coast. It has an irregular polygonal floor plan, with an isolated rectangular guardhouse with two divisions and remains of the magazine to the north. We can see traces of the old flagstone on the terrace.



Perspective of the Fort, Porto Novo site, 1970 photograph

The Fort has sturdy basaltic stone masonry walls, rigged, and plastered facing south and to the sea with 2 masonry cannons of apparent masonry, like the rest; west facing wall with 2 cannons; facing east and over the river, in elbow, very damaged, with 2 gunboats in the 1st section. North wall, higher, with rectangular door with regional stonework frame to the east.

As a curiosity, during the Civil War, this fort was hit by absolutist troops having a bullet hit the Fort magazine, part of the defenders dying and wounding Lieutenant Colonel João Shwalback, commander of the liberal forces.



Plant of the Fort

This property was sold by the State and is currently in private hands.

9 RELÓGIO DE ÁGUA *Levada da Azenha, Vargem*

In Caniço there are still two Water Clocks, which testify to the primordial importance of water, at a time when the parish was essentially agricultural. The first is located next to the mill Moinho da Azenha, on the back of the Pharmacy of Caniço, which divided and controlled the time of the water, distributed to the respective mill and agricultural land.

It is a paralleliped construction in primed and plastered basalt stone. It has a small access door with stonework frames and round glasses in the same stonework for the clock face, which has now disappeared.



Water Clock

The small property is covered by a hipped roof made of half-cane tile.

This Water Clock, together with the levada/ waterway, the mill and the paved path, in the traditional cobbled skewed stone, constitutes a patrimonial nucleus of great interest. Recently this property was rehabilitated by the Municipality of Santa Cruz, thus perpetuating this historical memory, which is now almost extinct.

Simultaneously, the Mill, which must date from the middle of the 19th century, was recovered by private individuals. The property has openings with frames in regional hard stonework as well as the large slabs on the ground floor are also made of the same material. Here we can find two millstones in gray stonework, one with a fine mill and the other with a fine mill.



Mill mechanism Detail

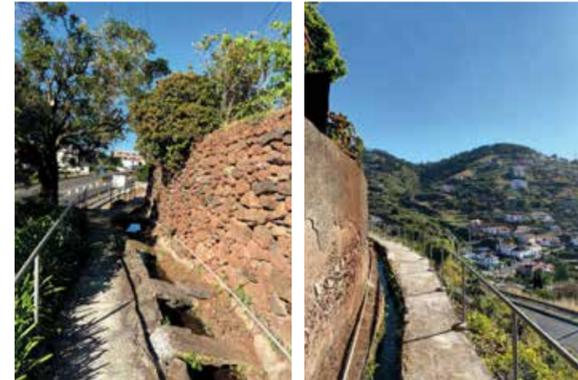
The other Water Clock is located at Levada do Castelo, at Sítio dos Moinhos, below Restaurante o Moinho, on the access path to the Chapel of Salvation.

The small building is of parallelepiped construction in rigged and plastered stone with access doors in raised cement frames. It has a staircase to access the clock in basaltic stone. The opening for the watch face, although it has already disappeared, is in a quadrangular shape and is protected by a zinc cover. It also has a lamp for outdoor lighting allowing the display viewing at night. The construction is covered by a hipped roof, in straw tile, which replaced a previous roof in half-cane tile.

This watch stopped working in 1992.

10 LEVADA DA AZENHA *Estrada do Aeroporto, Azenha*

The waterchannel called Levada da Azenha, where you can enjoy the views of the urban center in the middle of the countryside, also has some laundry facilities, which may look like simple basalt stone slabs arranged over the watercourse of the waterchannel or levada, but which continue to be used these days. Continuing along the levada, and always observing the small cultivated terraces, you will find, next to the river Ribeiro do Caniço, the ruins of the mill Moinho da Vitória and, further on, a wooden bridge over river Ribeira do Caniço that will take you to the path Vereda do Caminho Velho do Castelo that descends, again, to the center of Caniço.



Public washers Panoramic view

11 QUINTA SPLENDIDA *Estrada da Ponta da Oliveira*

The Quinta Splendida hotel, formerly called Quinta da Estrela, which was a summer residence, is a property dating from the late 19th century, built in rigged and plastered stone, composed of two floors and a small characteristic sight-ship tower, in order to see the sea. It is inserted in the mannerist grammar of the ground style characteristic of Portuguese manor houses. With austere facades, it has openings with simple moldings in regional stonework and an exterior staircase with two flights, accessing the main floor, in the same stone. In the chimney we can still see the design of the stele that gave the farm its name today.



Main facade of the House

This property has extensive gardens, constituting a true botanical garden, with numerous endemic and exotic species, from the most varied latitudes in the world, living up to the rich garden spaces that characterize the old Madeiran farms. Noteworthy are the dragon trees (Dracaena draco), the Dombeas (Dombeya acuminata), the Chamas-da-Floresta (Spathodea ampanulate), the Sumaúmas (Ceiba speciosa), the different species of palm trees, or the trellised characteristics of climbing plants. In the past, in front of the main house, there was a large lake for the entertainment of residents and visitors, where it was possible to go canoeing. At the south end of the Quinta, a little house of pleasure is preserved, a characteristic construction of these romantic houses on the island, which was used by its inhabitants for pleasant moments, such as seeing the views, having tea, embroidering, dating, or having an unconfident conversation.

This property belonged to Dr. Alberto Figueira Jardim, who was Rector of the Liceu Nacional do Funchal (secondary school) and father of the writer Ricardo Nascimento Jardim.

Here, after going through this extensive heritage tour, you can have a tea or a refreshing drink, enjoying the pleasant bucolic and serene environment. Let yourself stay.



Gardens: traditional corridor General view of the house

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#santacruzmadeira



CANIÇO

Concelho de Santa Cruz - Madeira

The wide parish of Caniço, with an area of 12 km², was one of the first towns to be populated, being part of this territory, in the old Captaincy of Machico, and the other part, in the old Captaincy of Funchal, as the dividing line was in Ponta da Oliveira, where wild Olive Trees or Zambujeiros (*Olea maderensis*) abounded, an endemic species from Madeira, from where it took its name. The name of the settlement is due to the cane plant, or sedge (*Phragmites communis*) that characterized this territory at the time of the discovery of the island.



Oliveira-Brava (*Olea maderensis*)

One of the first settlers and colonist of this parish was the landlord /Morgado Álvaro de Ornelas Saavedra, “the great one” who settled in Sítio da Quinta, where he owned a vast property that went from the sea to the mountains and from Porto Novo to Garajau. The toponym Quinta derives exactly from the central core of that property where he owned a farm or an estate. He was one of the main responsible for the clearing of land and its exploitation for cultivation.

In these early colonization times, the cultivation of cereals will first develop, as it is a fertile and sunny area, and it is not surprising that it was precisely in Caniço where the first windmill in Madeira was built, symptomatically on the site that became known as Azenha.

The lands on the right bank of the river were called Caniço to Funchal, an area belonging to the former Captaincy of Funchal, while those on the left bank were called Caniço to Machico and belonged to the former Captaincy of Machico, a name that remained until quite recently.

In 1515, with the founding of the new municipality of Santa Cruz, by the charter of King D. Manuel I, the entire area of Caniço became an integral part of the jurisdiction of the new municipal territory.

At this time, the current parish of Camacha was part of Caniço and was called Serras do Caniço.

The Parish of Caniço was founded in 1438 or 1440, being one of the oldest on the island, having, curiously, two distinct chapels (which is understood by the territories belonging to different captaincies). One on the right bank of the deep Caniço stream, which had the Holy Spirit as its patron, and the other on the left bank, that of Santo Antão. With the gradual ruin of the two chapels, after several strife over the location of a new temple, it was decided to build a new Church, now unique, which was inaugurated in 1783, the current parish church of Caniço.



Ponta da Oliveira, Caniço de Baixo

Caniço, located 12 km from Funchal, once a land of great agricultural production of onions, today stands out for its prominent tourism industry and for the large housing construction in the region, constituting a parish of great population growth. Also known for its pleasant temperatures, it is bathed by the sea along its coast, and for this reason it is very popular with locals and foreigners.

The great tourist vocation of the parish began in the 70's of the 20th century when the Germans built, in the area of Contrata, a great urbanization of residential tourism for their countrymen.

In the year 2000, the parish of Caniço was elevated to village and five years later it was elevated to city, due to being one of the largest centers of concentration of regional industry and commerce and one of the most sought after housing areas.

The toponym Garajau (swallows of the sea) has this name due to João Gonçalves Zarco who, when discovering the island and headed for the future area of Funchal, there at that point of the cliff, found many of these sea birds (and that even today they can be observed making low flights to the water, in an attempt to find food).



Ponta do Garajau Garajau (*Sterna hirundo*)

In this area, the first Marine Reserve of Portugal was created in 1986. Known for the high clarity of its waters (allowing observations at more than 20 meters in depth), the Reserve has a high biodiversity with a very significant ichthyological richness. Due to its geographical location and mainly due to its biological wealth and transparent and clean waters, it presents great aptitude for use from a recreational, educational, and scientific point of view. It is an area where the practice of amateur diving is dynamized and works as a strong attraction for the travel of countless amateur divers to the Region.

The seabed is populated by an abundant and resident fauna. The affable and friendly Meres (*Epinephelus marginatus*) is the emblematic species of the reserve, attracting and arousing the curiosity of divers.



Mero (*Epinephelus marginatus*) at Garajau Reserve

Throughout the history of this parish, buildings have survived, which are testimonies of the memory of the people who inhabited this place, and which today we propose to know and visit.

1 CRISTO REI

Ponta do Garajau



Cristo Rei Monument

The Christ King of Caniço was raised by the Councilor Aires de Ornelas (1866-1930), born in Quinta das Almas, in Camacha, was the son of the last landlord/ Morgado of Caniço and was minister of the Navy and Colonies.

A fervent Catholic and monarchist, he defended the union between Church and State and fought the anti-clerical Republicans who fought for the separation between temporal power and spiritual power. With the fall of the monarchy, he goes into self-exile in Paris, periodically returning to Lisbon and Madeira.

Within this pious spirit, he will have the monument to the Sacred Heart of Jesus with Christ-King raised, in his lands at Ponta do Garajau, inaugurated on October 30, 1927 with the safety of the scouts of Portugal and with the presence of the then Bishop of Funchal.

The Art Deco sculpture is made of concrete by the French sculptors Pierre Charles Lenoir and Georges Serraz residing in Paris, the latter specialist in monumental religious sculpture.

As a curiosity, it should be noted that, with 14 meters high, it is the largest concrete sculpture in Madeira, and that this monument predates the Cristo Redentor of Rio de Janeiro (1931), in Brazil, and Cristo Rei of Almada (1959), in Lisbon, made by the renowned madeiran sculptor Francisco Franco.

2 VIGIA DE BALEIAS

Ponta do Garajau

In front of the sculpture of Cristo Rei in Ponta do Garajau, we can find a Whale Watch, once very important for hunting of this mammal, and even Garajau beach is an important anchorage for the dismantling of whales and their transformation.



Whale watch post

This tip constitutes an important geobotanical point where we can find rare endemic plants from Madeira and curious rock formations that testify to the volcanic origin of the island, such as traces of volcanic cones or imposing rock formations that mirror the erosion of wind and sea.

3 CAPELA DA CONSOLAÇÃO

Impasse da Travessa da Capela da Quinta

The Chapel of Consolation / Capela da Consolação located near the route Caminho Real 23, was founded in 1591, the 4th scion of Caniço, Aires de Ornelas Vasconcelos, a noble family that received Caniço in allotment for cultivation and exploration.



Main facade

This chapel, in popular Mannerist style, has a façade torn by an archaic beveled Gothic arch and ends in a gable with a Christ cross.

The main altar has a carved retable, white and gold, of Mannerist grammar, with a Pentecost painting in the center, by the Portuguese painter Diogo Teixeira (1540-1612). As this painting is not allusive to the chapel's patron saint, it is possible that it was displaced from the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, which in the 18th century was already in ruin.

Highlight for a missal bookcase, inlaid, madeiran workshop, with the legend *D. AYRES, ARCHIPISCOPUS GOANEN*, from the 19th century, reference to D. Aires de Ornelas e Vasconcelos, archbishop of Goa and primate of the East (1837-1880), brother of the 14th, and last, scion of Caniço, Dr. Agostinho de Ornelas and Vasconcelos, diplomat, politician and academic.



Main altarpiece Pentecost painting

On the floor of the chapel is the tombstone, in marble, by Agostinho António Ornelas e Vasconcelos, 9th scion of Caniço, (1718-1774).

The chapel of Our Lord of Consolation has been classified as of public interest since 1978.

4 CAPELA DA SALVAÇÃO

Sítio dos Moínhos



Main facade

The Chapel of Salvation, located on the site of Moínhos, once belonged to Quinta da Boa Vista, which later, the owners without descendants, donated to the Jesuit school of Funchal.

It was founded by the scion Francisco Morais Aguiar in 1614, as evidenced by the canary coat of arms on the facade in the chapel. In counterbalance on the other side of the portal is the inscription "Virgin of Salvation, S. Cosme and S. Damião, year 1610." It was recovered in 1941 taking advantage of pre-existing elements.

The Mannerist style chapel finished in gable has on its main façade a full arch portal in the region's stonework. Inside, it features a proto-neoclassical altarpiece, gold and white, on the front wall with fresh painting representing a large curtain with tassels and garlands. This altarpiece must have been built during the reconstruction of the chapel.

This chapel had a canvas by Martim Conrado, dated 1646, which represents the Immaculate Conception, Santa Ana and S. Joaquim and the founder of the chapel with his wife D. Antónia de Moura or her daughter and son-in-law. The painter is one of the most interesting proto-Baroque artists working in Portugal. Currently this painting has been moved to the main chapel of Mother Church of Caniço, on the side of the letter.

5 CAPELA DA MÃE DE DEUS

Caminho da Mão de Deus

The Chapel of the Mother of God, located next to the old Caminho Real 23, was founded, in the beginning of the 16th century, by the sisters D. Isabel and D. Leonor Álvares, great producers of sugar cane in the locality, called “Moças”, for having remained unmarried. Built with the purpose of being the chapel of a small convent



Outside perspective

that was to be built there (a project that did not advance due to the decay of sugar profit), this late-Gothic / Maneline hermitage presents a facade finished in gable, torn by a round arch on columns, in regional stonework, topped by a rose window.

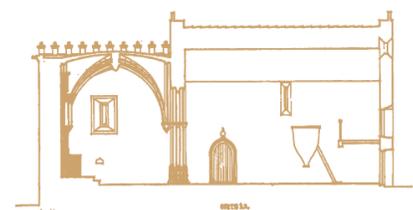
The chancel, crowned with merlons and boasting curious gargoyles on the cornerstones, features a simple nerve vault based on corbels, closed in the center by a stick decorated with vegetal elements. Note the entrance door to the sacristy, with a curved pointed arch, with a pinecone or corn cob finish. Its Mannerist main altarpiece (1550-1560) made of wood painted in white and gold, with two registers, features pilasters interspersing four oil paintings on wood, with Santa Catarina de Alexandria and Santo António on the right, Santiago, and São João Baptista to the left; at the sacrificial center, having represented the Chalice with the Eucharistic Host at the door, and an oratory with the image of the Mother of God and superiorly finished in a triangular pediment. These precious paintings are by Diogo Contreiras, one of the most interesting Portuguese painters of the Mannerist period.



Presbytery

On the floor of this chancel is a tombstone, in stonework, of its founders. It should be noted that, despite past centuries, the chapel continues with a formal coherence, preserving its contemporary elements, having not undergone major stylistic changes over time.

The chapel of The Mother of God has been classified as of public interest since 1940.



Longitudinal cut

6 IGREJA MATRIZ DO CANIÇO

Rua João Paulo II



Main facade

The Mother Church of Caniço was built in the 18th century, after a heated discussion on which side of the river this church would be. On the Machico side, there was the church dedicated to Santo Antão, and on the Funchal side, another church, dedicated to the Holy Spirit. As the devotees were unable to reach an agreement on which side the new church would be located, Father José Lomelino Barreto solved the issue and offered the land on the Funchal side, where it was stipulated that the future Mother Church of Caniço / Igreja Matriz do Caniço would be built there, dedicated to Santo Antão. In his honor the square in front of this temple bears his name. Here you can see beautiful Tipuanas (*Tipuana tipu*), Jacarandas (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*) and the endemic Dragon Trees (*Dracaena draco*). On the east side, be sure to enjoy a characteristic little house Casinha de Prazer, set on a wall of a private residence.

This church, with a rectangular plan with a single nave, was inaugurated in 1783 and has, in its interior, white, golden, and marbled carvings, in the transition between Baroque and Rococo. The main façade, in Mannerist and contained language, is delimited by pilasters, tearing through a stonework portal with a full arch surmounted by an inscription alluding to the construction and consecration of the temple in Porto Santo stonework. The nave is illuminated by three large windows, the central one being made up of royal weapons, also in masonry from Porto Santo.

Inside the church stand out collateral altarpieces of marbled, gray, red and bluish, Rococo style, with central canvases by the fertile Madeiran painter Nicolau Ferreira, topped by a complex raised pediment with a central marbled medallion.



Presbytery