THE LOCAL'S PERSPECTIVE

by Rúben Rosa



LISBON STREET PHOTO FEST

24-27th of September 2026
Faculdade de Belas-Artes, Lisboa

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WORDS OF INTRODUCTION

This guide, put together by the Lisbon Street Photo Fest team in partnership with MPB, invites Lisbon-based photographer Rúben Rosa to share a personal selection of places across Lisbon and its surroundings. Rather than following a single continuous route, the guide is divided into three parts: his favourite routes and locations for photographing Lisbon, the seaside settings at the heart of much of his work, and his personal recommendations for eating, drinking, culture and time outdoors.

Together, these choices form a personal map of Lisbon and its surroundings: places to photograph, spend time, take a break and experience the city away from its most familiar landmarks.

Rúben made the photographs in this guide using the **Fujifilm X100VI,** carrying one compact camera with him as he moved between locations. The resulting images offer a glimpse of Lisbon from his perspective—and a starting point for finding your own way of seeing it.

Turn the page to read an excerpt from MPB's review of the Fujifilm X100VI and learn more about the camera behind the guide.

This guide is created in partnership with MPB, the right way to buy and sell cameras. **Discover our other city guides,** Lisbon Photowalk and Lisbon Story here.

Photography and texts by **Rúben Rosa** Editorial Direction & Intro by **Teresa Freitas** Layout design by **Agata Winiarska**

FUJIFILM X100VI: THE ULTIMATE FIXED-LENS COMPACT CAMERA

"The X100VI is more than just an incremental upgrade to the X100V. It's a thoughtful evolution that maintains everything photographers loved about its predecessor while addressing key limitations and adding meaningful improvements.
Is it perfect? Not quite. The weather-sealing solution for the lens feels like a compromise, and the 40-megapixel sensor might be overkill for some users. The X100VI isn't just a street photography camera—it's a versatile tool for any photographer who values creative flexibility in a compact form factor. Whether you're capturing twilight cityscapes or snow-covered mountains, it's a camera that consistently delivers while being an absolute joy to use."

To find out more about this camera, click here to read MPB's full review of the Fujifilm X100VI.



FUJIFILM X100VI

Photographing Lisbon

FROM THE OLD TOWN TO MODERN LISBON

Walking through Lisbon's historic centre offers countless opportunities for street photography.

Begin at Feira da Ladra on a Tuesday or Saturday morning, when Lisbon's historic flea market fills with vendors, collectors, unusual objects and local characters. Mirrors, vintage finds, cafés and the nearby gardens create a lively, unpredictable setting full of visual surprises and everyday interactions.

From there, make your way downhill through Alfama's narrow, maze-like streets before continuing into the lively squares of Baixa and the vibrant streets of Chiado. Finish in Cais do Sodré, where the bright riverfront, colourful streets, transport hubs and steady flow of commuters, tourists and locals create a constant variety of dynamic scenes.

SHOOTING TIPS & WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Best light: Start with the softer morning light at Feira da Ladra, followed by stronger contrasts and shadows as you descend through Alfama towards the city centre.

Look for: Locals and everyday life in Alfama, quirky house decorations, and the rush of tourists as you get closer to the city centre.

Bonus: Keep an eye out for vintage film and digital cameras, lenses and other photography treasures among the many stalls.



CLICK TO SAVE THE MAP ON GOOGLE MAPS





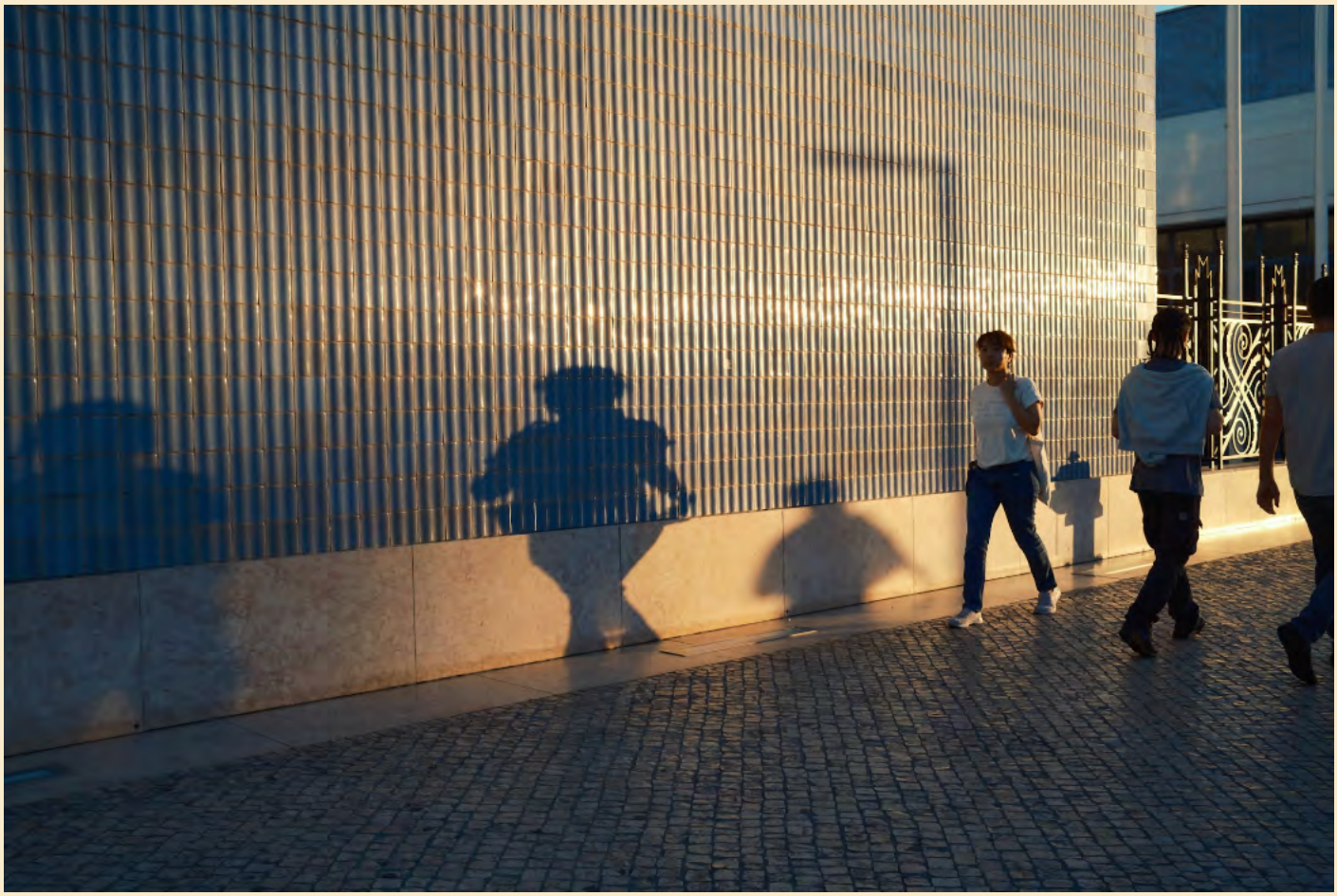









MANGO



Photographing Lisbon

FROM ARROIOS DOWN VIA ALMIRANTE REIS

Begin in Arroios and follow Avenida Almirante Reis towards Intendente, moving through one of Lisbon's most multicultural and active areas. Locals, immigrant communities, commuters and visitors share the same streets, creating a constant mix of quiet everyday moments and busy intersections filled with movement. Independent shops, cafés, markets, colourful façades and changing architectural styles give the route a character distinct from the historic centre, with plenty to observe both along the main avenue and in the surrounding side streets.

SHOOTING TIPS & WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Best light: Late morning to early afternoon, when more direct sunlight reaches the avenue and creates strong contrasts between illuminated façades and shaded side streets.

Look for: Dynamic interactions crossings and bus stops, layered reflections in windows, colourful details.



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Japão
PADARIA


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ERICEIRA
CASCAIS
CARCAVELOS
SESIMBRA

Photographing the Coast

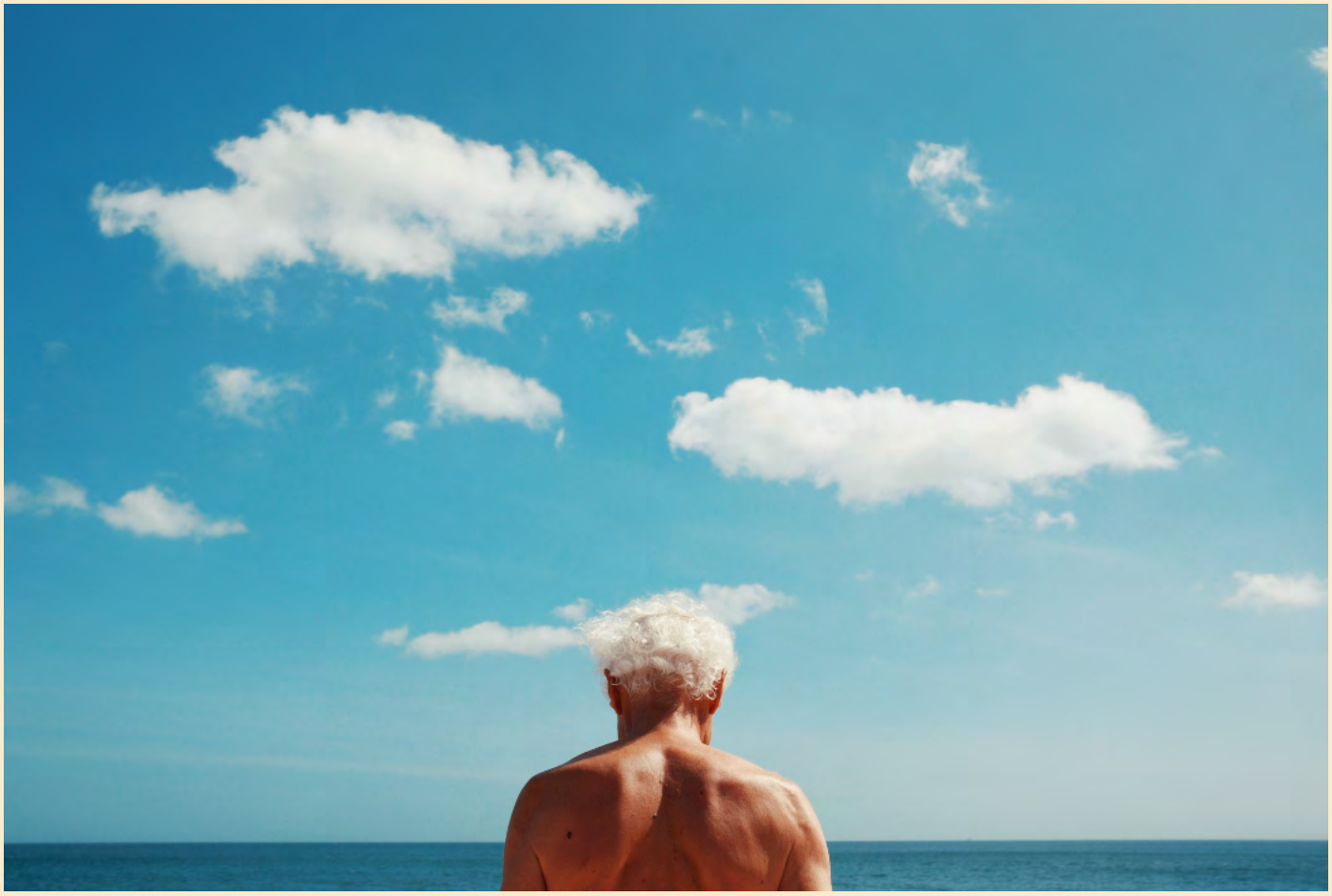
CARCAVELOS

Carcavelos is one of the easiest beaches to reach from Lisbon by train and one of the largest along the Cascais coastline. Its wide stretch of sand attracts surfers, swimmers, students, families and groups of friends, creating a constantly changing picture of life by the sea. From sports and activity near the water to restaurant terraces and quieter moments along the promenade, the beach offers a wide range of scenes throughout the day.

SHOOTING TIPS & WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Best light: Carcavelos can be photographed throughout the day. Bright midday light creates strong colours and defined shadows, while late afternoon and sunset bring warmer tones, reflections and silhouettes.

Look for: Surfers entering and leaving the water, groups gathering on the sand, swimmers, beach sports, colourful towels and umbrellas, and the movement between the beach and promenade.





Photographing the Coast

CASCAIS AND ESTORIL

Begin in the centre of Cascais before following the seaside promenade towards Estoril. The route moves between busy streets, beaches and open views of the Atlantic, offering a mix of coastal photography and everyday street moments. In Cascais, tourists, locals, restaurant terraces and activity around the town centre create a lively atmosphere, while the promenade brings swimmers, sunbathers, walkers and quieter scenes by the water.

SHOOTING TIPS & WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Best light: Morning offers quieter streets and clear light around Cascais, while late afternoon brings warmer tones and longer shadows to the beaches and promenade.

Look for: Beachgoers, swimmers, people walking and cycling along the promenade, reflections on the water, coastal architecture and the contrast between the busy town centre and more relaxed seafront.





Photographing the Coast

ERICEIRA

Ericeira brings together a long-established fishing culture, dramatic Atlantic coastline and contemporary surf life. Explore the narrow streets of the old town, where whitewashed houses, colourful façades and traditional tiles frame glimpses of the ocean. Around the harbour, cliffs and seafront, fishermen, surfers, residents and visitors create opportunities to combine street photography with wider coastal scenes. The local saying, “Onde o mar é mais azul”—“Where the sea is bluer”—feels particularly fitting here.

SHOOTING TIPS & WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Best light: Late afternoon and sunset, when the light becomes warmer and the sun drops towards the Atlantic, creating long shadows and silhouettes.

Look for: Fishermen and surfers, colourful boats, whitewashed architecture, blue and white façades, activity around the harbour and unexpected glimpses of the sea between the old town’s streets.





Photographing the Seaside

SESIMBRA

Sesimbra is a fishing town set around a sheltered bay, overlooked by its hilltop castle. Its working harbour and fishing traditions sit alongside a busy beach, small shops and restaurants known for fresh fish and seafood. Move between the waterfront and the town's narrow streets to photograph colourful boats, local routines, beach life and the changing relationship between the town and the sea.

SHOOTING TIPS & WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Best light: Early morning around the harbour, when fishing activity is beginning, or late afternoon, when warmer light falls across the beach and bay.

Look for: Fishing boats and nets, activity around the harbour, residents and visitors in the streets, beach life and layered views towards the castle.



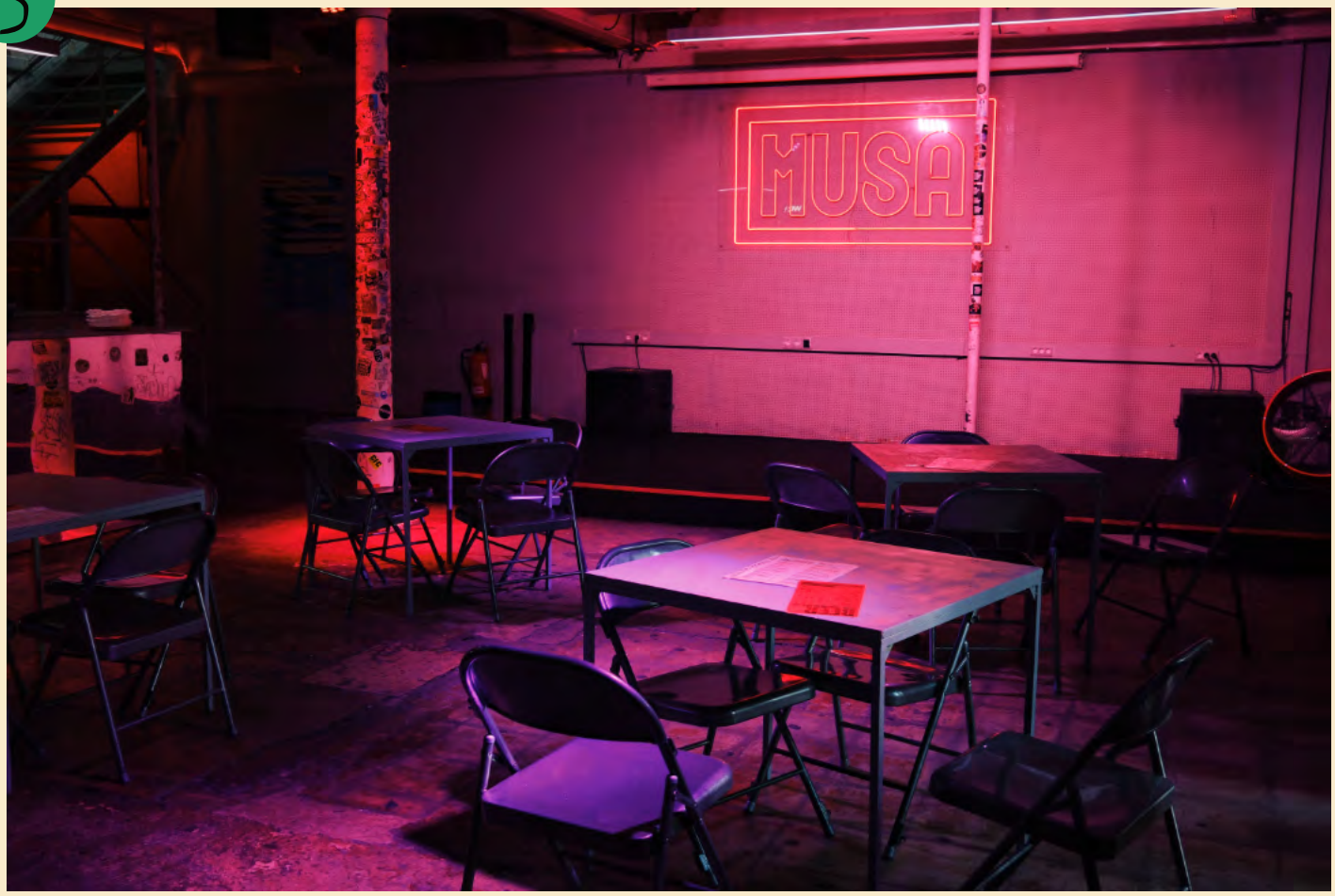



Art & Culture
Parks & Neighbourhoods
Food & Drink
CAM/Gulbenkian (Modern Art Museum & garden) 4
EAT, DRINK & EXPLORE
Curva (brunch and coffee) 2
Jardim da Estrela (city park) 4
Praça das Flores (city park with bars and nighttime activity) 5
Fábrica Braço de Prata (café & events centre) 1
6 Rua Amarelas, Cascais (restaurant district)
3 Musa da Bica (craft beer)
7 La Plage, Carcavelos (restaurant)

1 Fábrica Braço de Prata



3 Musa, Bica



4 Jardim da Estrela





6 Rua Amarelas, Cascais



7 La Plage, Carcavelos



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