

How To Obtain A NIF Number

By & copyright to Steve Robinson
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NIF is the acronym for Numero de Identificacao Fiscal which is your Fiscal Identity Number aka tax number & you need this for pretty much anything & everything (including obtaining a registered lease for D7 National Visa application) in Portugal except going to the bathroom & even when buying anything from groceries to building supplies, you'll be asked if you want to submit your NIF number & by doing this, you might get some of the expenditure written off against your tax return but arguably, it also allows the authorities to keep track of your expenditure compared to your declared income so only you can decide whether to give it or not but you will undoubtedly need a NIF number most days of your life in Portugal & the good news is it's very easy to get although the process differs slightly depending on whether you have an EU or non EU member state passport and/or address.

So let's look at all of the variables.

Until recently, if the applicant had a non EU member state passport or residency they needed a resident of Portugal to sign as their Fiscal Representative but this is no longer the case & it is now possible to obtain the NIF number in person from a Financas/Tax office in Portugal & as part of that they can register for online notifications.

However, be warned that some Financas/Tax offices may be unaware of this change & if so then direct them to the link immediately below.

https://info.portaldasfinancas.gov.pt/pt/informacao_fiscal/legislacao/instrucoes_administrativas/Documents/Oficio_circulado_90057_2022.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3cOH8wSJMgcXbm_M0Oyga8NxiofUz0-RsrtfsdT_fPkUTn5MEKB9ixB7o

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Once in Portugal, you need to go to any Fiscal/Financas Office (usually in or near the Camara/Town Hall) and ask to be issued with a Fiscal (tax) number/NIF document & to do that you need to provide your passport, some kind of ID to show your address anywhere in the world & (possibly) a few Euros..... this should take about 20 minutes per person & all members of your group will need a separate NIF number.

If you already have a NIF number & are residing in Portugal & want to obtain a password to your personal page of the tax website then you can do so on the link below & that password will usually be delivered by post to the address your NIF number is registered to.

https://www.acesso.gov.pt/unauthed/novoUtilizadorForm?partID=PFAP&path=%2Fgeral%2Fdashboord&fbclid=IwAR3IgI22_DuSpXhnbko_hPPtdhnqjPajGG4sAjEJdaWJsF363pzQE9b8E4U

Due to the current CV19 situation holders of EU member state passports can currently apply for a NIF number online by email request & it is hoped this will continue for the foreseeable future.

To apply online you can contact the Financas offices via this link

[Endereços e Contactos \(portal.dasfinancas.gov.pt\)](https://portal.dasfinancas.gov.pt)

& (preferably in Portuguese) e mail them stating that you are relocating to Portugal and request an NIF number so that you can complete a real estate transaction. DeepL Translate works way better than Google Translate if you don't speak Portuguese and I suggest you do not use abbreviations & use short, simple sentences. Request confirmation of the number by email.

At the time of writing this process has sometimes been issued without question & equally has been refused to some applicants & several different criteria requested so until the problem is solved I suggest that If you are refused this process, you either try applying under the non EUMS passport process mentioned below and/or that you contact your Embassy for advice, pay one of the accountants who are listed under A for Accountants in the Trade & Business Directory in the files section of this group or alternatively, wait until you get to Portugal & do it the old fashioned way by walking in & requesting a NIF & in many cases, this might be the easiest solution.

You need to attach a good colour PDF (must be PDF) copy of

Your passport (photo page)

Proof of address such as (both sides) of a UK or other EU member state driving licence or utility bill in the name of the applicant & the number should come through within 24-48 hours by email and thereafter by post.

With that you can then get access to the portal by requesting a password, as per the instructions in Everything You Need To Know About Accessing The Portal Das Financas in the files.

At the time of writing Holders of non EU member state passports can now also obtain a NIF number online but will need a registered resident with a password to the financas website & is who willing act as your Fiscal Representative & instructions are also in Everything You Need To Know About Accessing The Portal Das Financas in the files & this link will be helpful.

https://eportugal.gov.pt/en/noticias/pedido-de-nif-online-para-cidadaos-estrangeiros-e-recem-nascidos?fbclid=IwAR2AjZ48YJhL1N48FLDB_IJxv8u0IBF1i63iFNxCaC9058dUWoO8_PcZZeU

In the case of a couple or family where one is a holder of an EU member state passport & the others are non EU member state passport holders then the EU member state passport holder can obtain their NIF & a password to the

financas website & then log on & apply for NIF numbers for the others by agreeing to be their Fiscal Representative.

The duties & responsibilities of a Fiscal Representative are on the link immediately below. Note there is more than one type of Fiscal Representative.

https://ec.europa.eu/search/?QueryText=duties+of+a+fiscal+representative+portugal&op=Search&swlang=en&form_build_id=form-hrbbvZPARTgP5NIh9j6h1bavkkzJ1MLWnXOI7KL-6B8&form_id=nexteuropa_europa_search_search_form

If you are unable to obtain a NIF number by the processes above you can have a professional do it for you & there are a number of accountants listed under A for Accountants in the trade & business directory in the files and be sure to ask for a price first & IMO a fair price is something in the region of €150 - €200 a person & don't be surprised when they ask you to sign a limited power of attorney to allow them to do so as this is now a legal requirement in most cases **and be warned that a Power of Attorney (even a limited one) is a very powerful thing in the wrong hands so be sure to only give it to someone you know or a qualified & registered professional who has been personally recommended to you by several different people & do NOT even consider giving it to any Joe Soap who has simply sent you an unsolicited FB PM promising to do it for a handful of washers & equally be cautious of companies or individuals based outside of Portugal because many will make it difficult for you to remove them as your Fiscal Rep & will charge you an annual fee for a service you no longer need.**

Note that from 9th June 2022 those non residents of Portugal who have a NIF number & owning property or having tax responsibility in Portugal can register for email notification instead of having a Fiscal Representative.

<https://www.portugal.gov.pt/pt/gc23/comunicacao/comunicado?i=emigrantes-fora-da-ue-poderao-trocar-representante-fiscal-por-notificacoes-eletronicas&fbclid=IwAR3T76ZBluLvDYJxaFR6DFV13yXMLJAgtB-YNNBPMT9SC9TcdZOj5nSrU2w>

<https://dre.pt/dre/detalhe/decreto-lei/44-2022-185838981?fbclid=IwAR0TzHi0MYMttuCUC8jumHFJ773mxR3634ds7KDjYrk9M4HLnSPGwd0gFio>

https://www.aceso.gov.pt/v2/loginForm;secinnepf_JSessionID=06Dd4ppQ4XoHcttajkzSaI30t-OskkZcb-kerzn5GcMx7ZmBqCTa!1664337132!578088418?partID=SCNC&path=/notificacoes/gerircanais/todos.html

Note that as & when you need to change the residential address on the Financas website then Login and go to e-balcão & click on the "Registar Nova Questão" button. Then in the 3 drop down menus, left to right select Imposto ou area = Registro Contribuinte, Tipo de questão = Identific &

Questão=Alteração Morada/Singular (change address). In the box below, select "Não". In the next area, headed Assunto, enter "Alteração de Morada e Cancelamento de Representação Fiscal".

Write your message in the box, essentially giving your new address and NIF. (If you had a Fiscal Rep, you will need to add their name and NIF). Then upload the document proving your new address & then click "Registar Questão" to send.

Check back later and download the address alteration documents, which you must sign and date and upload to return on the same message area. Then check back again to receive a NIF document with your new address.

NEWSFLASH NEWSFLASH NEWSFLASH

Once you have your NIF number then you will be able to open a bank account in Portugal & you'll be pleased to know the Multibanco (ATM on steroids) system is one of the best in all of the EU & possibly the world as it enables the user to not only withdraw cash but also do umpteen other things such as pay bills & taxes etc to buy fishing licences & even make purchases if the seller gives you the correct codes & Multibanco Machines & How To Use Them & How To Beat The Language Barrier And Other Top Tech Tips both of which are in the files section of this group will help you with those issues.

Whilst on the subject of bank accounts, you should also consider opening a TransferWise account as they are a proper international bank & also give far better exchange rates & lower fees (especially) for large international money transfers such as we all need as part of our migration process & TransferWise money transfers happen in minutes compared to days or sometimes weeks with the more traditional banks & they also allow both personal & business accounts & give Mastercard debit cards for both & Multibanco Machines & How To Use Them in the files section will tell you how to make the most out of using these machines.

If you do want to open a TransferWise account then it takes just minutes & can be done online & you can do so on the link below.

<https://wise.com/invite/u/stephenr1196>