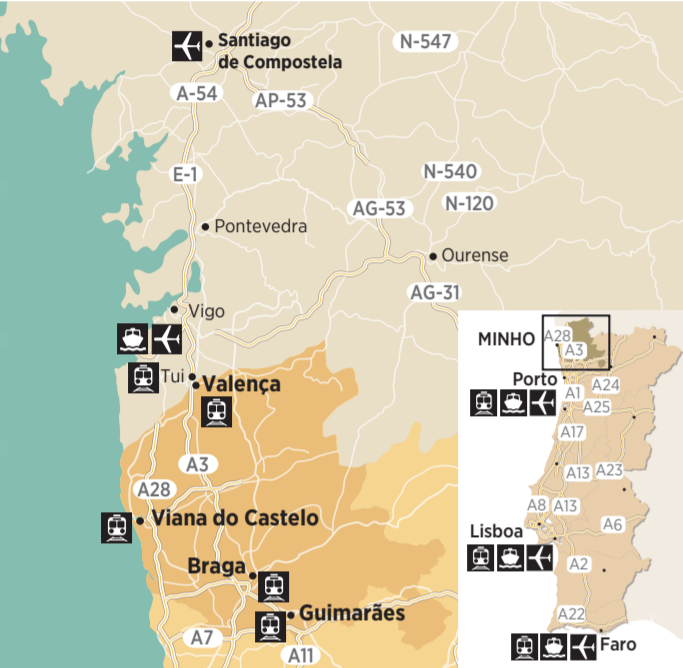




CULTURE AND CRAFTS



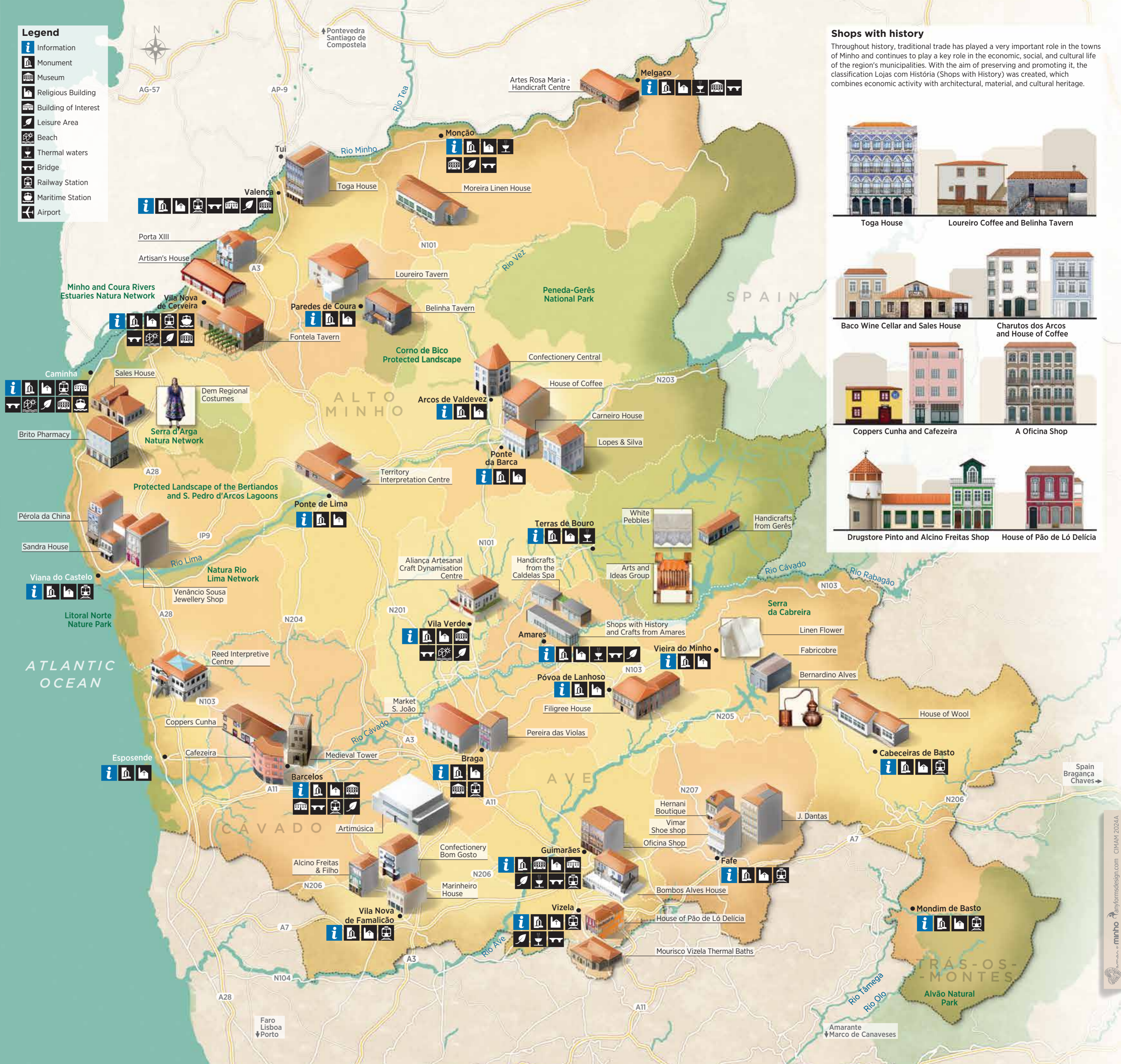
CIM Alto Minho
 Rua Bernardo Abrunhosa, 105
 4900-309 Viana do Castelo
 + 351 258 800 200
 www.cim-altominho.pt
 geral@cim-altominho.pt

CIM Cávado
 Rua do Carmo, 29
 4700-309 Braga
 + 351 253 201 360
 www.cimcavado.pt
 geral@cimcavado.pt

CIM Ave
 Rua Capitão Alfredo Guimarães, 1
 4800-019 Guimarães
 + 351 253 422 400
 www.cim-ave.pt
 geral@cim-ave.pt



- Legend**
- Information
 - Monument
 - Museum
 - Religious Building
 - Building of Interest
 - Leisure Area
 - Beach
 - Thermal waters
 - Bridge
 - Railway Station
 - Maritime Station
 - Airport



Shops with history
 Throughout history, traditional trade has played a very important role in the towns of Minho and continues to play a key role in the economic, social, and cultural life of the region's municipalities. With the aim of preserving and promoting it, the classification Lojas com História (Shops with History) was created, which combines economic activity with architectural, material, and cultural heritage.



CULTURE AND CRAFTS

Traditional trade, authentic craftsmanship

Of historical, cultural, and social interest, traditional commerce is part of the identity of the cities of Minho. "Shops with history" (Lojas com História) are centres of attraction and proximity and contribute to the local identity and economy. Many have a long history that can be identified in their architecture, furniture, decoration, and traditional products. Minho's artisanal products, both food and non-food, are a guarantee of quality and authenticity and a contribution to the dissemination and dignification of traditions. Shopkeepers and artisans, creators, and producers, are symbols of the region's identity and culture.

- Code of conduct**
- It is forbidden to set fires and throw butts
 - Walk along the signposted paths
 - Take care of the fauna and flora
 - Respect private property
 - Put rubbish in the bins
 - Respect the silence of the place
 - Respect other users
 - Respects traditional ways of life and local inhabitants

POTTERY AND CERAMICS

Minho pottery and ceramics are vibrant expressions of the rich craft tradition of this region of Portugal. The pieces, marked by manual skill and connection to the land, reflect the history and cultural identity of the people of Minho.



Galo de Barcelos
The colourful rooster of Barcelos, an icon of Portuguese culture known throughout the world and guardian of a legend of justice and luck, conveys the soul and tradition of the Figurado de Barcelos.



Cantarinha dos Namorados [Valentine's Jar]

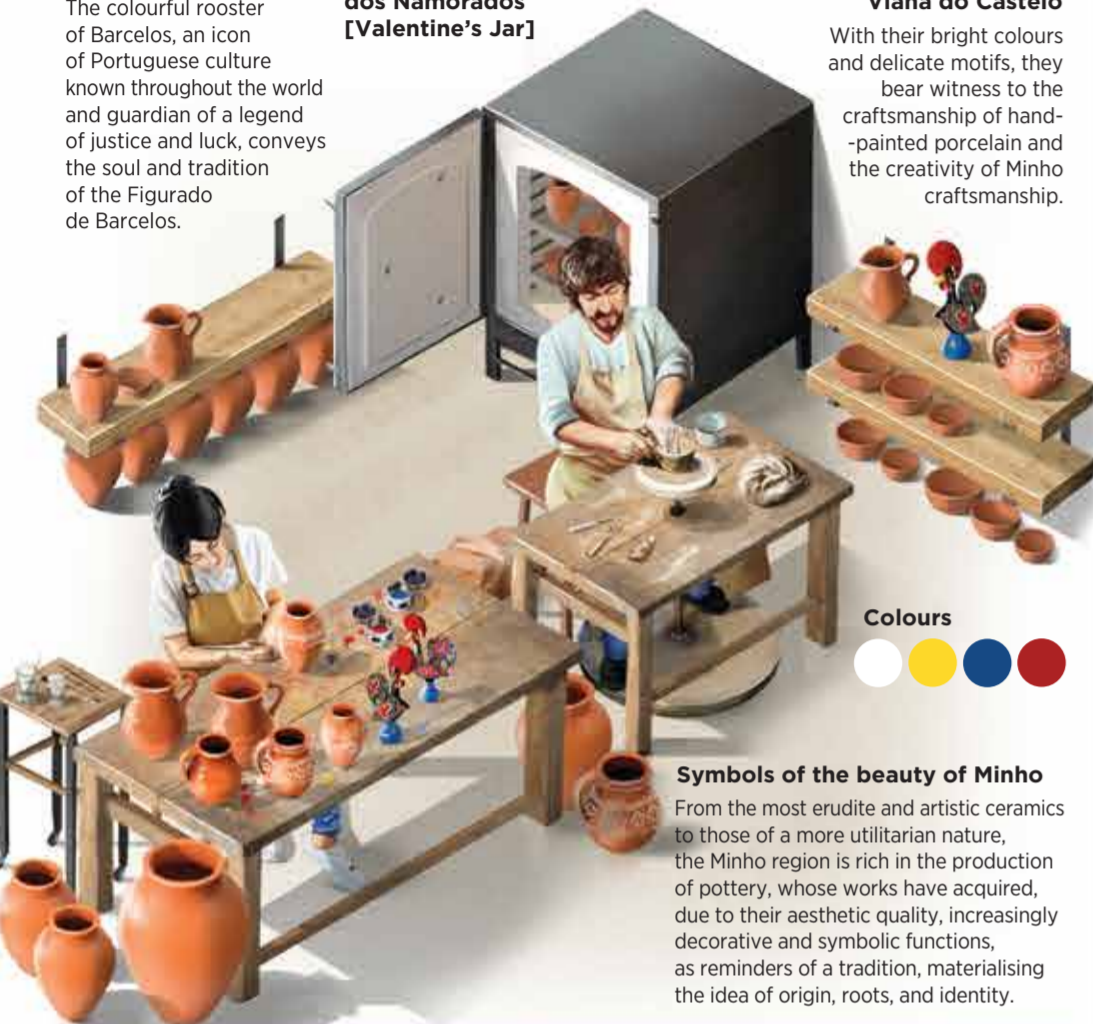


Figurado of Barcelos



Faience from Viana do Castelo

With their bright colours and delicate motifs, they bear witness to the craftsmanship of hand-painted porcelain and the creativity of Minho craftsmanship.



Symbols of the beauty of Minho

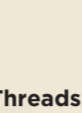
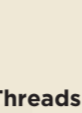
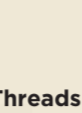
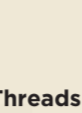
From the most erudite and artistic ceramics to those of a more utilitarian nature, the Minho region is rich in the production of pottery, whose works have acquired, due to their aesthetic quality, increasingly decorative and symbolic functions, as reminders of a tradition, materialising the idea of origin, roots, and identity.

SEWING AND EMBROIDERY

Minho textiles and embroidery are authentic works of art. From the typical Valentine's handkerchiefs to tablecloths, kitchen towels, traditional costumes, sheets, bedspreads and towels, Minho textiles are an expression of the region's culture and heritage.



Threads



The art of embroidery is mainly practised by women, known as embroiderers, often collectively. It is painstaking and creative work, often done at home or in small workshops.

In Minho, the preservation of know-how and the renewal of craft production are combined with innovation and modernity.



Viana Embroidery

Viana do Castelo embroidery emerged in the 19th century and is mainly used to decorate tablecloths and table runners. Japanese trees, clovers, flowers, and hearts are the main motifs.

Valentine's Day scarves

Valentine's handkerchiefs or engagement handkerchiefs, a 19th century Minho tradition originating in Vila Verde, were handkerchiefs embroidered in cross-stitch by girls of dating age. The girl embroidered a linen handkerchief with motifs and love phrases, predominantly hearts, flowers, and birds, and gave it to her lover. If he wore it in public, it was a sign of requited love and a likely happy ending. The success was such that today they inspire a variety of products, textile and otherwise.

Embroidery on sieve

São Miguel da Carreira sieve embroidery is a white embroidery in which a large part of the linen base is unravelled, forming an open net on which the motifs are embroidered.

Guimarães embroidery

Its six colours, the reproduction of stylised motifs and the use of twenty-one stitches are what make it unique.

Minho Blanket

The Minho blanket, usually handmade, reflects the rich textile tradition of the Minho region. It has colourful and intricate motifs and is woven on handlooms.

Linen

"Only in linen can we find the soul of the Minho". Since time immemorial, linen has been worked in all the municipalities of the Minho, from Valença to Terras de Bouro.

Wool socks

In Casa da Lã (House of Wool), in Bucos, Cabeceiras de Basto, wool is handcrafted. Some of the typical products are woolen socks, Barroso blankets and quilts.

JEWELLERY

Filigree is an ancient jewellery technique based on handcrafted work using very fine gold or silver threads, twisted, and then applied to a frame designed and conceived by the same master filigree maker.



The art of filigree in the municipality of Póvoa de Lanhoso, one of the last remaining national strongholds in the preservation of this ancient art form, was recognised with the Filigrana Certification.



Heart of Viana

It was created in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is said that queen Mary I, grateful for the "blessing" of having received a son, had a heart of gold.

Maltese Cross

One of the religious pendants of the gold cords of Minho are the Maltese Crosses, which have the lines of the Maltese Cross, filigree and decorated with coloured enamels.

Arrecadas

Its origins lie in ancient earrings in the shape of the crescent of the moon, with bells, in odd numbers, to ward off evil spirits.

Viana beads

Viana beads are descended from Greek beads: spherical and hollow inside, which makes them light. They are distinguished by the filigree thread and a small dot in the centre.

WOOD AND CORK

Wood and cork are raw materials that also inspire the creativity of Minho artisans, both in the production of various utensils, including the typical split wood baskets, and decorative objects, sculptures, toys and games or miniatures that reflect the history and ancestral life of the region.



Wood

Fine woods such as chestnut, olive, oak, mahogany, and walnut are the preferred woods of the craftsmen of Minho.



Cork

Its characteristics (elasticity and low permeability) make cork an excellent raw material for craftsmanship.



Miniatures

There are not many wood craftsmen left in Minho, but almost all of them make miniatures.



COPPER AND TIN

Increasingly rare, the art of working copper to create utensils or decorative pieces is one of the most eloquent expressions of traditional craftsmanship in Minho, with a special focus on the municipality of Vieira do Minho.



Copper cataplana

Mainly used for cooking fish and seafood, the copper cataplana distributes heat more efficiently and evenly and preserves the aroma and flavour of the food.



Kettle

The same can be said of copper kettles, which are not only fantastic pieces of design, but also last a lifetime and heat water instantly and evenly.



It is a dying art, as not many young people want to learn how to work copper. But in Minho the tradition has been preserved.



Alembic

Used for distilling brandy and other spirits, as well as essential oils, the copper alembic still ensures greater efficiency and quality in the final product. Being handmade, it is also a unique piece.

Copper is a malleable metal that the craftsman moulds by hand and with his tools to create pieces, each one unique.

BASKETRY

Handmade basketry made from straw, reed, or wicker, which gives rise to various artefacts of different shapes, using different techniques and intended for different uses, endures in Minho, which has maintained the legacy of this ancient art. Baskets, hats, shakers, shopping baskets and other utensils or even decorative objects come from the hands of talented and increasingly scarce craftsmen.



Reed



Reed Basket

Traditional, colourful, reusable, and biodegradable, Forjães reed baskets have become a coveted fashion accessory.



Straw braid

In Fafe, the straw and rye plaits are a highlight of the work of the straw craftsmen.



A century-old loom and objects related to the ecological and sustainable art of reed basketry are on display at the Centro de Interpretação do Junco (Reed Interpretive Centre), in Forjães, Esposende.



The Fafe Ethnotechnology and Design Centre is a space that highlights the work of straw in the municipality.

The Rota do Vime e da Cestaria (Wicker and Basketwork Route) in Barcelos showcases the region's artisans who still make traditional baskets.

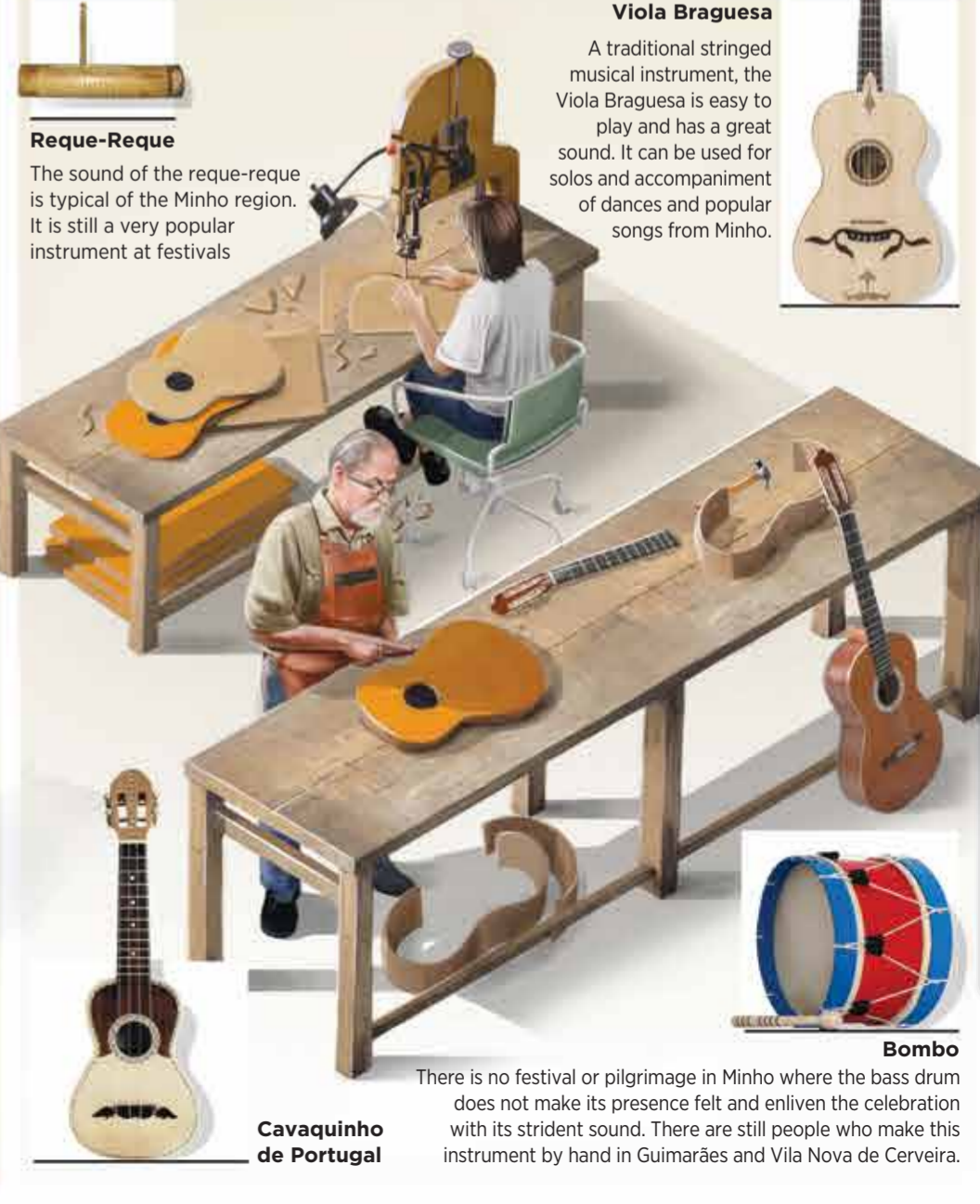
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

There's no shortage of festivals and pilgrimages in the towns and villages of Minho, especially in summer. The typical dances and songs, of which the Vira do Minho and the Chula stand out, are enlivened by a wide variety of musical instruments, some of which are also traditional to the region and are still handcrafted by local artisans.



Reque-Reque

The sound of the reque-reque is typical of the Minho region. It is still a very popular instrument at festivals.



Viola Braguesa

A traditional stringed musical instrument, the Viola Braguesa is easy to play and has a great sound. It can be used for solos and accompaniment of dances and popular songs from Minho.



There is no festival or pilgrimage in Minho where the bass drum does not make its presence felt and enliven the celebration with its strident sound. There are still people who make this instrument by hand in Guimarães and Vila Nova de Cerveira.

Bombo

There is no festival or pilgrimage in Minho where the bass drum does not make its presence felt and enliven the celebration with its strident sound. There are still people who make this instrument by hand in Guimarães and Vila Nova de Cerveira.

Cavaquinho de Portugal

There is no festival or pilgrimage in Minho where the bass drum does not make its presence felt and enliven the celebration with its strident sound. There are still people who make this instrument by hand in Guimarães and Vila Nova de Cerveira.