



Porto

#CantSkipFilminginPortugal

The Portugal Film Commission was created in 2019, by the Portuguese Government with the mission to promote Portugal as an international filming destination, and disseminate information on filming in Portugal to national and international producers.

With a competitive cash rebate system, exquisite locations and skilled professionals, there are some unavoidable reasons why you #CantSkipFilminginPortugal.

Why Film in Portugal

- 1. Year-Round Sunshine:** Almost 300 days of sunshine, allowing production throughout the year.
- 2. Diverse Sceneries:** A variety of beaches, castles, palaces, monuments, modern architecture, churches, cathedrals, monasteries, parks, historic villages, walled cities. Portugal offers diverse landscapes including mountains, forests, plains, rocky slopes, valleys, caves, rivers, lakes and even jungles.
- 3. Accessible Locations:** In less than 5 hours it is possible to

- travel across the mainland, by car, from north to south; 6 international airports (Lisbon, Porto, Faro, Funchal, Sao Miguel and Lages), 5 international ports and an accessible rail network.
- 4. Experienced Professionals:** Qualified talent available at competitive prices.
- 5. Facilities and Equipment:** Most studios are available in the Lisbon, Porto, and Algarve. There are also ongoing projects in other areas for filming infrastructures.
- 6. Affordable Accommodation:** Portugal has an extensive and varied

- offer of hotels, from the most exquisite five star to the picturesque rural houses. All that combined with the amazing food.
- 7. Co-Production Agreements:** With more than 60 countries around the world.
- 8. Stable and Safe Country**
- 9. Quality Health System :** With a Wide Network of Public and Private Hospitals
- 10. PT Cash Rebate**
- 11. Scouting Programme**

Incentives - Cash Rebate and Scouting Programme

Cash Rebate:

Portugal has one of the most competitive cash rebate system in Europe, which applies to Film, Audiovisual and VOD Productions: National, Foreign (executive/ services) and/or official and co-productions.

Main features of the Incentive:

- Minimum expenditure in Portugal: € 500,000.00 for fiction or animation projects | € 250,000.00 for documentary or post-production projects;
- Support rate of 25%, which can be

- increased to 30%, on eligible expenditure.
- The percentage is determined by a 'Cultural Test', which is attached to the aforementioned Regulation, focusing on the characteristics of the project;
- Attribution of support on a first come first served basis;
- Payments in advance and in instalments;
- Maximum incentive allocated per project is €4m;
- Decision to award the incentive within 20 working days.

National or foreign projects of the following types and formats are eligible (always based on the minimum of eligible expenditure incurred and taxed in Portugal)

PROJECT	TYPE	AMOUNT
Cinematographic works to be projected in movie theatres	Feature Film	
	Fiction / Animation	500 000.00 €
	Documentary	250 000.00 €
Audiovisual works of independent production for TV broadcasting	Television	500 000.00 €
	Unit Television Documentaries	250 000.00 €
	TV Animation Specials / TV Series	500 000.00 €
Works for Services on request (by unit or episodes)	Fiction / Animation	500 000.00 €
	Documentary	250 000.00 €
Post production	All of the above typologies	250 000.00 €

Eligible Expenses

All production expenses, relating to personnel and the purchase of goods and services carried out and taxed in Portugal, are considered eligible. There are, however, maximum limits for above the line expenses. Production expenses incurred in another EU Member State, qualify as eligible expenses (limit of 20% of the total of that expenditure.)

Scouting programme

Portugal also finances scouting programmes of foreign producers who consider the possibility of filming in Portugal. For more information: <https://pic.portugalfilmcommission.com/en/pic-portugal/scouting-programme/>

“Portugal is a multicultural, cosmopolitan, and welcoming country that offers an extraordinary variety of landscapes and scenarios. The richness of its historical, natural and cultural heritage make Portugal a privileged destination for film and audio-visual productions. The highly competitive Cash Rebate incentive, complemented by the quality of our technical and artistic teams, and the support provided by the Portugal Film Commission are the strategic pillars that favour filming in our country”

Nuno Artur Silva
Secretary of State for Cinema, Audio Visual & Media

Filming in Portugal

International shootings from India, Germany, UK, Brazil, France, USA, and big productions from streaming giants Netflix and HBO confirm Portugal as a safe bet for producers, directors, and actors.

We can name 3 examples of big and challenging shoots in Portugal: “War”, by Siddharth Anand, “Frankie”, by Ira Sachs and “Colour Out of Space”, by Richard Stanley.

“War” is a production from India, with a high commercial result - about 67 million USD of box office. Its trailer has more than 127 million views on YouTube, and another video, dedicated to the production of action scenes in Portugal, has close to 11 million views.



Cascais Natural Park - Sintra



Tram - Lisbon

As all action movies, “War” challenged us a lot in terms of shooting, namely, a special scene shot in Oporto, at Luiz I bridge.

The Portuguese Government has awarded the 2018 Medal of Tourist Merit to Indian director Imtiaz Ali, for international projection that Portugal achieved with his film "Jab Harry Met Sejal", also shot in Portugal.

“Frankie” and “Colour Out of Space” were shot in Sintra, a beautiful and touristic village near Lisbon.

Blockbusters such as “Rambo V – Last Blood” and “Angel Has Fallen” had the post-production in Portugal.

Cash Rebate overall numbers have registered 20 productions in 2018, 25 in 2019 and 29 in 2020.

Covid - 19 Protocol

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Portuguese Government has adopted a series of measures to prevent and contain the transmission of the infection.

Filming in Portugal has never been prohibited, even during the period of total confinement. There is no limit to the size of the unit, provided that they abide by the established rules issued by the Directorate-General for Health.

All travellers must present proof of a negative COVID-19 test conducted within the last 72 hours. Passengers arriving in Portugal without these test results are subject to refusal of entry and/or mandatory testing paid by the passenger as well as quarantine until the results of the test. Additionally, all passengers arriving are subject to mandatory temperature checks, and may be required to undergo secondary COVID-19 testing.

The National Health Service page is regularly updated with all the data about COVID-19: <https://covid19.min-saude.pt/ponto-de-situacao-atual-em-portugal/#>

As for the protocols to be adopted for filming in Portugal, the Portugal Film Commission has following guidelines: <https://portugalfilmcommission.com/en/news/covid-19-guidelines-for-filming-in-portugal/>

“Within easy reach of European hubs and with abundant sunlight and warm temperatures, Portugal is a place to visit and enjoy but also a place you can find safe and rich natural and cultural sites, ideal to the film industry. All these attributes plus the competitive subsidy scheme of tax rebates for physical and post-production have recast Portugal into a niche film shooting destination for Indian film makers.”

Rita Marques
Secretary of State for Tourism

Can't Skip
Filming
in Portugal*

30% Cash
Rebate

Film, TV and VOD
Upfront Payments in Installments
Decision within 20 working days
First come, first served basis
Scouting Programme

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