

Fun & Interesting Facts about Portugal

- The official name of Portugal is the 'Republic of Portugal'.
- Portugal is located in southwestern Europe and spreads over an area of approximately 92,391 sq km.
- The official language of Portugal is Portuguese, while the official currency is Euro.
- Lisbon, the largest city in Portugal, is also the country's capital city.
- The University of Coimbra, established in 1290, is one of the oldest universities in Europe.
- During the Roman times, Portugal was called Lusitania.
- Portugal was founded by Alfonso Henriques, in 1152.
- Vasco da Gama, the man who discovered the sea route to India, was Portuguese.
- Bartholomew Diaz, a Portuguese explorer, was the first person to sail round the southern tip of Africa, which he named the Cape of Good Hope.
- Pedro Alvarez Cabral, another Portuguese, discovered of Brazil.
- Portuguese is the official language of 9 countries.
- Portugal set up the world's first commercial wave farm to produce electricity, in the year 2006.