

About Lisbon

Lisbon is the capital of Portugal and lies on the north bank of the Tagus Estuary, on the European Atlantic coast. It is the westernmost city in continental Europe. Greater Lisbon has an area of approximately 1,000 km². The city lies more or less in the centre of the country, approximately 300 km from the Algarve in the south and 400 km from the northern border with Spain. Lisbon offers a wide variety of options to the visitor, including beaches, countryside, mountains and areas of historical interest only a few kilometers away from the city centre.

Climate

Due to the influence of the Atlantic Ocean, Lisbon has a pleasant climate throughout the year. The agreeable temperatures in the summer months are an open invitation for a walk by the river, or to spend an afternoon in one of the many street cafés to be found all over the city.

For the latest weather click on www.meteo.pt

Currency and Banking

The unit of currency is the Euro (€). Major credit cards are accepted in most hotels, shops and restaurants. Travelers' cheques and currency can be changed at exchange bureaus or at hotel receptions. Automatic changing and cash dispensing machines linked to international networks are also widely available.

Electricity

Voltage: 220/380 volts at a frequency of 50 Hertz. All sockets follow European standards. To use American-type plugs, a 220-volt transformer should be used together with an adapter plug.

Emergency Phone Numbers

For Police and Ambulance emergency dial 112.

Health Requirements

With the exception of vaccination certificates for persons coming from areas where yellow fever is endemic, at the present there are no special health requirements.

Language

Portuguese is Latin in origin and the third most widely spoken European language in the world. It is the mother tongue of about 200 million people. Portuguese is the official language in several countries: Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, São Tomé e Príncipe in Africa, and Brazil in South America.

Population

Population 2.5 million

Sales Tax

Sales tax (VAT) is included in prices quoted. For non E.U. residents, tax free shopping schemes are available in many shops, which give substantial savings to visitors.

Smoking

The Portuguese law, in accordance with Regulations in force in the majority of European Countries and the USA, does not allow smoking in any public transportation or in any closed public areas. (Some restaurants, bars and discotheques can designate 30 percent of their space for smokers if they are larger than 100 square meters). Non-compliance with this ban can lead to prosecution and a fine of up to 1.000,00 Euros.

Tipping

Tipping is optional, but adding 10% to the amount is regular practice in taxis, restaurants and bars.

Getting to Lisbon

Lisbon is easy to get to. It is a short flight away from most European cities, and is just as easily accessible by road, railway or sea.

By Air

Lisbon International Airport is called Humberto Delgado and is 7 km from the city centre. It has daily flights to and from the major cities in Europe and the world. Lisbon Airport has two terminals: **Terminal 1** is for Domestic and International flights and **Terminal 2** exclusively dedicated to departures of low cost flights.

For further information please visit the official website of Lisbon International Airport : <http://www.ana.pt>

By Road

Arriving in Lisbon by road is a pleasant experience, as the visitor can enjoy the beautiful countryside along the way. The city has good road accesses and the most frequently used routes are: the A1 motorway, the 25th April Bridge and Vasco da Gama Bridge.

By Rail

Scores of national and international trains arrive in Lisbon every day. In addition to Santa Apolónia terminal station, the city has the Gare do Oriente, adjacent to the Parque das Nações. Both stations have direct bus or underground connections to the city center.

High-speed Alfa trains depart for Oporto every day until 20h47. Also available daily trains from Paris and Madrid.

Rail CP Call Center

From Portugal 808 208 208 (local call prices)

From abroad +351 707 201 280 (international call prices)

For further information please visit the official website: <http://www.cp.pt>

Getting to the city from the airport

By bus

The Aerobus is the best way to travel from and to the airport. With regular daily departures, this service provides the connection between airport and the main spots of the city. There are 2 lines available depending on the area of the city you want to go. Service begins at 08h00 and ends at 23h00 and buses pass every 20 or 30 minutes, depending on the line.



Tickets can be purchased onboard (€3,50) and in Tourism Office counter and at the airport arrivals (public area). The ticket is valid for 24 hours on Aerobus and on Carris public transports. This ticket gives you also 25% discount on the Yellow Bus sightseeing tours on open-top buses, historical tramcars, Sintra and

Fátima Tour. Valid for tickets purchased aboard the vehicles or at point of sale at Praça do Comércio.

For further information please check www.yellowbustours.com

By Taxi

There are two taxi stands within the perimeter of the airport, one at arrivals and the other at departures.

A taxi ride from the airport to a hotel in the city is around 13€. Before taking a taxi, inquire about the fare.

You can get more info and purchase a **Taxi Voucher** at the Tourism Information Counter in the airport's Arrivals Hall. The price of the voucher depends on the distance of the trip or length of time, as well as on the type of service required: normal or personalized (in the former, the driver is trained to speak foreign languages and acts as tourist guide).

For further information please check www.askmelisboa.com/en

Getting around Lisbon

By Subway

One of the quickest ways to travel in Lisboa is by Metro operating from 06:00 a.m. – 01:00 a.m. It covers almost the whole city and next to most hotels you will find a metro station.

Fare per trip: 1,30€ It is necessary to previously buy an electronic card (0.50€) which is sold automatically in any ticket booth.

Subway map [Please click here](#)

For further information please check www.metrolisboa.pt

By Bus / Tram

Carris has the exclusive rights as the above ground mass public transport operator in Lisbon. An extensive network of 90 bus routes covers the entire city and outskirts. Inside Lisbon you may also use a traditional public transportation: the tram. The tram network is made up of 5 routes, 3 funiculars (Glória, Bica and Lavra) and 1 lift (Santa Justa). For further information please check www.carris.pt

By Taxi

Taxis in Lisbon are beige or black and green and offer very reasonable prices to get around. They have an illuminated taxi sign at the top.

The fare on the taxi meter should read 3,25€ (daytime pick-up). Outside the city limits, city fares are charged per kilometer and are entitled to charge for the return fare. Also is an additional charge for the transportation of luggage. The usual amount to tip is 10% of the fare.

An additional 20% is charged for services on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays and for nighttime service from 9pm to 6am.

Other information

Working Hours

Buses: Every day 6.30 a.m. - 12 p.m./10 a.m

Banks: Mon-Fri. 8.30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Shopping Centres: Every day 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Shops: Mon -Fri. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Embassies: Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Post Offices: Mon. - Fri. 8.30 a.m. - 6.30 p.m.

Pharmacies: Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. - 7 p. m. Also: 24 hour (night) service

Meal times: Lunch: 12 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Dinner: 8 p.m. - 10 p.m

Underground: Every day 6.30 a.m. - 1 a.m.

Time Zones

(GMT/UTC GMT/UTC +1 in Summer)

Austrália Canberra +10h

Brazil Brasília -3h

France Paris +1h

Germany Berlin +1h

Holland Amsterdam +1h

Italy Rome +1h

Japan Tokyo +9h

Norway Oslo +1h

South Africa Cape Town +2h

Spain Madrid +1h

Sweden Stockholm +1h

UK London =

USA Chicago -6h

USA Los Angeles -8h

USA New York -5h

USA Washington -5h

Get more information about Lisbon at

www.visitlisboa.com