USEFUL INFORMATION

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

A valid passport is required (identity card for European Community members).

Visa is not required for citizens of the USA, Canada and a number of other countries.

Please contact the local Portuguese Embassy, Consulate or your travel agency for further information. www.sef.pt

CLIMATE

The average temperature during the winter is 17°C (62°F) and in the summer 26°C (79°F).

I ANGUAGE

Besides Portuguese, English, Spanish and French are widely spoken.

LOCAL TIME

Continental Portugal is one hour behind of European Central Time (E.C.T. -1).

CURRENCY

The portuguese official currency is the EURO.

CONTACTS



TURISMO DE LISBOA Visitors & Convention Bureau

Rua do Arsenal, nº 23, 1100-038 Lisboa T: (+351) 210 312 700 E: abaltazar@visitlisboa.com www.visitlisboa.com









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LISBOA





LISBOA INVITES YOU!

LISBON IS A PORT OF CALL AND A GATEWAY TO NEW ADVENTURES, A MEETING POINT FOR DIFFERENT PEOPLE AND CUITURES.

LIKELY FOUNDED BY PHOENICIANS, THIS CITY WAS BUILT DURING A MILLENNIUM OF COLOURFUL HISTORY WAITING TO BE DISCOVERED BY VISITORS. LISBON WITNESSED MUSLIM DOMINATION, A CHRISTIAN CONQUEST, A GOLDEN AGE OF DISCOVERIES, DESTRUCTION BY AN EARTHQUAKE AND FOLLOWED BY AN ENLIGHTENED RECONSTRUCTION PROCESS AND ONGOING RENEWAL.

LISBON IS A PATCHWORK OF DISTINCT AND COLOURFUL QUARTERS THAT BECKON TO BE VISITED AND EXPERIENCED. ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE OF DISCOVERING LISBON ON FOOT.

BAIXA/CHIADO

Rebuilt after the 1755 earthquake, the downtown area called Baixa entices visitors to stroll along its wide avenues and to shop at the numerous and mostly traditional retailers. Further up, at Chiado, you'll find a cultural hub in the form of theatres, bookshops, shops, art schools and historic cafés, including the famous Brasileira coffee shop.

ALFAMA/CASTELO/MOURARIA

The Castle of S. Jorge is surrounded by Lisbon's oldest and most typical quarters. After wandering through the streets with a distinctly Arab and Medieval atmosphere, there's no better way to end the day than at a Fado house where you can dine while listening to this centuries-old Portuguese music – Fado was declared Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, by Unesco.

AVENIDA DA LIBERDADE

This avenue, one of the city's most elegant and bustling areas, lies between the squares of Praça dos Restauradores and Praça Marquês de Pombal. Built in the late 19th century in a style inspired by Champs-Élysées, Avenida da Liberdade is a mecca for shops featuring top national & international brand names, hotels, outdoor cafés and restaurants.

BAIRRO ALTO/CAIS DO SODRÉ

Bairro Alto is a neighbourhood open to the world, to diversity, to the joy of life. The streets are filled with people from all over the world, of all ages, creeds and styles, all with a common goal: To socialise.

After warming one's soul it's worth descending to Cais do Sodré, where the partying goes on.

During the day, a different life wakes up the neighbourhood. Shops selling art and alternative fashion, design ideas, music stores and international brands, second-hand items, hairdressers, and so much more.

Bairro Alto is an inspirational place, a way of life breathing bohemia, poetry – Lisboa in one word!

BELÉM

We invite you to discover Belém, the starting point of the epic Discoveries, over 500 years ago.

One of the vestiges exemplifying the magnitude of the quest to conquer, the Jerónimos Monastery, is among the most beautiful monuments of the capital. Another is Belém Tower, a majestic example of Manueline architecture. Both monuments are UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

No to be missed - the Belém Cultural Centre.

Also take a stroll along the River Tagus and visit the Coach Museum for a trip through history that reveals the surprising story and detail of this means of transport.

After this journey in time, the cherry on top of the cake comes in the form of the Pastel de Belém (Custard Cake), a closely guarded culinary secret that has achieved fame beyond Portugal's borders.

PARQUE DAS NAÇÕES

Welcome to Modern Lisbon, a contemporary city!
Rebuilt from the ground up for the Lisbon International Exposition – Expo 98 – Parque das Nações is now a new and vibrant centre with a wide variety of attractions. With a prime location just 5 minutes distance from Lisbon's International Airport and site to the magnificent Oriente Station. This riverside quarter is a world of its own, waiting to be discovered, including various venues for events as well as the Lisbon Oceanarium, the Knowledge Pavilion, a casino and many bars and restaurants.





DON'T MISS...

LISBON IS A LIVELY AND BUSTLING CITY WITH AN IRRESISTIBLE AGENDA OF NUMEROUS LEISURE AND CULTURAL EVENTS.

TERREIRO DO PAÇO & RIBEIRA DAS NAUS

Terreiro do Paço with its renovated square and Ribeira das Naus are Lisbon's new meeting point facing the Tagus river. People come together to enjoy the best the city has to offer in a trendy environment full of history.

Restaurants with out-door areas, cafes, food court, refreshments kiosk, a florist, Lisboa merchandising store and an exhibit centre of the city's history, Lisboa Story Centre, make up the attractive leisure and cultural offer at Terreiro do Paço, which has increasingly confirmed its status as the top meeting place in the Portuguese capital. In the more than five thousand square metres of this monumental square, visitors have a selection of several catering establishments with different offers to savour the richness of Portuguese gastronomy and wine.

Located in the city's historical quarter, one of the most central areas of Lisbon, easily accessible, Terreiro do Paço is the preferred location for local events ranging from electronic music to Fado.



LISBOA STORY CENTRE

Reflecting the image of a modern and avant-garde capital, that is equally historic and authentic, the city's leisure offers now the Lisboa Story Centre, right in the heart of Lisboa – Terreiro do Paço.

Lisboa Story Centre is an innovative space dedicated to the history of the Portuguese capital, inspired by the wide array of facts and events that have shaped the city. Located in the East Wing of the newly renovated Terreiro do Paço, it has been designed as an interactive Visitor Attraction, featuring state-of-the-art technology.

Like a well-illustrated book, the Lisboa Story Centre "transports" visitors on a fascinating journey through time. Using a mixture of elaborate sets, multimedia and sensory experiences, the Centre stages dramatic recreations of Lisbon's most important historical events, within the zone between the Baixa Pombalina and the Terreiro do Paço, exploring the myths and realities of this ancient city.

The section focusing on November 1755, All Saints Day, addresses the earthquake and the city in ruins, passing on to the core vision of Pombal, who introduces Modern City Planning in the post-earthquake period and the Reconstruction of the City. The 1755 earthquake is shown in a sensory theatre experience that captivates all visitors.



LISBON FISH & FLAVOURS APRIL

This unique event is one of the largest gastronomic events in the Country which offers a magical combination of restaurants, cooking demonstrations by renowned chefs, gourmet products and, not surprisingly, the best wines and beers, as well as opportunities to meet and enjoy.



FESTAS DE LISBOA JUNE

These celebrations take place in the historical quarters of Lisboa. At the street parties people dance, listen to Fado, eat grilled sardines and drink. It is also traditional to hold a collective wedding ceremony where the brides are known as "Brides of Santo António".



LISBOA REGION

SINTRA

A natural and architectural jewel and a refuge for artists and writers from the world over, Sintra is simply magical. Whether you visit the mystical Quinta da Regaleira, the Romantic fantasy of Pena Palace's architecture or the mysterious Castelo dos Mouros [Moorish Castle], each step will amaze you with a new surprise. Come and discover this Unesco World Heritage site, what the English poet Lord Byron once described as "a glorious Eden".

MAFRA/ERICEIRA

Mafra has many stories to reveal and boasts the majestic presence of the Royal Convent of Mafra in the town centre. The convent, built in the 18th century, was inspired by the architecture of Papal Rome and some German influences. Nearby, Tapada de Mafra is teeming with an abundance of fauna and flora. On driving toward the ocean, you'll come to Ericeira, renowned for its fresh fish dishes and golden beaches, particularly the Ribeira D'Ilhas beach, one of the best European surf spots.

CASCAIS

The Estoril coast has a broad range of attractions highlighted by the blue ocean in the background. Estoril is home to enchanting palatial manor homes, hotels and Europe's largest casino, a stage for many shows and cultural activities. Farther on, in Cascais, be charmed by the historic centre that merges into a beautiful bay where yachts sail to and from the marina.

SETÚBAL/TRÓIA

Setúbal offers us the midst of mountains and trees of Arrábida Nature Park, where you can find a precious jewel, the "Nossa Senhora da Arrábida" Convent.

And, once in Setúbal, it's worth exploring the River Sado estuary and diving into the tastes of its gastronomy, specially a closer contact with the Wine Route, by visiting the vineyards and the old cellars.

Embarking on a quest of emotions, the ideal thing to do is to catch the ferry to Tróia peninsula where the beaches and sanddunes reign. An idyllic landscape, where one can take a trip in a mini-cruise boat from Setúbal and thus appreciate marvels of Nature, such as flamingos and dolphins.

GASTRONOMY & NIGHTLIFE

Portuguese people seem to gravitate around dining tables where various generations gather, socialising and savouring delicacies nourishing body and soul.

Portuguese gastronomy consists basically of a Mediterranean diet featuring a wide variety of healthy, colourful and aromatic dishes, especially fish and seafood.

The best dishes from around the country can be savoured in the city's many magnificent restaurants.

Cloaked in black, Lisbon's nightlife reveals all its glamour at many venues.

Whether you mingle at Bairro Alto's unmistakeably unique atmosphere, in the dazzling "Docas" bars along the Tagus River, at Cais do Sodré or at Parque das Nações, Lisbon promises everyone a truly magical and unforgettable night.

GOLF

The Lisbon Region is a Golfing Paradise. Here, golfers will find the very best golfing conditions: a temperate climate for golfing nearly year-round; quality courses; a diversity of landscapes; and excellent services.

There are dozens of golf courses in Lisbon and surrounding area. Some are close to the capital, such as in Sintra and Cascais, others further away in the Oeste region or near Setúbal.

Any of these golf courses is a perfect opportunity for unwinding, socialising and being in the midst of nature, whether on holidays or during a business break.