



PORTUGAL - 2014



SCARBORO G&CC | APRIL 7, 2014 - APRIL 14, 2014



Well, here we are, only a couple of weeks away from our golf adventure in Portugal. Please find all of the information related to the trip in this convenient book that you can access anywhere, any time. Feel free to print any pages you would like to take with you.

Enclosed in this documentation package are the following:

- Tee times.
- Schedule of other events.
- Hotel descriptions.
- Golf Course descriptions.
- Tips and General Information.

Once you've had a chance to study the enclosed materials, please call us at (905) 943-9623 (or toll-free at 1-888-824-0542) if you have any questions or would like additional information. We are sure that you're going to have a great trip and we thank you for allowing GOLF AWAY Tours to make the arrangements.

Sincerely yours,

T.J. Rule, Matthew MacKay and Kathy Ferrante

SCARBORO G&CC

GOLF TOUR OF PORTUGAL

1. Group Members

- John and Katie Schwemlein
- Barrie and Judy Cox
- Alf and Darlene Stutzmann
- Jeff and Barb Wood
- Ted and Shirley Rule
- Victor Wong
- Donna Swanson
- Norma Patenaude
- Terry Kirkup
- TJ Rule

2. Documents - International Travel

Valid passports are required for entry into Portugal. The passports must be valid for a minimum of 3 months beyond the end of your trip. You should carry your passport, as well as other identification, with you at all times. **DO NOT PACK THEM AWAY.**

3. Flight Information

All flights have been self-arranged. Please ensure you are clear on your departure times and terminals, and check the airline's website for updates on flight status prior to travelling to the airport.

a) Departure Timing

The Air Transat charter flights to Lisbon depart from Terminal 3 at Toronto's Pearson International Airport. We strongly recommend that you arrive at Pearson **at least** 2-1/2 hours prior to departure. Air Transat's counter will open 4 hours prior to departure and check-in will close 60 minutes prior to departure. Anyone arriving after that will not be checked in or boarded.

We also strongly recommend that you contact Air Transat (at **1-877-872-6728** in Toronto) 24 hours prior to your scheduled flights to confirm departure times.

For your return flight from Lisbon Airport, we will be transferred to the airport a minimum of 2 hours prior to departure.

b) Baggage Allowance

Anyone flying via Air Transat – Economy Class will be allowed to check 2 pieces of luggage (golf clubs to a max. weight of 20 kg or 44 lbs. not included - they are carried on a complimentary basis), which can't weigh more than 50 kg. (110 lbs.) combined. Checked luggage in excess of this limit will be charged an overweight charge of \$75. You will also be allowed 1 piece of carry-on luggage.

Liquid bans are still in effect, however you can now carry 3.4 oz. (100 ml) containers of such items as toothpaste, beverages, creams, hair products, sun screen and lip gloss. All liquids must be carried in a zip-lock clear plastic bag and be a total maximum of 1 litre. If you require liquid medication, please ensure that the original prescription is attached. Please do not pack any sharp objects in your carry-on luggage as they could be confiscated. Also, if you have electronic equipment in your carry-on luggage, it must be operational as Security personnel could ask you to turn everything on to make sure the equipment is functional.

As you no doubt know, airport security procedures are evolving on a day-to-day basis. For the most up-to-date information about what is and is not permitted re carry-ons, please visit Air Transat's website at www.airtransat.com.

4. Ground Transportation

Your ground transportation will be provided by Barraqueiro Transportes. They will pick us up at Lisbon airport upon arrival and transfer the group to the Crowne Plaza Vilamoura. They will also transfer the group back up to Lisbon on April 12th, including a stop at a winery on the way. Barraqueiro will also transfer us to and from Oitavos Dunes on the 13th, and from the hotel to the airport on the morning of the 14th.

While in Vilamoura, transfers to the golf courses will be provided by the Crowne Plaza Vilamoura.

If you would like to rent a car when in Portugal, Golf Away Tours can arrange that. Please let us know as soon as possible.

There is more information on renting a car in the "All About Portugal" section of this document, including information regarding highway tolls.

5. Accommodations

(Please copy the following and leave behind with family, colleagues, etc.)

You will be staying in two separate hotels during the trip. The 5-star Hotel Crowne Plaza Vilamoura – Algarve, located right on the beach in Vilamoura, adjacent to the Vilamoura Casino and within easy walking distance of the bars and restaurants of Vilamoura Marina. The 5-star Tivoli Lisboa is in the heart of Lisbon, within easy access to shopping, sight-seeing, and great restaurants. Mr. and Mrs. Stutzmann will also be spending an additional night on April 6th at the Tryp Lisboa Aeroporto.

All charges and taxes, gratuities excepted, have been prepaid. The address and contact details for the hotels (as it would be contacted from Canada) are:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone/Fax /Email</u>
Apr. 7-12	Hotel Crowne Plaza Vilamoura - Algarve	Rua Do Oceano Atlantico Vilamoura, 8125-478 Portugal	011-351-289-381-600 (Fax: 011-351-289-381-999) E-mail: geral@cpvilamoura.com
Apr. 13, 14	Tivoli Lisboa Hotel Lisbon	Av. da Liberdade, 185 1269-050 Lisboa Portugal	011-351-213-198-900 (Fax: 011-351-213-198-950) E-mail: reservations@tivolihotels.com
Apr. 6 (Stutzmann's)	Tryp Lisboa Aeroporto	Aeroporto Internacional de Lisboa 1700-008 Lisboa Portugal	011-351-218-425-000 (Fax: 011-351-218-425-099) E-mail: tryp.lisboa.aeroporto@meliaportugal.com

Should you wish to call or fax the hotel from in-country, simply drop the "011" and the "351", e.g., to call The Crowne Plaza, dial 289-381-600.

6. **Golf**

The following summarizes the golf games that are booked for the group. All green fees have been prepaid. The groups are outlined later in the document.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Golf Club</u>	<u># of Golfers</u>	<u>First Tee Time</u>	<u>Telephone No.</u>
Tue., Apr. 8	Oceanico - Old	13	9:50 a.m.	289-310-333
Wed., Apr. 9	Vale do Lobo - Ocean	8	11:52 a.m.	289-353-000
Thu., Apr. 10	Oceanico - Victoria	13	11:20 a.m.	289-310-333
Fri., Apr. 11	Vale do Lobo - Royal	13	10:00 a.m.	289-353-000
Sat., Apr. 12	Oceanico – Millennium	6	8:34 a.m.	289-310-333
Sun., Apr. 13	Oitavos Dunes	13	11:24 a.m.	214-860-600

Pull carts are available at all other courses if you need them, at a cost of €5 or €6. Power carts have been pre-booked for John and Katie for Oitavos Dunes. Carts at the other courses cannot be pre-booked. Cart fees and optional buckets of practice balls will be payable at time of play.

7. **Meals**

As part of your Golf Away Tours package, a full breakfast is included each day. Also provided is dinner at the banquet on the night of the 12th. You will be responsible for all other meals.

“Smart casual” attire should be suitable in all dining instances. The Scarboro “dress code” is appropriate for all golf.

8. Currencies

The Euro (present exchange rate is approx. 1 Euro = \$ 1.55 Cdn.) is the currency of Portugal.

We would suggest that you arrange (through your own bank, if you give them enough time, or through a currency exchange company, e.g. Continental Currency – in some large malls) for a small amount of Euros to take with you. As there are ATM's readily available throughout the Algarve, you can access funds as required while you're there. In addition, all hotels, golf clubs and restaurants take all major credit cards. However, only a few of the larger establishments take debit cards at this time.

9. Not Included in Your Golf Away Tours Package

- a) All meals (except breakfast and the banquet dinner on the 12th), beverages and other refreshments,
- b) Any golf games played or other activities that are not specifically identified in your itinerary,
- c) Payment for any golf carts and/or practice facilities that you have chosen or should choose to use,
- d) Gratuities to any hotel, restaurant or other service staff,
- e) Shopping, souvenirs and other purchases.
- f) Negative outcomes at the Vilamoura Casino.



TEE SHEET

TUESDAY AM	Oceanico - Old Course			Amateur Tee
09:50AM	T. Rule (14)	D. Swanson (19)	N. Patenaude (32)	
10:00AM	V. Wong (14)	T. Kirkup (0)	J. Wood (14)	
10:10AM	B. Wood (18)	K. Schwemlein (18)	T. Rule (2)	
10:20AM	J. Schwemlein (18)	B. Cox (13)	A. Stutzmann (15)	J. Cox (18)
WEDNESDAY AM	Vale do Lobo - Ocean Course			Men's Amateur (meters) Tee
11:52AM	J. Wood (14)	B. Wood (18)	D. Swanson (19)	T. Kirkup (0)
12:00PM	N. Patenaude (32)	T. Rule (2)	T. Rule (14)	V. Wong (14)
THURSDAY AM	Oceanico - Victoria Course			Amateur Tee
11:20AM	N. Patenaude (32)	A. Stutzmann (15)	B. Wood (18)	
11:30AM	T. Kirkup (0)	T. Rule (14)	V. Wong (14)	
11:40AM	T. Rule (2)	J. Wood (14)	D. Swanson (19)	
11:50AM	J. Schwemlein (18)	B. Cox (13)	K. Schwemlein (18)	J. Cox (18)
FRIDAY AM	Vale do Lobo - Royal Course			Reg Tee
10:00AM	V. Wong (16)	J. Wood (16)	T. Rule (16)	
10:10AM	K. Schwemlein (21)	B. Wood (20)	N. Patenaude (36)	
10:20AM	B. Cox (15)	J. Cox (21)	T. Kirkup (0)	
10:30AM	D. Swanson (22)	T. Rule (3)	A. Stutzmann (17)	J. Schwemlein (20)

SATURDAY AM	Oceanico - Millennium Course			Amateur Tee
08:34AM	D. Swanson (19)	T. Rule (14)	N. Patenaude (32)	
08:42AM	T. Kirkup (0)	T. Rule (2)	V. Wong (14)	
SUNDAY AM	Oitavos Dunes			Members Tee
11:24AM	T. Rule (15)	V. Wong (15)	J. Wood (16)	
11:36AM	N. Patenaude (35)	B. Wood (20)	D. Swanson (21)	
11:48AM	T. Rule (3)	J. Cox (20)	B. Cox (14)	
12:00PM	K. Schwemlein (20)	A. Stutzmann (16)	J. Schwemlein (19)	T. Kirkup (0)

OTHER EVENTS

MON, 04/07 :: 05:00PM

Welcome Cocktail Reception - Crowne Plaza Vilamoura Lobby Bar

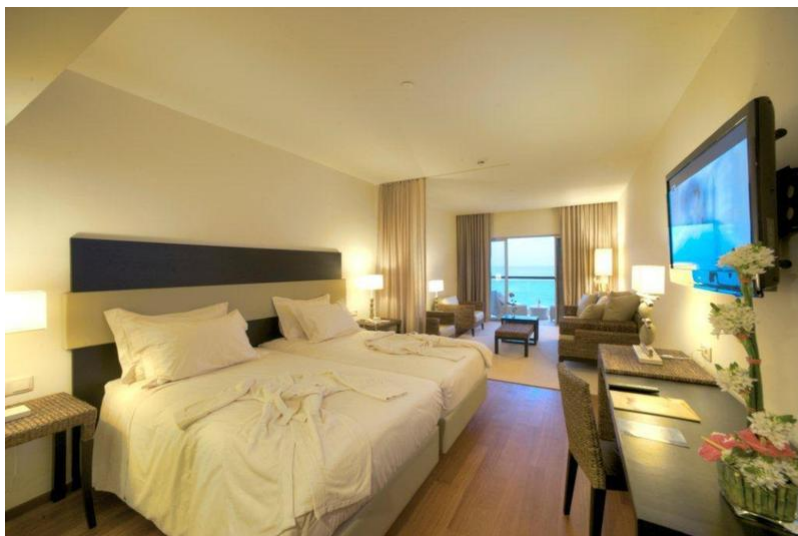
THU, 04/10 :: 06:00PM

Banquet Dinner Hosted By Terry

SAT, 04/12 :: 03:30PM

Wine Tour At Bacalhoa

Crowne Plaza Vilamoura Algarve Hotel & Spa



Rua do Oceano Atlântico
8125-478
Vilamoura
Portugal

GPS: 37° 4'22.74"N / 8° 6'52.52"W
tel (351) 289 381 600
fax. (351) 289 381 652

The new Crowne Plaza Vilamoura has a fantastic, unique location. Situated directly on Vilamoura beach, next to the Casino and a few metres from the internationally renowned Vilamoura Marina, it is the perfect hotel for your holidays. This unique hotel, where nothing has been left to chance, is ready to welcome you. Its hospitality, comfort and quality will always be present, so that you can enjoy complete relaxation and be sure of some unforgettable holidays.

Now fully refurbished and decorated in a contemporary yet comfortable style, this hotel, with direct access to the beach, offers a total of 327 rooms and suites, all with a private balcony and panoramic view. A unique place with a dedicated professional team.

Also available are shuttle services, multi-purpose sports area, gym, hairdresser and more!

Golf lovers find this hotel their ideal base. In addition to taking advantage of the putting green outside the hotel, they can experience all the natural beauty and quality that makes the Vilamoura golf courses, just a few minutes away, so special.

Staying at the Crowne Plaza Vilamoura means being near the best of what the Algarve has to offer. Faro International Airport is only 30 minutes away, and in only a short drive you can discover a unique region. Its historical heritage, gastronomy, coastline with fantastic beaches, protected nature areas and well-kept secrets are well worth investigating.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Comfort, wellbeing and quality are the hallmarks of the Crowne Plaza Vilamoura. Our facilities have been designed with the one unwavering objective of providing maximum comfort to our guests. As an extension of this comfort, all rooms and suites have a private balcony, with the Algarve as a horizon.

Our Junior Suite Sea Front rooms are very spacious comprising a bedroom and a sitting-room. This makes them ideal for family holidays as it ensures convenience and comfort for everyone.

All these rooms have a private balcony with a splendid view of the Atlantic Ocean, the garden and the hotel's extraordinary swimming pool. Also included are access to the Almond Tree Wellness Spa facilities one time per stay, and complimentary wireless internet in the room.

Facilities:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Air conditioning | Minibar |
| • Wi-Fi internet access | Direct dial telephone |
| • LCD television | Cable TV |
| • Film rental | Nespresso coffee machine |
| • Iron and ironing board | Hair dryer |
| • In-room safe | 24-hour room service |

RESTAURANTS

Gastronomy is one of the Algarve's strong points, so this is a don't miss at the Crowne Plaza Vilamoura.

The region's typical dishes, dominated by fish and shellfish, will be unforgettable taste experiences, as will the poolside snacks.

Appreciate our range of gourmet menus specially prepared for connoisseurs of Portuguese and international cuisine.

Cataplana Restaurant - In a country like Portugal, meals and gastronomy play a very important role in people's lives. A meal is a social occasion when we sample the best that life has to offer us. This is why the Cataplana Restaurant offers a variety of Portuguese and international dishes, all of high quality. This is always a good choice, whether you opt for the buffet or the à la carte menu, and whenever the weather permits, you can dine "al fresco".

Caravela Bar & Lounge - Enjoy fabulous evenings among friends, or sit on the terrace gazing out to sea or admiring a magnificent sunset. The Caravela Bar awaits you, whether for a lively night of live music or for winding down in a cosy fireside ambience.

Caravela Seafront - There is nothing better than taking advantage of the region's excellent climate by having a drink by the pool. The Caravela Seafront offers drinks and light meals by the pool. It is open in the summer or when the weather permits.

Wine Cellar - A privileged space in Cataplana Restaurant, ideal for lunch or dinner and wine tasting. Available a wide selection of Portuguese wines.

LEISURE AREAS

Your holidays will only be complete if you can take away wonderful memories.

At Crowne Plaza Vilamoura the leisure areas have been designed to offer unforgettable moments to all our guests whatever age they may be. Here you will find entertainment for all the family and experience magic moments of relaxation and well-being.

Tivoli Lisboa Hotel



Av. da Liberdade, 185
1269-050 Lisboa, Portugal
GPS: N 38° 43' 16,42" , W 9° 8' 49,35"
Tel: (351) 21 319 89 00
Fax: (351) 21 319 89 50

Located on Avenida da Liberdade, this elegant 5-star Lisbon hotel is set right in the heart of the city. Renowned for its business meeting facilities for top executives, the Tivoli Lisboa continues the tradition of being a well-known meeting point in the city. A weekend break in this Lisbon luxury hotel means you can enjoy a drink in the privacy of the Terraço Bar with a superb view over Lisbon, or take a moment to relax in the Tivoli Caffè. We suggest a visit to our lively Brasserie Flo Lisbon restaurant, which satisfies even the most discerning of palates. At the Terraço restaurant enjoy the selection of stylish dishes, accompanied by a unique view over the city of Lisbon.

ACCOMMODATIONS

These luxurious rooms and suites will meet all of your requirements. They are all equipped with LCD TVs, LCD monitor in the bathrooms, Wireless Internet, individual reading lights and night lights, I-Home (I-pod connection) and coffee making machine.

CLASSIC ROOMS

Located on the 1st to 5th floors of the hotel with an area of approximately 20m², these rooms have double or twin beds. They have views of Avenida da Liberdade or our interior patio. The 199 Classic Rooms have a living area with comfortable armchairs and coffee table, executive desk and a bathroom in marble. The design of these rooms has a classical touch and are decorated in subtle shades.

COLLECTION ROOMS

All Collection Rooms are located on floors 6 to 8 of the hotel and have King Size or double beds, an exclusive private bar, living area, Nespresso coffee machine, executive desk, wireless Internet access and a modern bathroom in marble with telephone and LCD TV. These 59 rooms cover an area of 20m² each and have a superb view of the international Avenida da Liberdade or our inner patio. Collection guests benefit from an Private Concierge Service and personalized check-in. All rooms have exclusive decoration and a unique design concept.

JUNIOR SUITES

The 10 Junior Suites each cover a generous 40 m² in area and have two distinct sections. The living area has a double sofa, table and chairs, television, Nespresso coffee machine, mini-bar and even an executive working area. The sleeping area has a double bed and LCD TV while the spacious bathroom rounds off this category of rooms.

Facilities:

- T-Bed (exclusively designed for Tivoli)
- Iron and ironing board
- Wireless Internet
- Safe
- Mini Bar
- Work desk
- Armchair
- Telephone with 2 lines
- LCD Television
- Delta Q Coffee Machine
- Hair drier
- iHome
- Tivoli Hotels & Resorts Toiletries

RESTAURANTS

Brasserie Flo Lisboa - Recreating the feel of French brasseries, the Brasserie Flo Lisboa brings together the best of traditional French cuisine with culture and the theatre. With seating for 120 and free valet parking for restaurant clients, it is the ideal restaurant to enjoy any type of meal in the central Lisbon dining.

Terraco Restaurant - At the Terraço Restaurant, a jewel in the crown of Lisbon wining and dining, you can sample mouth-watering traditional Portuguese cuisine while you gaze out on to a stunning view of the city from the top floor of the Tivoli Lisboa. Open from 12.30 to 15.00 and from 19.30 to 23.00, this restaurant in downtown Lisbon is the ideal place for a business lunches or exclusive dinners.

Tivoli Caffè- Located in the Lobby of the Tivoli Lisboa, this bar with its relaxed and informal atmosphere is the ideal Lisbon bar to take a break from work, hold a quick business meeting, relax or catch up on things with a group of friends.

Sky Bar- With a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere, this bar in the centre of Lisbon is famous for its entertaining Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Located on the top floor of the Tivoli Lisboa hotel and with a superb view over the city of Lisbon, you can enjoy a great evening out in the capital.

Hotel Tryp Aeroporto Lisboa

Rua C | 1700-008 Lisboa

T: (351) 218 425 000 (351) 707 282 707 | F: (351) 218 425 099 | tryp.lisboa.aeroporto@meliaportugal.com

The new hotel TRYP Lisboa Aeroporto is a 4 star hotel with 167 rooms, with the TRYP Lisbon Center, a Congress Center and Meeting Rooms with more than 2,000 m2, a complete spa, among other services.

Feel the excitement of one of the busiest European capitals from our hotel Tryp Lisboa Aeroporto. With a privileged location in the city, it has at its disposal refined cuisine, chic shops, impressive architecture and lively nightlife. Our hotel in Lisbon, Portugal, is situated right next to the International Airport of Lisbon.

Whether you opt for a Standard room with elegant views of the city, Fitness room with exercise equipment and a spacious executive suite, you can relax comfortably in our hotel in Lisbon, Portugal. Each morning, charge your batteries with an excellent buffet breakfast before leaving for the city. Feel invigorated with a cocktail in our lounge, then indulge in the local flavours in our restaurant. To help get the job done, we have at disposal a business center and free wireless internet.

Situated next to Lisbon International Airport, the Hotel Tryp Lisboa Aeroporto, located in Terminal 1 of Portela, next to the Second Circular Road / A1, the main entrance road to Lisbon.

Hotel Amenities

- Free Internet
- Mini Gym and Outdoor swimming pool
- Restaurant
- Meeting Rooms
- Parking
- 1 km from airport
- Near FIL (Parque das Nações)
- Near Colombo Shopping Center and Vasco da Gama Center

Oceanico Old



The Algarve region stretches out over more than 200 kilometres of southern Portuguese coastline, from the Spanish border in the east to the Costa Vicentina in the west. The sheltered marshes and sand dunes of the east change into wonderful beaches protected by beautiful cliffs as you move westwards along the coast, before reaching the dramatic rocks and hidden caves of the wilder Atlantic coast. More than 70 per cent of the Algarve coastline is protected nature reserves, which play host to large numbers of migrating birds in spring and autumn.

The coastal town of Vilamoura is situated in a perfect central location and the visitor will soon appreciate why it is arguably Europe's largest and most successful golfing destination. The climate, landscape and on and off course facilities are all perfect for year-round golf. In fact, the governing bodies in the area are so keen to ensure that the golfer is satisfied whilst at the same time respecting the local Portuguese people and supporting the indigenous flora and fauna that all of the Vilamoura courses are the first in the world to be environmentally certified by the ISO 14001 standard.

A gem in this Portuguese golfing Utopia is the Old course – now operated by Oceânico Golf who own one of Europe's biggest portfolios of courses – and it's the second oldest course in the Algarve, designed by Frank Pennink. The Old opened for play in 1969 and has undeniably remained one of Portugal's and Europe's finest courses ever since. Pennink wanted to build a course in the Algarve that would remind the rapidly growing number of British travellers of the great inland courses back home, something he has admirably succeeded in achieving. To ensure the Vilamoura Old course maintained this enviable position, in

1997 Hawtree & Sons managed a significant amount of upgrading and remodelling, which also included the installation of a sophisticated new irrigation system.

As with so many of the best courses, there was little need to perform major earthwork feats to develop Oceânico Old, just a simple, sympathetic use of the existing natural contouring, terrain and vegetation. The tees are always beautifully kept; the fairways are wonderfully crafted and tree-lined, making straight driving crucial; the greens small, especially on the par three holes, and the hazards perfectly placed to catch the errant stroke. Rather unusually, the course par is set at 73; however, the course layout was changed by swapping the 5th and 18th holes around, reducing the number of par fives on the back nine to three. Every hole will stay with the player after a round, such is the majesty of Oceânico Old. Almost lulling players into a false sense of security, the first four holes are relatively straightforward – as long as your drive finds the fairway. The 4th is a cracking short hole over a lake to a small, sloping green. The rest of the front nine call for total concentration, and careful shot and club selection. The par five 5th may offer up a birdie from the daily tees but only to the best of drives and long iron or fairway wood approaches to a sloping, well-guarded green. Undoubtedly the pick of the front nine and probably of the entire round is the SI 1 8th hole. Playing 440-plus yards from the Medal tee, the hole slopes down hill to a fairway bunker, doglegs gently to the right and then rises back up to a narrow green well protected by trees all around. A par here is a rare and wonderful event. Things don't get any easier on the back nine. The 10th, 11th and 12th holes test the golfer's range of shots and accuracy off the tee. Watch out for the collection of fairway bunkers on the 12th : they are large, deep and perfectly placed to catch a player's second shot on this 530-yard par five. The 16th is the last of the par fives and at more than 550 yards, it will call for three excellent shots to a narrow green protected by three large bunkers. As befits a course of this quality, a well-designed and refined clubhouse and restaurant complement the excellent Oceânico Old course, allowing the golfer to sit back and relax.

Vale do Lobo - Ocean



The Ocean Golf Course features undulating fairways which run alongside nature reserve, before leading gently down to the shores of the Atlantic

The front nine are located on a slightly hilly land which characterises Vale do Lobo, surrounded by pine trees with sea view from several holes.

The back nine in particular are characterised by spectacular ocean views, with some holes almost stretching down to the beach. On reaching the brow of the hill on the 11th, players come suddenly upon a sight fit to take the most concentrated golfer's breath away.

The fairway runs directly down towards the beach and, for the next few holes, outstanding views and Atlantic breezes are guaranteed to make a player's round exhilarating, even if his game is below expectations.

Oceanico Victoria



The Oceanico Victoria , which covers some 90 hectares, is the most recent golf course project of Arnold Palmer in Portugal. As one of the best and most sophisticated golf courses in Europe, every care has been taken to ensure the preservation of the wetlands and the typical vegetation of carob, olive and almond trees. Several lakes, occupying 13 hectares, provide mirrors of water and strategic reservoirs for irrigation.

The course features 5 or 6 tees per hole; wide, undulating fairways; extensive water hazards and cleverly positioned bunkers. In addition there is an exceptional driving range and a putting green of some 2,500m².

The Oceanico Victoria golf course is an 18-hole, par 72 championship layout, measuring 6609m from the back tees. Opened in 2004, Oceanico Victoria is a unique, unforgettable experience for all who play there, and is a major venue for top international tournaments:

Host to the Portugal Masters 2007-2013

Host to the PGA World Cup 2005

Vale do Lobo - Royal



Vale do Lobo is the Algarve's most senior golf resort, founded in 1962 and it is currently the largest luxury resort in Portugal. Much has happened at the Vale since Sir Henry Cotton laid out the first course at Vale do Lobo in the early 60s. Cotton's original layout has been split in half to form two new courses, the Royal and the Ocean and many houses have sprung up around the course.

The Royal course is widely regarded as the better of Vale do Lobo's two layouts. American architect Rocky Roquemore laid out the nine new holes in the late 90s, which are routed over gently undulating ground further inland. Thirteen holes from the Royal course are combined with five holes from the Ocean course to form the composite layout, which was used to stage the Portuguese Open in 2003. It will therefore come as no surprise that the Royal course is a supremely challenging test of golf.

Undoubtedly the star of the Royal course is the par three 16th. This cliff top signature hole measures 224 yards from the back tees. This is probably the most photographed hole in Portuguese golf and the view from the back tee which is perched on the edge of the cliff is one of our alltime favourites. This is a stunning hole without a shadow of doubt.

Oceanico Millennium



Oceanico market the Old and Victoria as their top two courses at Vilamoura – ahead of the Millennium, Pinhal and Laguna – as they are rightly a cut above the others, but that is not to say the latter three are not very good courses in their own right.

The Millennium is the best of this other trio and it opened, as its name says, in the year 2000. Half the holes on the course once belonged to the former 27 hole Laguna course (built in 1990) and the other nine were added to create a new 18 hole layout. The refurbishment of the old holes and creation of the new outward half were overseen by Martin Hawtree, the renowned course architect.

The pick of the holes on the front nine is the 165 yard, par three 6th where the green is protected by water on the left and a large bunker on the right. The toughest hole on the back nine is the 425 yard, par four 16th, which requires the tee shot to be played uphill to a fairway with bunkers either side of the landing area. The approach shot must then flirt with sand either side of the putting surface before being holed out.

Oitavos Dunes



Travelling west along the northern banks of the Tagus River from Lisbon and passing through the pleasant and lively seaside towns of Estoril and Cascais will soon bring us to the resort of Quinta da Marinha. Located in the Sintra Cascais National Park, sensitive development of the area has been underway now for a number of years and has already included a fine hotel and golf course. Oitavos Dunes is a most recent addition in golfing terms to the area and was inaugurated in September 2001. The location of Oitavos Dunes is on land at the most westerly tip of Europe and the course mixes wondrous views of the Atlantic Ocean with the stunning backdrop of the Sintra Mountains. Designed by the renowned Arthur Hills, Oitavos Dunes is one of only two European courses that bear his name. Most of Hills's courses are in the USA and as a consequence there was always the danger that he may have built a stereotypical US 'target golf' course. Thankfully, Oitavos Dunes has none of that feel and is a wonderful test that perfectly utilises the rich tapestries of this area of Portugal to create eighteen challenging but playable holes.

Oitavos Dunes is a par 71 course that measures just over 6,900 yards from the competition tees. The course is a lovely mix of woodland and linkstype holes that have been expertly laid to make the most of the existing landscape. All the holes flow well and have testing hazards and excellent greens that are always firm and fast and full of slopes and borrows. The first four holes will demonstrate to the golfer the quality to come without actually being too testing. Having said that they are all treelined, have careful bunkering and small, tricky greens that will require controlled tee shots and accurate approaches. The next twelve

holes play with more of a links feel to them with lovely sandy ground, dunes and fewer trees with which to contend. For the final two holes it's back into the trees and a tough finish to a great course.

The pick of the holes on the front nine are the 5th, 7th and 8th. The 5th is a par four measuring 477 yards and plays slightly uphill to a partly hidden green. The 7th and 8th are back to back long par fives, the second being the hardest hole on the course. Both require three long, controlled shots avoiding the trees, dunes and bunkers to achieve par. On the back nine the pick of the holes are the 14th, 17th and 18th but none of the others can be said to let the course down. The 14th is probably the signature hole, and is a wonderful par three that can play much longer than its 168 yards suggests. The tee shot is played across a storm ravine that then runs all along the right hand side of the hole. The final two holes are wonderful tough tests to finish the round, as they are both par fours in excess of 475 yards. The 17th is slightly easier and has a downhill approach but the green is tricky and the bunker front left must be avoided. The 18th is a classic finishing hole, it is long, dogleg left with a narrow fairway and trees and dunes bordering the rough on both sides.

TIPS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

PORTUGAL

CURRENCY

You will need money for meals not included in your tour package, entertainment, shopping, ancillary golfing expenses, e.g., course pocket guides, pull carts, caddies, etc., and some gratuities.

All major credit cards are generally accepted, and are extremely convenient (especially in an emergency), we suggest that you take these with you. As yet, debit cards are not accepted nearly as readily as credit cards, although some of the large hotels and stores may accept them. Making major purchases with credit cards often provides you with an attractive exchange rate and can reduce the need to carry cash. Still, there may be some merchants who do not accept credit cards, especially if the purchases are small.

ATM's are as prevalent in Portugal as they are here and can be accessed for local currency withdrawals quite conveniently. Still, we recommend that clients purchase or arrange for a small amount of local currency before traveling so that they have enough for any purchases on the day of arrival (if there's no chance to get to an ATM first). Such small amounts of Euros can be purchased through your local banks (usually if you give them at least a week's lead time) or through local currency exchange companies such as Thomas Cook or Continental Currency Exchange, etc., who have outlets in some major malls.

At this writing the Canadian dollar could be exchanged for the Euro at a rate of approximately \$1.55 Cdn. = 1 Euro. However, due to the volatility in foreign exchange markets this can change both quickly and substantially.

Please note that this information is being provided as a guide only and is subject to changes outside our control. Banks and hotels can each set their own policies without prior notice.

PURCHASES

Each person may now bring back to Canada \$800.00 worth of goods each time that person is out of the country for 1 week or more.

WEATHER

In late March, the average high temperature is 20 C (68 F), while the average low is 12 C (54 F). Generally the Algarve is very dry, but in March there is a chance of rain, with an average of 8 days a month of some rainfall. All in all, great golfing weather!

PACKING FOR YOUR VACATION

In preparing for your trip, please remember that virtually everyone tries to take more clothes than they're really going to need. The less you take, the less time you'll spend packing and unpacking and the more time you'll have to enjoy your trip. Lightweight wash-and-wear clothes are ideal for travel and are highly recommended. The following is a reminder check-list to ensure that you have what you need:

- Fold-up raincoat / rainsuit
- Sunglasses
- Sweaters and warm jacket
- Extra prescription glasses (if applicable)
- Windshirt
- Essential medicines
- Slacks / Shorts
- Camera / Extra batteries
- Golf shirts
- Reading material, playing cards
- Golf Clubs
- Handicap Card
- Golf Balls (expensive in Europe)
- 2 pairs of "Soft Spikes" golf shoes
- Golf umbrella
- Sunscreen
- Rain / sun hat

OTHER INFORMATION

Medicines - Be sure to bring an ample supply of all essential medicines and carry a supply of them in your overnight case.

Flights - Comfortable clothing for flights is always in order. Remember to wear loose fitting shoes as high altitude will often make your feet swell. Also, remember to bring ear buds or headphones.

Labels - It's a good idea to put an extra name and address label inside your suitcase just in case outer tags are inadvertently removed.

Souvenirs - Keep some extra space in your suitcase for gifts / souvenirs you'll buy on route. Remember that you'll have to get them home.

Cell Phone - Using your cell phone/smart phone when travelling can be very expensive if you haven't purchased a travel plan. We recommend that you either purchase a travel plan from your cell phone provider, or turn off your data services while travelling to avoid roaming charges. A third alternative would be to purchase a SIM card when in Portugal and using that while you are there for your cell phone use.

Algarve

It was here that, in the 15th century, the Portuguese set off on the epic journey that led them to discover other peoples and cultures... and it is in the Algarve that we cheerfully welcome many of our visitors. Even the climate is mild and sunny all year round!

There's no shortage of high quality beaches either. Sandy stretches as far as the eye can see, framed by golden cliffs, virtually deserted islands marking the boundary between Ria Formosa and the sea, and small coves sheltered by the rocks. The ocean, in every shade of blue and mostly calm and warm, invites you for long swims and to indulge in water sports.

And there are also the mountains, where people live in harmony with nature and maintain traditions that they love to share. And the cities. Silves preserves traces of its Arab past and Lagos from the time of the Discoveries. More cosmopolitan Portimão and Albufeira are bustling towns by night and day. Tavira is a showcase for traditional architecture and Faro, the gateway to the region, deserves a long stop to discover its beautiful historic centre.

To relax, you can have various treatments in the spas and thalassotherapy centres and in the Monchique Thermal Baths. There are also many internationally acclaimed golf courses where you can enjoy a spot of exercise. And hotels, tourist villages, resorts, from the simplest to the most sophisticated. In short, a varied array sharing a genuine love for hospitality.

You can use footpaths and cycle trails to get to know the region, such as the Algarve Way inland or the Vicentine Route along one of the best preserved coastal stretches. And boat rides are another ecological way to observe the flora and fauna.

At the table, you will be delighted with the fresh fish and seafood, either grilled or in a casserole. These are divine flavours which you can enjoy on a simple beach terrace or in the most refined Michelin-starred restaurants, where chefs turn out new versions of traditional cuisine. They are further experiences not to be missed during your visit to the region.

From long, sandy beaches protected by golden cliffs to small bays nestled between rocks, the Algarve has beaches to suit all tastes. What they have in common is the offer of a perfect holiday in the sun.

What are the ingredients of this offer? A mild climate, with sunshine for about 300 days a year. A clear sea, almost always warm and calm. And fine white sand, an invitation to relax that can't be ignored – it's as simple as laying on a towel in the sun to get a tan to die for or building sandcastles by the sea with the children.

There are about 200 kilometres of beaches between the southwest coast near Aljezur and the eastern end close to Vila Real

de Santo António, which differ widely among themselves. The majority have the high safety and quality conditions recognised by the European blue flag symbol. Many beaches are of great beauty, offering idyllic settings for more romantic moments, and others are close to nightlife spots, sought after by those who must have some music and dance on their holidays. But there are also almost deserted beaches where nature is preserved practically in a wild state.

Vilamoura and its marina

Modern, lively and sophisticated, Vilamoura has developed around its marina, and today is one of the largest leisure resorts in Europe.

The town is built around a tourist resort begun in the 1970s. But the Romans already knew the area, as is clear from the ruins of Cerro da Vila, preserved in the museum of the same name, beside the access road to Falesia Beach.

Excellent hotels and tourist villages, and golf courses of international repute offer a complete package for those looking to spend some relaxing days by the sea. The marina, the largest in the country with 1300 berths, is the main hub of entertainment, not only for those who arrive by boat, but for everyone spending a holiday in the area and who come here in the late afternoon or evening to enjoy an ice cream or dinner. It's also the right place for shopping, with a wide range from local craft stores to the most prestigious international brands. As for the nightlife, there are many bars and clubs with the best DJs and the Vilamoura Casino promises to really get the adrenaline running.

There are countless activities to do during the day. Tennis, horse riding, sailing, windsurfing, jet skiing, parasailing, boat trips, fishing, the range is so huge you'll be spoilt for choice. The warm waters and golden sands are a stone's throw away. From the pontoon east from the Marina, the sands of Vilamoura Beach extend to Quarteira' and to the west is Falesia Beach, which stretches for miles, only finishing at Olhos de Agua, so there's plenty of space to lay out your towel and sunbathe on the beach. Safety conditions are the best, and there are many amusements for a few perfect days at the seaside.

Tavira

In the Algarve, archaeological remains have been discovered tracing settlement back over 6,000 years. However, it was under the Roman empire that the southern coastline was settled in a more organised fashion. The city of Balsa was established in the 1st century A.D. on the route between Ossonoba (Faro) and Baesuris (Castro Marim). Its main activities were then fishing and fish salting. Benefiting from a favourable geographical location, between the Algarvian hills and the course of the Gilão river, it was also chosen by the Moors for settlement between the 8th and 9th centuries. It was then named "Tabira", root of the

current Tavira. However, there is no conclusive evidence linking Balsa and Tabira to exactly the same site...

The Christian Reconquest took Tavira in 1242 under Paio Peres Correia, a knight of Sant'Iago. Two years later, king Sancho II gave these lands to the Order for their reorganisation and settlement. Also in the 13th century, the Castle and walls were strengthened and the Church of Santa Maria (Saint Mary) was built.

A period of great expansion began in the 15th century after the Conquest of Ceuta in 1415 that was itself to result in the Voyages of Discovery. It became an important fishing port and provided support to the armies and armadas that defended the Portuguese coast and the coastal cities that had been conquered to the north of Africa. It further exported salted fish, dried fruits, wine and other products. In 1489, king João II resided here for several months and in 1520 it became a city under Manuel I. This royal patronage was reflected in the architectural heritage and in the city's expansion.

Along the banks of the river and close to the main thoroughfares, more humble families took up residence while the nobility opted for the centre so as to be close to the political and administrative powers residing in the Castle. The Church of Misericórdia (Compassion) remains as witness to those times.

In the 17th century, Tavira remained a major commercial centre on the Algarve. From this period dates much of the cultural heritage further revealing a profound religious influence. Hence, there are today 21 churches in the city including the highlights of the Church of São Paulo (Saint Paul), the Church of Santo António (Saint Anthony), the Church of Carmo (Carmel) and the Church of São Francisco (Saint Francis).

In the course of the 18th century, Tavira lost economic prominence before recovering in the following century mostly due to tuna fishing and preserving.

In Tavira, attention also goes to the traditional residences with their latticed entranceways and "treasury" roofs. The latticed doors are made of strips of wood and allow for ventilation even when the windows and the doors themselves are closed. The "treasury" roofs are four-directional small roofs with each representing one room in the house. "Treasury" is the name given to the crossing of the beams on which the beams rest.

In the surroundings, don't miss a visit to the small village of Cacela Velha or to the small island of Tavira, a white sand beach, 11 km long, which is integrated in the Ria Formosa Natural Park. The connections between Tavira and the island are assured by a regular boat line (departing from the city market or from a place called "Quatro Águas") and by taxi-boats.

Lisbon

Lisbon is Portugal's capital and the hub of a multifaceted area that appeals to different tastes and senses.

In a city that has been influenced by many different far-off cultures over time, there is still a village feel in each historic neighbourhood. Stroll through the Pombaline grid of streets in the Baixa district that opens on to the Tagus in Praça do Comércio, then follow the river to discover some of the city's most beautiful parts: the monumental area of Belém with its World Heritage monuments, the mediaeval quarters and the latest contemporary leisure spaces, such as the Parque das Nações.

If you continue to the mouth of the river, you'll understand why we say that Lisbon is the centre of a vast resort. Along the coastal road you'll find beaches and beach resorts that combine villas and hotels from the beginning of the 20th century with marinas, terraces and excellent golf courses. Further along the coast you'll come across world-renowned surfing beaches, but also the palaces scattered across the cultural landscape of Sintra, a World Heritage Site.

The wide variety of landscapes and heritage is always close by, whether to the north or south of the capital. With beaches, natural parks, cultural routes and accommodation for all tastes, it is hard to escape the Lisbon region on a visit to Portugal.

Fado is another expression of what it is to be Portuguese that has also been awarded World Heritage status. You can hear it at night in a fado house or in a traditional neighbourhood. But go, as well, to the lively bars and nightclubs, to find other types of music. From reggae to African music, new wave, indie or electronic, there's a great diversity of sounds and environments, but all are good excuses to have a drink and dance the night away.

Lisbon is a city that makes you want to go exploring, to discover whatever might appear in every neighbourhood, on every street. It's a safe and friendly city, relatively small but with so much to see. It's an ideal place to spend a few days or as a starting point for touring the country. It's old. It's modern. It is, without doubt, always surprising.

You can choose a topic or a theme to explore it. The range is wide: Roman Lisbon, Manueline, Baroque or Romantic Lisbon, literary Lisbon, the Lisbon of Bohemian nightlife, the city of Fado. And there are also very different ways of exploring: by foot, by tram, by segway, by hop-on-hop-off bus, in a tuk tuk, seen from the river on a boat trip or from the other side, after crossing the Tagus on a cacilheiro ferry... the suggestions are endless.

However, there are some essential sites that simply cannot be missed, and are always on the list. Like the historic Alfama and Castelo districts, with one of the most fabulous views over the city and the river.

You must go from downtown towards Belém, the neighbourhood of the Discoveries, with the Belém Tower and the Jerónimos Monastery, both World Heritage. But also with the original Coach Museum and the modern Belém Cultural Centre. Oh, and don't forget to taste the delicious pastéis de nata (custard tarts).

All About Portugal

Entry formalities

For visits of less than 90 days, a passport valid for at least three months after the end of their stay is necessary for visitors from Canada.

Transport and circulation of money

Travellers who enter or leave the European Union territory carrying amounts with them equal to or higher than €10,000, should declare this amount to the Customs authorities, in compliance with the stipulations of Regulation (EC) n° 1889/2005, that has been in force since June 15, 2007. This imposition aims to reinforce the EU's efforts to counter criminal activity and reinforce safety, by combating money laundering, terrorism and other criminal practices.

THIRD COUNTRIES

Travellers coming from non-EU countries may only benefit from exemption from VAT and special duties liable on the goods transported within their baggage, provided that these are for personal use and do not exceed the following limits:

Tax free - VAT Reimbursement

Visitors to Portugal who are not resident in any of the European Union member states can be reimbursed for the VAT (Value Added Tax) paid on purchases that they have made in Portugal and are being transported in their personal luggage. Only private individuals can benefit from this reimbursement.

In order to obtain repayment of the tax, the minimum value of purchases must be € 49.88 (net amount without VAT), and, depending on the VAT rate charged, the minimum value of the receipt for goods purchased must be as follows:

- € 61.35 – VAT rate of 23% (general goods)

-
- € 57.86 – VAT rate of 16% (Madeira and the Azores)
 - € 56.36 – VAT rate of 13% (Wines)
 - € 52.87 – VAT rate of 6% (books, lenses...)

When you make your purchases, you must ask the shop to provide you with a receipt, itemising the amounts paid, the goods that were purchased and the amount that is due for reimbursement.

You can receive the repayment of your tax in cash at the main European airports or in the centres of major European cities, or by credit card or international cheque, provided that the goods in question have previously been shown and declared at the customs.

You can obtain more information at:

- Premier Tax Free - www.premiertaxfree.com - info@pt.premiertaxfree.com
 - Global Refund - www.globalrefund.com - taxfree@globalrefund.com
 - Innova Taxfree Portugal - <http://www.innovataxfree.com/portugal> - info@innovataxfree.com
-

Transport

Road

Portugal has a good road network composed of Motorways (AE), Main Trunk Routes (IP), Complementary Trunk Routes (IC), Main (National) Roads (EN) and Secondary (Municipal) Roads.

There are two types of motorways:

- the **traditional** motorways with toll booths, where payment is made either in cash or by bank card.

These motorways also have a Via Verde (green channel), which is an electronic toll system that allows drivers to make the payment by bank debit and is intended for use solely by those who have an electronic device identifying their vehicle, which they have previously acquired at one of the respective sales outlets (www.viaverde.pt)

- and motorways that have an exclusively **electronic toll system**, where tolls are collected by exclusively electronic means. As vehicles pass through the toll gates, they are picked up by electronic detectors placed at the entry to the channels, which are identified with the words "Electronic toll only".

Taxis

Taxis are usually cream in colour, although there are still some painted black with a green roof in the traditional Portuguese style. The fare is shown on the taximeter. The prices are affixed inside the car or you can ask the driver about them. If you phone for a taxi you have to pay an extra 0.80 euros. There is a charge of 1.60 euros for luggage, regardless of weight or the

number of pieces.

Carry cots, pushchairs, wheelchairs and walking aids are carried free of charge. Outside towns, transport by taxi is paid per kilometre, and the passenger is informed of the amount in advance. Where they exist, the passenger has to pay the road tolls there and back.

Tipping is at the passenger's discretion, though it is normal to tip 5-10% or round the amount up to the nearest euro.

Driving

Vehicles drive on the right in Portugal. Unless otherwise indicated, vehicles coming from the right have priority in squares and at intersections. At junctions with roundabouts, vehicles already on the roundabout have right of way. Road signs comply with international rules.

Compulsory papers:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| - Personal ID | - Driving licence |
| - Motor insurance certificate | - Vehicle registration or equivalent |
| - Vehicle logbook (livrete) or equivalent | |

On the spot fines are issued.

Speed limits for cars without trailers and motorcycles:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 50 kph - in built-up areas | 90 kph - on normal roads |
| 100 kph - on roads restricted to motor vehicles | 120 kph - on motorways |

All occupants must wear seat belts. The Portuguese Highway Code forbids the use of mobile phones while driving, unless you're using hands-free equipment or an earphone.

Alcohol, drinking and driving

It is against the law to drive with a blood alcohol level of 0.5 grams per litre or more.

- A blood alcohol level between 0,5 g/l and 0,8 g/l is considered a serious offence, and it is sanctioned with a driving inhibition between 1 month and a 1 year and a fee payment of an amount from 250 up to 1.250 euros.
 - A blood alcohol level between 0,8g/l and 1,2g/l is a very serious offence, sanctioned with a period of driving inhibition
-

between 2 months and 2 years and the a fee payment of an amount from 1.250 up to 2.500 euros.

- A blood alcohol level of 1,2g/l or more is considered a crime, that can be punished with imprisonment up to 1 year or fee penalty up to 120 days, and driving inhibition between 3 months and 3 years.

Car rentals

There are car rental services at airports, international rail terminuses and in the main towns and cities.

Drivers with mobility difficulties, or anyone who prefers to, can rent automatic or adapted vehicles.

To rent a car you must:

- be at least between 21 and 25 years old, depending on the company's rental policy
- show identification (identity card for EU citizens or a valid passport for other nationalities)
- have had a driving licence for more than one year

Electronic tolls

There are some highways in Portugal on which the tolls are electronic only. It means that there are no cabins and the passing of vehicles is detected by devices placed at the beginning of those highways.

The highways are identified at the beginning with: "Electronic toll only".

PORTUGUESE LICENSE PLATE VEHICLES

Car hire

When hiring a car, please ask the hire company how payment is to be made regarding electronic tolls. For their customers convenience, some car hiring companies have already installed devices on their vehicles and the costs of using the tolls are added at the client's bill. If the vehicles are not equipped with electronic devices, the payment of electronic tolls is normally done by the customers at Post Offices.

Payment after having circulated at the roads concerned (only available for vehicles with a Portuguese license plate). If a vehicle does not have an electronic device when circulating at the highways concerned, a photo of the license plate will be made and saved until the payment is made.

Term for payment: the payment can be made at the second day after having circulated at the roads mentioned above and for a period of five weekdays, at the post office or at one of the shops signalized as "Payshop". Costs: normal toll costs administrative costs (an amount €0,25 for every time the roads were used with a maximum of €2 for each payment made)

Note: when a payment term has passed, the driver is in violation of the rules, and fines will be added to the administrative costs.

Payment through electronic devices

In order for the vehicles to use the above mentioned highways, they should have an electronic device, which must be bought or hired beforehand at a Service Area (Área de Serviço) alongside the highways or at a post office (CTT/Correios). There are three types of electronic devices:

Electronic license plate device (Dispositivo electrónico de matrícula - DEM): the device is linked to the vehicle's license plate and cannot be transmitted to other cars.

Obtaining: at the highway service areas or other locations like the post offices and the Via Verde Portugal-shops.

Costs: €27,50 to purchase preloading a minimum €10 for light vehicles and €20 for heavy vehicles.

Validity: valid for 90 days as from the date of the last preload. After this period the remaining balance will be lost and the device will be deactivated. To reactivate the device it will be necessary to re-charge it with a minimum of €10.

Temporary device (Dispositivo temporário - DT): the best solution for a short stay, and as a result for vehicles with a foreign license plate; the license plate is not linked to the device, therefore, anonymity is guaranteed. Obtaining: it is necessary to establish a lease contract with the responsible entities, at the highway service areas or other locations like the post offices and the Via Verde Portugal-shops.

Costs: deposit of €27,50 (that will be given back to the driver when the device is returned in good condition within a period of 30 days) preloading a minimum of €10 for light vehicles and €20 for heavy vehicles. The lease has a cost of 6 euros on the first week, and at the following weeks the cost is about 1,50 euros per week.

Validity: valid for 90 days as from the date of the last preload. After this period the remaining balance will be lost and the device will be deactivated. To reactivate the device it will be necessary to re-charge it with a minimum of €10.

Devices from a toll entity (Dispositivo de uma entidade de cobrança de Portagens - DECP) like Via Verde are also accepted on these highways. Although the license plate is not linked to the device, it is necessary to establish a contract with a toll entity. This can be used by vehicles with a foreign license plate that stay in Portugal for a longer period of time.

Obtaining: Via Verde-shops (www.viaverde.pt)

Costs: €27,50 direct debit from bank account every time the device is used.

Validity: Until the cancelation of the contract

Useful Phone Numbers in Portugal

National Emergency Number: 112

Health

www.portaldasauade.pt/portal

Faro:

Algarve Private Hospital: 282 420 400 | <http://www.hpalg.com/>

Faro District Hospital: 289 89 11 00 / 289 802 555 | <http://www.hdfaro.min-saude.pt>

Lagos Hospital: 282 770 100 / 282 770 116

Santa Maria de Faro Private Hospital: 289 892 040 | <http://www.hppfaro.pt/pt/>

Portimão Hospital: 282 450 300 | <http://www.chbalgarvio.min-saude.pt>

Police

PSP- Policia de Segurança Pública: www.psp.pt

GNR- Guarda Nacional Republicana: www.gnr.pt

Faro:

PSP Faro: 289 822 022

PSP Lagos: 282 762 930

GNR Albufeira: 289 590 790

GNR Faro: 289 887 603

GNR Vilamoura: 289 381 780

GNR / Traffic: 289 598 730

Credit Cards

American Express: 707 50 40 50 / 21 427 82 05

Mastercard: 800 811 272

Visa: 800 811 107

Airports

ANA- Portuguese airport authority/ provides departures and arrival information:

www.ana.pt

ANAM- Madeira airport authority/ provides departures and arrival information:

www.anam.pt

Faro Airport: 289 800 800

Funchal Airport(Madeira): 291 520 700

Ponta Delgada Airport (Azoren): 296 205 400

Oporto Airport: 22 943 24 00

Lisbon Airport : 21 841 35 00 / 21 841 37 00

Services

Banks

Banks are open from 8.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. five working days a week.

Portugal has a national network of cash machines (ATMs) identified by the symbol MB (Multibanco), from which you can withdraw cash 24 hours a day.

Pharmacies

In general, pharmacies are open on weekdays between 9am and 7pm (some close for lunch from 1 to 3 p.m.) and on Saturdays between 9am and 1pm.

They display an illuminated green cross outside when open at night.

All of them have information posted on the door indicating the nearest pharmacies that are open at night.

Shops

Traditionally, shops are open from Monday to Friday, from 9 or 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Some close for lunch from 1 to 3 p.m. On Saturdays from January to November, shops generally close at 1 p.m. though in city centres some are open in the afternoon. Shops tend to stay open on Saturday afternoons and sometimes even on Sundays in December for Christmas shopping.

There are plenty of shopping centres inside and outside the cities that are usually open from 10 a.m. to midnight every day of the week. They generally have stores with the main international brands.

However, traditional shops with Portuguese products can be found particularly in the streets of the older neighbourhoods of towns and cities.

Smoking in public places

Since 1 January 2008, smoking has been prohibited in enclosed public spaces in Portugal.

This ban extends to all government buildings, work places, public transport, healthcare establishments, laboratories and pharmacies, schools and other educational establishments, indoor sports facilities, museums, shops selling food and drink, indoor car parks, concert and theatre halls, libraries, hotels, and service stations. Restaurants, bars and discotheques with a floor area of more than 100 m² must clearly mark out areas where smoking is allowed, which must have adequate ventilation and may not amount to more than 30% of the total area. The owners of restaurants, bars and discotheques with a floor area of less than 100 m² can choose whether these are to be smoking or non-smoking areas, and must clearly display this information so that it is visible outside the building. These areas must have good ventilation.

Penalties for infringements:

- From €50 to €750 euros for smokers who do not respect smoking bans.
- From €50 to €1,000 for the owners of private establishments;
- From €2,500 to €10,000, from €10,000 to €30,000 or from €30,000 to €250,000, depending on the nature of the offence, for corporations, companies or associations, governing bodies or heads of organisations, establishments or government services that are in breach of the regulations.

Official time

During winter time, i.e. from 1 a.m. on the last Sunday in October to 1 a.m. on the last Sunday in March, the official time in mainland Portugal and Madeira is the Universal Time Coordinated (UTC).

The rest of the year (between 1 a.m. on the last Sunday in March and 1 a.m. on the last Sunday in October), summer time is in effect and the official time in mainland Portugal and Madeira is Universal Time Coordinated plus one hour.

Money

Currency

Portugal is one of 17 European Union countries whose common official currency is the euro.

ATMs - Automatic Teller Machines (Multibanco)

Portugal has a national network of cash machines (ATMs) identified by the symbol MB (Multibanco), from which you can withdraw cash 24 hours a day.

Currency Exchange

You can exchange money at banks, which are open from 8.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. five working days a week; at bureaux de change; and at automatic currency exchange machines (these are for currency sale transactions only).

Credit cards

In Portugal, the most commonly used credit cards are: Visa, American Express, Diners Club, Europay / MasterCard, JCB and Maestro.

If your Visa or MasterCard credit card is lost or stolen, contact the following telephone numbers for assistance: - Visa: Tel. 800 811 107 - MasterCard: Tel. 800 811 272

Tipping

Service is included in the bill in restaurants, though it is customary to leave an additional tip of about 5-10% of the total. It is also normal to tip taxi drivers 5-10 % or rounding up the amount paid to the nearest euro.

Cell Phones

Using your cell phone when travelling can be very expensive if you haven't purchased a travel plan. We recommend that you either purchase a travel plan from your cell phone provider or turn off your data services while travelling to avoid roaming charges. A third alternative would be to purchase a SIM card when in Portugal.

Meals

As a rule, the Portuguese have three meals a day. Between 7:30 and 10 a.m. they have a light breakfast consisting of a drink - white or black coffee or fruit juice - and toast or a sandwich, often in their local café or cake shop.

The main meals are lunch, between 12:00 and 2:30 p.m., which is often eaten at a restaurant near work, and dinner between 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. Most people eat a full meal including soup, a main dish and dessert or fruit. They may also have a snack consisting of a drink and a cake between these two meals, around 5 p.m. Eating out is common practice in Portugal. Having lunch or dinner out, especially at the weekend, is always a good excuse for meeting friends or going for a drive.

There is a great variety of restaurants and they cater to all kinds of tastes and palates.

While restaurants are usually open for lunch between midday and 3 p.m. and for dinner between 7 and 10 p.m. many of them have longer opening hours, especially in the big cities and areas with a busy nightlife. They usually close one day a week, sometimes at the weekend in city centres, though restaurants in shopping centres are open every day.

Health

If you require medical assistance contact the local Health Centre.

Hospital emergency services should be used only in serious situations (serious injury, poisoning, burns, infarction, thromboses, breathing difficulties, etc.).

Electricity

The electric current in Portugal is 230/400 volts at a frequency of 50 hertz and sockets comply with European standards. You will need a 230 volt transformer and an adaptor to use American-style flat-prong plugs.