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# INFORMATIVE NOTE

2018

# Acquisition of Portuguese Nationality

PORTUGUESE NATIONALITY ASSUMPTIONS

Portuguese nationality can be obtained in two ways:

**ORIGINAL** — Produces effects from birth.

### To whom it applies:

- > Children of Portuguese mother or Portuguese father born abroad;
- > Children of foreigners born in Portuguese territory, provided one of the parents resides here legally for at least five years; and
- > Grandchildren of Portuguese born abroad, provided certain legal requirements are met.

# **ACQUIRED** — Produces effects from the registration date. **To whom it applies:**

- > Minor children of a parent who acquires Portuguese nationality;
- > By marriage / cohabitation for more than three years with a Portuguese citizen, provided certain legal requirements are met;
- > Children adopted by a Portuguese citizen;
- > Descendants of Sephardic Jews;
- > Foreigners residing in the national territory for at least six years who have knowledge of the Portuguese language;
- » Minors born in Portugal, children of foreigners residing in Portugal for at least five years, who have knowledge of the Portuguese language and have completed the first cycle of basic education;
- > Adults born in Portugal, children of foreigners who have





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resided here in the 10 years prior to the application, who have knowledge of the Portuguese language.

# PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING THE NATIONALITY:

The request for Portuguese nationality is made before the Central Registry Office, or the Civil Registry with jurisdiction on these matters. A fee shall be paid for the application to be considered by the competent authorities, in an amount to be established annually by government decree.

These procedures usually take one or two years to be analyzed and decided.

Once the nationality is granted, the applicant shall have the same rights as a Portuguese national, and may request the issuance of the Portuguese citizen card and passport.

Please note that the Portuguese passport is in the fourth position in the Passport Index 2017 ranking, according to which the Portuguese passport is among the world's best, along with the passports of Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg, Austria, Netherlands and Japan, and it allows entering 154 countries without a visa.

For further information please contact:

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