

REDONDO

From Redondo you can see the Serra d'Ossa which, to the southwest, offers a good forest of cork oaks and holm oaks that extends to the fields at its base, providing an excellent alternative to the many eucalyptus trees that populate it. Here you can also find the religious monuments that characterized the eremitic vocation of this site.

Leave the Largo da Aldeia da Serra towards the South, along the side of the road until you leave the town. After passing the entrance to Herdade de Água D'Alte, turn left towards Monte Cabaço and then take a little detour to return to this site. Turn right and immediately left, climbing a little for a short visit to the Anta da Candeeira (dolmen). Go back to the original path, and move on through Monte Novo Palheirinho. Do not turn to any side path until you see Monte Abraão on your right, just below, where you must turn left as you start to see a cliff of tailings followed by a lake on the right. Always follow the path within the eucalyptus forest until you reach an open valley, where you should take the path to your left, which passes right next to Monte da Quinta. Keep going straight ahead until you see on the Monte Virgem church on the right, perched on some prominent cliffs. Spot the abandoned house and go around its left on a path of tight turns until you find a steep climb to the right which you should take, and keep going until you find Cruzeiro. When you reach the road, you will have access to the Monte Virgem chapel, through a path that will take you there and back to this spot. Go back to Cruzeiro and follow the path ahead of you, then to the right. Always follow that path on the middle of the hillside, passing over the convent of São Paulo, leaving the São Cornelho rock to your right. Reach the access path to the top of São Gens, the ridge of Serra d'Ossa, on a new journey - there and back. Go around the top and down the slope until you reach highway 381. Turn left and about fifty metres ahead, take the right path, which follows on through the middle of the hillside, until you find a steep descent to the left. Halfway down the hill, turn right and meander towards Cova do Bento, an area of lush greenery. Then proceed until you find a path on a sharp slope, leading you close to a dam. Take the path after the water line and follow through to highway 381, which you shall cross through the underground passageway for cattle. Turn right and take the path carved into the rocks, alongside the fence of the convent itself. Further ahead you will find the imposing ruins of an old mill and then re-enter the asphalt road turning left towards the centre of Aldeia da Serra.



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