

Look out for the following icons throughout the book:



'Shortcut' Phrase

Easy to remember alternative to the full phrase



Q&A Pair

'Question-and-answer' pair – we suggest a response to the question asked



Look For

Phrases you may see on signs, menus etc



Listen For

Phrases you may hear from officials, locals etc

LANGUAGE TIP

Language Tip

An insight into the foreign language

CULTURE TIP

Culture Tip

An insight into the local culture

How to read the phrases:

- Coloured words and phrases throughout the book are phonetic guides to help you pronounce the foreign language.
- Lists of phrases with tinted background are options you can choose to complete the phrase above them.

These abbreviations will help you choose the right words and phrases in this book:

a adjective
f feminine
inf informal
lit literal

m masculine
n noun
pl plural
pol polite

sg singular
v verb

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About Portuguese

Learn about Portuguese, build your own sentences and pronounce words correctly.

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Travel Phrases

Ready-made phrases for every situation – buy a ticket, book a hotel and much more.



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Menu Decoder

Dishes and ingredients explained – order with confidence and try new foods.

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Two-Way Dictionary

Quick reference vocabulary guide – 3500 words to help you communicate.

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INTRO

Portuguese

português poorr·too·gesh

Who speaks Portuguese?



Why Bother

If it's true that language is the door to a nation's soul, you might get a little closer to grasping the *saudade* – that melancholic longing for something (the 'Portuguese blues'), and its famous musical expression, *fado*.

Distinctive Sounds

Throaty 'r' (similar to French) and nasal vowels (pronounced as if you're trying to force the sound through the nose).

Portuguese in the World

The global distribution of Portuguese began during Os

200 MILLION

speak Portuguese as their first language

40 MILLION

speak Portuguese as their second language

Descobrimentos (The Age of Discoveries) in the 15th and 16th centuries, when Portugal was a colonial power with huge economic, cultural and political influence. The empire's reach can be seen in the number of countries where Portuguese or Portuguese-based creoles are spoken today.

Portuguese in Portugal

The Instituto Camões (www.instituto-camoes.pt, in Portuguese), named in honour of Portugal's greatest poet Luís de Camões, was created in 1992 to promote Portuguese language and culture worldwide. The most important literary prize for Portuguese language is also called Prémio Camões.

False Friends

Warning: many Portuguese words look like English words but have a different meaning altogether, eg *salsa* *saal-sa* is 'parsley', not 'sauce' (which is *molho* *mo-lyoo* in Portuguese).

Language Family

Romance (developed from the colloquial Latin spoken by the Romans during their 500-year rule of present-day Portugal). Close relatives include Galician, Spanish, Italian, French and Romanian.

Must-Know Grammar

Portuguese has both a formal and an informal word for 'you' (*você* *vo-se* and *tu* *too* respectively). Verbs have a different ending for each person – like the English 'I do' vs 'he/she does'.

Donations to English

Numerous – you may recognise *albino*, *port*, *brocade*, *dodo*, *molasses*, *commando* ...

5 Phrases to Learn Before You Go

1 When is admission free?

Quando é grátis a entrada?

kwang·doo e graa·teesh a eng·traa·da

Try to plan your sightseeing in Portugal around free-admission days (often Sunday mornings).

2 Can I have a half-serve, please?

Podia servir-me meia-dose, por favor?

poo·dee·a ser·veer·me may·a·do·ze poor fa·vor

Much Portuguese cuisine is served in massive portions – it's often worth ordering a half-serve, especially if you're on a budget.

3 Can I get this without meat?

Este prato pode vir sem carne?

esh·te praa·too po·de veer seng kaar·ne

Vegetarians aren't generally well catered for in Portugal, and they may need to be creative in requesting their dishes.

4 Where can we go for 'street fado'?

Onde é que há fado vadio?

ong·de e ke aa faa·doo va·dee·oo

For an authentic, spontaneous approach to music, seek out places where locals take turns singing the 'Portuguese blues'.

5 Where can I find an art exhibition?

Onde é que há alguma exposição de arte?

ong·de e ke aa alg·goo·ma shpoo·zee·sowng de aar·te

There are always interesting cultural happenings in major Portuguese cities, including free fringe-art exhibitions.

10 Phrases to Sound Like a Local

Cool! :: **Ótimo!** :: o·tee·moo

Great! :: **Fantástico!** :: fang·taash·tee·koo

Sure. :: **É claro.** :: e klaa·roo

Maybe. :: **Talvez.** :: taal·vesh

No way! :: **De maneira nenhuma!** :: de ma·nay·ra
neeng·yoo·ma

Just joking. :: **Estou a brincar.** :: shtoh a breeng·kaar

No problem. :: **Não há problema.** :: nowng aa
pro·ble·ma

It's OK. :: **Está bem.** :: shtaa beng

Of course! :: **Claro que sim!** :: klaa·roo ke seeng

Never mind. :: **Não faz mal.** :: nowng fazh mao

Understanding

KEY PHRASES

Do you speak English?

Fala inglês?

faa·la eeng·glesh

I don't understand.

Não entendo.

nowng eng·teng·doo

What does ... mean?

O que quer dizer ...?

oo ke ker dee·zer ...

Q Do you speak (English)?

Fala (inglês)?
faa·la (eeng·glesh)

Q Does anyone speak (English)?

Alguém aqui fala (inglês)?
aal·geng a·kee faa·la (eeng·glesh)

A I speak (English).

Falo (inglês).
faa·loo (eeng·glesh)

A I don't speak (Portuguese).

Não falo (português).
nowng faa·loo (poor·too·gesh)

A I speak a little.

Falo um pouco.
faa·loo oong poh·koo

Q Do you understand (me)?

Entende(-me)?
eng·teng·de(-me)

A Yes, I understand.

Sim, entendo.
seeng eng·teng·doo

A No, I don't understand.

Não, não entendo.
nowng nowng eng·teng·doo

Pardon?

Desculpe?
desh·kool·pe