

Access to Markets



Mainland Portugal, along with its semi-autonomous island regions of the Azores and Madeira, offer a market of approximately 10.6 million people.

As with all EU countries, Portugal's borders and ports are completely open to the free flow of trade with other EU member countries.

As one of the charter members of the European Union (EU), it is fully integrated with the EU, uses the Euro currency, and follows directives from the EU Commission in Brussels.

Portugal has a politically stable environment with a democratically elected parliamentary government and is welcoming of foreign business and investment.

Access to Markets

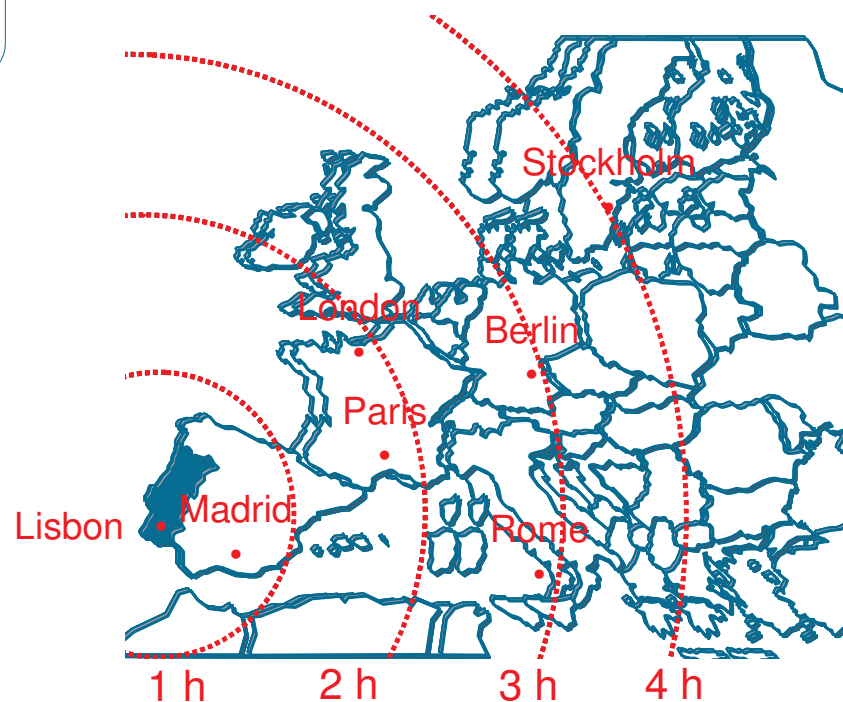
The Portuguese market is larger than it may initially appear. There may only be 10.6 million people in Portugal, but there are well over 249.6 million people speaking Portuguese worldwide.

Portuguese is the 5th most widely spoken language in the world. Former Portuguese colonies including, Macau, Mozambique, Angola (one of the fastest growing economies) and, of course Brazil (one of the BRIC countries), have close business ties with Portugal. Foreign companies can readily find avenues to these other markets through Portugal.

Portugal is an excellent entry point or first test-market for a foreign firm looking to get into the EU. English is widely spoken and the population is very friendly. Both physical and IT Infrastructure are well developed and Portugal is still one of the lower commercial cost environments in Europe.

Free flow of capital and goods within the European Union

Distance by air



Access to Markets

Portuguese ties with Africa, Brazil and transatlantic link with the USA, provide a cost-effective and sound internationalization base

New Projects

- ✓ High-speed train (TGV)
- ✓ Multimodal link Portugal–Europe
- ✓ High-speed rail interoperability
- ✓ New Airport in Lisbon (Alcochete)

Lisbon to

- ✓ Madrid: 600 Km, 7hr by truck
- ✓ Paris: 1800 Km, 17hr by truck
- ✓ Frankfurt: 2300 Km, 23hr by truck
- ✓ Moscow: 4600 Km, 51hr by truck

