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**GRAMAXO
FOUNDATION**

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MAIA

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The **Gramaxo Foundation (GF)** was created in 2013 with the desire to open up this privileged place to the community, particularly to the people of Maia, and to promote arts and culture.

Located at Quinta da Boa Vista in the centre of Maia, the GF is owned by the Gramaxo family since the 17th century and preserves its **rural past**, keeping the various original buildings - the Manor House (private house), the Threshing Floor and the Eira House, the Granary, the Caretakers House, the Cowshed, the Coach House and the Bandstand.

Those who visit GF are surprised by happy encounters, by the dialogues sparked by the material and natural surroundings and by the history made up of episodes and memories that can only be guessed at.

Like the land, creativity and imagination are also cultivated through workshops for children, young people and adults, talks, concerts and shows.

Those who inhabit the GF also build it, sustaining an exchange between the sphere of the intimate past of a family from Maia that opens up and projects itself into a common future.

In 2024, under the direction of Jorge Gramaxo, the GF reopens with a new artistic project based on three guiding missions: Art, Collecting and Architecture; Cultural Heritage and Progress; Nature and Well-being.

The programme of GF involves the community in special moments designed for living, experiencing, absorbing, getting to know and discovering through the arts, architecture, critical thinking and quality of life.



The **Coach House** is home to a collection of 19th century horse carriages (from the Gramaxo family) that are in contrast with Ana Fonseca's Futuristic Litter, coming directly from the National Coach Museum, in Lisbon. The coach, as an object, has a dense "cultural baggage". In Portugal, the most divisive event related to coaches was the murder of King D. Carlos and his heir Prince D. Luís in 1908. A double murder that changed the course of Portugal's history. The original regicide coach is currently on display at the National Coach Museum, in Lisbon. The Gramaxo Foundation has a replica of that coach.



The old **Eira House** is where artistic, plastic and performance workshops regularly take place, but it is also a space that hosts exhibitions, conversations, conferences and dinners.



The construction of the **Museum**, designed by Pritzker Architect **Álvaro Siza Vieira**, was completed in 2021. Besides housing segments of the Maria de Fátima Gramaxo private Collection, the Museum also provides a network of spaces for temporary exhibitions and an **Auditorium**. The contemporary nature of the Museum contrasts with the Rural Area of the old agricultural farm.



The Park of **Quinta da Boa Vista**, with more than 8 free access hectares, is a green lung in the heart of Maia. This large privileged green space that escaped the growth of the city of Maia and the pressure of real estate developers to its urban fabric, extends to several areas: from the access via Rua da Nossa Senhora do Bom Despacho, next to the Church, a land which was originally also owned by the family, to the main access gate to the Museum, close to Rotunda das Pedras, in Rua Conselheiro Costa Aroso.

From the Bandstand garden — which houses a matured meat restaurant — the Ramada avenue, flanked by a woodland, and a harvest field, formerly agricultural fields, open up to give access to the Museum garden and the Rural Area.

Some species of interest should be noted, such as a large Brazilian pine (*Araucaria angustifolia*) and a stone pine (*Pinus pinea*); a sculptural piece by Álvaro Siza in the water tank/reservoir used to irrigate the land, the tile panels by José Emídio, and the work *A Árvore de S. Francisco* [Saint Francis Tree] by the sculptor João Cutileiro.

Activities of planting and care are carried out in and around nature — watering and nourishing a space where living and constructed species cohabit.



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Parque Maia

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