

HOW ABOUT STARTING UP A BUSINESS IN PORTUGAL? THE D2 VISA.

The D2 Visa, also known as a residence visa for entrepreneurs, is an excellent option for foreigners who intend to start a business in Portugal or work as self-employed professionals.

It is intended to obtain a residence permit in Portugal for citizens of third countries who are:

- Self-employed workers: people who intend to work in Portugal and already have an employment contract or work proposal within a liberal profession;
- Investors (entrepreneurs): the D2 visa is intended for businessmen who wish to undertake or invest in the country.

According to a "Forbes" study, Portugal is considered the best country in the European Community for foreign investors. Tax incentives are largely responsible, together with the fact that the country has a strategy to combat the ageing population to ensure economic stability.

The applicant must obtain a visa, to be able to enter Portuguese territory, thus obtaining the corresponding residence permit. The applicant may simultaneously apply for a residence visa for his family members, under the residence permit for family reunion.



João Pedro Neves
Trainee Lawyer

REQUIREMENTS

The D2 Visa application must be made at the Portuguese Consulate in the respective country of citizenship or, if there is none, at the Consulate that has jurisdiction over the applicant's country.

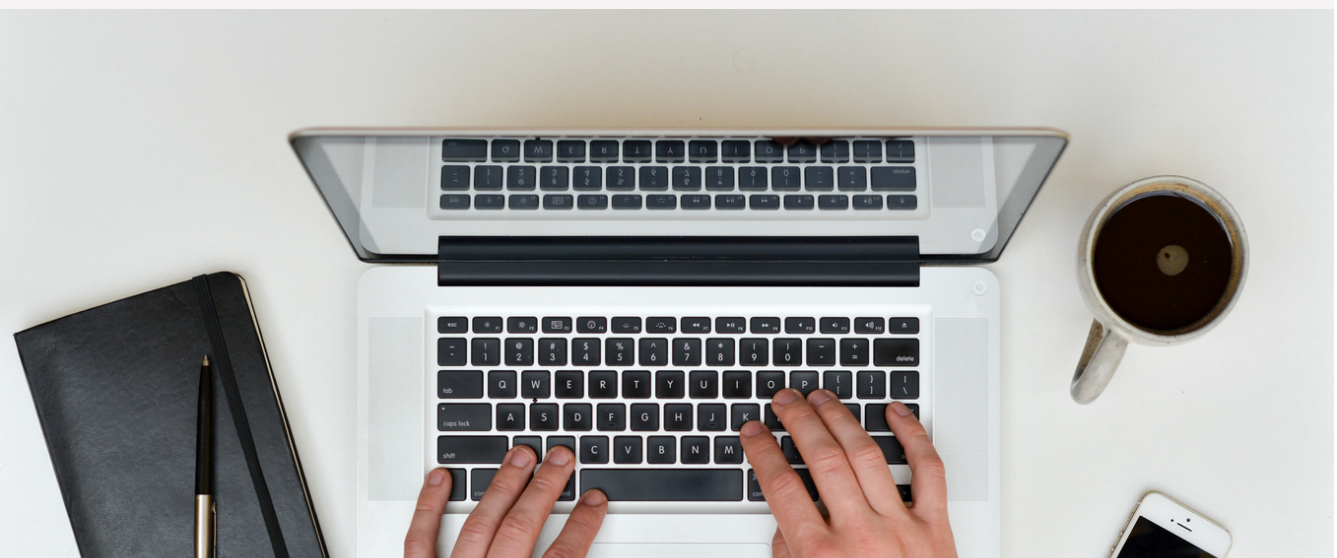
In addition to the general requirements necessary to obtain any visa, the applicant must prove certain requirements, which vary according to their profession:

EXERCISE OF INDEPENDENT ACTIVITY (AUTONOMOUS WORKERS)

- Contract for the provision of services:
 - Have a contract or written offer of a contract for the provision of services within the liberal professions;
 - If it is necessary qualification to exercise a certain activity, it is necessary to demonstrate that you are qualified.

ENTREPRENEURIAL IMMIGRANTS WHO INTEND TO INVEST IN PORTUGAL

- Carrying out investment operations
- Proof of financial capacity:
 - Prove to have available financial means in Portugal (in this case, the means which were obtained through bank financing) and demonstrate the intention of investing in Portuguese territory.
- Entrepreneurial Project: creation of an innovative based enterprise:
 - To demonstrate the relevance of the investment.



VALIDITY AND DEADLINES

- The D2 Visa is valid for 4 months, being valid for 2 entries in Portugal, for consequent application for a residence permit.
- Within 90 days after arrival in Portugal, the applicant must apply for a residence permit at SEF.
- The temporary residence permit is valid for a period of 2 years as of the date of issue of the respective title and is renewable for successive periods of 3 years.
- After obtaining the temporary residence permit based on the D2 Visa, the foreign citizen must not be absent from Portugal for more than 6 consecutive months or 8 intercalated months, under penalty of cancellation of the residence permit.
- Holders of temporary residence permits may apply for a permanent residence permit after 5 years of legal residence in Portugal.

D2 VISA BENEFITS

- **Nationality**
After 5 years legally in Portugal, it is possible to apply for Portuguese nationality (with the fulfilment of other requirements).
- **Family Reunification**
After 5 years legally in Portugal, it is possible to apply for Portuguese nationality (with the fulfilment of other requirements).
- **Access to Healthcare**

Following the recent amendments to the Foreigners Act in August 2022, the Portuguese Government has shown a willingness to speed up the process of obtaining a visa for digital nomads. However, this is still pending further regulation in this regard.

This information is not public and does not constitute any form of advertising, and its copying or dissemination is prohibited. The content of this information and the opinions expressed are of a general nature and cannot be understood or substituted for legal advice.

For further information, contact us:

jgsa@jgsa.pt

www.jgsa.pt

Follow us on 