

TEE OFF IN LISBON IN 2016!

*International tournaments and prestigious awards
reinforce Lisbon's appeal to golfers of all levels*



16th December 2015 – Lisbon's golf sector looks ahead to 2016 as another successful year, with a series of high-profile tournaments, both national and international, scheduled to take place throughout the year.

Lisbon scored the impressive dual distinction at the recent IAGTO (International Association of Golf Tour Operators) Awards of being named the 'Best Golfing Destination' in Europe – an accolade that was presented to the Lisbon Golf Coast for the second time – while the region's Royal Óbidos Spa & Golf Resort received the prestigious title of 'European Golf Resort of the Year'.

The Lisbon Golf Coast continues to attract tens of thousands of British golfers every year thanks to its wide choice of courses, affordable green fees, reasonably priced quality hotel and resort accommodation. The region is home to more than 20 golf courses with *Turismo de Lisboa* accreditation, which are all located less than an hour's drive from the centre of the Portuguese capital.

The courses vary in size, location and difficulty and many have been designed by well-known architects and custodians of the sport, including: Spanish golfing legend Severiano Ballesteros designed the 18-hole Royal Óbidos; British former golfer Donald Steel designed three courses – Santo Estevão Golfe (Benavente), Bom Sucesso Golf (Óbidos) and Dolce Campo Real (Turcifal); renowned American golf course architect Arthur Hills is the man behind the award winning Oitavos Dunes; while Scottish Mackenzie Ross and Englishman Peter Townsend designed the much coveted Estoril Golf Course and Ribagolfe I respectively.

For those who are looking for an extra reason to plan a golfing break on the Lisbon Golf Coast in 2016, event highlights for next year include:

86th Portuguese International Amateur Championship

January-February 2016

Featuring an elegant clubhouse surrounded by a pine forest, Estoril Golf is one of the oldest courses in Portugal, originally founded in 1929. The Championship course hosts the annual



Portuguese International Amateur Championships, which in 2016 will take place between 27th-30th January (Women) and 10th-13th February (Men).

www.fpg.pt

ORIZONTE Lisbon Golf Trophy 2016

February 2016

This new international amateur golf event was launched in 2015 to showcase some of Lisbon's finest and best value courses to UK and European golfers. Taking place from 22nd-26th February in the Costa Azul region, south of Lisbon, it involves a friendly competition across two handicap categories, bringing together six well-established golf courses.

www.en.orizontegolf.com

5th Oitavos Classic 2016

February 2016

The 5th edition of the Oitavos Classic 2016 international golf tournament will be held between 25th-28th February at the award winning 18-hole Oitavos Dunes - Natural Links Golf, considered as one of the best natural links golf courses in the world. Open to amateur golfers, the maximum tournament handicap will be 28 for men and women.

www.theoitavos.com

Many of the Lisbon Golf Coast's courses are located within or close by to five-star hotels and resorts which offer competitively priced golf breaks, as well as stay-and-play packages for all ability levels and group sizes. Their proximity to Lisbon makes it easy for golf enthusiasts to combine their sporting passion with a city break at one of Europe's most fascinating capitals.

Direct flights to Lisbon operate from London, Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh and Bristol with TAP Portugal, BA, easyJet and Ryanair.

Please visit www.visitlisboa.com for more information.

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About Lisbon

Portugal's national capital, Lisbon, boasts one of the longest histories, warmest climates and bustling nightlife of any major European city alongside its dramatic location sprawled along seven hills overlooking the river Tagus and the country's west coast. Famed for its year-round sunshine and beauty, Lisbon's grand architecture dazzles and its old-world charm mingles with



chic streets, galleries, lively nightlife and a centre which gives way to sandy beaches just minutes away. It is also one of the most affordable capitals in Europe, perfect for a captivating city break or short haul escape.

www.visitlisboa.com

About Turismo de Lisboa

Turismo de Lisboa is a non-profit organisation established through an alliance of public and private bodies operating in the tourist sector. It now has 713 associated members. Since its inception in 1998, the main objective of this association is to improve and increase the promotion of Lisbon as a tourist destination and therefore enhance the quality and competitiveness of the city.