

Portugal Golden Visa | Fact Sheet

Summary

- Minimum investment €350,000 - €500,000
- Proof that funds are lawfully obtained
- No criminal record
- Visit the country for 7 days a year
- Portuguese residency within 7-10 months
- Visa free travel within Schengen visa countries
- Apply for citizenship after 5 years, while keeping other citizenships
- Spouse & children under the age of 18 can be included on one application
- Dependent children under 26, as long as they are enrolled as full-time students
- The main investor and spouses' parents over the age of 55 years can also be included, providing they can prove financial dependency on the main investors.
- Parents over the age of 66 years old can automatically be included in the application without the need to prove dependency.
- Once you become a citizen, you can live and work anywhere in the EU/EEA and get the world's 4th best passport
- Portuguese Golden Visa applicants do not have to take a language test in order to obtain a residency permit, although they must complete the test in order to gain citizenship. The test can be adapted for those under the age of ten and those with learning difficulties.
- Access to excellent international & Portuguese schools & Universities
- International quality health care clinics & hospitals
- High quality of life & low crime rate

The following family members can be included in the Golden Visa Portugal application:

Spouse or legal partner

- Children under 18 years of age
- Dependent children under 26 as long as they are single and enrolled as full-time students
- The main investor and spouses Parents over the age of 55 years can also be included, providing they can prove financial dependency on the main investors.
- Parents over the age of 66 years old can automatically be included in the application without the need to prove dependency.
- Siblings under the age of 18 years from either spouse or partner if legally responsible

Portugal Golden Visa investment options include:

- **Capital Transfer**
 - Capital Transfer of at least €1 million into a Portuguese bank account or approved investments

- €250K investment into preserving national heritage.
 - Investment of at least €350K in research activities of public or private entities part of the national scientific & technological system.
 - Investment into private equity funds- A Golden Visa fund investment of €350K minimum can be made to the acquisition of investment fund or venture capital fund units committed to the capitalization of companies incorporated under the Portuguese law, with a maturity of at least five years and with at least 60% of the investment portfolio in companies that have a head office in the national territory.
- **Property Acquisition**
 - Portugal Golden Visa real estate investment of €500K in Real Estate- (Reduced to €400K if located in a low-density area)
 - Portugal Golden Visa €350K real estate investment in rehabilitation project (reduced to €280K if located in a low-density area)
- **Business**
 - Generate 10 new jobs for a Portuguese business or single-member company (reduced to 8 positions if in a low-density area).
 - €350K investment in an existing Portuguese business. Must incorporate or increase the share capital and create at least 5 full-time permanent jobs for at least 3 years

Processing Time

- Year 0: Golden Visa issued, valid for 2 years
- Year 2: Residency permit needs to be renewed, Valid for 2 years
- Year 4: Residency permit needs to be renewed, valid for 2 years
- Year 5: Both residency & citizenship may be requested otherwise the golden visa will need to be renewed in year 6.

Step by Step Guide for Golden Visa Application

- Onboarding: once investment is decided, the paperwork for yourself & any dependents included
- Bank account & NIF: In order to obtain a tax identification number in Portugal, we will assist in appointing a fiscal representative. After obtaining NIF, we can help opening Bank Accounts in Portugal
- Make the Investment
- Biometrics Visits: From the time you book your interview, it takes around 2 months until you can attend a biometric collection
 - Biometrics out of Porto, Lisbon are quicker.
- Golden Visa issuance: After your biometrics, it takes around 4 months for your Golden visa to be approved. Pay the government permit issue fee

- Investment comes first, funds must come from outside Portugal.
- Online submission
- Validation of Documents
- Collection of biometrics
- Approval by immigration office
- (+- 3 Months) final approval, DHL cards to be delivered to clients. 5 year starts for Citizenship.
- Language test is online

Golden Visa Tax Benefits

- Don't need to pay extra taxes on income produced outside Portugal
- Also, an option to register as a Fiscal resident for tax purposes
 - Benefitting from Portugal's Non-Habitual Tax (NHR) Regime
 - Offers tax free incentives an certain categories for a period of up to 10 years
 - Income that qualifies:
 - Dividends
 - Real estate income
 - Capital Gains from the Disposal of real estate
 - Occupational pensions
 - Royalties
 - Business & self-employment profits derived from eligible occupations.
- Any Portuguese sourced income would be taxed a flat rate of 20% during the first 10 years. There is the ability to pass on your wealth to a spouse or dependent without incurring inheritance or gift taxes.

Which requirements do you need to meet?

- Maintain the investment for a minimum period of five years.
- Spend a minimum of seven days in Portugal during the first year, then not less than 14 days in each subsequent 2-year period.

Your investment needs to meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Transfer of capital of at least €1,000,000.
- Creation of at least 10 jobs. The low-cost option.
- Acquisition of real estate with a value of at least €500,000. The traditional option.
- Acquisition of real estate with construction completed at least 30 years ago or located in an urban rehabilitation area, with the execution of rehabilitation works. The minimum investment is reduced to €350,000.
- Transfer of capital of at least €350,000, invested in research carried out by public or private scientific research institutions that are part of the national scientific and technological system.
- Transfer capital of at least €250,000, as investment or support for artistic production, or recovery or maintenance of national cultural heritage.

- Transfer capital of at least €350,000, destined to acquire units in investment or venture capital funds aimed at providing capital to companies that meet certain requirements.
- Transfer capital of at least €350,000, to incorporate or increase the share capital of a company with a registered office in Portugal, together with the creation of five permanent jobs, for a period of three years.

What is the CIPLE Portuguese language test for citizenship?

- The CIPLE Portuguese proficiency test is a mandatory exam for those who want to obtain Portuguese citizenship. The simple A2 Portuguese (CIPLE – Certificado Inicial de Português Língua Estrangeira) test ensures that those who obtain citizenship in the country have a basic understanding of Portuguese.

Who has to take the Portuguese citizenship language test?

- Anyone who is eligible for Portuguese nationality must take the CIPLE exam, with a few exceptions. Some people become eligible for citizenship through marriage to a Portuguese citizen, some through naturalization, and others through the residency-by-investment program (ARI – Autorização de Residência para Atividade de Investimento), commonly known as the Portugal Golden Visa.
- Portuguese Golden Visa applicants do not have to take a language test in order to obtain a residency permit, although they must complete the test in order to gain citizenship.
- The test can be adapted for those under the age of ten and those with learning difficulties. Portuguese citizenship language test requirements

CIPLE exam structure

- The A2 CIPLE language test is two hours long, and is composed of three parts:
- 30%: Candidates are required to demonstrate an ability to understand simple, short sentences, and basic everyday conversation.
- 40%: In the reading test, candidates are expected to understand simple written texts, usually in the form of informal dialogue, informative texts, news or short stories, and answer questions relating to these texts to demonstrate comprehension. In the written exam, candidates are expected to compose a short text using everyday phrases and expressions of frequent use. This is usually a short text about yourself or about other persons and what you feel and think.
- 25%: A 10–15-minute oral exam usually done with two candidates at once. The oral expression test requires candidates to use simple everyday phrases with basic structures, and also interact on topics and images.

How to prepare for the Portuguese citizenship language test

- Although the language test for Portuguese nationality is relatively simple, it is a sensible idea to prepare for the test to build confidence and familiarize yourself with the format in order to ensure that you pass the exam.
- One of the most useful resources for learning Portuguese is the [Instituto Camões](#), which promotes the learning of the Portuguese language internationally. Its [website](#) has a variety of useful online resources and runs a number of courses in universities and other learning centers all over the world.

Where to take the CIPLE exam

- The CIPLE exam is officiated by the [CAPLE](#) (Centro de Avaliação e Certificação de Português Língua Estrangeira) and can be taken in a number of different [CAPLE-certified language testing centers](#) all over the world. In international test centers, the [A2 CIPLE exam dates](#) are in November, July, and May, with more dates available (CIPLE-P) within Portuguese test centers in October, September, June, and March.

Required documents for the CIPLE exam

- You must take a passport, ID card, or residence permit to the exam.

How much does the CIPLE exam cost?

- The CIPLE exam costs €72, which can be paid via MULTIBANCO (only within Portugal), or via bank transfer, and must be completed at least 24 hours before the exam.

How is the CIPLE test graded?

A2 CIPLE language test grades



- Candidates will pass the exam if they obtain a mark of 55% or higher.

How long do you have to wait for your CIPLE exam results?

- You usually have to wait about two weeks to receive A2 CIPLE exam results, which can be accessed through the [CAPLE website](#).
- Find out more about residency and citizenship solutions in Portugal in our [ultimate guide to the Portuguese Golden Visa](#).