



Spoken Portuguese Tips & Tricks

Hello!

Easy one: in Portugal, it's "Olá," pronounced just the same as the familiar Hola from Spanish.

Oh oo!

We love this quirk more than the title suggests, but you will notice that a final O sound in Portugal often sounds like it's written with a "u," sounding like OO.

Obrigado/a

When you say "thank you," the final vowel changes depending on your gender. Men will use "o" and women use "a".

Where'd that letter go?

Words starting with a vowel often skip it altogether in spoken Portuguese. Examples: 'Sporão and 'brigado are 2 you'll hear often this trip.

~ means ow!

A tilde (in Portuguese, known as a *cedilha*) over a vowel means you're very likely going to be making a diphthong, such as Ow (ão) or Oi (õe).

The J is more familiar

In Portuguese, the "j" sound is very similar to how we use it in English. Hence, you never hear "Ho-zay" but always "Joe-zay" in Portugal.

Ç is an S in disguise

No hard C when it's got a tail! The ç is pronounced just like the English letter s ... no exceptions, so this one is easy!

When in doubt ...

Shush it out! S sounds in Portuguese, especially after a vowel, tend to sound more like Shh than Ssss.

THANK YOU to remember

If you only take one lesson, it's to remember OBRIGADO[A] and never "Gracias"!

And finally ...

Portuguese people are warm and friendly. Make an effort, and if you're feeling shy, a smile works just the same!





Pronunciation Guide 1

Phonetic **Portuguese**

Phonetic **English**

Notes

Cultivamos / Company

KOOL tea VAHM oosh

KULL tea VAHM ose

Esporão / Estate + Wine

shpour OW

ESS pour OW

Ameal / Estate + Wine

UH may al

AH me all

Murças / Estate + Wine

MOOR sush

MER sus

Quinta / Place/Farm

KEEN tuh

KEEN tuh

Monte Velho / Old Hill

MAWN tuh VELL yoo

MON tuh VELL o

Minas / Springs

MEEN esh

MEEN us

Bico Amarelo / Yellow Beak

BEE koh am uh RELL oo

BEE koh am uh RELL oh

Vinho Verde / Region

VEEN yo VER d'

VEEN yo VER day

Douro / Region

DOE doo

DOOR oh

Alentejo / Region

all uhn TAY zhoo

all en TAY joe

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Pronunciation Guide 1

Phonetic **Portuguese**

Phonetic **English**

Notes

Lagar / stone trough

luh GAR

luh GAR

Talha / Alentejo Amphora

TILE ya

TILE ya

Pronunciation Guide 2

Porto / City

'POUR too

POUR toh

Ponte da Lima / City in Minho

PAWNT duh LEE muh

POANT duh LEE mah

Pinhão / Town in Douro

pee NYOW

peen YOW

Dão / Wine Region

DOW(n)

DOW

Serra d'Estrela / Region

SEH huh duh'SHTREL uh

SEH ruh duh'STREL uh

Reguengos de Monsaraz / Town, Alentejo

ray GAIN gosh duh
moan seh RASH

reh GEN goes day
mon sah RAZ

Évora / Capital, Alentejo

EH voor uh

EH voor uh

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Portuguese Food Terms 1

Phonetic Portuguese

Phonetic English

Notes

Azeite / Olive Oil

uh ZAYT'

uh ZAYT ay

Azeitona / Olive

ah zay TOO nuh

ah zay TOW nah

Pão / Bread

POW(n)

POW

Peixe / Fish

PAYSH

PAYSH

Carne / Meat

KEEN tuh

KEEN tuh

Queijo / Cheese

KAY zhoo

KAY zho

Ovo / Egg

OH voh

OH voh

Frango / Chicken

FRAHN goo

FRAHN goh

Pasteis / Pastries

pas TAYSH

pas TAYS

Frutos / Fruits

FROO tosh

FROO toes

Legumbres / Vegetables

leh GOOM brush

leh GOOM brays

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Portuguese Food Terms 1

Phonetic **Portuguese**

Phonetic **English**

Notes

Mel / Honey

FOUR noo

FOUR no

Petiscos / Tapas

puh TEE shkosh

peh TEE skosh

Portuguese Food Terms 2

Cachena / Minhoense Beef

kuh SHAY nuh

kah SHAY nuh

Broa / Corn Bread

BRO uh

BRO uh

Enchidos / Encased Meats

uhn CHEE dosh

en CHEE dose

Leitao / Suckling Pig

Lay t'OW(n)

lay t'OW

Areias / Cheese

uh RAY ush

ah RAY ahs

Serpa / Cheese

SER puh

SER puh

São Jorge / Cheese

SOW zhorj

SOW zhorj

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Portuguese Food Terms 2

Phonetic **Portuguese**

Phonetic **English**

Linguiça / Garlic Sausage

lehn GWEE suh

lehn GWEE suh

Alheiras / Bread Sausage

uhl YAY rush

all YAY russ

Forno / Oven

FOUR noo

FOUR no

Assado / Roasted

uh SAH doo

ah SAH doe

Grelhado / Grilled

gruhl YAH doo

grell YAH doe

Frito / Fried

FREE too

FREE toe

Notes

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