

24.

MEMORIAL OF SOBRADO



Lugar da Meia Laranja
Sobrado
Castelo de Paiva



41° 2' 34.00" N
8° 16' 12.29" W



+351 918 116 488



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National Monument
1950



P. 25



Free



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Commonly known as the Memorial of Boavista, this monument shows a different typology from that of other Memorials (p. 96 and 147), since it does not feature an arch.

It is composed of two vertical disk-shaped slabs with Latin crosses carved on both faces where two horizontal slabs sit. The upper one is rectangular while the lower one, which corresponds to a sepulchral lid, features a convex surface. On the upper slab there is a cross craved inside a triangle.

On the lower slab, we may find a long sword and a Greek cross, both carved, inscribed in a circle. The cross inside a circle was a commonly used element in the Romanesque period and is found both in funerary art and on the churches' walls. There are also swords carved on the external faces of both slabs.

Although dating this monument is a fairly complex task, because its structure has a different expression from that of other memorials and does not allow typological comparisons, the Memorial of Sobrado has been chronologically pinpointed somewhere in the mid-13th century.



THE LEGEND OF SAINT ANTHONY

According to tradition, there was a young man called Martim de Bulhões who lived in Sobrado and fell in love with Maria Teresa Taveira. Maria's father, Gil, wanted Martim de Bulhões to go to war before marrying his daughter. Fearless and adventurous, Martim accepted the challenge and was knighted before leaving for Lisbon. He joined a crusade led by King Sancho I (k. 1185-1211), organized to conquer Silves, and ended up being captured by the Moors.

After her father's death, Maria Teresa began being harassed by Fafes, a cruel rich man - the Lord of Raiva - who wished to marry her.

However, the chaplain of Paços de Godim managed to free Martim, who hastened to return; his arrival coincided with the day Fafes had decided to take the beautiful Maria by force.

The two rivals met at the Portais da Boavista - the place where we currently find the Memorial of Sobrado - and fought in a duel won by Martim. In memory of that feat, Martim commissioned the construction of the tomb or "memorial" of Fafes on that site.

Martin and Maria married and had a son: Saint Anthony of Lisbon (c. 1195-1231).



DON'T MISS OUT

- 4.6 km: Island of Castelo (p. 264)
- 12.8 km: Belvedere of São Domingos (p. 265)