

PORTUGAL



Europa



LOCATION



Portugal is situated in the western part of the **Iberian Peninsula**.

Its borders are **Spain** in the north and east and the **Atlantic Ocean** in the south and west.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Portugal is divided by the Tagus river, which separates the rocky north from the rolling plains in the south.

The main mountain range is the **Serra de Estrela**, situated between the Douro and the Tagus rivers.

The most important rivers are **Douro**, **Tagus** (the longest river of the Iberian Peninsula) and **Guadiana**. They originate in Spain and flow into the Atlantic Ocean.





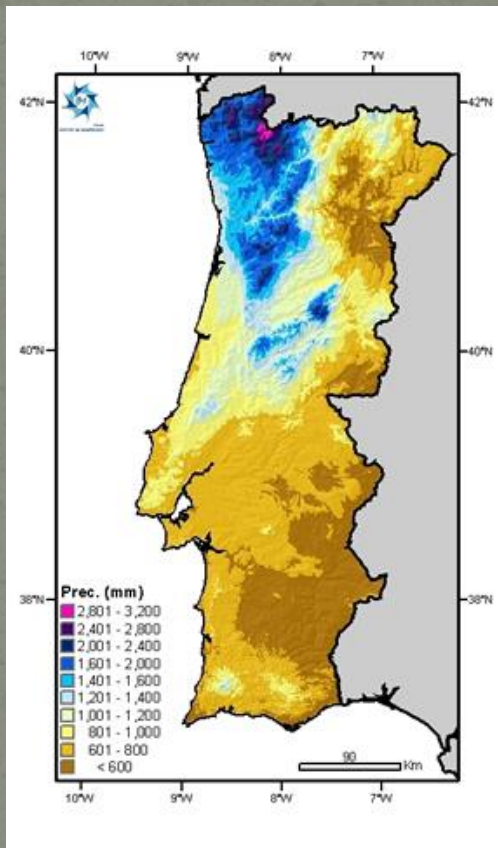
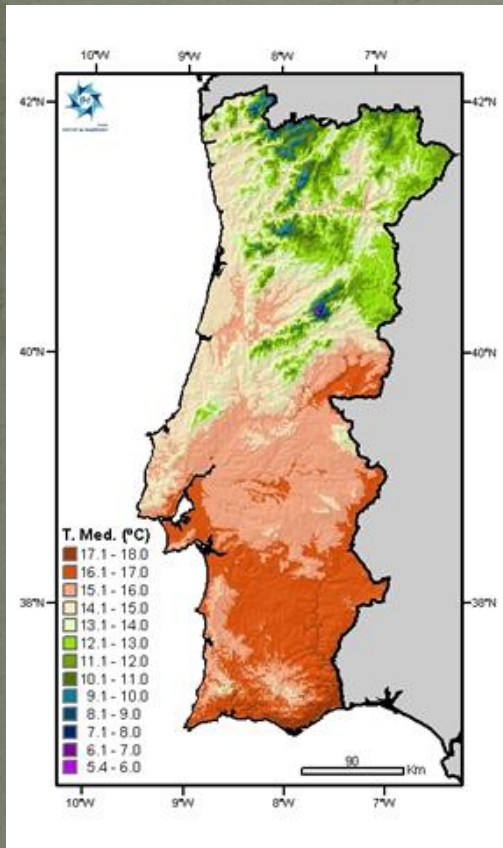
The islands of **Madeira** and the **Azores** are also part of the Portuguese territory.

Located in the Atlantic Ocean, both archipelagos have volcanic origins.



Portugal's highest point is Pico Alto (2,351 m.) on Pico Island in the Azores. It's an ancient volcano.

CLIMATE

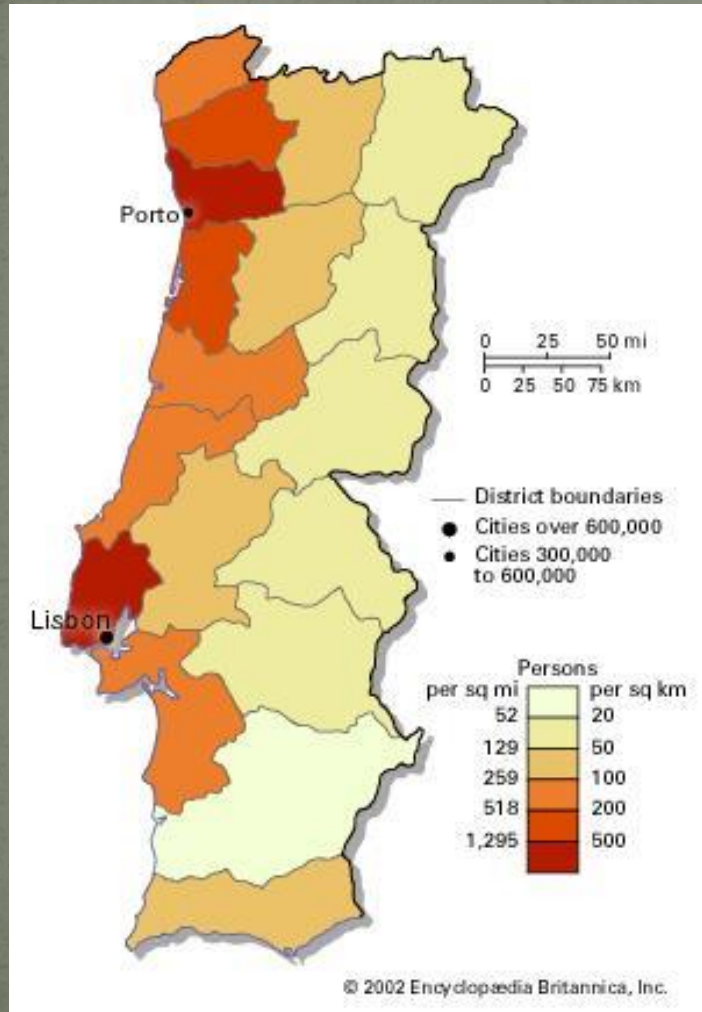


The climate in Portugal is very different from the north to the south.

In the north, the climate is **Oceanic**: it rains a lot and it can even snow in the high mountains.

In the south, the climate is **Mediterranean**, much hotter and very dry.

POPULATION



In Portugal live about 10.5 million people. A large part of the Portuguese population is concentrated **along the coast**.

The population density is higher in the two main cities, **Lisbon** and **Porto**.

ETHNIC GROUPS

Most of the Portuguese people belong to **the same ethnic group**. A single religion (Catholicism) and a single language have contributed to this ethnic and national unity.

Traditionally a country of emigration (about 5 million people of Portuguese origin live abroad), Portugal has recently received many immigrants from its former colonies.



Passport of an immigrant from Portugal to Brazil

RELIGION

More than 80% of Portuguese people are **Catholics**. Many of them make pilgrimages (*romarias*) to religious shrines.



The most famous shrine is the one at **Fatima** where the Virgin Mary appeared before three children in 1917.

There are also small Protestant, Orthodox, Muslim and Jewish communities. Less than 7% of population declare themselves to be non-religious.

LANGUAGE

<i>English</i>	<i>Portuguese</i>
good morning	bom dia
good afternoon	boa tarde
good evening	boa noite
yes	sim
no	não
please	por favor
thank you	men say "obrigado;" women say "obrigada"
goodbye	adeus

Portuguese is the official language of Portugal. It's a **Romance language**, closely related to the Spanish dialect Galician.

In the 15th and 16th centuries, **the language spread worldwide** when Portugal established a colonial and commercial empire. Even now, Portuguese is the official language in Brazil and in other former colonies, including Macao, in China.

LISBON (LISBOA)

The **capital** city of Portugal lies at the mouth of the Tagus River. It's one of the oldest cities in Europe and it was an important center of trade during the Roman era.

It was seriously damaged by an earthquake in 1755.





The Belem Tower is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It was built in the early 16th century. From here, many of the great Portuguese explorers set off on their voyages of discovery.

A traditional form of public transport in Lisbon is the tram.





The Pena Palace in **Sintra**, a town in the surrounding of Lisbon.

PORTO (OPORTO)

It's located along the **Douro river estuary** in Northern Portugal.

Portugal's name derives from the Roman name of this city, *Portus Cale*.



OTHER CITIES



Braga, Bom Jesus shrine

Coimbra





Faro, in the Algarve District



Rocky beach and cliffs in Faro

Portugal



Portugal's main cities map

HISTORY

Portugal was originally settled by the Celtic tribe of Lusitanians and by the Phoenicians, then it was part of the **Roman Empire**. In the Middle Age, the **Visigoths** and then the **Moors** (Muslims) invaded the Iberian Peninsula.

After the **Reconquista** Period, Portugal was one of the first European nations to be unified into a single country. It gained independence from Spain in 1143.

The Portuguese **Age of Discovery** began in the 15th century. Successful expeditions were made to Africa and the Americas and the **Portuguese Empire** expanded worldwide. Portugal's importance declined after the loss of Brazil in 1822.

In 1910, the monarchy was eliminated and a republic was declared.



Portuguese former colonies



The monument to the Discoveries, in Lisbon

POLITICS

Portugal is a **Republic**.

The chief of state is the President of the Republic, who is elected for a five-year term. The members of Parliament are elected every four years.

Since 1986, Portugal is a member of the **European Union**. It's currency is the **Euro**. Before the Euro was introduced, Portugal's currency was the escudo.



ECONOMY

- **Primary sector:**

Agricultural Products: cereal, potatoes, tomatoes, olives, grapes

Breeding: ovine, cattle, swine

Fishing, forestry (to obtain cork)

Mineral resources: iron, copper, zinc, tungsten

- **Secondary sector:**

Major Industries and products: textiles and footwear; wood, paper and cork; metalworking; chemicals; fish canning; ceramics; electronics equipment; ship construction; winery

- **Tertiary sector:**

Major exports: tungsten, cork and paper, clothing, wine and tomatoes

Major imports: oil, machinery, raw materials, foodstuffs.

Tourist destinations: seaside, historical cities



The Douro Valley,
rich in vineyards



Cork harvesting

CUSINE



Dobrada, a meat dish



Bacalhau à Brás,
a fish dish



Paisteis de nata



Porto, the most
famous wine

CULTURE

Fado is a Portuguese music style. The instruments used are the classical guitar and the Portuguese guitar.



Traditional outfit



FAMOUS PEOPLE



Vasco da Gama



Fernão de Magalhães

FAMOUS PEOPLE



Amalia Rodrigues,
“Queen of Fado”



Fernando Pessoa,
a famous poet

FAMOUS PEOPLE



Cristiano Ronaldo



Josè Mourinho