XIPHIAS Immigration

PROGRAMME BROCHURE



RESIDENCY BY INVESTMENT | PORTUGAL

Portugal Golden Visa – Capital Transfer Route

Qualifying capital transfers into approved funds, research, or cultural projects to obtain Portuguese residency.

INVESTMENT FROM

EUR 250,000

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At a glance

COUNTRY **Portugal**	ROUTE **Residency by Investment - Capital Transfer**
MINIMUM INVESTMENT **EUR 250,000**	FAMILY MEMBERS **Spouse, children up to age 26, dependent parents**
LAST UPDATED **1 October 2026**	

Overview

The **Capital Transfer** route allows non-EU nationals to obtain Portuguese residency by investing into qualifying **funds, research, or cultural projects**. Minimum investments vary by sub-option and funds must be transferred from abroad. Family members, including spouse, dependent children (<=26), and dependent parents, can be included. Physical presence is minimal: 7 days in the first year and 14 days in each subsequent two-year period.

Investment Overview

- **Investment Fund / Venture Capital Fund:** €500,000 minimum; ~60% must go into Portuguese companies; 5-year holding expectation.
- **Research Activities:** €500,000 capital transfer to approved research institutions; documentation required.
- **Artistic Production / Cultural Heritage:** €250,000 (or €200,000 in low-density areas); project pre-approval often required.

Comparison Table: Capital Transfer vs Business Investment

Feature	Capital Transfer	Business Investment
Min Investment	€250k–€500k	€500k or 10 jobs
Type	Passive fund/cultural investment	Active business/company
Ideal For	Passive investors, philanthropists	Entrepreneurs / business owners
Residency Stay	7 days in year 1, then 14 per 2 years	7 days in year 1, then 14 per 2 years
Family	Spouse, children <=26, dependent parents	Spouse, children <=26, dependent parents
Path to Citizenship	Permanent residence at 5 years; citizenship at 10 years for Indian nationals	Permanent residence at 5 years; citizenship at 10 years for Indian nationals

Feature	Capital Transfer	Business Investment
Risk	Fund or project risk; returns not guaranteed	Business and operational risk
Tax	Portuguese income tax; special regimes	Portuguese income + corporate/personal tax

The citizenship timeline

Portugal changed its nationality law on **19 May 2026** (Lei Orgânica 1/2026). Naturalisation now requires **seven years** of legal residence for nationals of EU member states and Portuguese-speaking countries, and **ten years for everyone else — including Indian nationals**. It was five years for everyone before that date. Applications already pending on 19 May 2026 keep the old five-year rule.

Permanent residence is unaffected and remains five years (Lei 23/2007, art. 80.º).

If Portuguese citizenship on a five-year horizon is the reason you are considering this, plan on ten years instead, and weigh that before you commit.

Note also that India does not permit dual citizenship: acquiring Portuguese citizenship would end your Indian citizenship under Section 9(1) of the Citizenship Act 1955. Portuguese **residency** does not.

Key benefits

- Low physical presence requirement — 7 days in the first year, then 14 days in each two-year period.
- Multiple investment options: funds, research, cultural support.
- Access to Schengen mobility and Portuguese resident rights.
- Family inclusion: spouse, dependent children, dependent parents.
- Permanent residence after five years of lawful residence.

Requirements

- Applicant must be a non-EU/EEA/Swiss national.
- Valid passport and clean criminal record certificate(s).
- Evidence of legitimate source of funds and AML compliance.
- Completed qualifying capital transfer into approved vehicle.
- Attend biometric appointment and meet minimal presence requirements.

When this route may not fit

- Serious criminal convictions or ongoing criminal proceedings.
- Listed under international sanctions.
- Failure to demonstrate legitimate source of funds or AML issues.

Costs and government fees

Programme costs

Item	Amount	Notes
Investment Fund / Venture Capital Fund	EUR 500,000	Before application submission. Minimum €500,000 into qualifying Portuguese funds; must meet regulator approval and local content rules.
Research Activities	EUR 500,000	Before application submission. Capital transfer to approved research institutions within Portugal's national scientific system.
Support for Artistic Production / Cultural Heritage	EUR 250,000	Before application submission. Minimum €250,000; €200,000 in low-density areas.

Funds to show

Requirement	Amount	Notes
Investment amount (proof of transfer)	EUR 250,000	From €250,000 (cultural route) to €500,000 (funds and research). Proof of transfer required (bank statements and transaction evidence).

Qualifying investments

Option	Minimum	Hold	Notes
Qualifying Venture Capital Fund	EUR 500,000	5 years	Non-real-estate fund qualifying for the Golden Visa.
Research Program – Public University Collaboration	EUR 500,000	5 years	Part of national scientific system; pre-approval may be required.
Cultural Production Project	EUR 250,000	5 years	Supports artistic production/cultural heritage; reduced thresholds in low-density areas.

How the process works

1. **Select a qualifying route**
   Choose fund, research, or cultural project and confirm eligibility.
2. **Get NIF & bank setup**
   Obtain Portuguese tax number and open a bank account if needed.
3. **Execute capital transfer**
   Complete the transfer and collect receipts.

4 **File ARI application**
Upload documents and pay analysis fees.

5 **Authority review**
Respond to any requests for additional information.

6 **Biometrics & issuance**
Attend biometrics; pay fees and receive residence card.

7 **Maintain & renew**
Keep investment for minimum 5 years and meet presence rules.

Document checklist

Identity

- Valid passport (certified copy)
- Passport-sized photos
- Civil status proof (birth/marriage certificate)

Financial

- Bank statements (last 6–12 months)
- Investment transfer proof (receipts)
- Source of funds documentation

Compliance

- Criminal record certificate(s)
- CV / professional background (if requested)

Questions clients ask

What is the minimum investment for the Capital Transfer route?

€500,000 for funds/research; €250,000 for cultural projects (€200,000 in low-density areas).

How long must I hold the investment?

Typically 5 years; holding period varies by vehicle.

Do I need to live in Portugal full-time?

No. The minimum is 7 days in the first year and 14 days in each subsequent two-year period (Decreto Regulamentar 84/2007, art. 65.º-C).

Can family members be included?

Yes — spouse, dependent children (<=26), dependent parents.

Are returns guaranteed on fund investments?

No — financial risk applies; Golden Visa relies on qualifying transfer.

Is real estate eligible for Capital Transfer?

No. Real estate was removed as a qualifying Golden Visa investment in October 2023, and no route may target real estate directly or indirectly.

Important notes

- Investments carry financial risk and returns are not guaranteed; seek independent advice.
- Capital must usually be maintained for five years.
- Real estate has not qualified for the Golden Visa since October 2023, and no route may target real estate directly or indirectly.

Compliance

- Golden Visa physical presence: 7 days, consecutive or not, in the first year and 14 days in each subsequent two-year period (Decreto Regulamentar 84/2007, art. 65.º-C).
- AIMA application-analysis and residence-permit issuance fees are charged at the official rates in force; XIPHIAS confirms the current schedule before filing.

Official sources: Decreto-Lei n.º 14/2021 — golden visa fund route, €500,000; Decreto Regulamentar 84/2007, art. 65.º-C — physical presence; Lei Orgânica n.º 1/2026 — Diário da República.



NEXT STEP

Plan your Portugal application with our Dubai team

Tell us about your profile, family and timeline. We will confirm whether **Portugal Golden Visa – Capital Transfer Route** fits, set out the full cost in writing and manage the application with you from start to finish.

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