

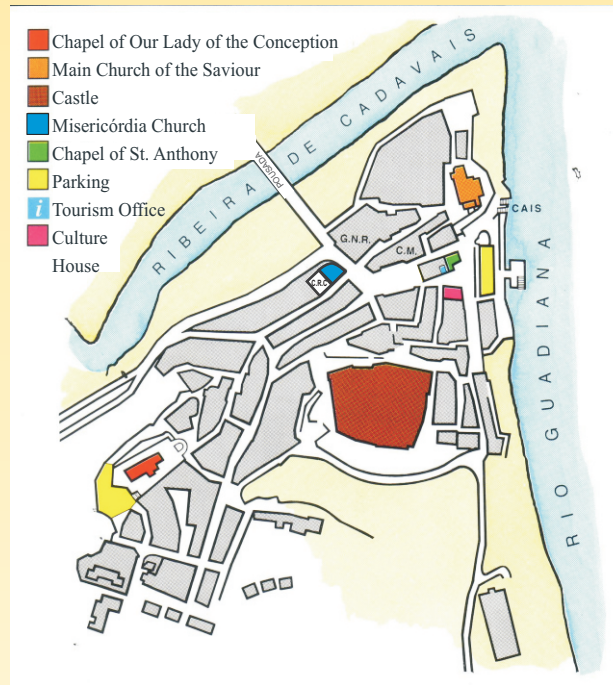
## CHAPEL OF SANTO ANTÓNIO IN ALCOUTIM

The central body of this small religious building dedicated to St Anthony, the matchmaker saint, is rectangular in shape with a single nave, covered by a barrel vault, with a small sacristy to one side. Built in the Mannerist architectural style (mid-16th to late 17th century), its stone doorway has a straight, architrave lintel, with a small opening above, with four orifices forming a cross. Crowning the small façade, there is a pedestal with a stone cross, which, together with a small bell-tower on the roof on the sacristy side, gives it the appearance of a religious building on the outside.

It is not known when the church was founded, but it is very possible that its construction was commissioned by the Counts of Alcoutim at the end of the 16th or beginning of the 17th century, as it stands in front of the house of the counts, which was probably built in the 16th century. Another fact leading to this conclusion is that the title "Count of Alcoutim" was awarded on 13th June, the day dedicated to Santo António. The cult of St.º António became widespread from the 14th century onwards. More evidence for this comes from the references to the street Rua de St.º António which appears in old documents from the 17th century.

The altar is made of stone, which used to be covered in marbled paint, and there is a small niche in the centre of the apse with an in-the-round statue of St.º António dating from the Rococo period (end of the 18th century). References from the end of the 19th century inform us that the statue of the patron saint of the chapel was flanked by those of St.ª Benedita (St Benedicta) and St.ª Eugénia (St Eugenia).

This chapel, which has undergone restoration work and improvements over the centuries, and was even once in complete ruins, was recently fully restored by Alcoutim Municipal Council which established the municipality's Sacred Art Museum here.



## SACRED ART MUSEUM

Chapel of St. Anthony  
ALCOUTIM

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## A look at the Churches of ALCOUTIM



## Chapel of St. Anthony ALCOUTIM



The religious heritage of the municipality of Alcoutim is a reflection of the generosity and dedication of its people. Despite being few in number and despite their limited resources, they adopted the same standards as the rest of the Algarve region.

In the works of greatest importance, they regularly resorted to the main urban centres on the coast both for the acquisition of religious ornaments and to commission artists to build and decorate their churches.

The aim of the exhibition “A look at the Churches of Alcoutim”, which can be seen in this museum, is to familiarise both the local population and visitors with the tour of the municipality's religious art, incorporating it into its cultural heritage and so contributing to knowledge of its special history.

This museum is also an educational resource for local people, in particular for schools, and it aims to familiarise people with the history of the art of the municipality in the context of the history of regional, national and European art.

1. Alcoutim - Igreja Matriz do Salvador (Main Church of the Saviour).
2. Alcoutim - Ermida de Nossa Senhora da Conceição (Chapel of Our Lady of the Conception).
3. Alcoutim - Igreja da Misericórdia (Misericórdia Church).
4. Alcoutim - Capela de Santo António (Chapel of St Anthony).
5. Alcoutim - Ermida de S. Sebastião (Chapel of St Sebastian)
6. Alcoutim - Ermida do Espírito Santo (Chapel of the Holy Spirit). No longer in existence.
7. São Martinho (parish of Alcoutim) - Ermida de S. Martinho (Chapel of St Martin). No longer in existence.
8. Santa Marta (parish of Alcoutim) - Ermida de Santa Marta (Chapel of St Martha).
9. Giões - Igreja Matriz de Nossa Senhora da Assumpção (Main Church of Our Lady of the Assumption).
10. Giões - Ermida de S. Domingos (Chapel of St Dominic). In ruins.
11. Clarines (parish of Giões) - Ermida de Nossa Senhora da Oliveira (Chapel of Our Lady of the Olive Tree).
12. Relíquias (parish of Giões) - Ermida de Nossa Senhora as Relíquias (Chapel of Our Lady of the Relics). No longer in existence.
13. Martinlongo - Igreja Matriz de Nossa Senhora da Conceição (Main Church of Our Lady of the Conception).
14. Martinlongo - Capela do Espírito Santo (Chapel of the Holy Spirit).
15. Martinlongo - Ermida de S. Sebastião (Chapel of St Sebastian).
16. Santa Justa (parish of Martinlongo) – Ermida de Santa Justa (Chapel of St Justa).
17. Pereiro - Igreja Matriz de S. Marcos (Main Church of St Mark)
18. Vaqueiros - Igreja Matriz de S. Pedro (Main Church of St Peter).
19. Alcaria Queimada (parish of Vaqueiros) – Ermida de S. Bento (Chapel of St Benedict).



Main Church  
VAQUEIROS



Statue of Our Lady of St Justa  
Chapel of Our Lady of St Justa  
SANTA JUSTA – MARTINLONGO



Statue of Christ the Saviour  
Main Church of Alcoutim  
ALCOUTIM

## Location of the Churches



Statue of Our Lady of the Rosary  
Main Church of Giões  
GIÕES



Processional Standard  
Santa Casa da Misericórdia  
ALCOUTIM



Statue of the Infant Jesus  
Main Church of Vaqueiros  
VAQUEIROS



Alms Box  
Main Church of Pereiro  
PEREIRO