

ABA Section of International Law 2014 Fall Meeting - Buenos Aires, Argentina

GOLDEN RESIDENCE PERMIT PROGRAMME "GOLDEN VISA"

1. Advantages of the Golden Residence Permit Programme

In return of the investment made in Portugal, the beneficiaries of the Golden Visa can:

- ✓ Enter Portugal without the need to obtain a visa;
- Reside and work in Portugal while retaining residency in another country;
- Travel throughout the Schengen area without the need to obtain a visa;
- Right to family regrouping;
- Right to obtain permanent residency (after 5 years and according to the applicable legislation);
- Right to obtain Portuguese citizenship (after 6 years and according to the applicable legislation).

2. Who can benefit of the Golden Residence Permit Programme

- ✓ All Third State citizens involved in an investment activity can apply either as an individual or through a company incorporated in Portugal or in another E.U. state with a solid establishment in Portugal fulfilling one of the investment requirements and the time requirement provided by the applicable legislation;
- ✓ Citizens of Portuguese nationality, as well as E.U. and EEA nationals cannot apply to the Golden Residence Permit

3. Precautionary Requirements

The applicants must also meet all of the following precautionary requirements:

√ Absence of a conviction for crimes punishable, under Portuguese Law, with over one year of imprisonment;



- ✓ Absence of an entry ban in national territory subsequent to a deportation. order from the country
- ✓ Absence of any alerts in the Schengen Information System
- Absence of any alerts in the System of SEF (immigration) inhibiting the applicant's admission

4. Investment Requirements

To successfully obtain a Golden Residence Permit, applicants must also meet at least one of the minimum investment requirements:

a) Capital transfer of a minimum amount of 1 million euros:

- √ The applicant must provide proof of such minimum amount invested, even if the investment is made in companies' shares or stocks
- Proof: Declaration of a financial institution authorized to pursue its activity in Portugal certifying the referred transfer of capital either to an account where the investor is the sole or first holder of capital; or through the acquisition of stocks or shares of companies, in which case an updated certificate issued by the Commercial Register certifying that the applicant holds the mentioned shares of a company is also required.

b) The creation of a minimum of 10 jobs:

- ✓ The applicant must provide proof of the creation of 10 jobs and their registration in the Portuguese Social Security
- <u>Proof:</u> An updated Certificate issued by the Social Security.

c) Purchase of a property of at least 500 thousand euros:

- ✓ The applicant must provide proof of ownership or co-ownership of the property or proof of a right to future ownership or co-ownership through a promissory purchase agreement, as long each of the owners has invested a minimum of 500 thousand euros;
- ✓ Proof: Public deed or promissory purchase agreement of the property and a declaration of a financial institution authorized to pursue its activity in



Portugal confirming the transfer of the capital necessary to purchase or to execute the down payment of the promissory purchase agreement for a minimum value of 500 thousand euros, and an updated certificate issued by the Real Estate Registry, certifying the ownership and when legally permitted certifying the promissory purchase agreement

5. Time Requirement

Applicants must also maintain their investment for a minimum period of 5 years, counting from the date when the Golden Residence Permit is granted.

6. Permanence Requirement

In order to renew the Golden Residence Permit, applicants must also comply with a minimum days of permanence in Portugal: 7 consecutive or non-consecutive days, during the first year and 14 consecutive or non-consecutive days in the following periods of 2 years.

7. Necessary Documents

- Passport or other valid travel document;
- ✓ Full copy of the passport;
- ✓ Proof of health insurance (explicitly including outpatient and hospital treatment in Portugal);
- ✓ Criminal Record Certificate from the relevant authority of the applicant's home country or from any other country where he has been residing for over a year;
- ✓ Sworn Statement of the applicant stating his future compliance with the mandatory investment requirements;
- ✓ Proof of payment of the emission fee;
- Power of attorney (in case of legal representation);
- SEF's form;
- The abovementioned documents proving the investment requirements.



8. Where can we - Carlos Pinto de Abreu e Associados - help?

- ✓ In the process of gathering and preparing the initial documents;
- ✓ In the negotiation process;
- Reviewing the purchase or promissory purchase agreement;
- ✓ Assisting in booking and completion of the public deed in the notary's office;
- ✓ Legal advice in the establishment of company;
- Booking the online request;
- ✓ Assisting the applicant in the first interview in SEF to collect the biometric data (fingerprints, photo and signature)
- ✓ Arrange for the payments of the analysis and emission fee to be made;
- Monitoring the process in close contact with SEF
- Obtain the residence permit
- ✓ File the request to obtain the family regrouping
- File the request to renew the residence permit.

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