

News in Portugal

3 April 2019

A weekly summary of the headline news from Portugal in English, every Wednesday.

European Parliament votes in favour of abolishing seasonal time changes

European Parliament voted in favour of abolishing seasonal time changes, in Strasbourg, but only in 2021 and not right in 2019 unlike Brussels had initially proposed. Now that the proposal was approved, with 410 votes in favour and 192 votes against, EU countries must decide whether to keep winter or summer time and coordinate their decisions with the European Commission to ensure that the application of summer time in some countries and winter time in others does not disrupt the internal market.

See the full Portuguese version of the story [here](#).

Portugal among best countries for expats to make friends

Portugal is the 10th best country for expats to make friends. This conclusion was made in the survey conducted by InterNations, an expat community with more than 3.4 million members. This survey includes 18,000 respondents across the world and evaluates 68 countries. When answering about Portugal, 75% of expats say that making new friends in general is easy (vs. 57% globally). And 64% find it easy to create friendly bonds with the Portuguese people (vs. 45% globally).

The survey reveals that Mexico is the best country for making friends abroad, followed by Bahrain, Serbia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Uganda, Colombia, Taiwan, Israel, and Portugal.

See the full Portuguese version of the story [here](#).

Lisbon overtakes Barcelona in local lodging

There are neighbourhoods in Lisbon in which up to 40% of housing is now used for short term rentals. The National Local Lodging Registry (RNAL) shows there are currently 17,937 properties in Lisbon registered as Local Lodging, a number that continues to grow, as demonstrated by last year's evolution, and that overtakes the 14,900 properties registered in Barcelona.

See the Portuguese version of the story [here](#).