Fado - Portuguese Folk Music
Lisbon

Urban music

The major Portuguese cities are important centres for the production and dissemination of a rich forms of urban music – places where urban musical genres and styles have developed, rural traditions have been reinterpreted and foreign traditions have been transplanted.
Fado is a form of Portuguese urban folk music. It is characterized by sad melodies and lyrics, often about the sea, or the life of the poor.

Fado means fate, and to the people of Portugal, the music is as powerful as destiny itself.
History of Fado

Originated in Lisbon.

It was only in the early 20th century that fado as a musical genre became a national symbol of the Portuguese.

The most famous figure of fado, Amalia Rodrigues, made it famous outside Portugal's border.

More recently, artists like Mariza, Carminho and Carlos do Carmo are some of the most notable contemporary fado singers.
Fado

Despite often being defined simply as ‘fate’, the term fado has a deep and complex meaning invested in it by the Portuguese. Similar in some ways to Greek rembétika, it is a song of harsh reality traditionally accompanied by classical guitar (viola) and guitarra Portuguesa.
Amália is the goddess of Fado, a uniquely Portuguese musical tradition
Mariza

She is part of a new generation of fadistas.

She sings Portuguese folk melodies with rich poetry.

I sing the night until day comes
Fado's lyric themes are sad.

The fado singers and the audience fall into nostalgia.

The sentiment is described by the Portuguese word **saudade**.

The word **saudade** has no translation equivalent in English.

The word **fado** itself means fate, and the origin of the word comes from the Latin **fatum**.
Carlos do Carmo is a Portuguese fado singer, one of the finest in the "Lisbon Song".
He received the first Latin Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award for his 50 plus years of singing career. If Amália was the queen of Fado, Carlos do Carmo is the king. His is the most successful male voice in Fado, releasing albums since the 1960s. Although his Fado is classic, some also find a jazzy sound and Frank Sinatra style in many of his songs. To celebrate this Rádio Comercial, recorded one of his most famous songs with 35 artists/singers singing “Lisboa, menina e moça”
The greatest guitarist was Carlos Paredes. He explored both the folk and classical sides of the Portuguese guitar.
It is associated with the male voice and its greatest singer is Adriano Correia de Oliveira.

The Fado de Coimbra is played and sung by various groups of University Students.
FADO MUSEUM: A TRIBUTE TO LISBON’S SONG
A tribute to Fado and its promoters, this exhibit invites you to discover the history of the Lisbon’s urban song, from its origins up to the present with a unique body of collections.
Fado is an artistic phenomenon of special tourist interest since the Fado Houses are one of the nightlife opportunities for foreign visitors of Lisbon.
Silêncio, que se vai cantar o fado!

Fado is beginning!!!