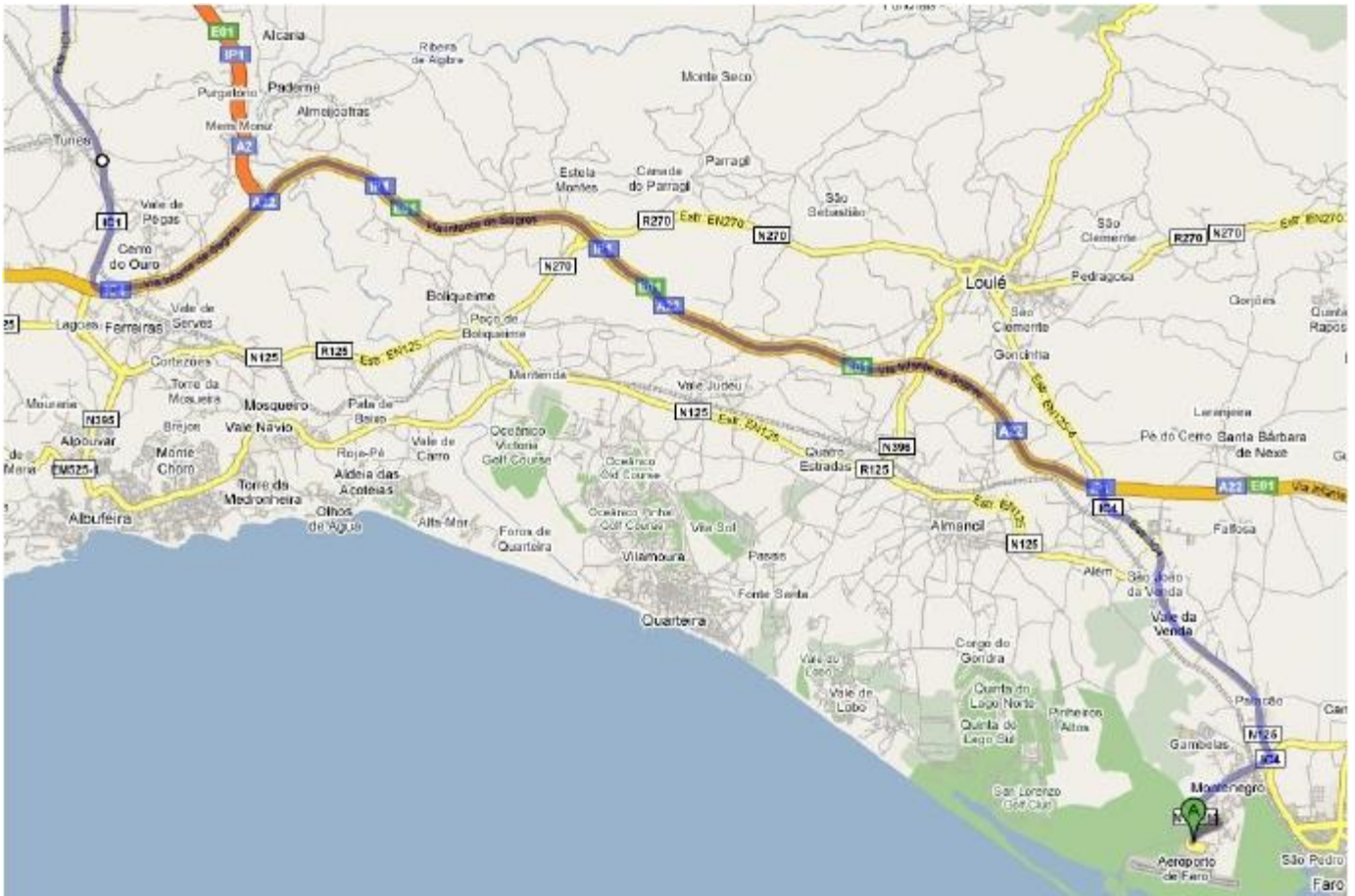


Directions from Faro Airport

PICK UP HIRE CAR.....



After leaving the airport; go straight on at the roundabout with the „sky watcher“ statues N125 [IC4] towards Faro. Follow signs for LISBOA and PORTIMAO A22. After about 3 km take the exit north towards Lisboa A22.

Join the A22 towards LISBOA. Stay on the A22 [E01] for approx 30km. (As you drive on the A22 you'll pass a large quarry on the right of the road (after Junction 12 to Loulé) Just past the quarry there is a motorway services. We find that this is the best place to fill up your hire car when heading back to the airport. You should make it back without the gauge coming off full if you drive sensibly. But it is worthwhile checking to see if your gauge is still at full when you pass the services on your journey to the mill. We've tested it with a Corsa, 107, Fiesta, Punto and Espace.)

Pass the A2 [IP1] turning towards LISBOA and take the next turning IC1 towards OURIQUE. Stay on this road for about 68km.

At OURIQUE come off the IC1 and take the N123 towards ODEMIRA and CERCAL. (Left off the slip road).



After a few 100 meters you'll pass a roundabout with a petrol station and the Pingo Doce supermarket on your left (the supermarket is the closest main shop to the mill so a good stop to stock up at).

Keep on the N123 for approx 20km. Our kids call this road the "Stork Road" or the "Road of a hundred Storks". You'll understand after a couple of km.



The road takes you past the bull ring at Garvão and down hill past the village. (Here the road actually turns into the N389 but you just keep going straight on) The next village you will see is Santa Luzia ahead on your right and you'll also see the mill clearly on the hilltop ahead of you to the right. You'll come to a big new roundabout with CERCAL signposted ahead, ODEMIRA to left and BEJA right.

Go straight across the roundabout towards CERCAL. The turning to the mill is after approx 150 meters on the right (just after a cow sign and opposite a black and yellow chevron post on the left), There's a Green Bin at the turning (the bin is where you dump your rubbish – see photo) Drive carefully as there's a ditch either side of the „entrance“.



Turn immediately left between two houses and pass a house with a big satellite dish on your left. Follow the track straight ahead past the satellite house but be careful there's sometimes a makeshift „gate“ across the track. You'll need to open this. You can leave it open. The farmer will shut it occasionally but it doesn't control livestock or anything. This is „the drive“ to the mill.



Go straight ahead up the valley (you'll see the mill up to the right). The track is somewhat rutted thanks to a very wet spring so drive with caution and avoid the deep ruts. The track swings up and to the right and past a ruin.



Follow the dirt track around the ruin to the right and under „the big tree“, carry on up the steep hill. It's best doing the hill in 1st gear. Be careful, there's a 90 degree right turn at the crest of the hill. There's a further short steeper climb and then you'll see the mill. You can either park under the tree outside the wall or inside the wall by the small gate. You don't need to keep the gates to the mill closed during your visit. Just make sure you close them when you depart.

The mill can be seen on Google Maps if you search for "37.73221,-8.413736"

We hope you find it with ease and have a wonderful stay. We call the place „a little slice of heaven“.

There is an alternative and slightly quicker route to Ourique using the A2 toll road (€ 5.15) from the A22. Just follow signs for Lisbon A2 and after approx. 62km take the Ourique exit. See maps below.



Travel left towards OURIQUE for about 10km

Turn left onto the IC1 (Ourique) also signposted Faro, Portimao, Algarve (south)

After less than 1km take the first exit N123 right on to the N123 and follow signs for COLOS ODEMIRA (see photo) – You are now back at page 2...

