

# PORTUGAL

## GOLDEN VISA (ARI)

### INSIDE

PERMANENT RESIDENCY  
DIGITAL ASSETS FUND

### Investment Funds

Starting €300,000

### Discover

Hospitality Funds  
Artistic & Cultural donation  
Private Equity Funds

**BEST IN  
EUROPE**

TOP RATED GOLDEN VISA

**RESIDENCE  
PERMIT**

GRANTED FOR 2 YEARS

**PORTUGAL**

Stable country to live, work  
and study in Europe.





## World's Most Attractive Residence Program

# PORTUGAL

Portugal stands as a premier destination for both living and investment, offering a harmonious blend of natural beauty, rich culture, and economic stability. Portugal's unique combination of favorable climate, safety, modern infrastructure, and high living standards makes it an exceptional choice for individuals seeking a vibrant place to live, retire or invest.

### Foreign Investment

Foreign investment in Portugal is robust, with the total stock of foreign investment reaching €200 billion in 2024, equivalent to 71% of GDP. The government promotes stability and confidence to attract global investors, positioning Portugal as a European hub for innovation and sustainability.

### Golden Visa Attraction

Portugal's Golden Visa program stands as one of the most attractive residency-by-investment initiatives in the world, offering unique benefits to individuals and families seeking a stable and prosperous lifestyle in Europe. Introduced in 2012, this program not only opens the door to European residency but also fosters a pathway to citizenship under favorable conditions.

### High Standard of Living

Access to world-class healthcare, renowned education institutions, and an unparalleled quality of life in one of Europe's safest countries.

### Robust Growth

Portugal has been rated A stable outlook by Fitch. Portugal remains a top destination for inflow of investment funds (mainly venture capital, private equity) due to its stable economy, robust framework (operating under EU law), and impressive stable growth opportunities in high-growth sectors such as SMEs, technology, renewable energy, and sustainable infrastructure.

### Appealing to HNWIs

Portugal is appealing for HNWIs. Portugal is also among the top 7 countries globally for attracting high-net-worth individuals, with an estimated 1,400 new millionaires in 2025

### Minimal Stays

Applicants are only required to spend 7 days per year in Portugal, making it ideal for investors with global commitments.

**Portugal continues to stand out as a reliable, future-proof pathway to European residency and long-term security to HNWIs and Global Investors.**

# PORTUGAL GOLDEN VISA

ARI RESIDENCE INVESTMENT



## Legal Background

Portugal Golden Visa (ARI) under authorization of residence for investment activity (Article 90A) was first launched in Oct 2012 to revive the Portugal housing market from economic crisis. After 13 years of running, the scheme has become the most popular and attractive to third country nationals.

Portugal made amendments to ARI legislation on Oct 7, 2023 terminating property investments and capital transfer investments above 1.5m euros. after President signed the promulgation becoming a law.

Amendment introduced to article 75 of the Aliens Act, by article 183 of Act n.º 2/2020, of 31 March – State Budget to 2020 in force since 01/04/2020 and to 2020 –, the temporary residence permit for investment purposes is valid for two years from the date of issue of the corresponding title.

Note: Portuguese, EU/EEE/EEA nationals are not eligible to apply for the ARI/Golden Visa scheme.



## Qualifying Investments

The following investments qualify for portuguese golden visa scheme.

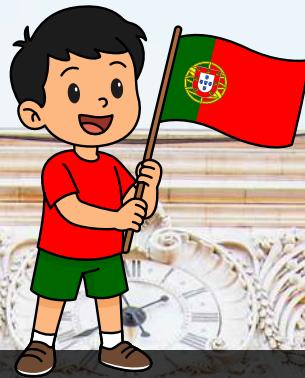
**1. Investment Funds:** Capital transfer with a value equal to or above €500,000 Euros, for purchasing shares in investment funds or in venture capital geared to capitalize small and medium companies that, in turn, must present a feasible capitalization plan.

**2. Scientific Research & Technology:** Capital transfer with a value equal to or above €500,000 Euros for investing in research activities conducted by public or private scientific research institutions involved in the national scientific or technology system

**4. Art, Culture & Public interest:** Capital transfer with a value equal to or above €250,000 Euros for investing in artistic output or supporting the arts, for reconstruction or refurbishment of the national heritage, through the local and central authorities, public institutions, public corporate sector, public foundations, private foundations of public interest, networked local authorities, local corporate sector organizations, local associations and public cultural associations, pursuing activities of artistic output, and reconstruction or maintenance of the national heritage. Projects in low density regions (NUTS III) receive 20% reduced in minimum investment for GV purpose.

**5. Employment:** Job creation at least 10 job positions.

**6. Capital Transfer –** Transfer of capital in an amount equal to or greater than €500,000, intended for the establishment of a commercial company with registered office in Portugal, combined with the creation of five permanent jobs, or to reinforce the share capital of a commercial company with registered office in Portugal, already established, with the creation of at least five permanent jobs or maintenance of at least ten jobs, with a minimum of five permanent jobs, and for a minimum period of three years



# PORTUGAL



Portugal is a developing, high-income mixed economy that is the 53rd-largest economy in the world and ranks 41st in the world in terms of GDP per capita measured by purchasing power parity. Portugal has a very high human development index and a skilled labour force being 35th largest export economy in the world. English is widely spoken along with German and Hungarian.

Portugal's GDP per capita of €28 700 ranks below the EU average (€37 600). It accounts for 1,2% of the EU's total GDP.

- Geographical size: 92 226 km<sup>2</sup>
- Population: 10 749 635
- Capital: Lisbon
- Official EU language(s): Portuguese
- EU Member State: since 1 January 1986
- Currency: euro (€)
- Euro area: member since 1 January 1999
- Schengen: member since 26 March 1995

# KEY BENEFITS



## Processing



Applications are processed by AIMA in 6-10 months.

## Long Stay



Long term Residence permit granted for 2 yrs (renewable)

## Family



Spouse and Children, Parents, Grandparents permitted.

## Work



Full Rights to Live, study and work in Portugal for GVP Investors

## Schengen



Visa Free Movement in Schengen Zone for 90/180 days.

## Low Prices



Portugal has Low living costs in Western Europe.

## Safety



Portugal is one of the safest countries in the World.

## Property



Affordable property prices in Eastern Europe.

## Minimal Stay



Just 14 days every 2 years.

## PR Card



Permanent Residence after 5 years

## Citizenship



Portugal citizenship after 5 years

## Taxes



No Taxes for Non-Residents



## ARI RESIDENCE VISA

The ARI investment visa can be obtained by a third-country citizen whose entry and stay in view of his investments in Portugal, or who submits a written undertaking that he undertakes to "implement an investment of a certain amount to enter Portugal. They must apply for long stay visa at Portugal consulate in their country.



€ **200,000**  
ONWARDS

## INVESTMENT ROUTES

- **PE/VC Investment Fund** – EUR 500,000
- **Art/Cultural Donation** – EUR 200,000
- **Science/Tech Research** – EUR 500,000
- **Commercial companies** – EUR 500,000

**Investment Capital divested after 5 years.**

## ARI RESIDENCE PERMIT

The ARI residence permit for guest investors may be granted to a third-country national whose entry and stay in Portugal is for his/her investments realised in Portugal. Application for the issuance/renewal of a residence permit may be submitted only in Portugal. For those who received D visa, they must arrive in Portugal within 30 days they must register at AIMA office for biometrics.



# RESIDENCE PERMIT

The Initial Residence permit shall be issued for **2 years** and can be renewed upon same conditions. It can be used to freely circulate in the schengen area for upto 90 days in any schengen state.



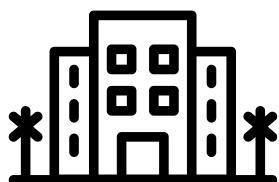
**PROCESSING  
12-18  
Months**

# FAMILY MEMBERS

Residency covers the investor, spouse, and children under 25 years old, Siblings (<17) and Parents each receiving biometric ID cards allowing free Schengen travel.



**MINIMUM STAY  
14 DAYS  
Every 2 Years**



# HOSPITALITY FUNDS



€ 300,000

## Portugal Prime Fund

The Prime Fund invests in prime hospitality hotel operations in Portugal. It offers investors solid returns and the opportunity to exit their investment with asset-backed protection

### Option 1 - EUR 300,000 (Financing option)

- Capital Recoverable after 5 yrs
- No returns (since it is financed)

### Option 2: - EUR 500,000 (Full Equity)

- Targeted IRR 10%
- Capital Recoverable
- Low Risk - 3/5
- Low fees



## 2. Mercan Fund

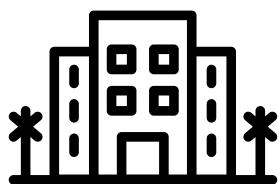
€ 500,000

## Private Equity Fund

Mercan Group now offers a private equity hospitality fund that invests in hotel operations in Portugal.

- 2% fixed return
- Buyback Available
- Exit after 6 years.
- Low Fees





# HOSPITALITY FUNDS

€ 500,000

## Octanova Horizon Fund

The Octanova Horizon Fund is a first Portugal Golden Visa Fund to combine Fixed Income with exposure to Digital Assets in a regulated, safe, and flexible manner.

### Open End Fund

- Minimum Subscription: 500k euro
- Targeted Returns (15-20% pa.)
- Golden Visa Eligible
- High Liquidity (Weekly redemption)
- Provides solid returns by investing in Portuguese Fixed Income and Digital Assets (BTC, ETH, SOL) in a Regulated, Safe and Flexible Fund.



## 4. Capital Green Fund III

€ 500,000

### Active Closed-end credit fund

Capital Green III focused on supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Portugal targeting companies with stable cash-flow profiles to prioritize prudent risk management and consistent returns. This Golden Visa-compliant investment opportunity is open to both professional and non-professional investors.



- 8% Targeted return
- Fees Absorbed by C Shares.
- Liquidity with Put option.
- No Tax on Non-Residents.



# PORTUGAL PASSPORT

The Portuguese passport remains a powerful and well respected EU travel document with visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to over 186 countries including US, Canada, UK, China, EU etc, ranking it highly in terms of travel freedom according to Henley Passport Index.

Portugal passport can be acquired after 5 years with minimal stays and passing A2 Portuguese language test.



**186**  
NATIONS



**6<sup>th</sup>**  
POWERFUL

## US Visa Waiver (VWP)

Portuguese nationals can benefit from US visa waiver program by applying for ESTA

## E-1/E-2 Visas

Since March 15, 2024, Portugal was included in US E-1/E-2 visa treaty list of countries





# PORUGAL PERMANENT RESIDENCE

- **Residence:** After 5 years of holding temporary residence permit.
- **Language Test:** knowledge of the Portuguese language in the A2 level.



# 5 YEARS

If a foreigner has lived in Portugal with an issued temporary residence permit for at least 5 years, then he or she shall be entitled to request a permanent residence permit.

# PORUGAL CITIZENSHIP

- Meet 14 days every 2 years.
- Waiting time counts towards citizenship in Portugal.
- Expect 10+ years due to IRN backlogs.



# 5 YEARS

- No criminal record
- Meet all conditions
- has a legal source of income.
- No PR required.

**Law changing soon making it difficult for foreigners to request citizenship.**



# APPLICATION PROCESS



**1-2 YEARS**  
AIMA PROCESSING

**1**

## EVALUATION FORM

To be completed by client.  
Reviewed within 2 working days by  
our legal department.

**2**

## CONTRACTS

Contract Preparation & Review –  
sent by our support team

**3**

## SIGNING / PAYMENT

Contract Signature & First Payment  
according to the contract.

**4**

## LAWYER

Lawyer assigned – guides and  
prepares required documents.

**5**

## INVESTMENT TRANSFER

Funds transferred in accordance with  
the agreement to bank accounts

**6**

## APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Application Submission – via Portugaln  
Embassy or directly in Portugal.

**7**

## BIOMETRICS

Biometric Appointment & State Fee  
Payment – in Portugal.

**8**

## ID CARDS ISSUED

ID Cards Issued – after biometrics.

**9**

## RENEWAL

ID card Renewal – done through  
lawyer. One visit required.



# FAQ

## Common Questions



### 1. Do i get right to work with Portugal golden visa?

Yes, you can work. Also family members.

### 2. Can i invest in Government bonds?

This route is closed.

### 3. Can i buy property in Portugal?

This pathway is closed. Only investing in funds eligible for Golden visa

### 4. What is the processing time.?

Expect AIMA process times to take between 12-20 months, much faster if all documents in order.

### 5. What returns are available with Real estate investment fund?

Depends on the fund 2% to 20%

### 6. Do you help with opening bank account in Portugal?

Bank account is not mandatory. Our lawyer can help you acting as a proxy.

### 7. What additional fees applicable?

AIMA Fee - Approx 6k euro per person and Lawyer fee of 8k euro (one time 5 year package)

### 8. Does Portugal permit dual citizenship?

Yes

### 9. Do i have to personally visit Portugal?

Yes, one day for biometrics at AIMA office.

### 11. What documents are required?

A lot of documents will be required from your side.

- Passport copies and ID cards.
- No criminal record certificate (less than 3 months)
- Birth and Marriage certificate
- Proof of source of funds (bank statements)
- Utility bills for Proof of residence.

All documents must be apostilled and translated.

### 12. What services do you provide in Portugal?

We offer complete solution and support related to Portugal immigration needs. We have in-depth knowledge of immigration laws and regulations. We ensure to help our clients with highly satisfied services to obtain residence permit in Portugal. Our team of professionals deliver all kind of legal assistance and also help in preparing all required documents. We will work with you throughout the immigration process.

### 13. How much time it takes to get Citizenship?

Expect 10+ years waiting time due to IRN backlogs.

### 14. Where should i submit the visa application?

If you are outside Portugal, at the nearest Portugal embassy. If you personally in Portugal at the OIF or BMBAH immigration directorate.

### 15. What type of residence permit granted for Golden investments?

TRP (Temporary residence permit valid for 10 years). You must meet additional conditions for PR and citizenship including passing Portugal language test.

### 16. Any restrictions apply for Portugal GV?

Nationals from Sanctioned countries (eg. Russia, Belarus, Iran, North Korea etc..) may not apply. Please double check with us.

### 17. How much is your agency fee?

We do not charge agency fee to our clients. All Our services are free of charge.



**“WE ARE NOT  
CITIZENS OF JUST  
OUR HOMETOWNS  
OR NATIONS, BUT  
OF THE WORLD.”**

**– Socrates.**



# **BEST** CITIZENSHIPS

## About us

Best Citizenships is a global brand and premium advisory platform for CBI and Golden Visas. Founded in 2011, assisting wealthy investors and families with citizenship and residence by investment solutions.

We are licensed subagents for CBI/GV programs. We work directly with government authorized law firms and property developers without intermediaries, making it cheaper and faster for clients.

We work with law firms and property developers in 15 countries world.

Trusted, Experience and Licensed Advisors. Celebrating 14 years of service in 2025.

**Best Citizenships (BC)**  
Trusted Citizenship Advisory Platform

Ankerkoz 2-4  
Budapest 1061  
Hungary

Whatsapp :[+36 70 550 4957](tel:+36705504957)

[www.bestcitizens.com](http://www.bestcitizens.com)  
[info@bestcitizens.com](mailto:info@bestcitizens.com)

FOLLOW US IN SOCIAL MEDIA



Our platforms makes it cheaper, faster and easy for clients.

