

## Casa da Ínsua – Hotel de Charme



### Roteiro Latim [Latin Tour]

Casa da Ínsua has several Latin expressions in various secular settings, inscribed in the most several types of materials. These inscriptions may be transcriptions of sentences from other places, catchphrases, and other phrases specific to the place where they are found. Here are some examples:

**Fireplace at the Reception/ Sala dos Azulejos** [Blue tiles Room] with the inscription VTILE DVLCI

*“Useful and pleasant”*

Chimney from 1902 signed by the Italian architect Nicola Bigaglia and the Portuguese artist Duarte Machado

**Fireplace of the Salão Nobre** [Noble Room] with the inscription VITA HONESTA / FACULTAS CERTA / DOMUS QUIETA / DONA CAELESTIA.

*“An honest life, the right amount of money and a quiet house are heavenly gifts”*

Or, in a free interpretation more associated with its final function as an epitaph:

*Honourable life, authentic virtue, eternal abode, thanks from Heaven.*

Sentence originally inscribed in the Chapel of Jesus by João de Cáceres (1486-1564), which became his epitaph. A sentence which was also reproduced at the entrance of the Casa de la Ínsua and on the fireplace from 1899 signed by the Italian architect Nicola Bigaglia and by the Portuguese artist Duarte Machado.

**Sundial** in the *Varanda do Tempo*, with the inscription: OMNES VULNERANT ULTIMA NECAT.

*“All wound, the last kills”. - in the sense of “each hour hurts our life until the last one steals it”*

Precision watch manufactured by E. Ducretet & Cia - Paris

**The Bell tower’s clock**, with the inscription: PRECI, LABORI, OTIOQVE EST, HOMO, MVNVS MEVM

*“My task is to call men to pray, to work and to leisure”*

Or, in a free interpretation:

*Men must dedicate themselves to pray, work and leisure*

Another work by Nicola Bigaglia is the **Stone fountain**, with the inscription: SI OVIS SITIT VENIAT AD ME ET BIBAT

*“If you're thirsty come to me and drink”*

Fountain from 1902, also signed by Nicola Bigaglia e Duarte Machado

**Cruzamento das Quatro Virtudes**, benches with the inscriptions: TEMPERANTIA, FORTITUDO, JUSTITIA, PRUDENTIA

*Temperance, Courage, Justice and Prudence.*

**Round Table**, in the *Estrada Velha*, with the inscription: SOLITVDINEM QVAERDT(?) QVI VET QVM INNOCENTBUS VIVERE

*“Those who seek solitude live with innocence”,*

**Fountain on the way to Our Lady of Lourdes Cave**, with the inscription: PAUCA(?) SED BONA

*“Little yet good”*

**Ínsua’s Chapel**, blue tile panels on the side walls next to the altar, on the right side, a quote from Leviticus:

OMNIS QVI HABVERIT MACVLAM DE  
SEMINE AARON SACERDOTIS \* NON ACCEDET  
OFFERRE HOSTIAS DOMINO \* NECPANES DEO  
SVO LEVIT \* CAP \* 21 V \* 21

*“None of the descendants of the priest Aaron who has a defect shall offer sacrifices to the Lord nor present himself to offer the bread of his God”*

and on the left side, a quote from Ecclesiastes:

ESTO MAVSVETS AD AUDIENDVM  
VERBUM \* VT INTELLIGAS \* ET CVM  
SAPIENTIA PROFERAS RESPONSVM  
VERUM ECCL \* CAP \* 5 V \* 13

*“Listen calmly in order to understand and with wisdom you will give a wise and appropriate answer”*