



JEWISH HERITAGE ALLIANCE TOUR SERIES

Jewish Heritage Alliance, in collaboration with our partners and academic experts, provide you with ongoing tour programs designed to bring the legacy of Sefarad to life.

Welcome to Portugal!
Sejam Bem-Vindos a Portugal!



Jewish Heritage of Portugal...

A Journey To The Past

March 10 to 19, 2024

PRE-TOUR INFORMATION

Tour Leader: Dr. Peter Tarlow:

ptarlow@latinojewishrelations.org

Cell and WhatsApp 979-219-0209



786.528.3154 • www.JewishHeritageAlliance.com • info@jewishheritagealliance.com

We have prepared this comprehensive pre-tour information in order to address many of the questions you may have and in anticipation of information you may need.

Below is a map of Portugal. It is continental Europe's most western country bordered on the north and east by Spain and the west and South by the Atlantic Ocean

Portugal is about the size of Maine (a bit over 36,000 square miles) and has a population of about ten million people.

The largest cities are:

Lisbon (also the capital)

Other major cities are:

Braga

Cidade do Porto (Oporto in English)

Coimbra

Évora

Sintra





Please note the Atlantic Ocean in Portugal is cold! Water temperatures are closer to those in Maine than to those in New Jersey.



Flight Information

Jewish Heritage Alliance tour price does not include flight arrangements allowing you to book your own air or use miles. However, we are offering flight arrangements for all participants (most tour participants use our flight services handled by a highly professional air consolidator partner). When booking your flights, we will insert your frequent flier number(s) if provided. Please note both TAP and United Airlines are members of Star Alliance.

If you are traveling on other airline, please check with them regarding mileage points and seating options.

Travel Cancellation and Interruption Insurance

We strongly recommend Travel Cancellation and Interruption Insurance. You may select the insurance company of your choice. For your reference see below a list of insurance companies:

TravelEx: <https://www.travelexinsurance.com/>

Travel Guard <http://www.travelguard.com/>

Travel Insured <http://www.travelinsured.com/>

Alliance (formerly Access America)

<http://www.allianztravelinsurance.com>

InsureMyTrip.com <http://www.insuremytrip.com/>

SquareMouth <https://www.squaremouth.com/>



Destination Information

- **Weather information in green**
- **Hotel information in blue**
- **Attire information in maroon**

Hotels Overview

Lisbon: **Tivoli Avenida Liberdade Lisboa Hotel**
Av. da Liberdade 185, 1269-050 Lisboa, Portugal.
Tel: + 351 21 319 8900
Website: tivolihotels.com/en/portugal/Lisbon

Belmonte: **Pousada Convento Belmonte**
Serra da Esperança, 6250-909 Belmonte, Portugal
Tel: + 351 275 910 300
Website: pousadas.pt/en/hotel/pousada-belmonte

Porto: **Sheraton Porto Hotel & Spa**
R. do Ten. Valadim 146, 4100-476 Porto, Portugal
Tel: + 351 22 040 4000
Website: marriott.com/en-us/hotels/oposi-sheraton-porto-hotel-and-spa/overview/



Overview of weather

Prevailing wisdom says that the best time to visit Portugal is in spring (March-May), when the country is in bloom and waking after the winter. March is the buffer period between the low and high tourist seasons in Portugal. This means there are fewer tourists and crowds thus easier faster access to popular tourist attractions.

During March the temperatures in Lisbon tend to be around 17-18 C (62-64 F) early in the month, warming to about 19-20 C (66-68 F) near the end of the month. In the north temperatures in Porto usually hover around the 54°F (12°C) mark, with highs of up to 61°F (16°C).

To check the weather by city in Portugal go to:
<https://www.accuweather.com/en/pt/portugal-weather>

The following website provides a city-by-city basis:

Basic Celsius to Fahrenheit

10 Celsius = 50.0

12 Celsius = 53.6

17 Celsius = 62.6

20 Celsius = 68.0

26 Celsius = 78.0

32 Celsius = 89.8

35 Celsius = 95.0



Overview of Attire

There is a Portuguese saying about March which goes something like “March is winter mornings and summer afternoons”. It will be cool enough for a jacket in the morning and at night, but hot enough in the afternoon for a t-shirt. There is no need for boots, just good hiking sneakers. With the exception of Shabbat, we suggest loose, and informal clothing is appropriate. For Shabbat modest business casual is appropriate. We shall be doing a great deal of walking, so be prepared. March is not a “rainy season” but we suggest you pack a small umbrella or rain hat, or rain-resistant jacket. **Please check weather a day or two prior to departure.**

Clothing: What to bring

Portugal is a European nation, so dress tends to be smart casual. As at night it might be cool, a light sweater or jacket is fine. Portuguese women do not wear super formal or flashy clothing. Pretty scarves save valuable luggage space and are always appropriate.

Men might bring one tie, a sports jacket and open neck shirts.

For religious services, bring a shirt with a collar for men. Women should dress modestly. Skirt and blouse are fine, no shorts or pants.

Take sunglasses!!



Take good walking shoes. You will be walking on many cobblestone streets. Distances can be long and in some of the older cities often there is little room for buses, so they park outside of the old cities.

Hint: We shall be staying in several hotels, so the less you take the happier you will be. It is not a sin to wear the same thing twice! Consider taking garments that dry overnight and do not need to be ironed.

Quick overview of Portuguese and Portuguese Jewish History

Portugal emerged as an independent nation during what Christians call the Reconquista (Re-conquest) of the Iberian Peninsula. The country of Portugal emerged in the tenth century during the Christian re-conquest of the Iberian Peninsula: It dates back to the mid-twelfth century, as a kingdom under King Afonso I (the First).

In the 16th century the Spanish successfully invaded and controlled the country until 1640 when a successful rebellion led to national independence. Due to the Napoleonic wars Portugal sided with England (they are still close allies). The royal family had to flee to Brazil and after the war many chose to stay in Brazil.

In 1910 a republic was declared (after a civil war)



In 1933 a Portuguese professor, Antonio de Oliveira Salazar, took over and became a brutal dictator. He ruled the country until the Carnation coup d'état of 1974.

A summery overview of Portuguese Jewish History

Portuguese Jews prior to the Spanish expulsions of 1492 were a distinct group within the Sephardic (Iberian Peninsula) world. After 1492 they mixed with the Jews of Spain. Portuguese Jews tended to be more steadfast in their faith than their Spanish co-religionists.

Early history

Jews were present during Roman times when the country was called Lusitania. During the early Christian era the local Jewish population suffered greatly. They greeted the Muslim conquerors as heroes and liberators.

Until the 15th century, Jews occupied important positions in Portugal and were fully integrated into Portuguese society.

With the influx of Spanish refugees, things began to change. The refugees were granted, in return for payment, asylum by King João II. Eight months later, the King revoked their asylum and gave them the choice of leaving or enslavement.



The children's deportations of 1493 to São Tomé and the writing of *Consolação das Tribulações de Israel*, Samuel Usque (1553)

In 1495 King Manuel I takes the throne and appears to restore rights. In 1496, however, he marries Ferdinand and Isabela's daughter, and the price of the marriage is that Jews will be forced to convert or leave the country.

In 1506 the Lisbon massacre take place and there is a second deportation to São Tomé

Manuel dies in 1521 and his son, João III becomes king. João III continues the anti-Jewish work of his father and establishes the Inquisition in 1536 with the first auto-da-fé occurring in 1540.

In June of 1990 then President Mario Soares apologized to the Jews of Portugal (and the world) for the actions taken by Portugal in the 16th century

In 2017 Portugal became the second country in the world to create a law of return for its former Jewish citizens (expelled some five centuries earlier.

For an in-depth understanding of the Sefarad (Iberian Peninsula Jews) we recommend the following videos:

One hour overview: (National Library Israel)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKsVdMBLpgE>



A 3-part in-depth series: Sefarad, The Untold Story that Changed the World (Jewish Heritage Alliance)

PART I: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9qwbiPH7xj4>

PART II: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n6pyxbxKM_4

PART III: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgMBh3KLis4>

Getting Ready for Our Trip Portuguese Immigration and customs

US citizens have no forms to fill out before arriving in Portugal. Your passport is all you need. Other passport? check with a Portuguese government office prior to travel. At immigration go through the green (nothing to declare) line

Pre-Tour check List

- Check with your insurance company regarding the status of your health insurance outside of the USA. Medicare is not valid outside of the USA. **Your insurance company may offer a short-term travel rider.**
- Make sure to tell your credit card company that you will be traveling outside of the USA. If you use a debit card the same is true for your bank.
- Take plug adaptors (Portuguese outlets are different from US ones). If you use a PC you will need an



adapter that changes the voltage from 220 volts to 110. All Mac products (iPhone, iPad etc. automatically adapt to 230 volts.

- **Avoid a huge telephone bill when you return!**
Check with your telephone company regarding use of cell phones outside of the US and what the roaming charges will be. Skype and WhatsApp are free calls as long as you call on Wi-Fi. Many companies such as Verizon, ATT&T and T-Mobile have international plans. **Please check with your phone company regarding text messages and their cost if you are not on wi-fi.**
- Check with your physician regarding any personal medications that you might need!
- List any foods or medicines to which you might be allergic. If something were to happen, we will need this written list.
- Do NOT pack medications, money, or any other essential item in a checked suitcase. Place these materials in your carry-on bag!



• **Checklist #1 Essentials**

Do I have?	Yes/no
Health Insurance for outside of USA	
Called credit card companies	
Did I bring a list of medications and foods to which I am allergic?	
Do I have plug adapters for Portugal? (see internet for photo)	
If I do not have a Mac, do I have an adapter for 220 voltages?	
Do I have essential medications?	



Make sure you do not forget

- **Do not forget to bring your passport! US passport holders do not need a visa to enter Portugal. If you have a non-US passport, check with the closest Portuguese consulate or webpage for up-to-date information**
- **Make a second** photocopy of your passport and leave it with someone who can send it to you, should you lose your passport.
- Leave room in your suitcase for souvenirs. You may want to purchase things such as: Portuguese cork, wine, Portuguese tiles, soaps etc.
- Remember that if you have over 20 kilos (about 44 pounds) you may end up with overweight charges. Prior to departure check with the airline regarding your particular baggage weight limits.
- If you take medications, please do not forget to bring them and pack them in your carry-on bag.
- We will be in Portugal during late spring/early summer and the weather should be dry and warm.



- **Second checklist: Practical things**

Item	Did I take? Yes/No	Where to pack it
Passport / money		Carry-on
2 nd copy of passport		With someone whom you can find at home
Copy of credit card numbers and how to call if lost		In safe place
Medications and their medical names		Carry-on
Small umbrella or hat		Suitcase
Sunglasses		Carry on



Third checklist: Clothing

Item	Packed?	Where?
Summer Hat		Suitcase
Good walking shoes		Suitcase
Sunglasses		Suitcase or carry-on
Men's Shabbat shirt		Suitcase
Skirt and blouse for religious locations		Suitcase
Windbreaker		Suitcase
Yarmulkah/Kipah		Suitcase

Destination Information

Electricity and electrical outlets

Portuguese power plugs and sockets are of type F (two rounded prong). The standard voltage is 230 and the standard frequency is 50 Hz. (see internet for photo)



Currency

Portugal uses the euro. The euro and dollar fluctuate in value, so check just before the day of departure. Most hotels will allow you to exchange money there. You can also use an ATM machine, but make sure your bank knows you will be using it in Europe. Some banks block withdrawals abroad unless you tell them. The same is true for credit cards. You might want to change about US\$100 before you travel, that way upon landing you have some money in your pocket. Bring small bills (or coins) for extra tipping.

All US credit cards are accepted In Portugal and there are ATM machines everywhere. Some ATM machines are multilingual, others use only Portuguese.

Food

Portugal is famous for its seafood and its national dish is *bacalhau* (a salted codfish from Norway). Besides food from the sea, Portugal is famous for its excellent wines, olives, and breads

Breakfast tends to be a heavy continental breakfast

The main meal is around 1:30 - 2:00 pm

Dinner is usually around 8:00 pm

This tour will provide a full breakfast and dinner. Lunch is on your own. Bring money or breakfast bars. Eat a full breakfast each morning.



Shopping:

Please remember the best advice for travel is - take less so that you have room in your suitcase to take things home!

Here are some of Portugal's most popular products for visitors.

- 1) Claus Porto Soap
- 2) Portuguese wines and port
- 3) Portuguese tiles (azulejos: pronounced (Asu-lay-josh))
- 4) Tile jewelry
- 5) Ginjinha (pronounced: Jin-ji-nyah): Portuguese liquor
- 6) Portuguese cheeses
- 7) Portuguese olive oil
- 8) Portuguese wool products and fisherman sweaters if they can be found.

You can bring olive oil and wine back to the US in can or bottle form. These items must be put into your checked suitcase and might have to be declared at US customs.



Tipping:

Tour guide and bus driver

Tour guide and bus driver

Traditionally we give a tip of \$10 per day to the guide and \$5 per day to the bus driver. Of course, you are welcome to give a greater amount if you so desire.

Restaurants:

Remember that breakfast and dinner are included, and this of course means tips have been included. Lunch, however, is not included and lunch tips are at your discretion. At restaurants if a service charge (servicio) is added to the bill then leave a small tip, if there is no “servicio” than 10% is more than adequate.

In Hotels: Tipping in hotels in Portugal is rarely expected except in cases of exemplary service or if you solicit special services. It is not uncommon to tip, however, a porter or chambermaid. Customary portage tips are 1 (or at the most 2) euros per bag. Chambermaids are often tipped. For hotels of our standard, tips should be around 2 euros per night. Of course, you are always welcome to tip more.

The most commonly tipped employees are the Porters and Chambermaids. If a Porter helps to carry your bag(s) to your room the customary tip is 1 or 2 Euros per bag, usually no more than 5 Euros total. For Chambermaids in moderate hotels a 1 Euro tip, daily, is adequate; while in deluxe hotels 2-3 Euros daily is more suitable (tip them up



front if you want them to treat you extra nice). Leave these tips on the bed or the bedside table.

Water, Health, and medical needs:

Portugal is a European country and health is on European standards. Although water is safe to drink, if you have a sensitive stomach then stick with bottled water,

Remember to bring whatever medications you may need.

Also check to see what coverage your US provider covers in Portugal. Many US plans have a pay-back plan if the expense is coded correctly. See above.

Time zone: Portugal is GMT 0 (zero) or five hours ahead of the US East coast and 6 hours ahead of central time.

Language: Not surprisingly Portuguese is the language of Portugal. In about the same way that American English is different from British English so too Continental Portuguese is different from Brazilian Portuguese. About 8 years ago, Portugal adopted an international Portuguese spelling system. In reality, this new system appears to be similar to the Brazilian system although some people still use the older and more complicated continental spelling

Although you can survive perfectly well in English in Portuguese tourist areas by using some basic Portuguese you will bring a smile to people's faces and make life easier.



Word to the wise!! Portuguese and Spanish are very different languages. Often Spanish and Portuguese words that look alike have different meanings and are almost always pronounced differently.

Do not pronounce Portuguese as if it were Spanish! Spanish is a phonetic language. Portuguese is not. Portuguese vowels, like English vowels are very unstable. They are much less stable than French, German, or Italian vowels. Many people, who do not speak Portuguese, say that the language sounds like a mixture of French and Russian.

Working Vocabulary (in more or less alphabetical order or by logic)

Portuguese word	In English phonetics	English meaning
Bom dia	boM jheeh-ah	Good morning; good day
Boa tarde	boah tardjee	Good afternoon from lunch to dinner
Boa noite	boah noitch	Good night (after dinner)
Até logo or Tchau	Ahtay logo (Ciao as in Italian)	Good-bye



Olá	Oh-láh	Hello
Cómo vai?	Como vay	How are you?
O pequeno almoço	OO pekayno ahlmosso	Breakfast
O almoço	OO ahlmosso	Lunch
O Jantar	OO Jantar	Dinner
A sala de jantar	Ah sahlah djee Jantar	Dinning room
Garçom	Garsahwn	Waiter
Garçonete	Gar-son-eh-t-chee	Waitress
Desculpe	deshcoolpee	Sorry, excuse me
Estou com fome	Eshtow com fomee	I am hungry
Estou com sede	Eshtow com sedjee	I am thirsty
Estou com sono	Eshtow com sono	I am sleepy
O senhor (a senhora) fala inglês?	Oo sen-your (a sen-yourah) falah En-glash?_	Do you speak English?
Desculpe, não	Deshcoolpee,	I am sorry but I do



falo português	nawn fahlo portoogaysh	not speak Portuguese
Obrigado (for a man)	Obreegahdo	Thank you
Obrigada (for a woman)	Obreegadah	Thank you
De nada	Djee nahdah	You are welcome
Onde fica...?	Ondjee feecah	Where is,,,?
Não	Nown (as a nasal)	No
Sim	(S-plus a nasal ee)	Yes
Por Favor	Por Fah-VOOR	Please
Pode me ajudar?	Podjee me ajudar?	Can you help me?
Preciso de	Preseezho djee	I need...
O restaurante	OO hestorantee	Restaurant
Onde fica o restaurante?	Onjee fichah oo hestorantee?	Where is the restaurant?
Serviços Sanitários	Serveessos Saneetareeosh	Rest rooms



Casa de banho	Cazah dje ban-yo	Bathroom
Quanto custa...?	Quanto cushtah	How much is...
É caro	Eh cah-ro	It is expensive
É caro demais	Eh cah-ro gemays	It is too expensive
É um preço razoável	Eh-u- preso hasonahvel	It is not too expensive
Homem (Homens)	OmeM (omens)	Man / Mens
Mulher (Mulheres)	Moo-lyer (Moo- lheresh)	Woman/Women

Boa viagem!

Have a great trip!



Appendix

Barros Basto: the Portuguese Dreyfus

Less known than Alfred Dreyfus, the story of Barros Basto also deals with desire to maintain Jewish faith and the sacrifices one must pay for it - another sad example of 19th century European antisemitism

David Alejandro Rosenthal|

Published: 09.03.22, 13:28

Captain Artur Carlos de Barros Basto is known for having been unjustly slandered and dismissed from his military post. Not unlike Alfred Dreyfus, a French artillery officer of Jewish ancestry whose conviction in 1894 on charges of treason became one of the most polarizing political dramas in modern French history.

These two men, important military men and decorated heroes became the target of European antisemitism, which was to become more pronounced in the middle of the 20th century, with the start of World War II.



Artur Carlos de Barros Basto



The military officer is an unknown figure outside Portugal, unlike Dreyfus, but his story is equally or more interesting. Barros Basto dedicated himself to Jewish writing and even more important was his work as a community leader. In

addition, he made a great contribution to the struggle of Conversos - Sephardic Jews who were once forced to convert to Catholicism. In fact, Captain Barros Basto was one of them.

In Portugal, a very special historical phenomenon occurred, because the concentration of Sephardim was so high that to this day, the Portuguese are largely descendants of those "marranos" - converted Jews - who had little choice in 1497, when they were forced to convert or, leave their land. As in Spain, the Jews faced a great dilemma: whether to leave with all that this entailed or to adopt the new faith.

A good number of Jews decided to remain in their homeland, so they had to be baptized and change their names. Some became the most assiduous Christians, mixed with the nobility, with the "old Christians" and even



became important members of the Catholic clergy. However, others, in spite of having converted, maintained their Jewish identity while creating themselves a new one, which allowed them to pass unnoticed among their new co-religionists - whether they were new or old Christians.

Barros Basto's family had maintained its Hebrew roots throughout the centuries and was clear about it. So, his grandfather, before he died, revealed to him the truth about his past Sephardic origin and that he wished to die as a Jew.

There were traditions; like the Shabbat candles, with which the young Artur Carlos had been connected since he was a child. But, they were part of his memory, as well as the memory of his ancestors. Until one day, while in Flanders, Belgium, he entered the tent of a French officer on Saturday, saw two candles illuminating the place, and asked him what was the reason for this particular ceremony. The answer was obvious. And so decisive was it that he wanted to return to the old faith of his ancestors. Barros Basto, who was born in Amarante in 1887 as a Catholic, decided to embark on the path to a new faith; the same one that centuries ago so many people were forced to abandon, including his predecessors. The Mosaic law, which had also been maintained, in one way or another, among children of those forced to convert - would become the captain's life goal, accompanied by an interest in making others return to their Hebrew origins.



Portugal's national archive in the "Torre do Tombo" has more than 40,000 files of the Inquisition, which was tasked with persecuting the "new Christians" accused of secretly living as Jews over the centuries. Although King Manuel I of Portugal promised the converts they would not be investigated for their religious practices in the private sphere, encouraged them to maintain the rituals and traditions of their old religion, which survived the passage of time in many cases.

The process of conversion to Judaism of Captain Barros Basto - who was also a Freemason - began in Porto and Lisbon at Shaarei Tikvah Synagogue, but without success. Morocco would then be his place of conversion and return to Judaism.

In the city of Tangier, a formal conversion would take place. After returning to Lisbon, he married a Jewish woman from that community, who had not accepted him before. Thus, Lea Israel Montero Azancot became Leah Barros. And, from that moment on, she would begin the campaign of rediscovery and rapprochement of the crypto-Jews.

Barros Basto had felt Jewish even before he converted in 1920; however, he encountered difficulties along the way, and even came close to going as far as Algeria in order to proceed with his conversion. He must have thought of all the others who, like him, would eventually want to return to the faith of their parents.



In Porto, where there were no more than 20 Jews, Captain Barros Basto or Abraham Israel Ben Rosh - his Hebrew name - founded a newspaper, which he called "Halapid" - The Torch - and began to travel to the neighboring villages where Conversos were to be found. In order to found a new community with these people and to build a synagogue that would later be called: Mekor Haim - a source of life.

Barros Basto had learned Hebrew before his conversion, and to such an extent that he later taught the language of his ancestors at the University of Porto. He was also interested in Portuguese medieval Jewish history, among other subjects. Throughout his life, he wrote numerous works on Jewish themes.

Barros Basto's initial plan and ideal was to capture the attention of the Conversos and attract them to his communal-religious project. In fact, very early on he began to collect the necessary funds for the construction of a synagogue. The project was so ambitious and structured that, together with other members of his community, they established a yeshiva, in order to teach the Conversos the precepts of the Law of Moses and the history of the Hebrew people. That yeshiva operated for nine years.
(Photo: Orot)

In Alto Trás-os-Montes - behind the mountains - located in the north of Portugal, bordering Spain and the important Douro River, the Conversos were found in rural villages. Chaves, Bragança and Mirandela are some of the towns



that the Trás-os-Montes sub-region included. Captain Barros Basto travelled through this territory in search of his hidden, lost brothers, once forced to encircle themselves in very small and closed communities. The political situation in Portugal had changed when a military coup d'état took place in 1926, giving the Catholic Church a very important position in the society once again. It would not be in their interests for the "marranos" to return to Judaism. Likewise, the fascist Oliveira Salazar dictatorship took power around 1932. Imposing the Catholic tradition and the conservatism of its customs as a regime, similar to the Spanish case with Generalissimo Franco.

All the efforts of Captain Artur Carlos hit a major stumbling block when an anonymous letter warned his superiors of immoral behavior on his part. Accused of homosexuality and of perverting the youth of the yeshiva, a trial was opened against him.

This slander did not succeed, but it did bring to light that the captain had himself circumcised - brit milah - together with a doctor, his yeshiva pupils. As a result, 9,000 crypto-Jews had turned to Judaism, thanks to him. In 1937, he was expelled from the army, as he was deemed morally unfit to continue in the institution. He could not be accused of being a homosexual, but he could be accused of being a Judaiser, since the Inquisition, which had scourged the entire Iberian peninsula in an



atrocious manner, had undoubtedly left an anti-Jewish remnant.

Like Dreyfus, his Jewishness weighed heavily when it came to signing his dismissal. However, Dreyfus was defended by Émile Édouard Charles Antoine Zola, a prominent French writer, in his article J'Accuse - Letter to the President of the Republic - in the newspaper L'Aurore. This plea, in the form of an open letter, was the key to the reinstatement of Captain Dreyfus' position, name and honor. In the case of Captain Barros Basto, there was never a review of the case during his lifetime and he died with the dishonor brought upon him by the enemies of Judaism.)

Despite the setback, Captain Barros Basto managed by 1938 to inaugurate the synagogue that had become his dream. Meqor Haim or the Kadoorie Synagogue (the largest in the entire Iberian Peninsula), in honor of its main sponsors, a prominent Iraqi Jewish family established in Shanghai, China. These Mizrahim Jews decided to erect the building in honor of their matriarch - Laura Kadoorie - who descended from those Jews expelled from Portugal in 1497.

This synagogue was not able to concentrate the community of Conversos that Barros Basto had hoped for. The scandal and finally his removal from office also meant that his students and those families in general that he had slowly attracted to Judaism were afraid and in the end did not want to be affiliated with Meqor Haim.



From the beginning, the Inquisition created a phenomenon of separatism and distrust on the part of these people. Having been forced to convert and not only that, having been persecuted, judged and even killed, was a good enough reason to turn away from that world. However, the synagogue served great purpose after World War II, becoming a shelter for hundreds of Jews from Eastern Europe who were escaping the horror of the Nazi regime. Barros Basto, therefore, could also be considered a "righteous among the nations".

The Synagogue of Oporto is the most important work of Captain Barros Basto. It represents the freedom, the constant struggle, and the great affection that its founder had, together with the Ashkenazi families of the community of Oporto who supported their leader in this noble project.

Captain Barros Basto died in Oporto in 1961, taking to his grave the injustice of being accused of a "crime" called being Jewish. He was the leader of his community until the end. Unlike Dreyfus, in one way or another, Barros Basto died of moral grief.

He was never reinstated in the army, nor was his case reviewed. Until 2012, the Portuguese state posthumously reinstated Barros Basto as a captain, thanks to the efforts of his granddaughter Isabel Ferreira Lopes. So, let the memory of Barros Basto live on.

