



PORTUGAL GRADUAL OPENING  
STRATEGY PLAN  
2021



## PORTUGAL GRADUAL OPENING STRATEGY PLAN

In recent weeks, the effort of the Portuguese has allowed a sustained reduction in the number of new daily cases of infected with COVID -19, verifying, likewise, a reduction in the number of hospitalized patients and the occupancy rate of intensive care units, the criteria identified by the experts as being fundamental for the control of the pandemic.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2021, the Portuguese Government has approved the Decree that regulates the present State of Emergency until the 31<sup>st</sup> March and, given the above, the regulations on the re-opening of services.

It is essential that the lifting of measures is slow and gradual and that the effects of measures on the evolution of the pandemic are systematically assessed, so to be able to keep the disease under control.

Therefore, a strategy for lifting containment measures in the context of combating the disease pandemic was approved and a timetable was set accordingly.

The resolution establishes a **Gradual Strategy** with the following points:

- It establishes **Four Phases of Opening**.
- These four phases take place between **15th of March until the 3rd of May 2021**.
- **Every 15 days** the impacts of the measures are assessed, as well as levels of pandemic incidence and growth.



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At this time, the Situation of Calamity is in effect until May 30. The lifting of lockdown restrictions will take place in 4 phases, which may be reviewed every 15 days according to the epidemiological evolution.

Check the list of restrictions at [EstamosOn](#) (in Portuguese).

### •General lockdown

There will be a general duty of home retreat. It will not be allowed to circulate in public spaces and roads, with the exception of authorized travel on which the following stand out:

- acquisition of essential goods and services;
- access to public services;
- professional activities (if accompanied by a statement);
- health reasons;
- assistance to vulnerable people;
- school attendance;
- participation in religious ceremonies;
- short walks for physical activity, individually or with members of the same household;
- pet walk;
- travelling necessary to enter or leave the mainland, including those necessary to travel to and from the place of accommodation;
- homecoming within the framework of permitted situations;
- refuelling at petrol stations as part of permitted journeys.



## 1st Phase:

### COMMERCE

Resumes the activity of establishments of **Non-essential Goods** as follows:

- Home delivery
- Selling at the door of the establishment “hatch selling”
- On site collection of service products previously purchased through remote media (click and collect)

Non-food Retail and Non Essential Goods stores in operation close:

- at 21h00 on working days
- at 13h00 on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays

Food Retail Activities in operation close:

- at 21h00 on weekdays
- at 19h00 on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays;

Drinks under take-away regime are allowed in restaurants and similar establishments;

The sale of alcoholic beverages from 20h00 – 06h00 in retail establishments, including supermarkets and hypermarkets and take-away is still forbidden.



## 1st Phase:

### **COMMERCE**

Opening of hairdressing salons, barbers, beauty institutes and similar establishments  
The operating of the above establishments is only by appointment.

Opening of bookstores and musical support stores

Opening of automobile retail and bicycle stores

Opening of real estate brokerage services and stores

Municipal Parks, Gardens, Green spaces Leisure spaces can open as well as Public Libraries and Archives.  
Each Municipality is responsible for the opening / closing of its public equipments.



## 2nd PHASE:

### **SCHOOLS / EDUCATION**

Resumes on-site educational and teaching activities in public, private and cooperative education establishments and in the social and solidarity sector : 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cycles of basic education / Study Centres for Children / Social facilities in the area of Disability .

### **CULTURE**

Opening of Museums, Monuments, Palaces, Art Galleries and similar establishments

### **COMMERCE**

- Opening to public of stores UP to 200m<sup>2</sup>, with outside door ( street commerce)
- Opening of Open Air Markets, Food Markets and Non-food markets - as per each Municipality's decision .
- Opening of Outside Terraces with a maximum of 4 persons together, per table .

### **SPORTS ACTIVITIES**

- Low-risk sports modalities.
- Outdoor physical activity UP to 4 persons together
- Gyms without group classes



## 3rd PHASE:

### **SCHOOLS / EDUCATION**

Resumes on-site educational and teaching activities in public, private and cooperative education establishments and in the social and solidarity sector : High School / Universities / On-site professional training classes.

### **CULTURE**

Opening of Cinemas, Auditoriums, Theatres and similar establishments

### **COMMERCE & RESTAURANTS**

- Opening of all Shops and Shopping Centers.
- Opening of Restaurants, Cafes and Pastry shops with a maximum of 4 persons together, per table and 6 persons per table in outside terraces until 22h00 during the week and 13:00 at weekends and holidays.

### **SPORTS ACTIVITIES**

- Medium-risk sports modalities.
- Outdoor physical activity UP to 6 persons together
- Gyms without group classes.

### **SOCIAL EVENTS**

- Outdoor events with reduced capacity of venues and upon Health Authorities approval.
- Weddings and baptisms with a maximum occupancy of 25% of the venue



## 4th PHASE:

### **COMMERCE**

- Restaurants, cafes and pastry shops with a maximum of 6 persons together, per table. Outside Terraces with a maximum of 10 persons together, per table without time limitation.

### **SPORTS ACTIVITIES**

- All sports activities
- Outdoor physical activity
- Gyms with group classes.

### **SOCIAL EVENTS**

- Large outdoor and indoor events with reduced capacity of venues and upon Health Authorities approval.
- Weddings and baptisms with a maximum occupancy of 50% of the venue





## PORTUGAL GRADUAL OPENING STRATEGY PLAN

- It is determined that the timetable foreseen for the different phases of deconfinement can be changed in view of the epidemiological criteria, for the definition of pandemic control and also considering the existence of an assistance response capacity by the National Health Service.
- Every 15 days each phase will be assessed.
- Upon each phase the measures and details will be updated and informed accordingly.



## TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

- **Flights to and from Portugal are allowed for:**

**Non-essential travels** from the countries of **the European Union**, from **Schengen Associated countries** (Liechtenstein, Norway, Iceland, Switzerland) and from the **UK** (see specific information for UK travellers at <https://www.visitportugal.com/en/content/uk-travellers-travelling-and-testing-procedures>.)

Passengers must present proof of a negative test to COVID-19 (RT-PCR), carried out within 72 hours before boarding time.

**Countries with an incidence rate equal to or greater than 500 cases per 100,000 inhabitants** - Brazil, Cyprus, India, Lithuania, South Africa and Sweden:

- Only "essential travel" is allowed

- Must present proof of a negative test to COVID-19 (RT-PCR), carried out within 72 hours before boarding time

- It is compulsory to comply with a prophylactic isolation period of 14 days, at home or in a place indicated by the health authorities, after entering mainland Portugal

The list of countries is determined by governmental document, reviewed every 15 days and whenever necessary according to the pandemic evolution.

- **Flights to and from other countries** (which are not members of the European Union or which are not countries associated with the Schengen Area) for "**essential travel**" only;

Flights intended to allow the return to Portugal of nationals or foreign citizens holding a residence permit in Portugal and flights intended to allow the return to their countries of foreign citizens who are in Portugal, provided that they are promoted by the competent authorities of those countries.

**On all flights, passengers must present proof of a negative test to COVID-19 (RT-PCR), carried out within 72 hours before boarding time**, with the exception of children who have not reached 24 months of age.



## TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

•Those who are obliged to comply with the **14-day prophylactic isolation** in Portugal must register with SEF - Foreigners and Borders Service before entering the country at <https://travel.sef.pt>.

The prophylactic isolation does not apply to:

- passengers traveling on essential trips and whose period of stay in national territory, attested by a return ticket, does not exceed 48 hours;
- passengers traveling exclusively to participate in international professional competitions, listed in Annex IV of the official governmental document [Despacho nº 4957-A/2021](#) (in Portuguese);
- passengers integrated in foreign delegations to participate in meetings within the scope of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

•“**Essential travel**” is defined as trips allowing the transit, entry into and departure from Portugal for professional purposes, study, family reunions, health and humanitarian reasons and under the reciprocity principle.

In essential travels, national and foreign citizens with legal residence in Portugal and also diplomatic personnel accredited in Portugal who, exceptionally, do not present the test, will have to do it on arrival, at the airport, and at their own expense. Foreign passengers who embark without the test performed, will be refused entry into national territory, with the airline being the subject of a fine.

•The Portuguese airports (Lisboa, Porto, Faro, Ponta Delgada e Funchal) have implemented several initiatives in order to keep staff and passengers safer. A body temperature measurement system was implemented on arrival. Passengers will be requested to fill out a form from the Health Authorities - *Passenger Locator Card* -, that can be fulfilled online or will be provided by the Airline Company, during the flight. This information will be used to contact passengers, in case someone develops COVID-19 symptoms within the same flight.

More information at <https://www.ana.pt/en/passenger-guide/what-you-need-to-know/covid-19>



# TRAVEL MEASURES

## BEFORE FLYING TO PORTUGAL

You must have proof of a negative RT-PCR test to the SARS-CoV-2, taken 72 hours prior to the moment of departure. Passengers on flights originating in countries with an incidence rate of 500 cases or more per 100 thousand inhabitants in the last 14 days can only make essential trips and must comply, after entering Portugal mainland, a period of prophylactic isolation of 14 days.

## WELCOME TO PORTUGAL!

Your trip was possible because in Portugal we currently meet the necessary conditions to welcome you safely and because your country has achieved a level of pandemic control that allows you to travel for non-essential reasons. In order to ensure that your trip and experience in Portugal is perfectly safe and unforgettable, we invite you to follow a set of rules and measures that are in place in Portugal right now.

## RULES IN PORTUGAL



Mandatory use of mask.



Prohibition of alcohol consumption in public spaces.



Restaurants and shows close at 10:30 pm.



Commercial establishments close at 9 pm on weekdays and at 7 pm on weekends.



Maximum of 6 people per table in indoor spaces and 10 people per table on terraces.



Keep the safety distance (minimum 2 meters).



Wash your hands frequently.



In certain municipalities in the country, specific rules apply.



Thank you