

## BEYOND LISBON: SUMMER GROOVES, CHIC AND GLAMOUR ON THE PORTUGUESE RIVIERA

*Stay, play, relax and unwind in Estoril and Cascais with luxury hotels and key events for 2016*



**16<sup>th</sup> May 2016** – Just 30 minutes outside Lisbon, easily accessible either by car or train, the seaside resorts of Estoril and Cascais are where national and international visitors come every summer to relax on their golden sand beaches and take in the refined ambience – expect glamorous company, elegant accommodation and myriad dining options.

### **ESTORIL: FOR JAMES BOND FANS AND NOT ONLY**

Known for its seafront promenade, over the years **Estoril** has grown as an upmarket holiday destination, with fine restaurants, world class golf courses and a range of golden sand beaches. Once the second home of the Spanish, Italian, French, Bulgarian and Romanian royal families, Estoril is known for its 007 connections: the elegant resort is home to Europe's largest casino, reputed to have been Ian Fleming's inspiration for the first James Bond novel 'Casino Royale', while Palácio Hotel served as the set for the James Bond film 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service'!

### **CASCAIS: A FIRM FAVOURITE WITH EUROPEAN ROYALS**

A former fishing village, **Cascais** has transformed itself into a chic seaside resort, brimming with good food, cultural events and shopping opportunities, all set against the background of a picturesque historic centre. A European royalty favourite for centuries, there are various fine beaches to choose from, as well as a dedicated marina, home to elegant yachts. Cascais can easily be explored on two wheels (bicycles are available to rent for free), while for a sample of its fishing heritage you can visit the popular fish market, which is open every weekday.

If you are thinking of visiting in 2016, here are five reasons why you should...

### **WHAT'S HAPPENING – FIVE REASONS TO VISIT THE LISBON COAST IN 2016**

1. **Tee off at Europe's best golf destination:** The Lisbon Golf Coast – featuring more than 20 golf courses around the Portuguese capital – was named Europe's 'Best Golf Destination' by the International Association of Golf Tour Operators at the end of last year, the third time Lisbon receives this distinction. The region attracts 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 – and the International Golf Week, taking place in Cascais from 29<sup>th</sup> October – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2016, promises an amazing golf experience for all participants.

2. **Celebrate the seventh art – 10 years of the Lisbon & Estoril Film Festival:** Marking its 10<sup>th</sup> edition in 2016, the Lisbon & Estoril Film Festival (4<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> November) aims to bring together filmmakers, artists, writers, philosophers, musicians, actors, choreographers, composers and photographers from all over the world, guests at last year's event included acclaimed directors Wim Wenders and Jonathan Demme. Alongside film screenings (competition, retrospectives and tributes), the festival also features conferences, master classes and exhibitions, as well as an international symposium.
3. **Spend the night like a king:** Whether by the sea, in a palace or close to the town centre, both Cascais and Estoril offer a great variety of luxury accommodation. In Cascais, options include the Farol Hotel, built on the edge of the cliffs, as well as the former palace of Italy's last King, Humberto II, at Grande Real Villa Itália Hotel & Spa, near the rock formations of Boca do Inferno. Estoril is home, among other properties, to Palácio Estoril Hotel Golf & Spa, opened in 1930 and considered one of Europe's greatest hotels. For a culinary delight, head to Hotel Fortaleza do Guincho, whose restaurant, managed by Chef Miguel Rocha Vieira, features one Michelin star.
4. **Join the locals to celebrate the ties of Cascais with the sea:** Held every August, the 10-day Festival of the Sea (Festas do Mar) celebrates the special relationship Cascais has developed with the sea over the centuries. The annual festivities include a series of live music and folk dances that concentrate on Praia do Pescador (Fisherman's Beach), close to Hotel Baia. There is also a Mass, followed by a procession, while the last day of the Festival is marked with a fireworks display and a parade of boats at the Bay of Cascais.
5. **Find the perfect souvenir at the oldest handicraft fair in Portugal:** Taking place every summer from late June to early September, the Estoril Handicraft Fair (the oldest of its kind in Portugal) brings together more than one hundred artisans from all over Portugal, demonstrating century-old techniques and tools. Located behind the Estoril Casino and open daily until midnight, you will find stalls with handmade crafts from Portugal's regions and abroad, as well as a number of open-air restaurants and entertainment performances, such as folk dance demonstrations and fado singing.

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



For more information on visiting Lisbon and the Lisbon region please go to:  
[www.visitlisboa.com](http://www.visitlisboa.com).

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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](http://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 over 800 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.