



# WORTH TO KNOW – PORTUGAL



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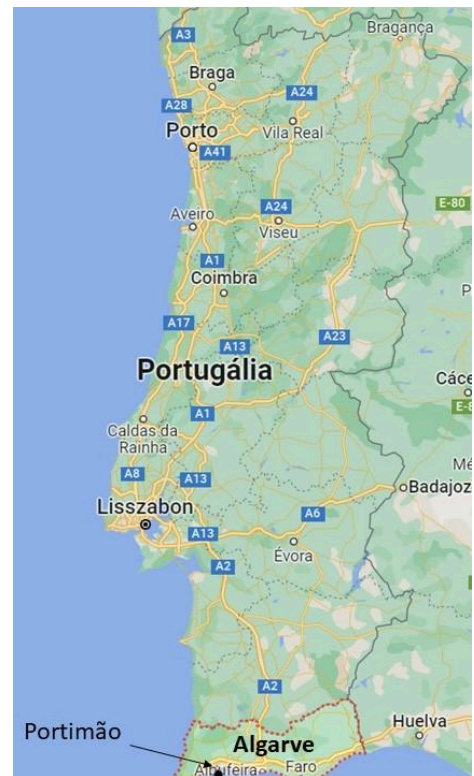


## Where

The apartment is in the city of Portimão. Portimão Located in the Algarve region, it is the southernmost region of Portugal, stretching from the western border all the way to the east. The city can be said to be large, the second largest city in the region after Faro. Its population is approx. 60,000 people.

The exact address of the apartment:

*Rua Antonio Feu 4ºB  
Edifício Rio à Vista,  
8500-802 Portimão*



## When

Some information on when to travel to the Algarve.

## Temperature

Average temperature during the year during the day and at night:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Day °C	14	14	15	17	20	22	24	25	23	21	17	14
Night °C	12	12	14	16	19	21	23	24	22	20	15	13

## Rain

The upper row indicates how many mm of rain fall in the given month, and the lower row indicates how many days in a month even a little rain is expected. There is very little rain in the Algarve, the indicated rain from January to November means that max. a little drizzle is expected, which will last 10 minutes. :)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
mm	85	25	40	38	32	11	5	1	58	57	72	117
Days	9	5	6	8	7	2	1	0	5	8	7	12

## Water temperature

In Portimão:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Min °C	15.4	14.9	14.6	15.5	16	18.2	18.2	18.7	20	20	17.6	16.6
Max °C	17.4	17.2	17.3	18.7	20.6	21.5	22.2	22.9	22.3	22.1	20.7	18.2

## In summary

December: maybe it is not so worth to go to the Algarve in December, when it rains the most.

November, January, February, March and early April: Perfect for hiking because only drizzle is expected and it is not so hot that you cannot hike during the day.

April-end of October: Perfect for bathing



## Travel

### Flying

The nearest airport is in Faro. From the airport you have to go into the city approx. for 2 euros (15 minutes). From there it takes 1 hour and 20 minutes by train to Portimão, the ticket is approx. 7 euros. You can also take Uber from the airport to the apartment, it costs €50 and takes 55 minutes.

Lisbon airport is a little further. From the airport, you have to take two subways for approx. €3.6 to the FlixBus/Rede Expressos bus stop. From there it takes 3.5 hours to Portimão, the ticket costs approx. 15 euros.

The farthest airport is in Porto, the way from there is too long.

### Train

In general, Google maps is good for checking timetables, but there are other ways.

To check the train schedule:

<https://www.cp.pt/passageiros/pt> or Comboios application or CP application

However, to buy a train ticket:

<https://www.cp.pt/passageiros/pt> or CP application

### Bus

There are several bus companies, Google Maps lists the schedule and which company's website you can buy a ticket on.

Rede Expressos: <https://rede-expressos.pt/pt>

Eva Transportes: <http://eva-bus.com/>

Flixbus: <https://www.flixbus.pt/>

You can buy more complicated and connecting bus tickets here: [www.budbud.com](http://www.budbud.com)

In the Algarve, the local intercity bus company is Vamus:

<https://vamusalgarve.pt/#/>

## Taxi

You should download the Uber app. The app shows in advance how much the trip will cost, it is always fixed, it never changes. Uber is very cheap in the Algarve, Ubering between cities is only approx. 5 euros. It's worth it.



## Eating-drinking

### Ice cream:

**Gelateria Sorbet:** very good ice cream, unfortunately only open during the summer season.

### Restaurants:

The price of main dishes in restaurants is between €16-19.

**Casa da Rocha:** cool Portuguese restaurant, good service, very tasty food. The view is very good, the sunset is beautiful. The portions are a bit too small, if you are very hungry, don't go there!

**Mistral:** It's a very good restaurant, the atmosphere is great, very popular place for Portuguese people. Live grilling. Huge plates, a little lower prices.

**Cloque ao Mar:** Really great restaurant and very cozy, worth sitting outside. The view is beautiful.

**Lusitania:** a cozy and very delicious restaurant in Alvor. Prices are higher, but it's worth indulging in such flavors.

**Rocha Beach House:** good breakfast bowls, surf shop, coworking place

**Rocha Poké:** a very good Hawaiian restaurant that offers very healthy bowls.

**Caffeine & brunch:** very good breakfast place.

### Cocktails/beer:

**Green Heart @ Coque:** Must-see! Amazing cocktail spot on top of the cliffs with beach views.

**The Irish Rover:** Nice Irish style pub, usually with live music. Good atmosphere, but usually too loud inside to be able to speak with friends. You can sit also outside.

## Cheap meal:

Usually in small, strange-looking local eateries, where there are many Portuguese people, the food is good, they give a lot and it is cheap.

**Pingo twelve is Auchan:** Most Pingo doce and Auchan stores have canteen restaurants. Menus are between 4-8 €. The food is traditional and very tasty. The price includes: soup, main course, dessert, a drink (can be water, wine, beer, coke) and coffee after the meal. Unfortunately, the nearest such opportunity is a 40-minute walk from the apartment in the city center.



## Program options

### Portimao sightseeing

Use this map for (half / one) day sightseeing in Portimao:

[https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1\\_ymzEs4CASYkAcjbf1PBboiAu3knoik&usp=sharing](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1_ymzEs4CASYkAcjbf1PBboiAu3knoik&usp=sharing)

### Beach bathing

All information about the beaches can be checked here. You only need to enter the name of the given beach:

<https://infopraia.apambiente.pt/rules/>

Beaches closest to the apartment: Praia da Rocha (beautiful), Praia do Vau (more beautiful), Praja do alemão (the water is the calmest, maybe this is the most beautiful beach)

### Water parks

#### **The nearest:**

<https://www.slidesplash.com/en/> This water park is in a nearby town. From the apartment by Uber it's 7 euros and takes 15 minutes to go there. I haven't mapped other transport options yet.

#### **Even in winter**

There is only one such water park in the Algarve region that is also open in winter, this is Aquashow: <https://aquashowpark.com/>

## Billiards and bowling

**Bowling Praia da Rocha:** A place close to the apartment, where you can play billiards and bowling.

## Kayaking among the rocks

Such kayak tours also start from Portimao:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJqwvya6lu8&t=1s&ab\\_channel=CalebOwens](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJqwvya6lu8&t=1s&ab_channel=CalebOwens)

## Ocean4fun

I recommend the company Ocean4fun because I know them last time and because their sports activities start from Praia da Rocha

They start from: Marina de Portimao (37°06'58.3"N 8°31'45.0"W).

**Kayaking** between Portimao and Alvor: €25 for adults, €15 for children. It always starts at 4pm.

**Boat trip + kayaking** around the Benagil cave €45. Only people over 10 can go. I recommend to avoid kayaking around the Benagil cave in summer, there are a million people there, everyone pushing the kayaks with the boats. This trip departs every day at 9:00, 12:00 and 16:00. 2 and a half hours long.

100% refund in case of bad weather.

Telephone: +351926800316

Email: [reservas.ocean4fun@gmail.com](mailto:reservas.ocean4fun@gmail.com)

Booking is also possible online: [www.ocean4fun.pt](http://www.ocean4fun.pt)

The most up-to-date information is on their Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/ocean4fun.pt/>

## Boat trip

A boat trip from Portimao to Benagil and back costs just €25. It's worth it, great experience!

## Ocean4fun

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They start from: Marina de Portimao (37°06'58.3"N 8°31'45.0"W).

**Boat trip** to the Benagil Caves on a safe, calm catamaran: adults €25, children €10, babies free.

**Boat trip + kayaking** around the Benagil cave €45. Only people over 10 can go. Avoid kayaking around the Benagil cave in summer, there are a million people there, everyone pushing the kayaks with the boats. This trip departs every day at 10:00, 12:30 and 16:00. 2 hours long.

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## Visiting the coastal cliffs

You can walk on the beaches and cliffs almost everywhere.

(Portuguese mountain tours [here](#).)

## Cycling

I don't have a bike yet, so I have to rent one. You can rent it 100 m from the apartment at Europcar, 30 euros for 24 hours, 100 euros as a deposit.

## Escape room

<https://www.escapeonealgarve.com/en/>

## Exploring other options

A book summarizing nature walks in the Algarve [here](#) available:

<https://algarveaddicts.com/algarvewalks2018.pdf>.

## Exploring the surrounding attractions

Explore nearby cities worth seeing (in order from closest to farthest):

**Ferragudo** (it's almost in Portimao): Small, traditional fishing village next to Portimao, on the other side of the river.

**Seriously** (5 km from Portimao): Cozy little fishing village with excellent restaurants.

**Carvoeiro** (10 km from Portimao): Beautiful village surrounded by mountains. A hiking trail built east of the center begins, where you can see beautiful landscapes, rock walls, bays and lunar landscapes. Between Carvoeiro and Praia da Marinha there is a perfect and beautiful 12 km footpath.

**Benagil** cave (15 km from Portimao): The largest cave in the Algarve, it is worth starting from Portimao as part of a boat trip.

**Silves** (16 km from Portimao): Cute little town, it used to be the center of the Algarve.

**Monchique and Alferce** (30 km Portimaobol). If you have a car, it is worth going to Alferce first, where you can leave the car in the village. From there, you can take an easier 1-2 hour hiking trail through the mountains (480 m above sea level). A prominent point of the hiking route is the Demo gorge walkway (Oassadiço barranco do Demo), where you can cross a long wooden suspension bridge.

From Alferce it is worth going to *Barragem de Odeoluca* also to an artificial lake, if we have a car. The view is beautiful.

Then you should drive beyond Monchique to the restaurant Paraíso da Montanha, which is 485m above sea level outside the city. The view from the terrace of the restaurant is stunning, from where you can see the mountains, low-lying areas, Portimao and the sea.

After that, let's go back to Monchique by car, where it is worth eating a cake and drinking a coffee in the cafe on the main square. Main square of Monchique:

If you don't have a car, you can get to Alferce and Monchique by bus or taxi, maybe it's worth making the trip on two separate days if you don't have a car.

**Armacao de Pera** (27 km from Portimao): cozy fishing village, but there is little to see. It is worth combining sightseeing with relaxation, dining, and pastry shopping.

**Lagos** (30 km from Portimao): Perhaps the biggest tourist center in Portimao, life is bubbling in the summer, plenty of water sports opportunities. There is also a zoo next to Lagos.

**Albufeira** (40 km from Portimao): relatively large city, tourist center, party capital in summer.

**Vilamoura** (60 km from Portimao): This is a town famous for its luxury yacht harbor and golf courses. Here you will find the only water park in the Algarve that is also open in winter.

**Sagres is Cabo de São Vicente** (60 km from Portimao): A Cabo de São VicenteThe most south-western point of Europe, the sunset is beautiful. Sagres, a small town, there is a fortress there, the view around the ocean is wonderful.

## More in the Algarve region

**Faro:** The largest city in the Algarve, the airport is also located here. It is worth going to one of the churches, which is partly decorated with human bones.

**Tavira:** Beautiful, traditional village. From Tavira we can also go on a boat trip to Spain.

## Lisbon and its surroundings

Lisbon, Sintra, Cabo da Roca (the westernmost point of Europe), Cascais, Satúbal

## Porto

And many more places I haven't discovered yet.

