The Portuguese Golden Visa: A High Net-Worth Essential

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By **Catarina Sardinha**, 30th October 2024

The Portuguese Golden Visa remains golden for a reason – despite its various changes since its introduction in 2012. Thousands of families have benefited from the programme, identifying the second residency option as a high-net worth essential.

The residency-by-investment programme allows non-EU/EEA citizens to obtain a Portuguese residence permit in exchange for an investment in Portugal – namely:

- **Fund investment:** Investing a minimum of €500,000 in a Portuguese non-real estate collective investment fund (see here for more information), OR
- **Commercial Company:** one of the following two options are available:
  - Newly incorporated: a capital transfer of at least €500,000, with headquarters in Portugal, combined with the creation of five permanent jobs,
  - Existing company; capital transfer of at least €500,000, with headquarters in Portugal, combined with the creation of five permanent jobs, or maintenance of 10 jobs, OR
- **Job Creation:** creation of 10 jobs, OR
- **Research Activities:** a capital transfer of €500,000 to a private or public scientific research institution (or €400,000 in a low-density areas), OR
- **Artistic Productions:** a capital transfer of €250,000 for investment in artistic productions reflecting national cultural heritage (or €200,000 in a low-density area).

Benefits of the Portuguese Golden Visa Programme

- EU citizenship
- Family reunification
- Visa-free travel in Schengen area

- Tax benefits upon distributions
- Lower investment and more flexibility than other EU residency programs
- Minimum requirement of 7 days average stay in Portugal per year
- Individuals who choose to become tax resident in Portugal can benefit from the Non-Habitual Residents Programme (it is possible for non-EU individuals to apply to the two schemes simultaneously)

Why Choose Portugal?

Portugal is a popular destination for investors due to its high quality of life, stable economy, and favourable tax regime. The country offers a beautiful climate, excellent healthcare, and a strong educational system.

Need More Information?

Reach out to Dixcart Portugal who will introduce you to independent legal advisors and consultants who will assist you with the process. With decades of experience in the private client sector, and we look forward to helping you. Reach out to advice.portugal@dixcart.com.

July 2025: The Portuguese Parliament has begun discussing significant changes to the country's nationality and immigration laws, including extending the required residence period for citizenship and altering how that period is calculated. These proposed amendments, which also cover stricter requirements for family reunification, are still in early stages and may be subject to revisions.