



PORTUGAL

PLANNING MAP

Lisbon

Discover Portugal's top regional sights, and experience it through an inspiring list of themes



High Season Jul & Aug
Sweltering temperatures are commonplace; expect big crowds in the Algarve and coastal resort areas. Accommodation prices increase up to 30%.

Shoulder Season Apr–Jun & Sep–Nov
Wildflowers and mild days are ideal for hikes and outdoor activities. Lively festivals take place in June. Average accommodation rates.

Low Season Dec–Mar
Shorter, rainier days with freezing temperatures at higher elevations and frigid ocean temperatures. Lower prices and fewer crowds, and attractions keep shorter hours.



Daily Costs

Budget Less than €50
Dorm bed: €15-22
Basic hotel room for two: from €30
Lunch special at a family-run restaurant: €7-9
Second-class train ticket from Lisbon



Igreja do Carmo, Porto

THE NORTH

PORTO C2 Laced with narrow pedestrian laneways, Porto is blessed with baroque churches, epic theatres and sprawling plazas. Its Ribeira district is just a short walk across a landmark bridge from centuries-old port wineries in Vila Nova de Gaia, where you can sip the world's best port.

RIO DOURO VALLEY C2

The exquisite Alto Douro wine country is the oldest demarcated wine region on earth. Its steeply terraced hills, stitched together with craggy vines that have produced luscious wines for centuries, loom either side of the Rio Douro. Take the time to hike, cruise and taste.

BRAGA C1
Portugal's third-largest city is blessed with terrific restaurants, a vibrant university and raucous festivals, but when it comes to historic sites it is unparalleled in Portugal. Braga has not one but two sets of Roman ruins, countless 17th-century plazas and an 18th-century palace turned museum.



LISBON & AROUND

LISBON B4
The capital of the Portuguese world, Lisbon is a fascinating place of trundling trams, breathtaking architecture and thumping nightlife. The Alfama district, with its labyrinthine alleyways, hidden courtyards and curving, shadow-filled lanes, is a magical place in which to delve into the soul of the city.

SINTRA B4
Less than an hour by train from the capital, Sintra feels like another world. It's sprinkled with stone-walled taverns and has a whitewashed palace looming over it. Forested hillsides form the backdrop, with imposing castles, mystical gardens and centuries-old monasteries hidden among the woodlands.

CASCAIS B4

Cascais has rocketed from sleepy fishing village to much-loved summertime playground ever since King Luís I went for a dip in 1870. Its trio of golden bays attracts sun-worshipping holidaymakers, and there's plenty of post-beach life, with winding lanes leading to museums, gardens, a shiny marina and a pedestrianised old town.



Peniche
The long, fabulous town beach is a favourite among surfers.

Ribeira d'Ilhas
Great waves make this a mecca for surfers, and a frequent host to Portuguese national surfing championships.

Ericeira
Ask a *lisboeta* where to go for
seafood and they'll point you to
Ericeira.



Mosteiro dos Jerónimos

LISBON

**PARQUE NATURAL DAS SERRAS
DE Aire e Candeeiros**

Ribatejo
The 21st century has seen winemakers pursuing more experimental techniques, with the region winning DOC status in 2000

BATALHA

Convento de Cristo
Former headquarters of the Knights Templar, this Unesco World Heritage Site is stunning to behold.

COIMBRA  Wander down the atmospheric narrow streets between Praça do Comércio and Coimbra A train station and just smell what's cooking.

São Jacinto
To escape the crowds, head to this wild beach backed by dunes west of Aveiro.

Casa da Música
Grand and minimalist, sophisticated yet populist, Porto's cultural behemoth boasts a shoebox-style concert hall at its heart.

BRAGA

Vidago Palace
The 18-hole course at this luxury hotel is one of the premier golfing destinations in Portugal.

Ponte de Lima
On both sides of the Rio Lima
you'll find scenic riverside paths
that are perfect for cycling.

Parque Nacional da Peneda-Gerês
Offers gorgeous hikes over mountainous terrain, encompassing forests, villages, high-altitude boulder fields and ancient Roman sites.

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