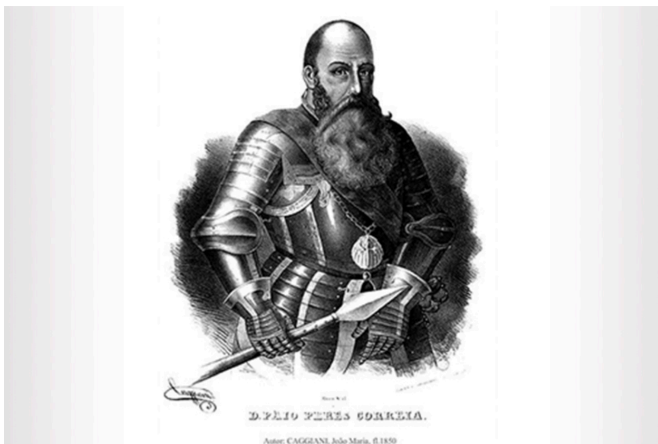


## Legend about the name of the village of Paio Pires

The legend that gave its name to the village of Paio Pires is located three kilometres from Seixal on the side of the old road between Cacilhas and Setúbal. At the beginning of the 13th century, although Lisbon was already in Portuguese hands, there were still a few groups of Moors wandering around the area. Robbing and killing. The young Abu, in revolt, swore to himself that he would take back those lands and avenge the deaths of his grandfather and father. But his companions weren't interested in that, because ever since the fall of Almada, they had wanted to become vassals of the Portuguese monarch.

Abu considered this a betrayal. In desperation, he arranged for a band of young Moors to attack everything Christian in the vicinity of Almada.

One day he decided to raid a farm at the gates of Almada. The people who lived and worked there fled, but the owner, an old captain, and his daughter fought to the bitter end to defend their property. But Abu and his men managed to beat them and enter the house. The Moor was amazed and touched by those fragile and brave people who had faced him. He didn't have the heart to kill them and surrendered to the beauty of Alda - the captain's daughter. He prayed to Allah to inspire him and help him make the right decision.



Meanwhile, the knight Paio Peres Correia and his men, returning from Mértola, entered the house and confronted the Moors.

Paio Peres was astonished when he saw Alda because she looked so much like Our Lady of the Annunciation. The knight defeated Abu and was about to kill him when Alda asked him to spare him just as he had spared his life and that of his father.

Paio Peres smiled when he saw in Abu and Alda's eyes the passion they felt for each other. He then offered to spare his life if he converted.

Abu accepted. Paio Peres sponsored the wedding, which took place in the chapel of the house. At the end of the ceremony, they decided that the land would be named after Paio Peres. Even today, Paio Pires is the village that covered the area of the captain's farm.