



Casa das Palmeiras: Nature Houses & Pedagogic Farm



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Universidade de Aveiro
ID+ DESIS Lab
Portugal
Carolina Polónio

Promoters.

TripAdvisor

Green Key

Accessible Portugal

Biosphere

Funder.

Joana Travessas

Aknowledgements.

Marisa (Pedagogic Farm´ teacher)

Paula, Manuela (farmers)



Context.

The busy lifestyles of the city and the lack of quality time to rest and be with the children, makes many families look for a rural vacation destination that values contact with nature and creates unique experiences.



The project.

It was born in 2013 in order to transform the grandfather's abandoned farm into her life project: a rural tourism farm in Gandufe (Viseu) that offers accommodation to families and provides the experience of day-to-day life in the countryside.

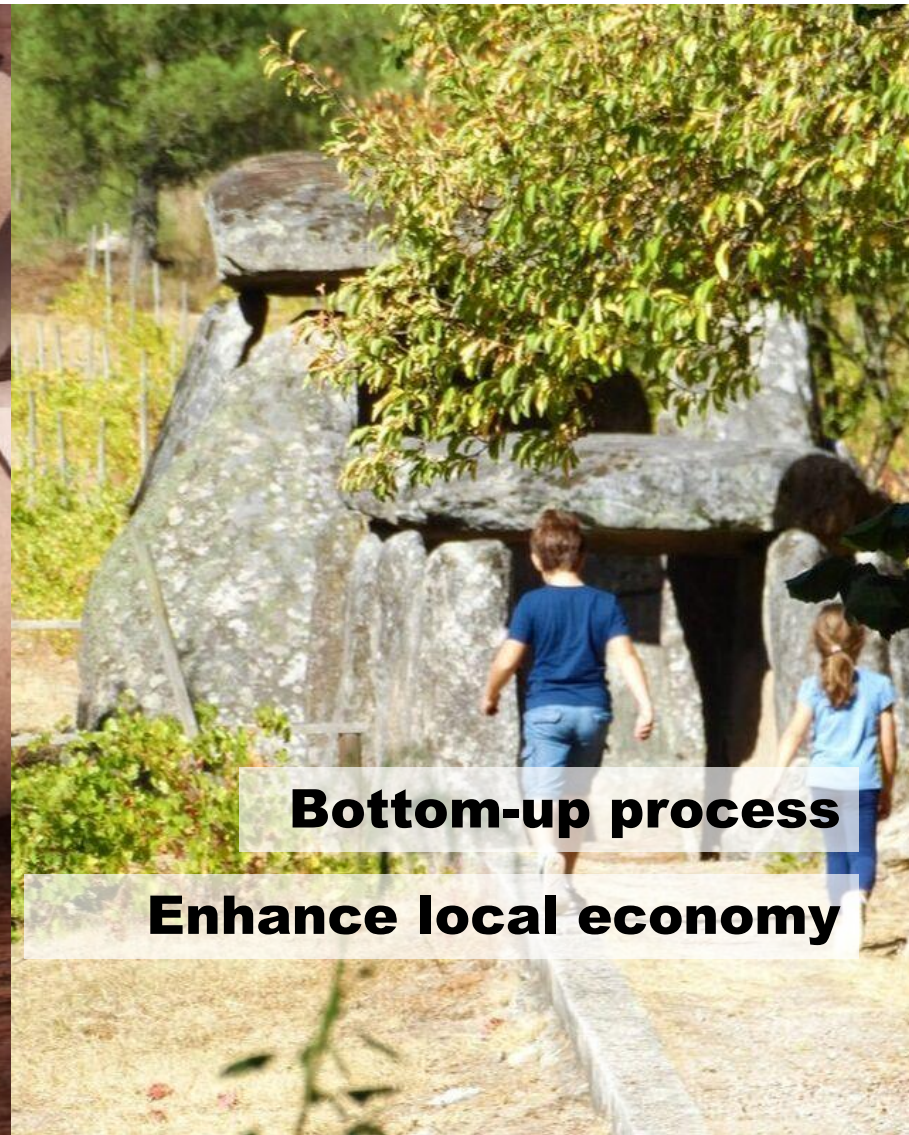


The process.

In addition to the farm itself, which has many animals, guests staying in the houses have access to cycling and hiking excursions, an ecological outdoor pool, a library and a lot of exterior places where they can rest close to the nature.



Governance and Policy Making



Bottom-up process

Enhance local economy

Joana values the local or closest resources available to make her project happen. If other entrepreneurs in the interior do the same, it will draw the attention of governments to the local economy generated, which can lead to the creation of incentives and support for similar projects.

Activism and Civic Participation



Inclusion

In addition to wheelchair accessibility, the Quinta das Palmeiras has structures and signs for the blind and partially sighted and has a version of the Welcome Guest Book in Braille, with the entrepreneur in 2020 doing a training in Portuguese Sign Language. Here, children also learn other ways of communicating.

Social Interactions and Relations

A photograph of a picnic scene on a grassy field. In the foreground, a ginger cat is lying on its back, looking up. Behind it, two woven picnic baskets are filled with a yellow and white checkered cloth, a bottle of wine, and other picnic items. The scene is brightly lit by sunlight.

Picnic

Creating memories

The farm is a space in harmony with nature conducive to natural conviviality where you can do picnics either as a couple, with your family or even to celebrate a birthday party.

City and Environmental Planning



Products with cultural value

Tradition

Quinta das Palmeiras offers specific programs with routes that lead to discover the products of the region highlighting the tradition of cheese, wine and olive oil which makes them more culturally valued.

Production, Distribution and Consumption



Local products

Farm's production

Composting on the Quinta das Palmeiras allows the creation of an organic garden rich in nutrients. In addition to the guests being able to contribute to this agricultural process, they are also free to harvest the fruits and prepare their meals.

Skill Training and Education



Kids

Pedagogic Farm

Countryside skills

In its pedagogical aspect, the farm teaches children the freedom to be in direct contact with animals (to feed them or collect milk and eggs), to cultivate the vegetable garden or just admire the flowers in the biological garden.

Job Creation



Local labor

Sustainability

When recruiting members to join the farm team is taken into account the proximity between the person's place of residence and the Quinta das Palmeiras for sustainability reasons (environment and local).

Storytelling and Visualisation



"Pequeno almoço delicioso com a arte do campo em cima da mesa."

Bruno F.

"Um pequeno almoço delicioso onde as iguarias regionais não podiam faltar!

Um misto de doces caseiros com um pão

maravilhoso e fresco."

Guest reviews

Joana B.

Host accompaniment

Pequeno almoço divinal com produtos tipicos e de qualidade!

João F.

The close relationship established between the host and the guests is important to collect testimonies that report the experience lived on the farm which are then published on the farm's website.

**DESIS
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Design for
Social Innovation
and Sustainability

<https://www.casadaspalmeiras.pt/>

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