

MONTHLYTRAVELGUIDE · FREE GUIDE

The 12-Month Map

Portugal

Every month in Portugal on one page: weather, crowds, price pressure and an honest verdict.

WHEN TO GO. NOT JUST WHERE.

HOW TO READ THE MAP

One page. Twelve rows. One decision.

Each row is one month. Read across and you get the four things that decide whether a month is right for you, and a one-line reason.

THE VERDICT

GO	The best months for most trips. Book early: everyone else knows too.
GOOD	Worth it, with a trade-off you can plan around.
THINK TWICE	Works for some trips. Read the reason before you book.
AVOID	Hard going for most travellers. Only with a specific reason.

CROWDS AND PRICE PRESSURE

- ● ○ ○ Low. Quiet sights, wide choice.
- ● ● ○ Moderate. Book the popular things.
- ● ● ● High. Book early and expect to pay more.

Patterns, not forecasts. The map shows what each month is usually like. Weather varies year to year, and price pressure is relative, never a quoted price. Check entry rules and holiday dates for your own year.

Easter, Carnival and some festivals move each year. The Atlantic stays cool in every month, warmest on the Algarve from July to September.



GO GOOD THINK TWICE AVOID

When to go: Portugal

Month	Weather	Crowds	Prices	Verdict	Why
January	Mild, wettest season	● ○ ○	● ○ ○	GOOD	Quiet cities and bright Algarve days. Big Atlantic waves on the west coast.
February	Mild, showery	● ○ ○	● ○ ○	GOOD	Almond blossom in the south and carnival in the towns. Pack for showers.
March	Mild, spring arriving	● ○ ○	● ○ ○	GOOD	Wildflowers on the clifftops and quiet walking before Easter.
April	Mild, flowers	● ● ○	● ● ○	GO	Green countryside and fresh vines. Busier around Easter and 25 April.
May	Warm, sunny	● ● ○	● ● ○	GO	Arguably the best all-round month, before the summer crowds.
June	Warm to hot, dry	● ● ○	● ● ●	GOOD	Street festivals in Lisbon and Porto, beaches open, crowds building.
July	Hot inland, sunny	● ● ●	● ● ●	THINK TWICE	Full Algarve, hot interior, highest price pressure. Book early.
August	Hot, dry	● ● ●	● ● ●	THINK TWICE	Portugal's own holiday month. Busy coast, hot inland.
September	Warm, settled	● ● ○	● ● ○	GO	Warmest sea, calmer beaches and the Douro grape harvest.
October	Mild, golden	● ● ○	● ● ○	GO	The best touring month, often still warm enough to swim early on.
November	Mild, rain returning	● ○ ○	● ○ ○	GOOD	Quiet and good value. Big waves at Nazaré, chestnuts in the cities.
December	Mild, wet	● ○ ○	● ● ○	GOOD	Festive lights in the cities; New Year on Madeira books out early.

Patterns, not forecasts. Prices show relative pressure, not quoted prices. Confirm holiday dates and entry rules for your year.



NEXT

From the right month to the right trip



This map is the short version. *When to Go: Portugal* is the full guide: every month in depth, region by region, with the weather, crowds and closures that matter for each kind of trip.

The Trip Timing Planner picks up from there: booking windows, a 90 / 60 / 30 / 7-day countdown and packing lists by season, for any destination.

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