



# THE 7 TREASURES OF THE MATERIAL CULTURAL HERITAGE OF SÃO LUÍS (BRAZIL)



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The International Bureau of Cultural Capitals

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## THE 7 TREASURES OF SÃO LUÍS

The tiling, the Convent of the Mercy, the Cathedral, the Palace or the Lions, the Gonçalves Dias Square, the Portugal Street and the Arthur Azevedo Theatre have been elected by popular vote as the "7 treasures of São Luís".

The International Bureau of Cultural Capitals and the Municipality of São Luís have organized the campaign of the seven treasures of the Material Cultural Heritage of São Luís. The monuments were chosen by citizens' vote of nearly six thousand people from all over Brazil. A total of 32 elements were applying to become a Treasure of São Luís.

The campaign of the "7 Treasures of São Luís" took place in the framework of the American Capital of Culture São Luís 2012, which is taking place throughout all this year, coinciding with the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of this city, capital of the Brazilian State of Maranhão, declared World Heritage by Unesco in 1997.

"We were the Brazilian Capital of Culture in 2009. We also received the distinction of American Capital of Culture 2012 and now, we have been conferred the List of the seven treasures of São Luís. It is important to emphasize that all 32 candidates are important and any of them could be on the list", stressed the Municipal Secretary of Tourism of São Luís, Liviomar Macatrão.

From now, the International Bureau of Cultural Capitals and the Municipality of São Luís, through the Municipal Secretariat of Tourism (Setur) will be promoting the seven treasures of São Luís and abroad with the aim that these elements can evolve into a new tourist attraction, with the willingness to increase international cultural towards the American Capital of Culture 2012 in this way.

The "7 Treasures of São Luís" will be included into the Representative List of the Material Cultural Heritage of the World of the International Bureau of Cultural Capitals. To date, a total of 11 cities or territories are on this List, including Brasilia.

**Tiling  
Convent of the Mercy  
Cathedral  
Palace of the Lions  
Gonçalves Dias Square  
Portugal Street  
Arthur Azevedo Theatre**



**Capital Americana da Cultura  
2012**

## **THE TILING**



There are about 3.550 considered historical houses in the historic centre of São Luís. They are buildings with tiling on their facade proceeding from several countries in Europe, especially from Portugal. The largest group of facades with this tiling is the Portugal Street, where the Secretary of Culture of the State of Maranhão and the Museum of Visual Arts are located.

## **THE CONVENT OF THE MERCY**

Built in 1654 and elected as National Historic Heritage of Brazil, the convent was opened by Padre Antonio Vieira. Seat of the Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mercy.





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## THE CATHEDRAL



It has the original name of Our Lady of the Victory. Built by the Jesuits in 1762 in honor of the Saint who, according to legend, appeared during the battle of Guaxenduba to protect the Portuguese, who were in the minority and fought to expel the French from Maranhão.

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## THE PALACE OF THE LIONS



Seat of the Government of the State of Maranhão, located in the historic center of the city of São Luís. Built in the 17th century, it is one of the major symbols of culture in the State of Maranhão. Its history, architecture and artistic assets make the Palace one of the most visited tourist places of the American Capital of Culture 2012.



## THE GONÇALVES DIAS SQUARE



In front of the Church of the Remedy, it is said that the most beautiful sunset in the world can be seen.

The square houses a monument to the romantic poet Gonçalves Dias. It began to be built in 1872 and was inaugurated a year later.

## THE PORTUGAL STREET



Located in the Praia Grande district, next to the Tulhas House, it brings together some of the main houses, streets and alleys of the historic centre. This is the place where various cultural activities and trade in local products are held. It has the largest number of houses with tiling in the State of Maranhão.

## THE ARTHUR AZEVEDO THEATRE



Opened in 1817, with the name of Union Theatre, in homage to the creation of the United Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil and the Algarves (1815) resulting from the transfer of the Portuguese royal family to Brazil.

It stands out for its luxury and size, with seating capacity for almost one thousand people. In the 1920s, it got its current name in honor of the great playwright of Maranhão, Arthur Azevedo (1855-1908). It has hundreds of visitors on a daily basis through tourism and cultural presentations that take place regularly.

## **Asunción (Paraguay)**

1. Palace of the López
2. Pantheon of Heroes
3. Town Council
4. Cathedral
5. Hotel Guarani
6. Ignacio A. Pane Municipal Theatre
7. Church of the Holy Trinity



Palace of the López

## **Badalona (Spain)**

1. Monastery of St. Jerome of Murtra
2. Roman City of Baetulo
3. Catamaran Sailing
4. Anis del Mono Distillery
5. La Rambla Boulevard
6. Historic site of Dalt la Vila
7. Giants Anastasi and Maria



Monastery of St. Jerome of Murtra

## **Barcelona (Spain)**

1. Expiatory temple of the Holy Family or Sagrada Familia
2. Church of Santa Maria del Mar
3. Palace of Catalan Music
4. Milà House or La Pedrera House
5. Liceu Great Theater
6. Batlló House
7. Agbar Tower



Liceu Great Theater



**Brasilia  
(Brazil)**

1. Brasilia Cathedral
2. National Congress
3. Alvorada Palace
4. Planalto Palace
5. Good Will Temple
6. Temple of Dom Bosco
7. JK (Juscelino Kubischek) Bridge



Brasilia Cathedral

**Catalonia  
(Spain)**

1. Expiatory temple of the Holy Family or Sagrada Familia in Barcelona
2. Monumental Complex of the Seu Vella Hill in Lleida
3. Archaeological Ensemble of Tarraco
4. Historic Centre of Vic
5. Girona Cathedral
6. Monastery of St. Michael of Cuixa
7. Cooperative Wine Cellars of Gandesa



Expiatory temple of the  
Holy Family or Sagrada Familia in Barcelona

**Madrid  
(Spain)**

1. Monastery and Royal Residence of San Lorenzo del Escorial
2. Royal Palace in Madrid
3. University and Historic Precinct of Alcalá de Henares
4. Main Square in Chinchón
5. El Prado Museum
6. Aranjuez Cultural Landscape
7. Main Square in Madrid



Monastery and Royal Residence of  
San Lorenzo del Escorial

### **Nizhny Novgorod (Russia)**

1. Cultural Landscape of the descent to the Volga
2. Blagoveschensky (Annunciation) monastery complex
3. Rozhdestvenskaya Soboro-Bogoroditskaya (of Our Lady's Nativity and Convocation) Church, also known as Stroganov's
4. The citadel of Nizhny Novgorod ("Kremlin". The walls and ramparts)
5. "Garantia" and "Titanic" Buildings
6. Trade Fair Palace
7. St. Alexander Nevsky's Cathedral



St. Alexander Nevsky's Cathedral

### **Quito (Ecuador)**

1. Railway Station Eloy Alfaro of Chimbacalle
2. Church La Compañía de Jesús
3. Church of San Francisco
4. Basilica
5. Church of Our Lady of El Quinche
6. Independence Square
7. Statue of the Virgin of Panecillo



The Railway Station Eloy Alfaro of Chimbacalle

### **Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic)**

1. Alcázar de Colón or Columbus Alcazar
2. Cathedral
3. Ozama Fortress
4. Museum of the Royal Houses
5. Botanical Garden
6. Pier
7. Fine Arts Palace



The Alcázar de Colón or Columbus Alcazar



## The Representative List of the Treasures of the Material Cultural Heritage of the World of The International Bureau of Cultural Capitals

### São Luís (Brazil)

1. Tiling
2. Convent of the Mercy
3. Cathedral
4. Palace of the Lions
5. Gonçalves Dias Square
6. Portugal Street
7. Arthur Azevedo Theatre



The Palace of the Lions

### Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

1. Old Town of Sarajevo (Bascarsija)
2. Begova Mosque complex
3. Hadzi Sinan's house
4. Careva Mosque complex
5. National Library
6. Ali-Pasha's Mosque
7. Old Orthodox Church



Ali-Pasha's Mosque

## The International Bureau of Cultural Capitals

The International Bureau of Cultural Capitals has its origins in 1998 when it launched the cultural capital of the American continent, with the name of the American Capital of Culture.

Over time, the Bureau has created and is also developing the Capital of Catalan Culture (since 2004, having the entire Catalan language ambit as its area of activity, which covers four states in Europe), and the Brazilian Capital of Culture (since 2006, being directed to the entire Federal Republic of Brazil, the fifth country in the world by its population and extension). The Bureau is planning to establish, in the future, new capitals of culture in other areas of the world.

In addition to the cultural capitals, the Bureau has also been developing international campaigns to promote culture and heritage with great citizen participation. To date there have been a total of 18 promotional campaigns in the following areas:

- **Material Cultural Heritage:** Asuncion (Paraguay); Badalona (Spain); Barcelona (Spain); Brasilia (Brazil); Catalonia (Spain); Madrid (Spain); Nizhny Novgorod (Russia); Quito (Ecuador); Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic); São Luís (Brazil) and Sarajevo (Bosnia&Herzegovina).
- **Non-Material Cultural Heritage:** Catalonia&Andorra and Spain.
- **Great Persons of Humanity:** Europe and Latin America.
- **Sport Heritage of Humanity:** Argentina, Brazil and Mexico.

## Official channels of TV

