I generally have one travel rule when going overseas...

I must visit at least one new country if I make the whole trek across the pond. I managed to do that in 2008 to visit Greece, in 2010, I checked Hungary and the Czech Republic off the list. For 2012, Jill and I received American Airline miles from our parents so we could afford to attend our first **Travel Bloggers Unite** conference in Umbria. Since I have been to Italy twice before, I wanted to make sure to visit that one other country. Portugal had been on my list for a long time, but this seemed like the perfect time to finally visit.

What's usually the case when booking award tickets, the airports you want to land in aren't available, so you have to get creative. Unfortunately, when it comes to available flights into Lisbon from the States, there really aren't very many award options. We managed to use our flights to get us to Madrid and from there we booked EasyJet flights into Lisbon and then onto Rome for the conference.

On top of the free tickets from my parents, I ended up using some of my American Express points to book a room for Jill , Amber and me at **Hotel Jorge V** , a quaint three star hotel centered in the perfect part of town.

Upon arriving at our hotel in Lisbon, I was pleasantly surprised from the very beginning and in my short three day trip, I absolutely fell in love with this new-found country.

Below are my top reasons why I love Lisbon:

1. Fewer American Tourists

VENDE
CASA CHINEZA

LIVRARIA
BOOKSHOP
LeYa
LeYa
NICOLA
Oficina de Escrita

FONTE

5. The Elevators, Funiculars and Street Cars

BUICO
ATLANTICO
TURIM
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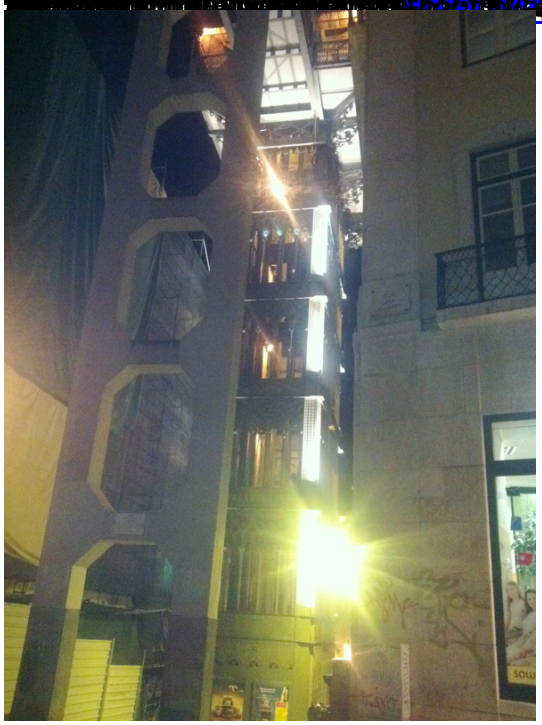
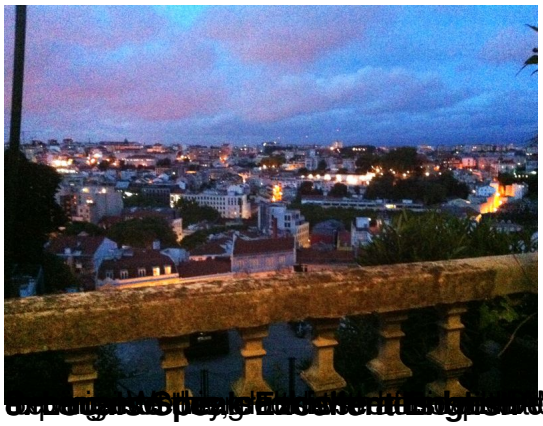
onumento Nacional



6. Great Looking People



GRANDE GUERRA

Portuguese Tourism Office is one's most helpful and interactive. You can speak to them easily be
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