

Portugal / Lisbon Location Overview

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JC Lisbon

This information sheet is designed to give you a general picture of Joint Command (JC) Lisbon and the immediate area. If you would like further, more detailed information on specific subjects please contact the HIVE. JC Lisbon is located in Oeiras, Portugal, approximately 10 miles west of Lisbon, the capital of Portugal. JHQ Lisbon is a joint-service, multinational deployable NATO Headquarters. It is a major NATO command, subordinate to Allied Command Operations (ACO), located in Mons, Belgium. The Joint Commander Lisbon is an American Vice Admiral (OF 8), the Deputy Commander is a Portuguese Lieutenant General (OF 8), and the Chief of Staff is a Spanish Major General (OF 7). Approximately 250 personnel are assigned to the core staff, with the total staff numbering approximately 525 personnel.

JC Lisbon Facilities

Swimming Pool, Toddler Pool, Gymnasium, Fitness Room, Tennis & Squash Courts, Astro-turf Football Pitch, Basket Ball Court, Library & DVD/Video Rental, Duty Free Store, Junior Rate Club, Senior Rate Club & Officers Mess.

Service Families Accommodation & Single Living Accommodation:

All housing issues and agents are dealt with through the Housing Officer in the UK Support Unit, who can be contacted on Tel: 21 440 4346.

Schools For children of school age, two main options exist regarding their formal education: either to use one of the local English speaking schools that follow a British curriculum or to place your children in a boarding school in the UK. There are no MOD Service Children's Education (SCE) Schools in Portugal, although there are three private schools that are endorsed by SCE for use, at MOD expense, two of which work to the British curriculum. If you are considering placing your children in a local School, it is absolutely essential that you contact the UK Education Officer (JC Lisbon Ext. 4348), at the earliest opportunity. The MOD will make every effort to secure a school place for your child but no guarantee can be given. Brochures of the schools available can then be sent to you and you can receive the further information and advice that you require.

Transport Bus:

The destination is shown on the front window, as it is most unlikely that the bus driver will speak English. Books of cheap bus tickets (Modulos) are available for use in the Cascais, Guincho, Estoril, S.Joao, Parede, Carcavelos and Oeiras areas. A modulo is valid for one zone and must be punched by inserting it in a machine located at the entrance of the bus.

Rail: The Linha de Cascais, the train line which runs along the coast from Cascais to Lisbon, provides an extremely convenient and relatively inexpensive way to get around the local area. Buy your ticket, whether one-way or round trip (de ida e volta) in advance and head to the departure platform. Every train is marked, in the front window of the first car and the rear window of the last car, by a letter on a coloured signboard to help you identify the train you want. Check out www.cp.pt

Air:

There are regular flights to and from Lisbon Airport and the UK. Faro airport in the south also has flights to the UK. For more information on all the airports in Portugal and the flight schedules check out: www.ana-aeroportos.pt

Taxi: These are usually plentiful and very good value for money. A 10% tip is normally appropriate. When you set off, make sure the meter is running. If you phone for a taxi an extra call out charge is added. The standard of driving may vary but this cheap service is very attractive if you enjoy some of the social activities! Please don't drink and drive!

Super Markets

Jumbo Depicted by a green and red elephant. Situated opposite Cascais train station. Continente Red and blue circular logo. Found in Cascais Shopping. Fresh, quality meat and fruit/vegetables can be found at cheaper prices in smaller local stores than in the supermarkets. Most towns will have a local Butchers and Fruit/Vegetable store. Please note: a 50-cent coin is required to release a supermarket trolley.

Shopping Centres

Cascais Shopping Exit in Alcabideche and follow the signs. All the major stores in one place, food and shopping. Palmeiras Shopping In Carcavelos, close to the Marginal.

Restaurants, cinemas and shopping.

Riviera Shopping Next to the Riviera Hotel in Carcavelos. Markets

Carcavelos Every Thursday 0830 - 1400. Mainly clothes and household goods (including some designer 'seconds') Cascais (Centre) Wednesdays (including flea market: clothes, linens, ceramics, household goods, shoes etc.) and Saturdays (mainly food). Great fish market on

both days. Open approximately 0830 - 1400. There is also an indoor section (food only), which is open 0600 - 1400 daily.

Eating Out

Portuguese cuisine is particularly diverse; various recipes of rice, potatoes, bread, meat, seafood and fish are the staple foods in the country. The Portuguese have a reputation for loving cod dishes (bacalhau in Portuguese), for which it is said that there are 365 ways of cooking it: Pastéis de Bacalhau, Bacalhau à Brás and Bacalhau à Gomes de Sá are some of the most popular ones. The art of pastry is

very popular across the entire country. Desserts and cakes, such as Lisbon's Pastéis de Nata (best eaten with a strong coffee), Aveiro's Ovos-Moles are very much appreciated. Portuguese wines have been exported since Roman times. Today the country is known by wine lovers, and its wines have won several international prizes. Many famous Portuguese wines are known as some of the world's best: Vinho Verde, Vinho Alvarinho, Vinho do Douro, Vinho do Alentejo, Vinho do Dão, Vinho da Bairrada and the sweet: Port Wine, Madeira wine and the Moscatels of Setúbal and Faveiros (Douro). Porto Wine is widely exported, followed by Vinho Verde. Exports of Vinho Verde are increasing rapidly, in response to the growing international demand.

Weather Lisbon is one of the warmest European capitals. Spring and summer months are usually sunny and maximum temperatures close to or above 30 °C during July and August, with low between 15 and 20 °C. Autumn and winter are typically rainy and windy, yet sunny days are not rare either. The temperatures rarely fall below 5 °C, usually staying at an average of 10 °C. Average sunny hours per year are 3300 h/y, and 100 days with rain per year. Lisbon climate is strongly influenced by the Gulf Stream.

For more information regarding JC Lisbon and the surrounding area, please contact the HIVE on Tel: (00 351) 21 440 4328.
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