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Public holidays

Visiting Portugal?

Exploring Portugal by motorhome is a fantastic way to discover its Atlantic coastline, historic cities, and mountain villages. But public holidays can bring both opportunities and challenges: vibrant festivals and parades on one hand, and busy roads or closed shops on the other. Our guide to Portugal's public holidays in 2026, 2027, and 2028 helps international travellers plan ahead — showing when to join the celebrations, and when to travel just before or after for quieter routes and easier overnight stops.

Portugal Public Holidays 2026–2028

Holiday	2026	2027	2028
New Year's Day	Thu 1 Jan 2026	Fri 1 Jan 2027	Sat 1 Jan 2028
Carnival (Shrove Tuesday)	Tue 17 Feb 2026	Tue 16 Feb 2027	Tue 29 Feb 2028
Good Friday	Fri 3 Apr 2026	Fri 26 Mar 2027	Fri 14 Apr 2028
Easter Sunday	Sun 5 Apr 2026	Sun 28 Mar 2027	Sun 16 Apr 2028
Liberty Day	Sat 25 Apr 2026	Sun 25 Apr 2027	Tue 25 Apr 2028
Labour Day	Fri 1 May 2026	Sat 1 May 2027	Mon 1 May 2028
Corpus Christi	Thu 4 Jun 2026	Thu 3 Jun 2027	Thu 15 Jun 2028
Portugal Day	Wed 10 Jun 2026	Thu 10 Jun 2027	Sat 10 Jun 2028
Assumption of Mary	Sat 15 Aug 2026	Sun 15 Aug 2027	Tue 15 Aug 2028
Republic Day	Mon 5 Oct 2026	Tue 5 Oct 2027	Thu 5 Oct 2028
All Saints' Day	Sun 1 Nov 2026	Mon 1 Nov 2027	Wed 1 Nov 2028
Restoration of Independence	Tue 1 Dec 2026	Wed 1 Dec 2027	Fri 1 Dec 2028
Immaculate Conception	Tue 8 Dec 2026	Wed 8 Dec 2027	Fri 8 Dec 2028
Christmas Day	Fri 25 Dec 2026	Sat 25 Dec 2027	Mon 25 Dec 2028

Tips for International Motorhome Travellers

- Closures: On 25 April (Liberty Day), 1 May, 10 June, 15 August, and Christmas, expect widespread closures of shops and services. Stock up the day before.
- Carnival (February) ? colourful parades in Lisbon, Torres Vedras, and Madeira. Parking in city centres is difficult; stay outside and use public transport.
- Summer holidays: August is peak season for Portuguese families. Coastal campsites fill quickly book in advance.
- Best opportunities:
 - Easter ? traditional processions in Braga and Óbidos.
 - Portugal Day (10 June) ? patriotic celebrations, concerts, and parades.
 - Christmas ? festive markets in Porto and Lisbon, with motorhome?friendly stopovers nearby.
- Travel strategy:
 - Arrive early at popular aires before locals head out.
 - Use holidays to enjoy cultural events, or travel just before/after for quieter roads.