



Portugal

Finding a will in Portugal

~ Legal professionals, some questions/answers to assist you ~

→ When the existence of a will has been established, who has to be contacted to obtain information about its content?

Information on the content of the will is sent by the notary responsible for settling the succession. This can be either the notary holding the will or a different notary, whose contact details can be provided by the notary holding the will. The latter can be located by making a search of the Portuguese Register of Wills.

→ Who is entitled to receive the information?

After the death of the testator and the opening of the will, the will becomes public. Anyone can then obtain a copy, or an access code to the digital archive of notarial deeds is provided, which has the same value as a certified copy.

Important

These questions and answers constitute a source of general information, up to date as of August 2025. If you have a specific problem, please contact a notary. This practical guide was prepared by ARERT in collaboration with the European Commission and the Notaries of Europe.





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→ Is there a particular procedure to be followed? If so, which one?

For the information contained in the will, or a copy of the will itself, to be communicated, the will must have been opened in accordance with Portuguese law.

→ By what means can the information be sent?

Copies of the will are sent by post.

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