

# Loriga

**Loriga** (Portuguese pronunciation: [loˈɾiɣɐ]) is a civil parish (Portuguese: *freguesia*) and town 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. The population in 2011 was 1,053,<sup>[1]</sup> in an area of 36.25 km²,<sup>[2]</sup> 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.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Loriga

### Civil parish



Coordinates: 40.324°N 7.691°W﻿ / ﻿40.324°N 7.691°W﻿ / 40.324; -7.691

Country	<span><span></span></span> Portugal
Region	Centro
Intermunic. comm.	Beiras e Serra da Estrela
District	Guarda
Municipality	Seia
Area	

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.<sup>[3]</sup> 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.<sup>[3]</sup> The 1st century Roman road and two bridges (the second was destroyed in the 16th century after flooding in the Ribeira de São Bento) connected the outpost of *Lorica* to the rest of their Lusitanian province.<sup>[3]</sup> 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.<sup>[3]</sup>

• <b>Total</b>	36.25 km <sup>2</sup> (14.00 sq mi)
<b>Elevation</b>	750 m (2,460 ft)
<b>Population</b> (2011)	
• <b>Total</b>	1,053
• <b>Density</b>	29/km <sup>2</sup> (75/sq mi)
<b>Postal code</b>	6270
<b>Area code</b>	238
<b>Patron</b>	Santa Maria Maior
<b>Website</b>	http://lorigaportugal.wordpress.com

## 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).<sup>[3]</sup>

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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).<sup>[3]</sup> 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.<sup>[3]</sup>

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.<sup>[3]</sup> In 1855, as a consequence of its support, it was stripped of municipal status during the municipal reforms of the 19th century.<sup>[3]</sup> 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.<sup>[3]</sup>

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.<sup>[3]</sup> Only Covilhã outperformed 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.<sup>[3]</sup> 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.<sup>[3]</sup>

# Geography

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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.<sup>[4]</sup> 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 da Nave;<sup>[4]</sup> 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).

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 town, 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.

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

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1. Instituto Nacional de Estatística ([http://www.ine.pt/xportal/xmain?xlang=en&xpid=INE&xpgid=ine\\_indicadores&indOcorrCod=0005889&contexto=pi&selTab=tab0](http://www.ine.pt/xportal/xmain?xlang=en&xpid=INE&xpgid=ine_indicadores&indOcorrCod=0005889&contexto=pi&selTab=tab0))
2. Áreas das freguesias, concelhos, distritos e país ([http://www.dgterritorio.pt/cartografia\\_e\\_geodesia/cartografia/carta\\_administrativa\\_oficial\\_de\\_portugal\\_caop/\\_caop\\_download/\\_carta\\_administrativa\\_oficial\\_de\\_portugal\\_\\_versao\\_2017\\_em\\_vigor\\_/](http://www.dgterritorio.pt/cartografia_e_geodesia/cartografia/carta_administrativa_oficial_de_portugal_caop/_caop_download/_carta_administrativa_oficial_de_portugal__versao_2017_em_vigor_/))
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## External links

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- (in Portuguese) Loriga's Homepage in portuguese and english (<http://lorigaportugal.wordpress.com>)
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Retrieved from "<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Loriga&oldid=871988084>"

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- ### Monarchy

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Loriga

Civil parish	
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Coordinates: <span><span><span><span><span>40.324°N</span> <span>7.691°W</span></span></span></span></span>	
Country	<span><span></span></span> Portugal
Region	Centro
Subregion	Serra da Estrela
Intermunic. comm.	Beiras e Serra da Estrela
District	Guarda
Municipality	Seia
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Population <span>(2011)</span>	
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# Geography



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

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



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

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This page was last edited on 29 August 2018, at 22:05 (UTC).

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## History



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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](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](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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# Loriga

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

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

**Loriga** (Portuguese pronunciation: [loˈrige]) 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/villages of Loriga and Fontão.

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- 1 History
  - 1.1 Middle Ages
  - 1.2 Monarchy
- 2 Geography
- 3 Economy
- 4 References
- 5 External links

## 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

## Loriga

Civil Parish (*Freguesia*)



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

**Official name:** Vila de Loriga

**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 / ﻿

**Length** 4.21 km (3 mi), Northwest-Southeast  
**Width** 13.78 km (9 mi), Southwest-Northeast  
**Area** 36.25 km² (14 sq mi)

**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-



and pasturelands, and lowlands that provided conditions to practice both hunting and gathering/agriculture.<sup>[1]</sup>

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.<sup>[1]</sup> 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.<sup>[1]</sup> 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.<sup>[1]</sup> 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.<sup>[1]</sup>

<b>Postal Zone</b>	6270-073 Loriga
<b>Area Code &amp; Prefix</b>	(+351) 238 XXX XXX
<b>Demonym</b>	Loriguense or Loricense
<b>Patron Saint</b>	Santa Maria Maior
<b>Parish Address</b>	Largo da Fonte do Mouro, 1019 6270-073 Loriga
<b>Wikimedia Commons:</b> Loriga	
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/">http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/</a>	
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## Monarchy

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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.<sup>[1]</sup> In 1855, as a consequence of its support, it was stripped of municipal status during the municipal reforms of the 19th century.<sup>[1]</sup> 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.<sup>[1]</sup>

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## 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.<sup>[2]</sup> 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;<sup>[2]</sup> 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.

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Official name: Freguesia de Loriga	
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Subregion	Serra da Estrela
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President Junta	.....
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## References

### Notes

1. <sup>^ a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q</sup> Junta Freguesia, ed (2011). "Breve história das origens à actualidade" (<http://www.freguesiadeloriga.com/index.php?progooption=turnews&do=shownew&topic=12&newid=30>) (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.
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## 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

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Loriga

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[LAU](#)

- location

[Freguesia](#)/Junta Freguesia

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

[President Junta](#)

- - - - -

**President Assembleia**

- - - - -

**Timezone**

[WET](#) (UTC0)

- summer (DST)

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**Wikimedia Commons:** [Loriga](#)

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[\[edit\]](#) 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](#).<sup>[2]</sup> 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;<sup>[2]</sup> 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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[\[edit\]](#) Economy



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

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

Notes

- <sup>^</sup> [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.
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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](#) ([Freguesia](#))



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

**Official name:** Freguesia de Loriga

**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

**Length**

4.21 km (3 mi), Northwest-Southeast

**Width**

13.78 km (9 mi), Southwest-Northeast

**Area**

36.25 km² (14 sq mi)

**Population**

1,367 (2005)

**Density**

37.71 / km² (98 / sq mi)

[LAU](#)

[Vila](#)/Junta Freguesia



- location	Largo da Fonte do Mouro, <b>Loriga</b> , <a href="#">Seia</a>
<a href="#">President Junta</a>	- - - - -
<b>President Assembleia</b>	- - - - -
<b>Timezone</b>	<a href="#">WET</a> ( <a href="#">UTC0</a> )
- summer (DST)	<a href="#">WEST</a> ( <a href="#">UTC+1</a> )
<b>ISO 3166-2 code</b>	<a href="#">PT-</a>
<b>Postal Zone</b>	6270-073 Loriga
<b>Area Code &amp; Prefix</b>	(+351) 238 XXX XXX
<a href="#">Demonym</a>	Loricense or Loriguense
<a href="#">Patron Saint</a>	<a href="#">Santa Maria Maior</a>
<b>Parish Address</b>	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)



Coat of arms

**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 km<sup>2</sup> that includes the two localities of Loriga and Fontão.

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  - 1.1 Middle Ages
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- 2 Geography
- 3 Economy
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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.<sup>[1]</sup>

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](#).<sup>[1]</sup> 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.<sup>[1]</sup> 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.<sup>[1]</sup> 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.<sup>[1]</sup>

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# Loriga

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Loriga

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**Subregion**

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[Seia](#)

**Localities**

Fontão, **Loriga**

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[LAU](#)

[Vila](#)/Junta Freguesia



- location	Largo da Fonte do Mouro, <b>Loriga</b> , <a href="#">Seia</a>
<a href="#">President Junta</a>	- - - - -
<b>President Assembleia</b>	- - - - -
<b>Timezone</b>	<a href="#">WET</a> ( <a href="#">UTC0</a> )
- summer (DST)	<a href="#">WEST</a> ( <a href="#">UTC+1</a> )
<b>ISO 3166-2 code</b>	<a href="#">PT-</a>
<b>Postal Zone</b>	6270-073 Loriga
<b>Area Code &amp; Prefix</b>	(+351) 238 XXX XXX
<a href="#">Demonym</a>	Loricense or Loriguense
<a href="#">Patron Saint</a>	<a href="#">Santa Maria Maior</a>
<b>Parish Address</b>	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)

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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. <sup>^</sup> [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. <sup>^</sup> [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

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- (Portuguese and English) [Loriga - Portugal](#)

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