

News in Portugal

9 January 2019

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

Montijo: New airport is closer to reality

The first step will be taken to move forward with the much desired airport of Montijo through the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the government and ANA - Aeroportos de Portugal. This agreement will review the current concession contract of the company that manages the airport infrastructure and which sets the investment goals to be achieved in the coming years, but also the method of calculating airport charges, since it will be the concessionaire, Vinci, that controls ANA, to bear all the costs of investing in the new project. This is the solution aimed at increasing Lisbon airport capacity, which is expected to be operational by 2022. And the numbers speak for themselves: this new infrastructure aims to exceed the 50 million passenger mark and reach 72 aircraft movements per hour.

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

Unemployment stabilises at 6.6% and remains at its lowest level since 2002

Unemployment in October stabilized and reached 6.6% of the labour force, remaining at the lowest level during the last 16 years. The definitive data was released by the National Statistics Institute (INE) and indicate a rate equal to the month of September and a decline of 1.8 percentage points compared to the same month of 2017. In October there were 342,400 unemployed people, 0.4% more than 1400 people in the previous month and 21.3% fewer than in October 2017

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

New Business sets record in 2018, boosted by tourism

The incorporation of new companies in Portugal last year reached the highest level during the last 11 years, driven by the tourism sector. According to Informa D&B's survey, in 2018, 45,191 companies were created, the highest number since 2007 and an increase of 10.4% over 2017. This trend has, to a large extent, originated in the development of the tourism sector in Portugal. About 40% of new businesses created in 2018 relate to service activities (sports activities, travel agencies, tour operators, etc.), real estate activities, occasional passenger transport, construction, accommodation and catering.

"The year 2018 reinforces the signs of the entrepreneurial initiative that had already taken place in 2017 and illustrates the strong dynamics of tourism in Portugal, as the new companies involved in tourism activities represent a very significant part of this growth," says Teresa Cardoso de Menezes, General Director of Informa D&B.

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

Chauffeur Privé platform receives passenger license

The Chauffeur Privé platform announced today that it has been granted a license for the individual and paid passenger transport activity on vehicles decharacterized from an electronic platform (TVDE), awarded by the Institute of Mobility and Transportation (IMT).

Of the four electronic platform operators in Portugal - Uber, Chauffeur Privé, Taxify and Cabify - who applied for an IMT license, which expired on January 1st, Chauffeur Privé was the first platform to obtain activity licensing of TVDE, pending the decision in relation to the other three platforms.

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