



What Is the Portuguese Golden Visa Program?

The Portuguese Golden Visa Program, officially referred to as the Residence Permit for Investment Activity (ARI), is a residency-by-investment scheme aimed at non-EU/EEA/Swiss citizens. Launched in 2012, this program provides a pathway to Portuguese residency and potential citizenship through a variety of attractive investment options.

How Does It Work?

One of the primary advantages of the Golden Visa program is its exceptional flexibility, allowing investors to choose whether to relocate to Portugal while still retaining their residency status.

Additionally, the Golden Visa provides access to the Schengen Area and offers a potential pathway to Portuguese citizenship after five years of investment.

Whether you're planning to move to Portugal or simply want a reliable "Plan B," the Golden Visa is an excellent option.



Updated Rules for Obtaining the Golden Visa

The Portuguese Golden Visa program underwent substantial changes on October 7, 2023, as part of the "Mais Habitação" legislation. Here's a summary of the main updates:

- **Real Estate Restrictions:** Real estate investments are no longer eligible for the Golden Visa program.
- **New Investment Focus:** The program now highlights alternative investment avenues, including:
 - **Investment Funds:** Qualifying venture capital funds require a minimum investment of €500,000, provided they have no direct or indirect ties to real estate.
 - **Scientific Research:** Capital transfers of €500,000 or more can be made to support research activities conducted by both public and private scientific institutions.
 - **Job Creation:** The creation of at least ten jobs in Portugal remains a valid option for obtaining the Golden Visa.
 - **Cultural Production:** Donation of €250,000 or more can be made in artistic production, as well as the recovery or maintenance of national cultural heritage.

Who May Qualify?

1. Nationality Requirement: The program is available to non-EU, non-Swiss, and non-EEA nationals.
2. Clean Criminal Record: Applicants must possess a clean criminal record, a vital requirement to uphold the program's integrity and ensure the safety of Portugal.
3. Minimum Investment: Applicants are required to meet specific minimum investment thresholds.
4. Age Requirement: Applicants must be at least 18 years old.
5. Source of Investment: Investment funds must originate from outside of Portugal.
6. Investment Commitment: Investors must commit to maintaining their investment for a minimum of five years in order to be eligible to apply for Portuguese citizenship.
7. Minimum Stay Requirement: There is a minimum stay requirement of 7 days in Portugal during the first year, followed by 14 days every two years thereafter.

THE BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM ARE SUBSTANTIAL:

The Portuguese Golden Visa program offers a remarkable array of benefits. Let's take a closer look at each of these enticing advantages:

1. Residency for Investors and Their Families: The Golden Visa program offers more than just residency for the primary applicant. It also extends these valuable benefits to their spouse, dependent children, and parents. This family reunification feature is a standout benefit, allowing families to thrive together in Portugal.

2. Seamless Travel Within the Schengen Area: Imagine the freedom of traveling a cross 27 European countries without the hassle of additional visas! Golden Visa holders enjoy this incredible mobility, making it perfect for both business opportunities and leisurely explorations of Europe's rich cultures.

3. Access to Quality Healthcare and Education: Golden Visa holders can take full advantage of Portugal's public services, including comprehensive healthcare and a robust education system.

4. Attractive Pathway to Portuguese Citizenship: After five years of maintaining your Golden Visa and fulfilling the necessary requirements, you can apply for Portuguese citizenship! This pathway is one of the program's most enticing aspects, ultimately leading to a Portuguese passport that grants visa-free travel to an astounding 191 countries.

Moreover, it's worth noting that Americans can acquire Portuguese citizenship without the need to renounce their U.S. citizenship, making this an even more appealing option for those seeking new opportunities in Europe.

Taxation

Portugal has established Double Tax Treaties (DTTs) with over 80 countries, playing a crucial role in eliminating or minimizing the risk of double taxation on income and profits. This framework significantly promotes cross-border trade and investment.



1. Purpose of DTTs: These treaties are specifically designed to mitigate the risk of double taxation, thereby encouraging international trade and investment.

2. Methods for Eliminating Double Taxation:

- Exemption Method: Under certain conditions, foreign-sourced income may be exempt from taxation in Portugal, providing relief for expatriates and investors.
- Credit Method: While income earned abroad is taxable in Portugal, any foreign taxes paid can be credited against the Portuguese tax liability, subject to specific limits.

3. United States DTT: Portugal maintains a tax treaty with the United States that follows the same principles, ensuring a streamlined approach to taxation for residents and businesses involved in cross-border activities.

Additionally, Portugal does not impose a wealth tax, making it an appealing choice for those seeking favorable economic conditions. The exemption from taxes on gifts and inheritances between parents, grandparents, and grandchildren further enhances its appeal for families.

This overview highlights Portugal's advantageous tax environment, particularly for individuals considering relocation or investment opportunities.

Why Choose Portugal?

Safety and Quality of Life

- Experience a high level of safety, with Portugal recognized as one of the safest countries in the world.
- Access to top-notch international and Portuguese schools and universities.
- Enjoy a superior quality of life, highlighted by a mild climate and vibrant cultural scene.

Healthcare System

Portugal is renowned for its excellent healthcare system:

- Provides universal healthcare through the Serviço Nacional de Saúde (SNS).
- Offers free healthcare for children under 18 and seniors over 65.
- Delivers high-quality public and private healthcare services.
- Features internationally accredited clinics and hospitals.

Residency and Citizenship

- Obtain immediate residency in Portugal, allowing you the freedom to live, work, and study.
- Enjoy visa-free travel across the Schengen Area.
- Follow a clear and efficient path to Portuguese citizenship after just 5 years.
- Fulfill a minimal stay requirement of only 7 days per year.
- Benefit from family reunification options that include your spouse, children, and dependent parents.



Portugal's unique combination of investment opportunities, a straightforward pathway to EU citizenship, exceptional healthcare, and an outstanding quality of life make it a compelling destination for Golden Visa investors.

Why choose our team?

As a leading Portuguese immigration services firm in New York City, we specialize in guiding investors through the Golden Visa and citizenship processes in Portugal.

Here's why you should choose our experienced team:

1. Expert Guidance: Our knowledgeable lawyers navigate the complexities of Golden Visa applications, ensuring a smooth and efficient process from start to finish.

2. Comprehensive Support: We offer personalized assistance at every step, helping you understand your options and responsibilities.

3. Network of Professionals: Access a diverse network of tax advisors, healthcare providers, Real Estate Brokers, and investment experts who offer personalized guidance on the financial aspects of your investment in Portugal.

4. Relocation Logistics: We have established a network of leading companies specializing in all aspects of mobility. Whether you need to move your belongings, transport your pet internationally, or access additional services, we have options available for you to choose from.

5. Investment Insights: We help you explore various investment opportunities available under the Golden Visa program, aligning them with your financial goals.

6. Proven Success: With a strong track record of successful applications, our dedicated team is committed to helping you achieve your residency or citizenship dreams.

As an increasing number of Americans seek the stability, affordable healthcare, favorable climate, and exceptional quality of life that Portugal offers, Portugal 4 All is well-positioned to cater to the growing demand for expert immigration services.

One of our key differentiators is our location in the United States, allowing us to cater to our clients in their own time zone.

Our team is fluent in both Portuguese and English, effectively eliminating language barriers. Additionally, the founder of Portugal 4 All is a licensed Portuguese immigration lawyer recognized by the Supreme Court of the State of New York, ensuring expert guidance throughout the immigration process.



Explore Dr. Aguiar's accolades here:

[Dr. Ingls Aguiar: Awarded "The Best Portuguese Citizenship Lawyer in New York for 2024"](#)

[Dr. Ingls Aguiar: Honored with the "European Entrepreneur 2024" Award](#)

We are featured in the media:

[Dr. Ingls Aguiar: The Leading Portuguese Golden Visa Lawyer in the United States.](#)

[New York Weekly: \[Helping Americans Reclaim Their Portuguese Heritage with Ease\]](#)

[Voyage New York: \[Explore the Benefits of Portuguese Citizenship\]](#)

Portugal 4 All has established strategic partnerships with global experts to deliver unparalleled support and guidance for its clients.

We are located at:

New York, United States
A: 1185 Avenue of the Americas, 3rd
Floor New York City, NY 10036
M: contact@aguiarlawfirm.org
E: (631) 524-6991

Lisbon, Portugal
Rua Lápis-Lazúli, nº 230, Loja 1, 2785-812
São Domingos de Rana, Portugal
M: inglsaguiar-56920l@adv.oa.pt
E: (351) 911.060.877

Visit our site - [Portugal 4 All](#)

Disclaimer: The information contained herein is provided for informational purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice on any matter, nor does it establish any attorney-client relationship.

