

# Portugal

**Continent:** Europe

**Languages Spoken:** Portuguese

**Population:** 10,300,000

**Currency:** Euro (EUR)

**Area:** 92,090

## Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Belem Tower', 'writeup': 'A 16th-century fortress in Lisbon, symbolizing Portugal's Age of Discovery.'}
- {'name': 'Jerónimos Monastery', 'writeup': 'A UNESCO World Heritage site in Lisbon, showcasing Manueline architecture.'}
- {'name': 'Douro Valley', 'writeup': 'Famous wine region known for its terraced vineyards and scenic river views.'}
- {'name': 'Sintra Palace', 'writeup': 'A Romanticist castle near Lisbon, known for its eclectic architectural styles.'}
- {'name': 'Ribeira District', 'writeup': 'Historic waterfront area in Porto, known for its colorful buildings and lively atmosphere.'}

## Head of State / Government:

President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa

## Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Festa de São João', 'writeup': 'An annual June festival in Porto celebrating Saint John with music, dancing, and fireworks.'}
- {'name': 'Carnival', 'writeup': 'A vibrant pre-Lenten festival featuring parades, costumes, and street parties.'}
- {'name': 'Fado Music Festivals', 'writeup': 'Events celebrating traditional Portuguese Fado music, characterized by melancholic tunes.'}

## Food & Cuisine:

Portuguese cuisine features seafood, olive oil, and spices, with iconic dishes like bacalhau (salted cod), pastel de nata (custard tart), and caldo verde (kale soup).

## Brief History:

Portugal emerged as a kingdom in the 12th century, becoming a major maritime power during the 15th and 16th centuries Age of Discovery. It established a global empire, declined in the 19th century, and transitioned to democracy after the 1974 Carnation Revolution.

## Important People:

- Vasco da Gama - Explorer who found the sea route to India.
- Fernando Pessoa - Renowned poet and writer.
- Amália Rodrigues - Famous Fado singer.
- António Guterres - Former Prime Minister and current UN Secretary-General.

**Current Conflicts:**

Portugal is not involved in any active military conflicts.

**Youtube Links:**

- Discover Portugal: A Journey Through History and Culture
- Top 10 Places to Visit in Portugal
- Portuguese Cuisine: Traditional Dishes Explained
- The History of Portugal in 10 Minutes
- Fado Music: The Soul of Portugal