

Commonwealth War Graves Loriga



Loriga is a remote place high up in the Serra da Estrela. In the cemetery are the graves of six Commonwealth airmen. They were the crew of a Hudson bomber of the South African Air Force and their two R.A.F. passengers, and were killed on 22 February 1944 when their aircraft failed to clear the 1,820 metres eastern wall of the Serra da Estrela at the Penta da Gato.

Source

Text: Fedor de Vries

Photos: António Conde

Address and contact information

Loriga

WWII grade: ★★★★★

Rating: ★★★★★

Nearby

We don't have any other sites in the vicinity of this one.

Visitor reactions

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Loriga

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Loriga (Portuguese pronunciation: [loˈɾiɣɐ]) is a civil parish (Portuguese: *freguesia*) in south-central part of the municipality of Seia, in central Portugal. Part of the district of Guarda, it is 20 km away from Seia, 40 km away from Viseu, 80 km away from Guarda and 320 km from Lisbon, nestled in the Serra da Estrela mountain range. The population in 2011 was 1,053,^[1] in an area of 36.25 km²,^[2] including the two localities, the town of Loriga and the village of Fontão.

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- 1 History
 - 1.1 Middle Ages
 - 1.2 Monarchy
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History



The remaining Roman-era bridge crossing the Ribeira de Loriga

Loriga was founded along a column between ravines where today the historic centre exists. The site was ostensibly selected more than 2600 years ago, owing to its defensibility, the abundance of potable water and pasturelands, and lowlands that provided conditions to practice both hunting and gathering/agriculture.^[3]

When the Romans arrived in the region, the settlement was concentrated into two areas. The larger, older and principal agglomeration was situated in the area of the main church and *Rua de Viriato*, fortified with a wall and palisade.^[3] The second group, in the *Bairro de São Ginês*, were some small homes constructed on the rocky promintory, which were later appropriated by the Visigoths in order to construct a chapel.^[3] The 1st century Roman road and two bridges (the second was destroyed in the 17th century after flooding) connected the outpost of *Lorica* to the rest of their Lusitanian province.^[3] The barrio of São Ginês (*São Gens*), a local ex-libris, is the location of the chapel of Nossa Senhora do Carmo, an ancient Visigothic chapel. São Gens, a Celtic saint, martyred in

Loriga	
Civil parish	
<div><div><div><div><div></div></div></div><div><div><div></div></div><div><div></div></div></div><div><div><div></div></div><div><div></div></div></div></div></div>	
<div><div></div></div>	
Coordinates: 40.324°N 7.691°W	
Country	 Portugal
Region	Centro
Subregion	Serra da Estrela
Intermunic. comm.	Beiras e Serra da Estrela
District	Guarda
Municipality	Seia
Area	
 • Total	36.25 km ² (14.00 sq mi)

Arles na Gália, during the reign of Emperor Diocletian, and over time the locals began to refer to this saint as *São Ginês*, due to its easy of pronunciation.^[3]

Middle Ages

Loriga was the municipal seat since the 12th century, receiving forals in 1136 (João Rhânia, master of the *Terras de Loriga* for over two decades, during the reign of Afonso Henriques), 1249 (during the reign of Afonso III), 1474 (□□□□□ing Afonso V) and finally in 1514 (by King Manuel I).^[3]

Elevation	
770m	
Population (2011)	1,053
• Density	29/km ² (75/sq mi)
Postal code	6270
Area code	238
Patron	Santa Maria Maior
Website	http://freguesiadeloriga.com

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Monarchy

The 1755 earthquake resulted in significant damage to the town of Loriga, destroying homes and the parochial residence, in addition to opening-up cracks and faults in the town's larger buildings, such as the historic municipal council hall (constructed in the 13th century).^[3] An emissary of the Marquess of Pombal actually visited Loriga to evaluate the damage (something that did not happen in other mountainous parishes, even Covilhã) and provide support.^[3]

The residents of Loriga supported the Asolutionist forces of the I□□□□Miguel of Portugal against the Liberals, during the Portuguese Liberal Wars, which resulted in Loriga being abandoned politically after Miguel's expulsion by his brother King Peter.^[3] I□1855, □□ □□□□□□□□ its support,□it was stripped of municipal status during the municipal reforms of the 19th century.^[3] At the time of its municipal demise (October 1855), the municipality of Loriga included the parishes of Alvoco da Serra, Cabeça, Sazes da Beira, Teixeira, Valezim and Vide, as well as thirty other disincorporated villages.^[3]

Loriga was an industrial centre for textile manufacturing during the 19th century. It was one of the few industrialized centres in the Beira Interior region, even supplanting Seia until the middle of the 20th century.^[3] Only Covilhã out-performed Loriga in terms of businesses operating from its lands; companies such as Regato, Redondinha, Fonte dos Amores, Tapadas, Fândega, Leitão & Irmãos, Augusto Luís Mendes, Lamas, Nunes Brito, Moura Cabral and Lorimalhas, among others.^[3] The main roadway in Loriga, *Avenida Augusto Luís Mendes*, is named for one of the town`s most illustrious industrialists. The wool industry started to decline during the last decades of the 20th century, a factor that aggravated and accelerated the decline of the region.^[3]

Geography

Known locally as the *"Portuguese Switzerland"* due to its landscape that includes a principal settlement nestled in the mountains of the Serra da Estrela Natural Park.^[4] It is located in the south-central part of the municipality of Seia, along the southeast part of the Serra, between several ravines, but specifically the Ribeira de São Bento and Ribeira de Loriga;^[4] it is 20 kilometres from Seia, 80 kilometres from Guarda and 300 kilometres from the national capital (Lisbon). A main town is accessible by the national roadway E.N. 231, that connects directly to the region of the Serra da Estrela by way of E.N.338 (which was completed in 2006), or through the E.N.339, a 9.2 kilometre access that transits some of the main elevations (960 metres near Portela do Arão or Portela de Loriga, and 1650 metres around the Lagoa Comprida).



A bridge over a ravine in Loriga, with the pastures of the valley landscape

The region is carved by U-shaped glacial valleys, modelled by the movement of ancient glaciers. The main valley, *Vale de Loriga* was carved by longitudinal abrasion that also created rounded pockets, where the glacial resistance was minor. Starting at an altitude of 1991 metres along the Serra da Estrela the valley descends abruptly until 290 metres above sea level (around Vide), passing villages such as Cabeça, Casal do Rei and Muro. The central village, Loriga, is seven kilometres from Torre (the highest point), but the parish is sculpted by cliffs, alluvial plains and glacial lakes deposited during millennia of glacial erosion, and surrounded by rare ancient forest that surrounded the lateral flanks of these glaciers.

Economy

Textiles are the principal local export; Loriga was a hub the textile and wool industries during the mid-19th century, in addition to being subsistence agriculture responsible for the cultivation of corn. The Loriguense economy is based on metallurgical industries, bread-making, commercial shops, restaurants and agricultural support services. While that textile industry has since dissipated, the town began to attract a tourist trade due to its proximity to the Serra da Estrela and Vodafone Ski Resort (the only ski center in Portugal), which was constructed within the parish limits.



Vodafone Ski Resort, Serra da Estrela, in the town of Loriga.

References

1. Instituto Nacional de Estatística (http://www.ine.pt/xportal/xmain?xlang=en&xpid=INE&xpgid=ine_indicadores&indOcorrCod=0005889&contexto=pi&selTab=tab0)
2. Direção-Geral do Território (http://www.dgterritorio.pt/ficheiros/cadastro/caop/caop_download/caop_2014_0/areasfregmundistcaop2014_2)
3. Junta Freguesia, ed. (2011). "Breve história das origens à actualidade (by António Conde)" (<http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownew&topic=12&newid=30>) (in Portuguese). Loriga (Seia), Portugal: Junta de Freguesia de Loriga. Retrieved 17 June 2011.
4. Junta Freguesia, ed. (2011). "Conhece em Loriga...Geografia em Loriga" (<http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownewsbytopic&topic=12&subtipo=Geografia%20de%20Loriga>)

External links

- (in Portuguese and english) Loriga's Homepage, Extracts from the work of António Conde, “Concise history of the town of Loriga - From origins to extinction of the municipality”, (<http://lorigaportugal.wordpress.com/ficheiros-pdf-files>)

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Coordinates: 40°19′13.69″N 7°39′58.15″W

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History



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Official name:	Vila de Loriga
Country	<div><div></div><div>Portugal</div></div>
Region	Centro, Portugal
Subregion	Serra da Estrela
District	Guarda
Municipality	Seia
Localities	Fontão, Loriga
Landmark	Torre (Serra da Estrela)
Rivers	Ribeira de São Bento, Ribeira de Loriga
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Width	13.78 km (9 mi), Southwest-Northeast
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Population	1,367 (2005)
Density	37.71 / km² (98 / sq mi)
LAU	Vila /Junta Freguesia
- location	Largo da Fonte do Mouro, Loriga , Seia
President Junta	
President Assembleia	-
Timezone	WET (UTC0)
- summer (DST)	WEST (UTC+1)
ISO 3166-2 code	PT-

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Economy



Vodafone Ski Resort, Serra da Estrela, in Loriga.

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References

Notes

1. <http://www.lorica.no.sapo.pt> Junta Freguesia, ed (2011). "Breve história das origens à actualidade" ([http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php? http://www.lorica.no.sapo.ptprogooption=turnews&do=shownew&topic=12&newid=30](http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?http://www.lorica.no.sapo.ptprogooption=turnews&do=shownew&topic=12&newid=30)) (in Portuguese). Loriga (Seia), Portugal: Junta de Freguesia de Loriga. [http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php? http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownew&topic=12&newid=30](http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownew&topic=12&newid=30). Retrieved 17 June 2011.
2. ^a ^b Junta Freguesia, ed (2011). "Conhece em Loriga...Geografia em <http://viriathus.multiply.com> Loriga" ([http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php? http://www.lorica.no.sapo.ptprogooption=turnews&do=shownewsbytopic&topic=12&subtipo=Geografia%20de%20Loriga](http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?http://www.lorica.no.sapo.ptprogooption=turnews&do=shownewsbytopic&topic=12&subtipo=Geografia%20de%20Loriga)) (in Portuguese). Loriga (Seia), Portugal: Junta de Freguesia de Loriga. [http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php? http://www.lorica.no.sapo.ptprogooption=turnews&do=shownewsbytopic&topic=12&subtipo=Geografia%20de%20Loriga](http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?http://www.lorica.no.sapo.ptprogooption=turnews&do=shownewsbytopic&topic=12&subtipo=Geografia%20de%20Loriga). Retrieved 17 June 2011.

External links

- **(Portuguese)** Loriga's Homepage (<http://lorigaportugal.multiply.com>)

Retrieved from "<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loriga>"

Categories: Parishes of Seia | Towns in Portugal

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Economy



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References

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- ² Junta Freguesia, ed (2011). "Conhece em Loriga...Geografia em Loriga" (<http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownewsbytopic&topic=12&subtipo=Geografia%20de%20Loriga>) (in Portuguese). Loriga (Seia), Portugal: Junta de Freguesia de Loriga. <http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownewsbytopic&topic=12&subtipo=Geografia%20de%20Loriga>. Retrieved 17 June 2011.

External links

- **(Portuguese)** Loriga's Homepage (<http://viriathus.multiply.com>)

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Categories: Parishes of Seia | Towns in Portugal

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Loriga

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For the Spanish writer and filmmaker, see [Ray Loriga](#).

Coordinates: 40°19′13.69″N 7°39′58.15″W﻿ / ﻿?40.3204694°N 7.6661528°W﻿ / 40.3204694; -7.6661528

Loriga

Civil Parish ([Vila](#))



The valley parish of Loriga in the shadow of the Serra da Estrela

Official name: Vila de Loriga



Coat of arms

Country

 [Portugal](#)

Region

[Centro, Portugal](#)

Subregion

[Serra da Estrela](#)

District

[Guarda](#)

Municipality

[Seia](#)

Localities

Fontão, **Loriga**

Landmark

[Torre \(Serra da Estrela\)](#)

Rivers

Ribeira de São Bento, Ribeira de Loriga

Center

Loriga

- elevation

1,293 m (4,242 ft)

- coordinates

40°19'13.69"N 7°39'58.15"W﻿ / ﻿40.3204694°N 7.6661528°W﻿ / 40.3204694; -7.6661528

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Area

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Population

1,367 (2005)

Density

37.71 / km² (98 / sq mi)

[LAU](#)

- location

[Freguesia](#)/Junta Freguesia

Largo da Fonte do Mouro, **Loriga**, [Seia](#)

[President Junta](#)

- - - - -

President Assembleia

- - - - -

Timezone

[WET](#) (UTC0)

- summer (DST)

[WEST](#) (UTC+1)

ISO 3166-2 code

[PT-](#)

Postal Zone

6270-073 Loriga

Area Code & Prefix

(+351) 238 XXX XXX

[Demonym](#)

Loriguense or Loricense

[Patron Saint](#)

[Santa Maria Maior](#)

Parish Address

Largo da Fonte do Mouro, 1019
6270-073 Loriga

Wikimedia Commons: [Loriga](#)

Website: <http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/>

Statistics from [INE](#) (2001); geographic detail from Instituto Geográfico Português (2010)

Loriga (Portuguese pronunciation: [loˈɾiɡɐ]) is a civil parish (Portuguese: *freguesia*) in south-central part of the municipality of [Seia](#), in central [Portugal](#). Part of the district of [Guarda](#), it is 20 km away from the city of [Seia](#), 40 km away from [Viseu](#), 80 km away from Guarda and 320 km from [Lisbon](#), nestled in the [Serra da Estrela](#) mountain range. In 2005, estimates have the resident population at about 1367 inhabitants, in an area of 36.25 km² that includes the two localities, city of Loriga and village of Fontão.

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- 1 History
 - 1.1 Middle Ages
 - 1.2 Monarchy
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[\[edit\]](#) History



The remaining Roman-era bridge crossing the Ribeira de Loriga

Loriga was founded originally along a column between ravines where today the historic centre exists. The site was ostensibly selected more than 2600 years ago, owing to its defensibility, the abundance of potable water and pasturelands, and lowlands that provided conditions to practice both hunting and gathering/agriculture.^[1]

When the Romans arrived in the region, the settlement was concentrated into two areas. The larger, older and principal agglomeration was situated in the area of the main church and *Rua de Viriato*, fortified with a wall and [palisade](#).^[1] The second group, in the *Bairro de São Ginês*, were some small homes constructed on the rocky promintory, which were later appropriated by the [Visigoths](#) in order to construct a chapel.^[1] The 1st century Roman road and two bridges (the second was destroyed in the 17th century after flooding) connected the outpost of *Lorica* to the rest of their [Lusitanian](#) province.^[1] The barrio of São Ginês (*São Gens*), a local ex-libris, is the location of the chapel of Nossa Senhora do Carmo, an ancient [Visigothic](#) chapel. São Gens, a [Celtic](#) saint, martyred in Arles na Gália, during the reign of Emperor [Diocletian](#), and over time the locals began to refer to this saint as *São Ginês*, due to its easy of pronunciation.^[1]

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Loriga was the municipal seat since the 12th century, receiving [forals](#) in 1136 (João Rhânia, master of the *Terras de Loriga* for over two decades, during the reign of [Afonso Henriques](#)), 1249 (during the reign of [Afonso III](#)), 1474 (under King [Afonso V](#)) and finally in 1514 (by King [Manuel I](#)).^[1]

Loriga was an ecclesiastical parish of the [vicarage](#) of the Royal [Padroado](#) and its Matriz Church was ordered constructed in 1233, by King [Sancho II](#).^[1] This church, was to the invocation of *Santa Maria Maior*, and constructed over the ancient small Visigothic chapel (there is a lateral block with Visigoth inscriptions visible).^[1] Constructed in the [Romanesque](#)-style it consists of a three-nave building, with hints of the Sé Velha of Coimbra. This structure was destroyed during the [1755 earthquake](#), and only portions of the lateral walls were preserved.^[1]

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The 1755 earthquake resulted in significant damage to the village of Loriga, destroying homes and the parochial residence, in addition to opening-up cracks and faults in the village's larger buildings, such as the historic municipal council hall (constructed in the 13th century).^[1] An emissary of the [Marquess of Pombal](#) actually visited Loriga to evaluate the damage (something that did not happen in other mountainous parishes, even [Covilhã](#)) and provide support.^[1]

The residents of Loriga supported the Asolutionist forces of the [Infante Miguel of Portugal](#) against the

Liberals, during the Portuguese [Liberal Wars](#), which resulted in Loriga being abandoned politically after Miguel's expulsion by his brother King [Peter](#).^[1] In 1855, as a consequence of its support, it was stripped of municipal status during the municipal reforms of the 19th century.^[1] At the time of its municipal demise (October 1855), the municipality of Loriga included the parishes of Alvoco da Serra, Cabeça, Sazes da Beira, Teixeira, Valezim and Vide, as well as thirty other disincorporated villages.^[1]

Loriga was an industrial centre for textile manufacturing during the 19th century. It was one of the few industrialized centres in the Beira Interior region, even supplanting Seia until the middle of the 20th century.^[1] Only Covilhã out-performed Loriga in terms of businesses operating from its lands; companies such as Regato, Redondinha, Fonte dos Amores, Tapadas, Fândega, Leitão & Irmãos, Augusto Luís Mendes, Lamas, Nunes Brito, Moura Cabral and Lorimalhas, among others.^[1] The main roadway in Loriga, *Avenida Augusto Luís Mendes*, is named for one of the villages most illustrious industrialists. The wool industry started to decline during the last decades of the 20th century, a factor that aggravated and accelerated the decline of the region.^[1]

[\[edit\]](#) Geography



A bridge over a ravine in Loriga, with the pastures of the valley landscape

Known locally as the "*Portuguese Switzerland*" due to its landscape that includes a principal settlement nestled in the mountains of the [Serra da Estrela Natural Park](#).^[2] It is located in the south-central part of the municipality of Seia, along the southeast part of the Serra, between several ravines, but specifically the Ribeira de São Bento and Ribeira de Loriga;^[2] it is 20 kilometres from Seia, 80 kilometres from Guarda and 300 kilometres from the national capital (Lisbon). A main city is accessible by the national roadway E.N. 231, that connects directly to the region of the Serra da Estrela by way of E.N.338 (which was completed in 2006), or through the E.N.339, a 9.2 kilometre access that transits some of the main elevations (960 metres near Portela do Arão or Portela de Loriga, and 1650 metres around the Lagoa Comprida).

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[Vodafone Ski Resort](#), [Serra da Estrela](#), in Loriga.

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[[edit](#)] [References](#)

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1. ^ [a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q](#) "[História concisa de Loriga](#)" por António Conde. Junta Freguesia, ed (2011). "[Breve história das origens à actualidade](#)" (in Portuguese). Loriga (Seia), Portugal: Junta de Freguesia de Loriga. <http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownew&topic=12&newid=30>. Retrieved 17 June 2011.
2. ^ [a b](#) Junta Freguesia, ed (2011). "[Conhece em Loriga...Geografia em Loriga](#)" (in Portuguese). Loriga (Seia), Portugal: Junta de Freguesia de Loriga. <http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownewsbytopic&topic=12&subtipo=Geografia%20de%20Loriga>. Retrieved 17 June 2011.

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Loriga

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Density

37.71 / km² (98 / sq mi)

[LAU](#)

[Vila](#)/Junta Freguesia

- location	Largo da Fonte do Mouro, Loriga , Seia
President Junta	- - - - -
President Assembleia	- - - - -
Timezone	WET (UTC0)
- summer (DST)	WEST (UTC+1)
ISO 3166-2 code	PT-
Postal Zone	6270-073 Loriga
Area Code & Prefix	(+351) 238 XXX XXX
Demonym	Loricense or Loriguense
Patron Saint	Santa Maria Maior
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Wikimedia Commons: [Loriga](#)

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Coat of arms

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[\[edit\]](#) History



The remaining Roman-era bridge crossing the Ribeira de Loriga

Loriga is ancient, beautiful and historic portuguese small town (vila), located in the Serra da Estrela mountains. Known as Lobriga by the Lusitanians an Lorica by the Romans, it is more than 2600 years old. Notable people from Loriga include Viriathus (known as Viriato in Portuguese), a famous Lusitanian leader and portuguese national hero.

Loriga was founded originally along a column between ravines where today the historic centre exists. The site was ostensibly selected more than 2600 years ago, owing to its defensibility, the abundance of potable water and pasturelands, and lowlands that provided conditions to practice both hunting and gathering/agriculture.[1]

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[[edit](#)] **References**

Notes

- [^] [a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q](#) [História Concisa de Loriga, por António Conde](#) (in Portuguese). [Loriga, Portugal and similar pages](#) (in Portuguese and English). Junta Freguesia, ed (2011). ["Breve história das origens à actualidade"](#) (in Portuguese). Loriga (Seia), Portugal: Junta de Freguesia de Loriga.
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- [^] [a b](#) Junta Freguesia, ed (2011). ["Conhece em Loriga...Geografia em Loriga"](#) (in Portuguese). Loriga (Seia), Portugal: Junta de Freguesia de Loriga.
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37.71 / km² (98 / sq mi)

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[Vila](#)/Junta Freguesia

- location	Largo da Fonte do Mouro, Loriga , Seia
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President Assembleia	- - - - -
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Website: <http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/>

Statistics from [INE](#) (2001); geographic detail from Instituto Geográfico Português (2010)

Loriga (Portuguese pronunciation: [loˈɾiɡʲ]) is a civil parish (Portuguese: *freguesia*) in south-central part of the municipality of [Seia](#), in central [Portugal](#). Part of the district of [Guarda](#), it is 20 km away from the city of [Seia](#), 40 km away from [Viseu](#), 80 km away from Guarda and 320 km from [Lisbon](#), nestled in the [Serra da Estrela](#) mountain range. In 2005, estimates have the resident population at about 1367 inhabitants, in an area of 36.25 km² that includes the two localities of Loriga and Fontão.

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- 1 History
 - 1.1 Middle Ages
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[\[edit\]](#) History



The remaining Roman-era bridge crossing the Ribeira de Loriga

Loriga is ancient, beautiful and historic portuguese small town (vila), located in the Serra da Estrela mountains. Known as Lobriga by the Lusitanians and Lorica by the Romans, it is more than 2600 years old. Notable people from Loriga include Viriathus (known as Viriato in Portuguese), a famous Lusitanian leader and portuguese national hero.

Loriga was founded originally along a column between ravines where today the historic centre exists. The site was ostensibly selected more than 2600 years ago, owing to its defensibility, the abundance of potable water and pasturelands, and lowlands that provided conditions to practice both hunting and gathering/agriculture.[1]

When the Romans arrived in the region, the settlement was concentrated into two areas. The larger, older and principal agglomeration was situated in the area of the main church and *Rua de Viriato*, fortified with a wall and [palisade](#). [1] The second group, in the *Bairro de São Ginês*, were some small homes constructed on the rocky promontory, which were later appropriated by the [Visigoths](#) in order to construct a chapel. [1] The 1st century Roman road and two bridges (the second was destroyed in the 17th century after flooding) connected the outpost of *Lorica* to the rest of their [Lusitanian](#) province. [1] The barrio of São Ginês (*São Gens*), a local ex-libris, is the location of the chapel of Nossa Senhora do Carmo, an ancient [Visigothic](#) chapel. São Gens, a [Celtic](#) saint, martyred in Arles na Gália, during the reign of Emperor [Diocletian](#), and over time the locals began to refer to this saint as *São Ginês*, due to its easy of pronunciation. [1]

[[edit](#)] Middle Ages

Loriga was the municipal seat since the 12th century, receiving [forals](#) in 1136 (João Rhânia, master of the *Terras de Loriga* for over two decades, during the reign of [Afonso Henriques](#)), 1249 (during the reign of [Afonso III](#)), 1474 (under King [Afonso V](#)) and finally in 1514 (by King [Manuel I](#)). [1]

Loriga was an ecclesiastical parish of the [vicarage](#) of the Royal [Padroado](#) and its Matriz Church was ordered constructed in 1233, by King [Sancho II](#). [1] This church, was to the invocation of *Santa Maria Maior*, and constructed over the ancient small Visigothic chapel (there is a lateral block with Visigoth inscriptions visible). [1] Constructed in the [Romanesque](#)-style it consists of a three-nave building, with hints of the Sé Velha of Coimbra. This structure was destroyed during the [1755 earthquake](#), and only portions of the lateral walls were preserved. [1]

[[edit](#)] Monarchy

The 1755 earthquake resulted in significant damage to the village of Loriga, destroying homes and the parochial residence, in addition to opening-up cracks and faults in the village's larger buildings, such as the historic municipal council hall (constructed in the 13th century). [1] An emissary of the [Marquess of Pombal](#) actually visited Loriga to evaluate the damage (something that did not happen in other mountainous parishes, even [Covilhã](#)) and provide support. [1]

The residents of Loriga supported the Asolutionist forces of the [Infante Miguel of Portugal](#) against the Liberals, during the Portuguese [Liberal Wars](#), which resulted in Loriga being abandoned politically after Miguel's expulsion by his brother King [Peter](#). [1] In 1855, as a consequence of its support, it was stripped of municipal status during the municipal reforms of the 19th century. [1] At the time of its municipal demise (October 1855), the municipality of Loriga included the parishes of Alvoco da Serra, Cabeça, Sazes da Beira, Teixeira, Valezim and Vide, as well as thirty other disincorporated villages. [1]

Loriga was an industrial centre for textile manufacturing during the 19th century. It was one of the few industrialized centres in the Beira Interior region, even supplanting Seia until the middle of the 20th

century.[1] Only Covilhã out-performed Loriga in terms of businesses operating from its lands; companies such as Regato, Redondinha, Fonte dos Amores, Tapadas, Fândega, Leitão & Irmãos, Augusto Luís Mendes, Lamas, Nunes Brito, Moura Cabral and Lorimalhas, among others.[1] The main roadway in Loriga, *Avenida Augusto Luís Mendes*, is named for one of the villages most illustrious industrialists. The wool industry started to decline during the last decades of the 20th century, a factor that aggravated and accelerated the decline of the region.[1]

[[edit](#)] Geography



A bridge over a ravine in Loriga, with the pastures of the valley landscape

Known locally as the "*Portuguese Switzerland*" due to its landscape that includes a principal settlement nestled in the mountains of the [Serra da Estrela Natural Park](#). [2] It is located in the south-central part of the municipality of Seia, along the southeast part of the Serra, between several ravines, but specifically the Ribeira de São Bento and Ribeira de Loriga; [2] it is 20 kilometres from Seia, 80 kilometres from Guarda and 300 kilometres from the national capital (Lisbon). A main village is accessible by the national roadway E.N. 231, that connects directly to the region of the Serra da Estrela by way of E.N.338 (which was completed in 2006), or through the E.N.339, a 9.2 kilometre access that transits some of the main elevations (960 metres near Portela do Arão or Portela de Loriga, and 1650 metres around the Lagoa Comprida).

The region is carved by U-shaped glacial valleys, modelled by the movement of ancient glaciers. The main valley, *Vale de Loriga* was carved by longitudinal abrasion that also created rounded pockets, where the glacial resistance was minor. Starting at an altitude of 1991 metres along the Serra da Estrela the valley descends abruptly until 290 metres above sea level (around Vide), passing villages such as Cabeça, Casal do Rei and Muro. The central village, Loriga, is seven kilometres from [Torre](#) (the highest point), but the parish is sculpted by cliffs, alluvial plains and glacial lakes deposited during millennia of glacial erosion, and surrounded by rare ancient forest that surrounded the lateral flanks of these glaciers.

[[edit](#)] Economy



[Vodafone Ski Resort](#), [Serra da Estrela](#), in Loriga.

[Textiles](#) are the principal local export; Loriga was a hub the textile and [wool](#) industries during the

mid-19th century, in addition to being subsistence agriculture responsible for the cultivation of corn. The Loriguense economy is based on metallurgical industries, bread-making, commercial shops, restaurants and agricultural support services.

While that textile industry has since dissipated, the town began to attract a tourist trade due to its proximity to the Serra da Estrela and [Vodafone Ski Resort](#) (the only ski center in Portugal), which was constructed within the parish limits.

[[edit](#)] References

Notes

1. ^ [a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q](#) [História Concisa de Loriga, por António Conde](#) (in Portuguese). [Loriga, Portugal and similar pages](#) (in Portuguese and English). Junta Freguesia, ed (2011). ["Breve história das origens à actualidade"](#) (in Portuguese). Loriga (Seia), Portugal: Junta de Freguesia de Loriga. <http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownew&topic=12&newid=30>. Retrieved 17 June 2011.
2. ^ [a b](#) Junta Freguesia, ed (2011). ["Conhece em Loriga...Geografia em Loriga"](#) (in Portuguese). Loriga (Seia), Portugal: Junta de Freguesia de Loriga. <http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownewsbytopic&topic=12&subtipo=Geografia%20de%20Loriga>. Retrieved 17 June 2011.

[[edit](#)] External links

- (Portuguese and English) [Loriga's Homepage](#)
- (Portuguese and English) [Loriga - Portugal](#)

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Portugal (COMPLETE)

List updated Dec. 26, 2007

Country Total = 4

4 graves in 1 cemetery

Completed = 4 (or 100.0%)

Cemetery	SA War Dead #	SA serving in Non-SA units War Dead #	Total	Status - Complete, Underway, Part Done	Volunteer
Loriga Cemetery	4	.	4	Complete	Mr. Conde

LORIGA CEMETERY

Loriga is a remote place high up in the Serra da Estrela. In the cemetery are the graves of six airmen. They were the crew of a Hudson bomber of the South African Air Force and their two R.A.F. passengers, and were killed on 22nd February, 1944 when their aircraft failed to clear the 1820 metres eastern wall of the Serra da Estrela at the Penta da Gato. When the headstones had been erected on the graves a service of dedication was held, conducted by the chaplain of the English Church at Oporto. It was attended by members of the British Embassy, Lisbon, a considerable party of British war veterans and almost the whole population of Loriga.



Loriga Cemetery - Photo © Mr. Conde

[Back to Cemeteries](#)

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Loriga

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Loriga (Portuguese pronunciation: [loˈɾiɣɐ]) is a civil parish (Portuguese: *freguesia*) in south-central part of the municipality of Seia, in central Portugal. Part of the district of Guarda, it is 20 km away from Seia, 40 km away from Viseu, 80 km away from Guarda and 320 km from Lisbon, nestled in the Serra da Estrela mountain range. The population in 2011 was 1,053,^[1] in an area of 36.25 km²,^[2] including the two localities, the town of Loriga and the village of Fontão.

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History



The remaining Roman-era bridge crossing the Ribeira de Loriga

Loriga was founded along a column between ravines where today the historic centre exists. The site was ostensibly selected more than 2600 years ago, owing to its defensibility, the abundance of potable water and pasturelands, and lowlands that provided conditions to practice both hunting and gathering/agriculture.^[3]

When the Romans arrived in the region, the settlement was concentrated into two areas. The larger, older and principal agglomeration was situated in the area of the main church and *Rua de Viriato*, fortified with a wall and palisade.^[3] The second group, in the *Bairro de São Ginês*, were some small homes constructed on the rocky promintory, which were later appropriated by the Visigoths in order to construct a chapel.^[3] The 1st century Roman road and two bridges (the second was destroyed in the 17th century after flooding) connected the outpost of *Lorica* to the rest of their Lusitanian province.^[3] The barrio of São Ginês (*São Gens*), a local ex-libris, is the location of the chapel of Nossa Senhora do Carmo, an ancient Visigothic chapel. São Gens, a Celtic saint, martyred in

Loriga	
Civil parish	
<div></div>	
<div></div>	
Coordinates: 40.324°N 7.691°W	
Country	Portugal
Region	Centro
Subregion	Serra da Estrela
Intermunic. comm.	Beiras e Serra da Estrela
District	Guarda
Municipality	Seia
Area	
 • Total	36.25 km ² (14.00 sq mi)

Arles na Gália, during the reign of Emperor Diocletian, and over time the locals began to refer to this saint as *São Ginês*, due to its easy of pronunciation.^[3]

Middle Ages

Loriga was the municipal seat since the 12th century, receiving forals in 1136 (João Rhânia, master of the *Terras de Loriga* for over two decades, during the reign of Afonso Henriques), 1249 (during the reign of Afonso III), 1474 (□□□□□ing Afonso V) and finally in 1514 (by King Manuel I).^[3]

Elevation	
770m	
Population (2011)	1,053
• Density	29/km ² (75/sq mi)
Postal code	6270
Area code	238
Patron	Santa Maria Maior
Website	http://freguesiadeloriga.com

lga was an ecclesiastical parish of the vicarage of the Royal Padroado and its Matriz Church was ordered constructed in 1233, by King Sancho II.^[3] This church, was to the invocation of *Santa Maria Maior*, and constructed over the ancient small Visigothic chapel (there is a lateral block with Visigoth inscriptions visible).^[3] Constructed in the Romanesque-style it consists of a three-nave building, with hints of the Sé Velha of Coimbra. This structure was destroyed during the 1755 earthquake, and only portions of the lateral walls were preserved.^[3]

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Vodafone Ski Resort, Serra da Estrela, in the town of Loriga.

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2. Direção-Geral do Território (http://www.dgterritorio.pt/ficheiros/cadastro/caop/caop_download/caop_2014_0/areasfregmundistcaop2014_2)
3. Junta Freguesia, ed. (2011). "Breve história das origens à actualidade (by António Conde)" (<http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownew&topic=12&newid=30>) (in Portuguese). Loriga (Seia), Portugal: Junta de Freguesia de Loriga. Retrieved 17 June 2011.
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External links

- (in Portuguese and english) Loriga's Homepage, Extracts from the work of António Conde, “Concise history of the town of Loriga - From origins to extinction of the municipality”, (<http://lorigaportugal.wordpress.com/ficheiros-pdf-files>)

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In Remembrance of South Africa's War Dead



Loriga Cemetery, Portugal. There are 4 South Africans in the cemetery. Photo © Mr. Conde

26,180

South African & Rhodesian war graves (known to date)

6,921

Border War / Non World War / Police casualties (known to date)

17,000+

war graves or names on memorials have been photographed

Project Address

Ralph McLean
Box 35
The Pas, Manitoba
R9A 1K3
Canada

021942

hits since
September 2004

The South Africa War Graves Project

The goal of the South Africa War Graves Project is to archive photographs of every single South African & Rhodesian war grave from the 2nd Anglo-Boer War, WW1, WW2, Korea, Rand Revolt, Freedom Struggle, Angola-Border War to present day. These photos will either be in the format of a picture of a headstone or a name on a memorial. These photos will eventually be made freely to the family, friends of the deceased serviceperson, school groups, veterans groups and MOTH shell-holes through this website.

Most of the families and friends of South Africa's (and Rhodesia's) war dead will never get a chance to visit the graves of these fallen service people due to the distances and expenses involved with such a journey. Hopefully by archiving these photos we will be able to close a missing chapter in many people's lives by supplying them a photo of the last restingplace of a loved one. By archiving these photos will have created an online South African national war cemetery. The future generations in turn will hopefully be able to learn from this archive, remember and never forget.

Latest News and Updates

RALPH HAS PASSED HIS EXAM AND IS NOW WORKING ON AN AUDIT

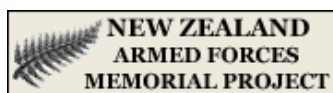
Dec. 26, 2007 - Namibia and Portugal (COUNTRY NOW COMPLETE) pages updated.

Dec. 16, 2007 - South Africa - Gauteng & United Kingdom pages updated.

Dec. 13, 2007 - France and Malawi pages updated.

The Border War and Rand Revolt databases are very out of date. They have become a Master Border War / Non World War / Police database of 5000+ names and growing every day. Email project director with new submissions. We are intentionally not posting this information right now for various reasons. The posted databases have become only a fraction of the current data. However any queries can be sent to project director and he shall take care of them.

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Last name	BARBOUR
First name(s)	
Rank	Lieutenant
Service number	96022V
Regiment	South African Air Force
Country of service	South African
Date of death	Tuesday, February 22, 1944

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Last name	HEDGES
First name(s)	HENRY ERNEST
Rank	Corporal
Service number	1251612
Regiment	Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve
Country of service	United Kingdom
Date of death	Tuesday, February 22, 1944

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Last name	HILDICK
First name(s)	ROBERT TAVERNER
Rank	Captain
Service number	205812V
Regiment	South African Air Force
Country of service	South African
Date of death	Tuesday, February 22, 1944

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Last name	THOM
First name(s)	
Rank	Lieutenant
Service number	102267V
Regiment	South African Air Force
Country of service	South African
Date of death	Tuesday, February 22, 1944

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Last name	WALKER
First name(s)	JACK LEAROYD
Rank	Corporal
Service number	942985
Regiment	Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve
Country of service	United Kingdom
Date of death	Tuesday, February 22, 1944

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Last name	WALTERS
First name(s)	DANIEL De WAAL
Rank	Lieutenant
Service number	542244V
Regiment	South African Air Force
Country of service	South African
Date of death	Tuesday, February 22, 1944

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