

PORTUGAL CLOSES THE AUTOMATIC EXTENSION REGIME



NEWS,
LATEST,
CURRENT TOPICS

“IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT AIMA – AGENCY FOR INTEGRATION, MIGRATION AND ASYLUM HAS ALREADY CLARIFIED THAT HOLDERS OF EXPIRED RESIDENCE CARDS CONTINUE TO HOLD THE RIGHT OF RESIDENCE IN PORTUGAL FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO 6 MONTHS AFTER THE END OF THE VALIDITY OF THEIR RESIDENCE CARD.”

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Decree-Law No. 85-B/2025 came to an end on 15th October 2025 and, with it, the exceptional regime that automatically extended the validity of residence permits expired between 22 February 2020 and 30 June 2025, which kept residence cards valid until 15 October 2025, ends.

It should be noted that AIMA – Agency for Integration, Migration and Asylum has already clarified that holders of expired residence cards continue to hold the right of residence in Portugal for a period of up to 6 months after the end of the validity of their residence card. That is, 6 months from 15th October if the residence card expired before 1st July, 2025; or 6 months after the expiration date, if the residence card expired after 30th June, 2025.

However, the renewal of residence cards is mandatory and, as of 15th October, 2025, all foreign residents in Portugal must follow the new digital renewal procedure, through AIMA's official portals.

How to renew residence permits from now on?

Holders of authorizations expired between 22nd February, 2020 and 30th June, 2025, who have not yet been notified by AIMA must now apply for renewal via the <https://services.aima.gov.pt/> platform.

After submitting the renewal request, the holder will be contacted by email to confirm the request and pay the administrative fees. You will also receive information about face-to-face scheduling for the collection of biometric data and instructions to submit all your necessary information and documentation, in your personal area, on the platform, until the date of the appointment.

It should be noted that after payment of the administrative fees, the document proving the renewal request, valid for 180 days, will be made available within 10 working days, during which time the current Residence Permit continues to be recognized as valid by the Portuguese authorities.

“HOWEVER, THE RENEWAL OF RESIDENCE CARDS IS MANDATORY AND, AS OF 15TH OCTOBER, 2025, ALL FOREIGN RESIDENTS IN PORTUGAL MUST FOLLOW THE NEW DIGITAL RENEWAL PROCEDURE, THROUGH AIMA'S OFFICIAL PORTALS.”



For authorizations that expire after 1st July, 2025, the renewal will be done through the portal-renovacoes.aima.gov.pt portal.

This does not apply to:

1. CPLP (Portuguese speaking countries) residence permits;
2. Residence permits for investment (ARI/Golden Visa);
3. Residence cards of family members of EU citizens.