Some portuguese traditions

CARETO



The **Careto** tradition is a pre-historical [Celtic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Celts) religious ritual still practised in some regions of [Portugal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portugal), namely in the villages of [Podence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Podence_(Macedo_de_Cavaleiros)) ([Macedo de Cavaleiros](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macedo_de_Cavaleiros" \o "Macedo de Cavaleiros), [Bragança District](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bragan%C3%A7a_District" \o "Bragança District)) and [Lazarim](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lazarim" \o "Lazarim) ([Lamego](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lamego" \o "Lamego), [Viseu District](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viseu_District" \o "Viseu District)). It currently takes place during [Carnival](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carnival" \o "Carnival)and is one of the oldest [traditions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tradition) being practiced in Portugal today.

*Caretos* are masked young men dressed in suits made of yellow, red, black, blue and green fringe wool quilts, wearing brass, leather or wooden masks and rattles in their belts.

*Cartetos* in the Carnival at [Lazarim](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lazarim" \o "Lazarim)

[Shrove Tuesday](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shrove_Tuesday) and the prior Sunday are the days when the *Caretos* are most active. They appear in groups from every corner of the village running and shouting excitedly, frightening the people and “robbing” all the wineries.

The main target of these masquerade groups are single young girls, who make them climb to the top of walls and verandas.

Scholars associate the *Careto* tradition with memories of magical practices related to agrarian fertility cults.

Coimbra’s students big serenade

In May, during the university festivities for the ones who complete their degrees, on the stair of Old Coimbra Cathedral, studens sing the “fado” of Coimbra.



Popular saints in June

Mainly St Anthony in Lisbon, on the 13th.

Big neighbourhods festivities all over the city with food and music. On the nigh of the 12th, on the main avenue in Lisbon, there is a big parade of popular marches. Each neighbourhood chooses a theme and a song and they compete among themselves.



Trays Festival in Tomar

Every four years, hundreds of people parse 5 km in the city. The girls carry their trays on their heads. It is a festivity in honour of the Holy Spirit and dates back from the 13th century.

Popular streets in the city centre are decorated with millions of paper flowers.







The ” Maios “

In the Algarve region, in May, straw male and female puppets representing adult people are placed on the streets in facing the houses as social criticism or representing everyday life scenes.





