

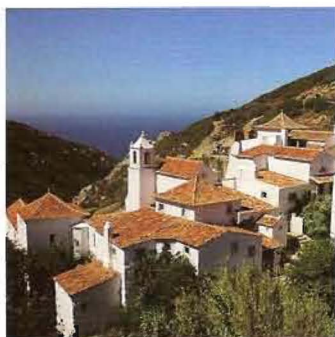


Convento de São Saturnino

Azóia, Cabo da Roca, 2705-001 Sintra, Estremadura

Deep in Azóia's valley something magical has happened. On the site of a ruin these talented owners designed a series of buildings based on a 12th-century convent. Whitewashed, inter-connecting spaces, curved roofs, winding steps, sparkling sea glimpses and a trickling spring – a place to lose yourself in. Bedrooms are decadently stylish, fabrics are rich, bathrooms are pampering. In the large lounge are squidgy sofas, coffee-table books, an old library and a collection of scrolls and artifacts found on the site. Help yourself to a drink from the honesty bar, then retreat to the high-ceilinged, candlelit dining room where the food is home-cooked and delicious (we loved the chilled melon soup with parma ham). Pad around the house, scramble down to the sea or recline on a rock and breathe it all in; the Convento feels restorative and spiritual. Add to this a shiatsu massage and your bliss should be complete. The atmosphere is more small hotel than private home but the staff are perfect and the beds with sea views are out of this world. Enchanting.

rooms	9: 3 doubles, 3 twins, 3 suites.
price	€180-€200. Singles from €150.
meals	Lunch snacks sometimes available. Dinner with wine, 3 courses, €30.
closed	Rarely.
directions	A5 Lisboa-Cascais, exit Malveira - Aldeia do Junto. 4km after Malveira da Serra, left for Cabo da Roca. At Moinho D. Quixote bar round to right until you see house signs.



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Map 3 Entry 89