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Escola Cidade de Castelo Branco

Serra da Estrela



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Characteristics

- The Serra da Estrela is a great Portuguese icon.
- It is 1993 meters high.
- Constituted in 1976 as the largest protected area in Portugal.
- Besides the snow, extraordinary fauna and flora, the traveller is also attracted by human, cultural, historic and gastronomic wealth of the region.



Nossa Senhora da Boa Estrela

- Located in the Covão do Boi, carved in bas-relief, the Lady of Good Fortune, the patron saint of shepherds, was inaugurated in 1946.
- The sculpture is more than 7 meters high.



Pousada da Serra – a place to stay

The *Pousada da Serra*, has a 5 star rating, with spa and outdoor pool. It has 92 rooms, with breakfast included. It is in the national park of *Serra da Estrela*.



Ski Resort

- This ski resort has 9 tracks, with a total of 7.7 km. It is considered good for beginners, but there are also slopes for more advanced skiers.
- It is covered with snow from December to April and there are also cannons that produce artificial snow when needed. The ski resort has facilities to practice winter sports.



Natural Park

The Natural Park of *Serra da Estrela* stretches from the district of Guarda to the district of Castelo Branco. It is characterized by masses of rock granite, shale and traces of ancient glaciers.



Tuberculosis Sanatorium (1928-1969)

- The building received for over 40 years, many thousands of tuberculosis patients from all over the country, seeking to recover from tuberculosis in the good air of the Serra da Estrela.
- Although it welcomed patients from all social classes, the poor patients did not have access to all wards, some were intended only for the upper classes, who found there all the comfort that money could buy.



Serra da Estrela dog

As the *Serra da Estrela* dog spends such long periods of time alone taking care of the flocks and herds for long hours, it can hold up very well to the loneliness of big cities, when their owner leaves for work. If it realizes that there is a sick sheep in the flock, the dog will always stay with it to protect it from possible attacks. Furthermore, the *Serra da Estrela* dog does not only protect flocks and herds, family and property, but it is also used to pull small carts.



The End

We hope you enjoyed it, because we did.



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