

REHABILITATION OF THE CASTLE AND PALACE OF THE COUNTS OF OURÉM

2016

Location

Ourém, Portugal

Client

Municipality of Ourém

Estimated Cost

N/A

Stage

Detailed design

Area

4500 m²

The project for the rehabilitation of the Castle and Palace of the Counts of Ourém included the conservation, maintenance and improvement of this important historical complex classified as a Portuguese National Monument.

The proposed interventions to consolidate and rehabilitate the castle aim to improve the monument, in terms of built structures and outdoor spaces, promoting its conservation and safety and improving conditions for its enjoyment by the public.

Among the proposed interventions, the most important were the consolidation and rehabilitation of the three existing towers, the construction of bridges between these towers and the east tower and the Palace of the Counts, as well as the improvement of exterior spaces and the definition of visitation circuits.

Considering the sensitivity of the historical complex under study, all interventions were carefully established in strict compliance with the principles of the Charter of Krakow of 2000 – which Portugal subscribes – namely the principles of integrity, authenticity, compatibility and reversibility.

The project includes a strong landscaping component, which focuses on the redefinition of the uses of some currently underutilised spaces, such as the natural amphitheatre located between the bulwark towers, the area north of the tunnel crossing the Palace of the Counts and the landing north of the key/labyrinth structure that offers a wide panoramic view.

WALKWAY CONNECTION BETWEEN TOWERS





VERTICAL ACCESSES



VIEW ON INTERVENTIONED PASSAGE

In addition, the intervention aims to improve accessibility, particularly in relation to the type of pavements used, refurbishing and complementing the existing degraded accesses that do not meet visitors' needs.

The overall goal of the project was to implement intuitive circulation paths, that promote the proper enjoyment of the monument by the public, dignify exterior spaces and reinforce safety and comfort.

WALKWAY CONNECTION AND STAIRS



AMPHITHEATER

