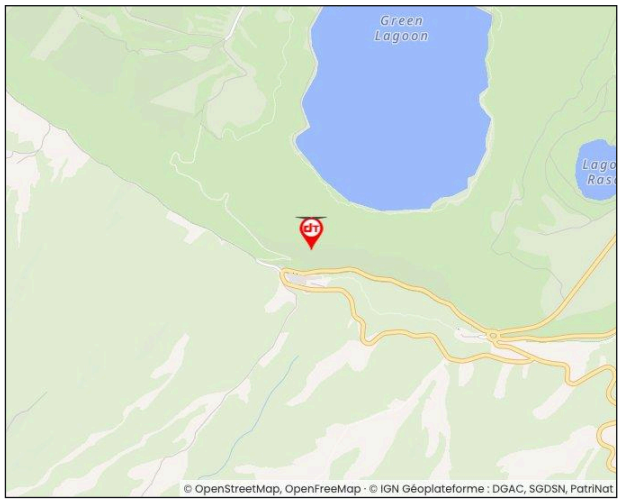
The ruins of the Monte Palace hotel overlooking the lakes of SETE CITADES

Water · Portugal

GPS coordinates	37.83995, -25.79350
Elevation	513 m
Maximum height	120 m max
Access	On foot < 1,000 m
Nearest aerodrome	João Paulo II Airport (LPPD) 14 km SE · spot 434 m higher
Spot reference	307455



Spot location and restrictions (Drone-Spot map image)

Sun (local times, UTC−01:00)

Day	Dawn	Sunrise	Sunset	Dusk	Day length	Golden hour
Sat 21 Nov	07:02	07:30	17:28	17:56	9 h 58	07:30–08:09 · 16:49–17:28
Sun 22 Nov	07:03	07:31	17:28	17:56	9 h 56	07:31–08:10 · 16:48–17:28
Mon 23 Nov	07:04	07:32	17:27	17:56	9 h 55	07:32–08:12 · 16:48–17:27

Nearby aerodromes

Aerodrome	Type	Distance	Elevation
João Paulo II Airport	Major airport	14 km SE	79 m
Hospital do Divino Espirito Santo Heliport	Heliport	14 km SE	93 m

Description

The Hotel Monte Palace was named the most beautiful hotel in Portugal in 1989, but it went bankrupt soon after and was left abandoned. It must be said that the weather is very cloudy here, and the spectacular view it offers is actually quite rare. It is now an URBEX site... very popular. Its dark color, distinctive architecture and the surrounding vegetation still let it blend into the landscape quite well. An Asian businessman reportedly bought the building and it was supposed to reopen in 2021... apparently not!

Scan to open the up-to-date spot page: weather, map and restrictions.

https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/fiche-spot.aspx?id=307455

Before every flight: check the UAS zones map, NOTAMs and temporary areas, the weather and the Kp index.

Preparing the flight

Pre-flight Check-List

- ☐ Area checked: UAS zones, restrictions, protected areas
- ☐ NOTAMs and temporary areas checked
- ☐ Weather: wind, gusts, rain, visibility; Kp index
- ☐ Operator number displayed on the drone
- ☐ Training certificate or licence with me
- ☐ Third-party liability insurance checked
- ☐ Batteries charged: drone, controller, phone
- ☐ Propellers, motors and frame in good condition
- ☐ Memory card inserted and empty
- ☐ Software up to date, compass and IMU calibrated
- ☐ Return to home: home point and return height set
- ☐ Electronic signalling or remote ID active
- ☐ Take-off area clear, people informed and at a distance
- ☐ Observer present for FPV flights

Key rules of the open category

This country applies the European drone rules (open category); it may add its own zones and conditions.

- Maximum height: 120 m above the ground, lower where a restriction requires it.
- Always keep the drone in sight; when flying FPV, an observer keeps it in sight next to you.
- Never fly over crowds and keep the distances of your subcategory (A1, A2 or A3).
- Respect UAS geographical zones: around aerodromes, prohibited or restricted areas, protected areas, sensitive sites.
- Register as an operator if the drone weighs 250 g or more or carries a camera (toys excepted), and display the number on the drone.
- Training: online A1/A3 certificate from 250 g or for a class C1 drone; A2 certificate to fly closer to people with a class C2 drone.
- Always give way to manned aircraft and land if one approaches.
- Respect privacy: no images that identify people without their consent; aerial photography is prohibited in some areas.
- Check your third-party liability insurance.

Non-exhaustive summary: rules change. Reference: the DGAC open-category guide and the country's regulations.

Useful links

UAS zones map around the spot : https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/carte-uas.aspx?lat=37.83995&lon=-25.7935
Drone pilot library : https://www.drone-spot.tech/en/bibliotheque

My flight notes

Information sheet generated by Drone-Spot from community data: it replaces neither official aeronautical information nor the regulations. The remote pilot remains responsible for the flight.