



ImpacTrip is a travel operator which promotes unique volunteering trips in Portugal.

Discover Portugal on a responsible and unforgettable trip that combines the best of guided tours, typical restaurants and exclusive local activities with volunteering experiences in social and environmental projects which have a real impact. Get to know the locals, absorb Portuguese culture and get the best out of your holidays in a volunteering trip that will make your stay a meaningful experience.

### **Our Vision**

1 We truly want to help people
2 We help with a smile on our face
3 We believe people don't know a place until they know the locals
4 We support local art
5 We want to change the way people travel

### **Our Mission**

**Develop Different Trips That Make a Difference** 





# Why us?

## Strong local network

We work closely with a network of social and environmental partners of over 50 organizations. We know their needs, their resources and their infrastructures and we are able to match it with the traveller interests and skills.

### **Creativity**

We can (and we are good at) create totally customized programs for our (and your) clients. Be it a little more adventurous, involving animals, targeted for families or a classic house painting day, we create the ideal program for each traveller.

### **Dedicated team**

We have an outstanding team with multidisciplinary skills and unbeatable motivation and we are passionate about giving the best experience to each and every client.

# Volunteer Tourism

Volunteer Tourism is a new way of travelling that combines two very interesting (and at the same time odd) concepts: Tourism and Volunteering in one unique experience.

Run away from mass tourism and discover Portugal in a more authentic and meaningful way and contribute to fighting social inequality and nature depletion by volunteering in local humanitarian and environmental projects. This experience will transform simple package holidays in special experiences which give travellers a deeper and more real cultural immersion. We won't change the world in one day or one week but if we can change one person's life in one day or one week it is worth trying.

Travel like a local

Have a meaningful positive impact

Experience a cultural immersion

Have an unforgettable experience

# **Meaningful Holidays**

Wait a second! With quite some volunteering, how will I enjoy my vacations? The volunteering activities make part of the programmes and so do at the same time resting, discovering new places, learning about the history and culture of the sites you visit. These are all very important highlights of a volunteering tourism experience. The tours are guided by local people who will tell you the stories behind each neighbourhood, they tell you what the local fair represents and other delighting details of their reality. The meals, another important element of the programmes, include typical regional dishes, you can taste true Portuguese flavours.

All these details are interconnected to form a truly incredible and enriching experience.

# What do you want to do? Start planning your next holidays!











# Why Portugal?

Situated in the extreme south-west of Europe, just a few hours from any of the other European capitals, Portugal is still a country to discover for most Europeans.

Portugal has a unique cultural heritage, where tradition and modernity blend together in perfect harmony making it a country with its own personality. More than the great white sandy paradise-like beaches, superb cuisine or fine wines, it is the hospitality of the Portuguese people, who make it the perfect destination for active holidays. Combine relaxing, meeting people, enjoying the weather and having an awesome time.



### Sun and beaches

With over 260 days of sun a year, Portugal is definitely a great holiday destination. The beaches alongside the 1,100 kms coastline invite us to relax and spend some days there. Each beach is different and there are a lot of activities to do.



### **Gastronomy and wine**

The Portuguese gastronomy is known worldwide as being simple as tasteful. From the pastries to the grilled fish topping of with delicious desert. Portuguese wines are also recognised internationally for its excellence. Now it's your turn to be the jury and taste it.



## **Culture and history**

The rich history of the country materializes in all its castles, monuments and museums from North to South. Every city surprises you.



### **Guilty pleasures**

When the night comes, the historical centre turns into a meeting point for everyone who likes to party. Coffee houses, bars, clubs and concerts in open air are very alive all year around and you can find a lot of suggestions to spend an entertaining night.

# Beach

#### IMPACT

Discover the Algarve beyond its touristic side. Understand the connection between the coastline towns and the sea by volunteering and discovering new flavours, old traditions and unforgettable experiences.

Enjoy the sun, relax at the beach and take the most of your vacations in the

south of Portugal.



# Beach

**IMPACT** 





1 to 5 days

Min. 2 people

Portimão



1 to 5 days

Min. 6 people

### **Albufeira**



1 to 5 days

Min. 2 people

# Nature

#### **IMPACT**

Breathe the fresh air of the countryside, hear the sounds of the birds, feel the breeze pass by you softly and just enjoy your holidays. Choose one of our Nature Parks or little villages, take your friends and family and come with us to relax and discover an unspoiled region. There are plenty of activities to do, from guided tours in Historical villages to solar-powered boat rides in lagoons, or even jipe excursions. Are you packing already?

Nature Reservations



### Alentejo

Best Destination to visit in 2014

National Geographic

# Nature

#### **IMPACT**

#### Ribacôa Region



5 days

Min. 2 people

#### **Idanha Region**



5 days

Min. 2 people

#### Valada



1 or 2 days

Min. 6 people

### **Noudar Nature Park**



5 days

Min. 2 people

#### **Santa-Clara Lagoon**



5 days

Min. 2 people

#### **Guadiana Valley**



5 days

Min. 2 people



Discover some of the most visited cities in Portugal but with a totally different perspective. This is an experience aiming to show travellers the true spirit of the Portuguese cities. Walk around the narrow streets of old centres, visit authentic handicraft shops and taste the typical dishes which our grandmothers used to prepare. You also get the opportunity to see the hidden side of the city by volunteering in local social organizations. Understand how people live by participating in volunteering activities and you will go back home with a totally unforgettable experience. Feel like a Portuguese.









An experience for those who just love the Ocean! Observe fish of all colours, touch weird seaweeds, explore underwater caves and discover boat wrecks and many more. You will discover wonders hidden underwater, a Portuguese treasure unknown to many but loved by those who are brave enough to take this challenge. Discover a new underwater world and contribute to clean up the Atlantic Ocean.

3000 Sunny hours per year **b** Diving spots

1 to 4 days

**Different programs** 



#### **Eco-Diving Pro | Ocean Dive**

Learn the basics of ocean diving and know more about the maritime ecosystems with a special focus on the pollution problem and how to avoid it. In the end you will be ready to try your first dive in the Portuguese Ocean.

#### **Diving Course | Full Training + Ocean Dive**

Embrace the adventure by enrolling in ths 4-day course in which you can learn the most important principles of diving as well as all the security procedures to be able to contribute to this project of taking the trash out of the Atlantic Ocean.

#### **Eco-Diving Beginners | Short Training + Ocean dive**

Learn the basics of ocean diving and know more about the maritime ecosystems with a special focus on the pollution problem and how to avoid it. In the end you will be ready to try your first dive in the Portuguese Ocean.



**IMPACT** 

#### **Azores**



**Eco-Diving Pro** 

**Diving Course** 

**Eco-Diving Beginners** 

#### Lagos



**Eco-Diving Pro** 

**Eco-Diving Beginners** 

### **Peniche**



**Eco-Diving Pro** 

**Diving Course** 

#### Lagoa



**Eco-Diving Pro** 

**Eco-Diving Beginners** 

#### **Sezimbra**



**Diving Course** 

#### **Albufeira**



**Eco-Diving Pro** 

**Diving Course** 

**Eco-Diving Beginners** 

# Our impact

We work closely with over 50 social and environmental organizations that work daily to improve the life of their beneficiaries. They support in different ways hundreds of people and several causes from institutionalized kids, homeless in the cities, abandoned street animals, disabled youth and contribute or Nature conservation. They need the support of volunteers to reach more and more people and we make it happen.

#### We support the following areas



#### **Child education**

Kids from poor neighbourhoods have little access to education support and few achieve a higher level of education. We intend to break this cycle by providing them with study support, sharing with them different career experiences so they are motivated to continue studying what they love.



#### **Hunger and food waste**

Tons of food in perfectly good condition is throw to the garbage every day. We want to fight this gap between food waste and people who need it. We support projects that collect food from restaurants, supermarkets and other entities that have food in excess and distribute it though several neighbourhoods to the families who need it the most.



#### **Environment**

Our travellers can contribute to a healthier environment by planting a tree, cleaning a river, collecting trash from the beach or bringing trash out from the bottom of the Ocean.



#### **Disabled Youth Development**

We invite our travellers to participate in several initiatives aiming at developing new skills and improving the well-being of people with disabilities. They can teach them something new and even learn something different with them.



#### **Animal Protection**

Unfortunately there are many animals abandoned in the street that need all kinds of care. Our travellers join teams that rescue some of these animals from the street to take care of them and give them a new home.



#### **Fighting Poverty**

We fight poverty in very different ways from distributing food baskets, developing different workshops to provide them with new competences, providing basic goods and services and several other ways by taking part on local initiatives of our partners.

# Our Commitment to Sustainability

ImpacTrip is committed to sustainable travel and minimizing its impact on the environment. In this endeavour, we have developed our experiences aiming at having a zero carbon footprint. Furthermore, we have implemented policies to support this sustainable travel mission and are working very carefully to enhance our offers accordingly to this policy. We are committed to complying with all legislation and/or regulations to ensure sustainable tourism.



We follow the "Leave Only Footprints and Take Only Photos motto in all our trips in Natural Parks and other Nature programs. Our staff and major service providers strive to ensure that no removal of any natural or cultural artefacts or materials to ensure our environment looks and is the same before and after our visit. This mission is passed along and reinforced to our travellers in every experience.

ImpacTrip is also committed to sustainable travel and to reduce transportation-related energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. We only work with suppliers that comply with the most eco-friendly buses and cars to transport passengers and we use 100% ecological tuktuks when possible.

The impacTrip team makes a personal effort to live this mission on the day-to-day activities by using public transportation to go to meeting all over the country or even when possible during our experiences.

# We have established some ambitious sustainability targets for the next year:







# How we work

We work in partnership with several other entities. We established a network of tourism partners that offer completely customized services to discover Portugal as the traveller wishes. We have various partners: from the best four and five stars Hotels to hand-picked modest guest houses, from international recognised restaurants to other which prepare home-made food, to typical Lisbon guided tours, to trained homeless that share their vision.

We also have 50+ partnerships with social and environmental institutions that we with closely. We know their needs and resources and we help them leverage their resources and complement their volunteers work.





