



ENERGYCITIES

GRAFTING CITIES

Nurturing the roots

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INFOPACK

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[26] Guimarães 26
European Green Capital

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1. WELCOME TO GUIMARÃES

Guimarães, is the host of Energy Cities Annual Forum 2026, the third edition of Grafting Cities.

The city witnessed in the 12th century the birth of Portugal's sovereignty and this heritage has marked its personality. It was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2001 for its well-preserved historic centre. Paired with its historical and cultural heritage, the municipality is a place where citizens' well-being and nature coexist, and it is inspiring other cities.



Sustainability has long been the cornerstone of Guimarães actions. It has been signatory of the Covenant of Mayors since 2013 and is a member of the Green City Accord since 2021. It was selected for the EU Mission "100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities" in 2022 and was awarded the Mission Label in 2024. Also, its 2030 Climate City Contract integrates climate neutrality goals.

Guimarães has been awarded the 2026 European Green Capital based on its commitment to achieving continuous improvement regarding all sustainable challenges and developments, as well as realising comprehensive results in all seven environmental management areas.

2. HOW TO GET TO GUIMARÃES

BY TRAIN

- **From Lisbon:** There are three train stations: Lisboa Rossio, Lisboa Oriente and Lisboa Santa Apolonia. They have train connections with direct with stops to Guimarães. The trips last around 4h30/5h30 depending on the type of train.
- **From Porto:** There are three train stations: Porto São Bento, Porto Campanhã and Porto Rei. There are direct trains from São Bento and Campanhã which last around 1h20 minutes.

More information on the [Comboios de Portugal website](#).

BY PLANE

Guimarães can be easily reached from two international airports:

- **PORTO AIRPORT (OPO):** Francisco Sá Carneiro Airport (52 km): at this airport there is the airport shuttle bus - [GET BUS](#) or [FLIXBUS](#) - to Guimarães bus station (final stop). It takes about 30 minutes and costs approx. €9. There is the option of taking a taxi approx. € 45.
- **LISBON AIRPORT (LIS):** Humberto Delgado Airport (356 km): at this airport you can take a [FLIXBUS](#) or a train to Lisbon. From Lisbon there are direct trains and bus from [Rede Expressos](#) to Guimarães. It takes approximately 4h30-5h30.

BY BUS

- **From Lisbon:** There are two bus stations: Lisboa Oriente and Terminal Rodoviário Sete Rios. There are bus trips that last around 5h30.
- **From Porto:** There are two bus stations: Porto (Polo Universitário), and Porto Campanhã. There are bus trips from the bus station which last from 30min to 2h.

More information on the [Rede Expressos](#).

3. ACCOMODATION

Guimarães offers a wide variety of accommodation options, many located in or near the historic city centre. Several hotels are aligned with the city's commitment to sustainability and climate neutrality.

They have promotional discounts.

- [Hotel de Guimarães \(4*\)](#) - PROMOTIONAL CODE: CVEGUIM2026
- [Hotel Eurostars Santa Luzia \(4*\)](#) - PROMOTIONAL CODE: Eurostarsverde
- [Hotel da Oliveira \(4*\)](#) - PROMOTIONAL CODE: HOOLCVE26
- [Hotel Tournal \(4*\)](#)
- [Hotel Fundador \(3*\)](#) - PROMOTIONAL CODE: CVEGUIM2026
- [Hotel Mestre de Avis \(2*\)](#) - PROMOTIONAL CODE: CVEABERTURA
- [Ibis Guimarães \(2*\)](#) - PROMOTIONAL CODE: IbisVerde26
- [Hotel Vale de S. Torcato](#)
- [Paraíso Villas](#) - PROMOTIONAL CODE: Paraísocapitalverde

4. MOVING AROUND GUIMARÃES

Guimarães is a town that can be easily explored on foot, but it also offers different transport options.

- **Public transport - Bus:** Check the [Guimabus site](#) and find more information about lines and schedules.
- **Taxi:** there is taxi service. Find more information on [taxiguimaraes](#).

5. VENUE

The Annual Forum 2026 will be held in different locations around the city. Each journey will follow a different path around the city, you can download the information sheets on the website.

The main sessions will be organised in the following areas:

- **Tuesday 28 April from 17h - Câmara Municipal de Guimarães** (Largo Cónego José Maria Gomes 4, 4804-534 Guimarães, Portugal)
- **Wednesday 29 April from 8h30 - Teatro Jordão** (Av. Dom Afonso Henriques 321, 4810-431 Guimarães, Portugal)
- **Thursday 30 April from 8h30 - Palácio Vila Flor** (Av. Dom Afonso Henriques 701, 4810-431 Guimarães, Portugal)



Câmara Municipal
de Guimarães



Palácio Vila Flor



Teatro Jordão

6. EXPLORE GUIMARÃES

Take the time to explore the city and discover its amazing spots!

Guimarães is considered the birthplace of Portugal because Afonso Henriques, the first king of Portugal, was born there. The historical centre in the area that was within the Guimarães city walls, is associated with the formation and identity of Portugal, and was classified a World Heritage site based on the originality and authenticity applied in its restoration. The city still has a harmonious, well-preserved heritage that is evident in the graceful iron verandas, granite balconies and porticos, mansions, arches connecting the narrow streets, paving slabs smoothed by time, towers and cloisters.

This is surrounded by amazing hills and green spaces that make the city the perfect getaway.



Find more information in [Visit Portugal](#) or download [the city brochure](#).

We hope you enjoy your stay in Guimarães and forge meaningful connections during our annual forum!