



Eco-panoramic Route of

Guilhabreu



Itinerary name	Eco-panoramic route of Guilhabreu
Promoter Entities/ Partnerships	Town Hall of Vila do Conde, Parish Council of Guilhabreu e Villae Piloto-Country House
Itinerary Type	Circular/ Small route
Location	Guilhabreu, Canidelo and Alvarelhos
Area field	Landscape/ Cultural/ Religious/ Eco panoramic
Length	7 km
Duration	6 hours (Lunch break and snack)
Ground type	Soil/ Asphalt/Parallel
Difficulty	Low
Maximum Altitude	300 MT
Price	50€ (route and lunch)

Guilhabreu – Graceful Land

Guilhabreu with a land area of almost 12 km² is one of the most dynamic and large councils of Vila do Conde. It is mainly a rural council with a broad view of the immense Atlantic Ocean. This council presents quite charming panoramic views as well as a millenary heritage full of astonishing stories and legends.

Main Scenic Spots

The main scenic spots of the Eco-panoramic route of Guilhabreu are the Church Hall, the Hill “Alto da Francisca” and the “Santa Eufémia” Hill. These are truly natural viewpoints from where you can admire the lovely landscape.



From the north and southwest side of the Hall of the Church and the Hill “Alto da Francisca” it is possible to wonder several rural villages as well as vegetable gardens, orchards, tilled lands and forests extended until the Atlantic Ocean. As for the high peak of the Mountain of “Santa Eufémia” with 300 meters high,

situated in the boundaries of the municipality of Vila do Conde, we can see a superb landscape until the mouth of the river Douro in Porto, the Hill of Sameiro in Braga and the Hill of Penha in Guimarães.

From the eastern side the main viewpoints are the profound and dense valleys, hills and hillocks extending as long as the “Agrela Mountain” and the multiple white villages from the municipalities of Trofa, Famalicão and Maia with its green pine trees and long eucalyptus.

From the western side you can appreciate an outstanding view of broad forest mixed with rural and urban points such as Maia, Porto and Matosinhos in the south, Vila do Conde and Póvoa de Varzim in the north. All this landscape is surrounded by the vast blue ocean. At sunset watching the sparkling sun falling down in the ocean is an unforgettable experience.

Main Stages

1st Stage – This stage takes place in a strongly urban local environment in asphalt or parallel streets going through places like Parada and Vila Boa until the boundaries of the council with the neighbour Canidelo.

During this trajectory we distinguish as the main points of the local architectonic heritage the Parish Church (built in 1885) and the ancient Archs of Meca. You can also emphasize the building of the Parish Council, the Primary School and the Stone Fountain, all of them inaugurated in 1954 as well as the School of Bento Marques, a magnificent

building in the northern side of the council which was a boy's school in the first half of the 20th century.



2nd stage – This trajectory takes place in a long unpaved road surrounded in some part of the route by water stream from natural springs and by centenary stone walls where moss flourishes. This slightly steep road ideal for pedestrian treks, cycling tours by bicycle or other similar means of transport connects the valley and the village with the Mountain of “Santa Eufémia” ending in the small industrial area near the national road nº. 318. In this trajectory the fresh air we breathe is due to the crystalline water that falls and the intense vegetation that flourishes there: eucalyptus, oak and cork-trees, genista, shrub and so on. You can also admire the ruins of an old water mill and enjoy a bucolic and picturesque landscape.

3rd stage – After lunch the walk goes on towards the Hill of “Santa Eufémia”, named after the building of the chapel honouring this saint in the sixteenth century. This festivity which takes place on the 3rd Sunday of September, originated one of the biggest pilgrimages among the main regional rivers.

This pilgrimage lasts for several weeks before and after the big day.

In the peak of the Hill of “Santa Eufémia”, besides watching the landscape, you can visit the warming chapel, admire the majestic transept inaugurated in 1904, wander about the northern and southern stairs and admire the little rustic houses and the granaries built by the wealthiest of the village.



At sunset you'll return to the Country House. There will still be the opportunity to know the House of the Youth of Guilhabreu, a modern building inaugurated on the 11th May 2003, directed to cultural, sportive and recreational activities.

Route regulation:

- Follow only the signed treks;
- Avoid noise and attitude that disturb the local peace;
- Watch the fauna with binoculars from a long-distance.
- Respect the private propriety;
- Preserve the nature, don't collect plants, animal or rocks;
- Always use comfortable and light shoes and clothes.

The activity will take place only with a minimum number of 4 participants.

This memorable tour will be lead by enthusiastic, experiment and fluent in several languages guides.

Itinerary Map

