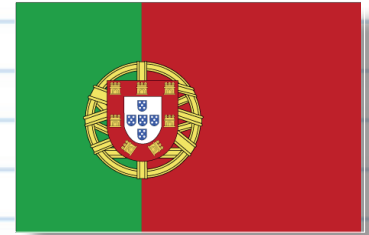




# CultureNotes: Portugal

The Portuguese value personal connections and family above all else, and most Portuguese are very close with their extended families.



In general, the Portuguese culture is a formal and conservative one. The Portuguese tend to be very polite with each other. They also tend to be more traditional.

Hierarchy is followed fairly strictly in Portuguese society. This is largely because of the influence of both the Roman Catholic Church and the family structure on society as a whole. The Portuguese are taught to treat those with higher "rank" with respect.



Appearances are important in Portugal, and the Portuguese pride themselves in dressing well. Clothing is generally conservative (but remember that your student is still a teenager), and quality fabrics are valued.



Loyalty and trust are among the highest values in Portuguese society.



- \* Capital: Lisbon
- \* Population: 10.6 million
- \* Area: About 57,409 sq.mi.
- \* Nationality: Portuguese
- \* Language: Portuguese
- \* Climate: Maritime temperate, with an average annual temperature of about 61°F.
- \* Fun Fact: Portuguese is the official language of 9 countries.