



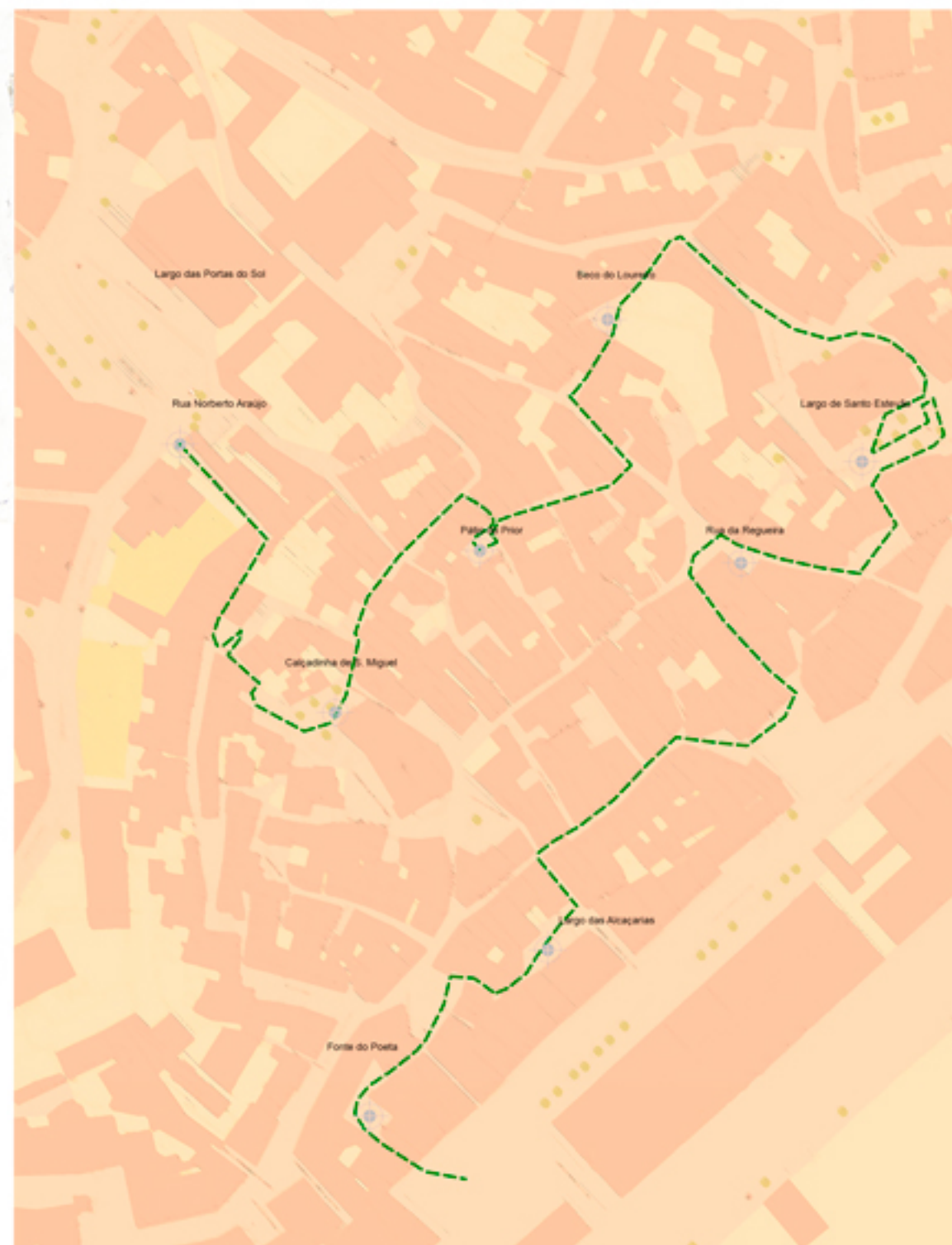
## Lisboa, Alfama

A multimedia guide for the tourist visiting the Alfama, the place of origin of Lisbon, between pedestrian streets and the proximity of the river.

This place has thousands of years of continuous human occupation. Based on literary, historical and mythological research this is an interactive route that guides the traveler through the streets of the neighborhood of Alfama with stories.

These tales unravel some of the intangible heritage of this place. We highlight some scenic spots such as the hot springs, through the reinvention of the former Portuguese legends mentioning magical ways of life connected with the waters.

The purpose of this multimedia guide is captivate the visitor to discover the tales and legends of the place.







## Lisboa, Alfama

### Portas do Sol: The Gates of the Sun

From one of its seven hills, we invite you to grasp Lisboa through a bird's eye view.

See?

A melting pot of travelling cultures.

The key ingredients?

Latin and Arabic.

And then, of course, came the Jewish culture.

From the sea, through the river, since the fourteenth century, came Chinese stories, African music, Indian art...

Lisboa welcomed the world.

And Alfama, its oldest neighbourhood, became a watery portal between reality and imagination.







## Rua Norberto Araújo: Mythological Lisboa

Oh yes.

No man should step on the land journeying through the river, she ordained.

This is my kingdom and woe betide who shall venture to step foot on it.

But when Ulysses saw the land from afar, he fell in love with it.

And Ophiussa... fell in love with him.

She tamed her serpents and invited the sailors to taste the treasures of the land.

And she took his beloved hero to the top of the hill, Lisbon,

Ulisseia, was then formed.

But when Ulysses left in his boat back to Troy, Ophiussa, enraged, snaked from up above trying to reach the river and stop him from abandoning her.

So come along. Let's follow the snake.







## Lisboa, Alfama

### Calçadinha de S.Miguel: Portuguese Calçada and The King's Rhinoceros

Look down to the ground you're stepping on.

This pavement... As it always been like this?

In the 16th century, Ganga, a beautiful white rhinoceros, arrived in Lisbon: a gift from Afonso de Albuquerque, Governor of Portuguese India to King Manuel the 1st.

Well, it was the King's birthday and a long royal procession was to be held.

Back in the day the floors of Alfama were made of sand and mud.

Great White Ganga couldn't possibly stain its great white paws with mud!

"The floors shall be covered with stone!"

And because a king's word is law, the work was done and there you have it ever since: the Portuguese Calçada.







## Lisboa, Alfama

### Pátio do Prior: a Jewish Folktale

Look down... Keep looking down.

How old are these grounds? Whose footsteps are those?

By the time of the Portuguese Discoveries, Alfama was populated by a number of Jewish families, with their markets, stores, synagogues.

Yet Biblical Archaeologists believe that Jewish presence dates back to King Solomon's time.

Well it is said that once the great King Solomon was flying high above the world in his great magic carpet:

"I am the greatest of all kings!"

"King Solomon is not that great"

What? He looked down and he saw that the words had been spoken by a little tiny ant.

King Solomon flew with his carpet down to the earth, found the little ant, bent down, he picked it up and looked at the creature eye to eye.

"Who is greater than I?"

"I am."

"How?"

"I am greater than you because the greatest king in the world stopped when he heard me speak, he lowered himself to the earth, and he bent down in front of me.

He raised me up so we were the same height, and he asked me a question I could answer and he could not."

And King Solomon... agreed.

\*Based on "Solomon and the Ant and Other Jewish Stories", retold by Sheldon Oberman.











Lisboa, Alfama

## Largo de S. Estevão: Ulysses leaving and the Seven Hills

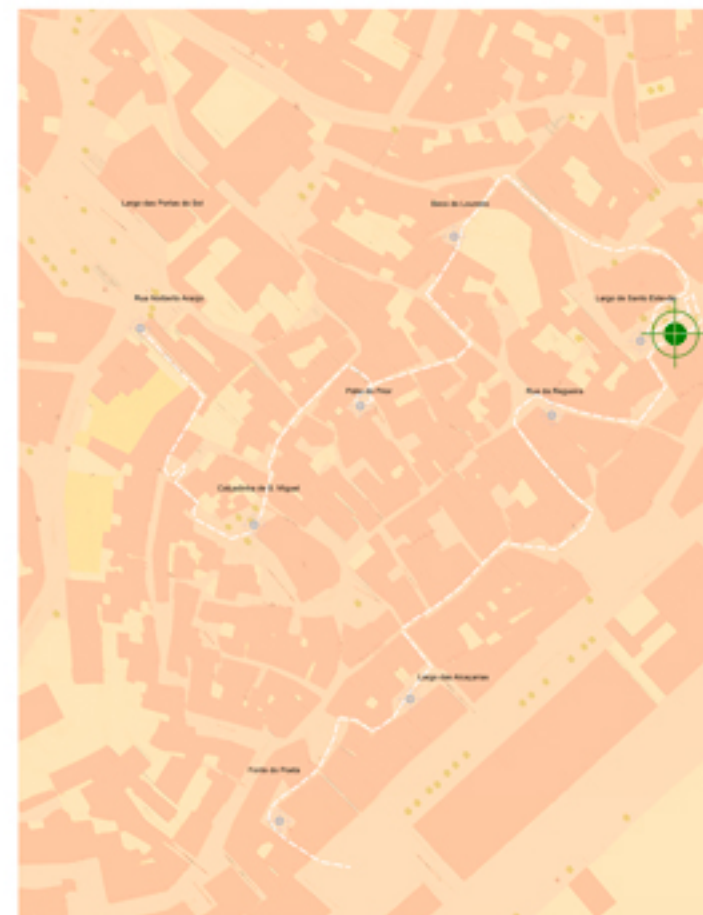
Remember when Ophiussa snaked from the top of the hill, where the Castle is, to reach Ulysses boat? Desperate, furious, insane, Ophiussa and her serpent maidens slid down the valley towards the river, bleeding all the way through.

But when they reached the waters, the boat... the boat was long gone.

From the snakes twists and turns, the seven hills were formed.

And from their heavy blood and tears, the rosy river Tagus flowed in.

Eventually, the snakes dispelled, becoming the enchanted watery genies of Lisbon, the city of longing.















## Lisboa, Alfama

### Fonte do Poeta: The Poet's Fountain: a poem for Alfama

Lisboa, my first love  
each time I leave you  
I leave myself  
and with the flocking of your doves  
your seagulls, your masts  
your breaking oars  
my life proceeds  
if ever I proceed with my life  
living far away from you





# The Alfama Storyguide

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Saint Anthony: Variações sobre Fado Corrido

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UNIVERSIDADE NOVA DE LISBOA



 **Seeing  
Stories**

Recovering Landscape Narrative in Urban and Rural Europe

 **Culture**

With the support of the Culture Programme of the European Union





## Seeing Stories

Recovering Landscape Narrative in Urban and Rural Europe

Landscape narrative is a vital and under-realised European asset that connects citizens to their local environments while also providing common resources, values and identities that transcend geographical and cultural borders. By seeing through the eyes of others we look anew at our own place; by looking again at our own place we learn to see other environments with fresh eyes.

'Seeing Stories' will enhance and creatively communicate a shared experience of place, by bringing together local and international dimensions, so increasing mutual understanding and promotion of European landscape narrative in contemporary cultural and economic contexts.

Project partners established in Scotland, Italy, Portugal and Germany will work on the achievement of several shared objectives, mainly focusing on the use of live storytelling for recovering and promoting landscape narratives and resulting in the delivery of storytelling festivals in Edinburgh (2013 and 2014), Lisbon (2014), Florence (2014) and Aachen (2014).

Another important aspect of the project is the development of creative Storyguides related to specific areas in partners' countries, exploring new ways of engaging with places and helping building up a vision that embraces both the local and the European dimension.

Project partners aim at a sustainable development of the project objectives and resources, both linking to local stakeholders and establishing an international network for sharing results, best practices and cooperation ideas.

Year of Application 2012

Dates: June 2013 – April 2015

[www.seeingstories.eu](http://www.seeingstories.eu)

### Seeing Stories partners:

Coordination  
The Scottish Storytelling Forum / Edinburgh

### Partners

Memoria Imaterial CRL / Alenquer  
IELT-FCSH / Lisboa  
Haus der Märchen und Geschichten e.V. / Aachen  
Chille de la Balanza / Firenze



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