

WELCOME TO LITTLE PORTUGAL

The Coração de Viana takes centre stage, filled with silhouettes of icons from Portuguese speaking countries.

*"Se podes olhar, vê.
Se podes ver, repara."*

"If you can see, look. If you can look, observe" from 'Blindness' by José Saramago, 1995.

Mural designed by **Eduarda Craveiro and Alex Bowie** in collaboration with **Portuguese-Speaking communities in Lambeth** and installed by the **London Mural Company**.

Commissioned by **The Brixton Project** on behalf of the **Vauxhall Nighttime Enterprise Zone** for **Lambeth Council**.

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The colours inside are inspired by the traditional dress of Madeira and the flags of the Portuguese speaking countries around the world.

Around this oval is a banner welcoming people to the area in both English and Portuguese. This suggestion came from our feedback session at Wheatsheaf Hall as residents felt it was important for the signage to be both in English and Portuguese. The writing is in blue, simulating the traditional blue and white Portuguese tiles which adorn the interiors of many of the restaurants on South Lambeth Road.

The foliage on either side of the heart within the banner are flowers and plants from different Portuguese speaking countries. On the left-hand side, we have the carnation which is an important symbol of the Portuguese Revolution. Below this is a Lotus flower representing Macau. Underneath this are Cacao pods from Sao Tome and Principe and below a blue Hydrangea from the Azores.

On the right-hand side there is the Estreliza (Bird of Paradise) from Madeira. Underneath is a flower symbol taken from traditional textiles of East Timor. Moving down we have Cashew Nuts from Guinea-Bissau and a Gerbera which is the national flower of Cape Verde. Finally at the bottom of this is a palm tree, which is found in Brazil and Mozambique.

The banner is surrounded by stitching which is from the traditional Lenços dos Namorados which we learnt about at the start of our engagement.

