

Portugal



AREA
35603 SQ MI



CURRENCY
Euro



LANGUAGE
Portuguese



Portugal enchants visitors with its ornate “lace-carved” churches, romantic ballads, endless olive groves, and fields of flowering almond trees. Throughout the country, traces of past civilizations such as Romans, Moors, and Jews; speak to centuries of conquest and cultural exchange. Their legacies, intertwined with influences from nations reached through Portugal’s global explorations, have created a nation rich in character and diversity.

Lisbon, Portugal’s capital since its capture from the Moors in 1147, is a city steeped in over twenty centuries of history. Once the heart of a vast empire stretching from Brazil to India, Lisbon remains a monumental city of distinctive tile-clad facades, winding streets, and the haunting melodies of “fado” echoing through the night. On our Portugal vacation packages, you’ll experience its restored palaces, grand churches, and imposing hilltop castle, each a reflection of the city’s storied past.

Yet Lisbon also embraces modern life with its cosmopolitan energy, offering exceptional shopping, dining, and entertainment. Travel south to the Algarve, where sun-drenched beaches, luxurious resorts, tranquil villages, and vibrant nightlife await. Cruise the coast, unwind in world-class spas, and savor fresh seafood and regional delicacies paired with fine Portuguese wines.

Heading north, explore the ancient Roman ruins of Évora, the medieval charm of Óbidos, and the scholarly legacy of Coimbra’s 13th-century university. Journey along the Douro River into Spain on a captivating cruise, with fascinating stops along the way. In Porto, the world’s port wine capital, lose yourself in narrow cobblestone streets and the UNESCO-listed old town, rich with tradition and charm.

From its stunning coastlines and historic towns to its exquisite cuisine, welcoming people, and timeless heritage, Portugal offers a sensory journey unlike any other, one that envelops you in warmth, beauty, and discovery.



BELÉM TOWER

located along the Tagus River in Lisbon, is an iconic 16th-century fortress and UNESCO World Heritage Site. Built in the Manueline architectural style, it served as a ceremonial gateway to the city and a defensive stronghold during Portugal’s Age of Discoveries. With its ornate stonework, turrets, and riverside location, the tower is a symbol of Lisbon’s maritime history.



TRAIN

Portugal has a great connectivity via train service with main cities. There are various trains in Portugal that will transport you across the country both day and night.



PORTO

Porto, Portugal’s second-largest city, is famed for its historic center, colorful riverside neighborhoods, and iconic Dom Luís I Bridge. Nestled along the Douro River, the city is renowned for its Port wine cellars, lively cafés, and stunning architecture, from medieval churches to contemporary designs. Porto blends tradition and modernity, offering visitors rich culture, scenic views, and a vibrant culinary scene.



BEACHES

Portugal’s beaches are diverse, ranging from the rugged, cliff-lined Atlantic shores popular with surfers to the calmer, golden-sand beaches of the Algarve suitable for families.



LISBON

The country’s capital, it is a legendary city features typical tile-covered building facades and narrow streets, restored palaces, majestic churches and the imposing hilltop castle.



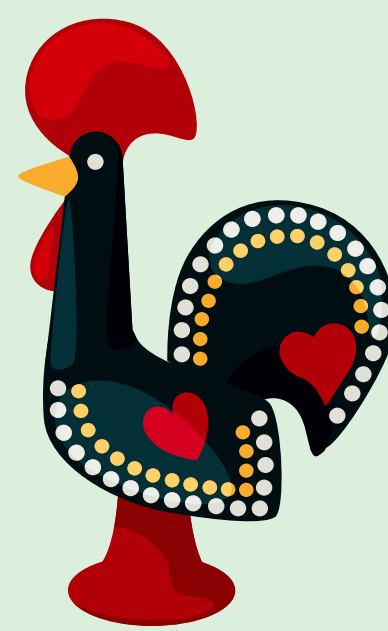
ÉVORA

Évora, a UNESCO World Heritage city in Portugal’s Alentejo region, is renowned for its well-preserved Roman and medieval architecture. Highlights include the Roman Temple, the Gothic Évora Cathedral, and the Chapel of Bones. With charming cobblestone streets, lively squares, and a rich cultural heritage, Évora offers visitors a glimpse into Portugal’s history and traditional Alentejo lifestyle.



OLIVE GROVES

Portugal is home to extensive and diverse olive groves and blooming almond trees, ranging from ancient, traditional orchards to modern high-density plantations. As one of the world’s leading olive oil producers, the country offers visitors a chance to explore scenic groves, especially in the Alentejo region, the heart of Portugal’s olive oil production.



MUSIC

Fado is Portugal’s soulful traditional music, known for its melancholic melodies and expressive vocals. Often accompanied by the Portuguese guitar, Fado songs explore themes of love, longing, and nostalgia, a sentiment known as saudade. Deeply rooted in Portuguese culture, it is especially associated with the cities of Lisbon and Coimbra and is recognized as an intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO.



WHEN TO VISIT PORTUGAL

Portugal enjoys a mild Mediterranean climate, making it a great destination any time of year. Summers (June–August) are warm and sunny, perfect for beach holidays along the Algarve coast, while spring (March–May) and fall (September–October) offer pleasant temperatures and fewer crowds, ideal for sightseeing, hiking, and wine tours. Winters are mild, especially in the south, providing opportunities for cultural exploration and enjoying Portugal’s historic cities year-round.



CHURCHES

Portugal’s churches are a stunning reflection of the country’s rich religious and architectural heritage. From Romanesque and Gothic cathedrals to ornate Baroque and Manueline masterpieces, they feature intricate stonework, gilded altars, and colorful azulejos (ceramic tiles). Many churches, such as Lisbon’s Jerónimos Monastery and Porto’s Clerigos Church, are not only places of worship but also cultural landmarks that showcase Portugal’s history, art, and devotion.



CUISINE

Portuguese cuisine is a flavorful celebration of fresh ingredients and regional traditions. From grilled seafood, cod dishes (bacalhau), and hearty stews to pastries like the famous Pastéis de Nata, the food is rich, comforting, and full of character. Paired with excellent Portuguese wines and olive oils, every meal offers a delicious taste of the country’s culinary heritage.

WINES OF PORTUGAL

Portugal is renowned for its diverse and high-quality wines, produced across a variety of regions. From the world-famous Port and Madeira wines to robust reds from the Douro and Alentejo regions, and crisp whites from Vinho Verde, Portuguese wines reflect the country’s rich climate and traditions. Known for their distinctive flavors and excellent value, they are a key part of Portugal’s culinary and cultural identity.



TRADITIONAL ATTIRE

Portugal’s traditional attire is colorful and deeply tied to regional culture. In the north, women wear embroidered skirts and vests, while men don waistcoats, trousers, and distinctive hats. In the south, simpler earth-toned garments and cloaks reflect Alentejo traditions. These outfits, often seen during folk dances, festivals, and celebrations, showcase Portugal’s rich heritage and local identity.

