

Meeting point of Atlantic routes.

Ample areas for businesses.

Superb nature and quality of life.



INVEST IN SINES

Municipal authority: Sines Municipality

Main towns: Sines and Porto Covo

Area: 203km²

Inhabitants (2021 census): 14,198 (municipality)

Commuting population: 5500 inhabitants

Territorial classification: District of Setúbal / Alentejo Region (NUTS 2) / Coastal Alentejo Sub-Region (NUTS 3)

Neighbouring Municipalities: Santiago do Cacém, Odemira

Distances (aprox.):

- Lisbon: 150 km
- Faro: 190 km
- Oporto: 430 km
- Badajoz: 270 km
- Seville: 380 km
- Madrid: 650 km
- Irun: 800 km
- Bordeaux: 1000 km
- Metz: 1800 km
- Mannheim: 2000 km

Average journey time Sines - Lisbon (car):

1 h 30 min.

Climate:

- Average temperature: 16.3°C (min.: 11.5°C; max.: 21.1°C)
- Sunshine: 3000 hours/year
- Dominant winds: NW

Historical facts:

- Creation of the municipality in 1362
- Birthplace of Vasco da Gama (1469-1524)
- Founding of Porto Covo in the late 18th century
- Late 1960s: Work started on building the port-industrial complex



Sines is of great importance for Portugal and for its economy. From its large deep-water port through its new technology park to its energy cluster, Sines has investment opportunities in every sector.

In this dossier we will help investors consolidate the knowledge they already have of this area and discover new reasons to make Sines the right place to turn their project into reality. We will help you answer the essential question:

WHY SINES?

01. THE LARGEST DEEP-WATER PORT ON THE ATLANTIC COAST OF THE IBERIAN PENINSULA

The Port of Sines is managed by the Ports of Sines and the Algarve Authority. It is a multi-faceted port with exceptional natural conditions to harbour all sizes of ships. It is open to the sea with a natural draught of up to 28m ZH, allowing all kinds of goods to be moved, with excellent, unrestricted maritime accesses. The port operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year. It serves highly efficient, competitive regular shipping routes to and from the main ports on all continents. It is Europe's closest deep-water port to the Panama Canal.

- Container terminal (16m ZH)
- Bulk liquid terminal (28m ZH)
- Petrochemical terminal (12m ZH)
- Multi-purpose and Ro-Ro terminal (18m ZH)
- Liquefied Natural Gas terminal (15m ZH)

Further details: www.portodesines.pt



02. ZILS GLOBAL PARQUES, A BUSINESS LOCATION WITH EXCELLENT CONDITIONS

The location of ZILS - Sines Industrial and Logistics Zone, managed by aicep Global Parques, means it is clearly geared towards the Atlantic. It offers more than 2,375 hectares of areas for industrial, logistics and service activities, including some of the largest domestic and international companies operating in Portugal.

The zone sits next to the Port of Sines and has good accesses and infrastructures, including a business centre with offices, as well as meeting and conference rooms.

All kinds of industries are able to set up business on the plots of land and ZILS terrains in accordance with its urbanisation plan in force.

Further details: www.globalparques.pt



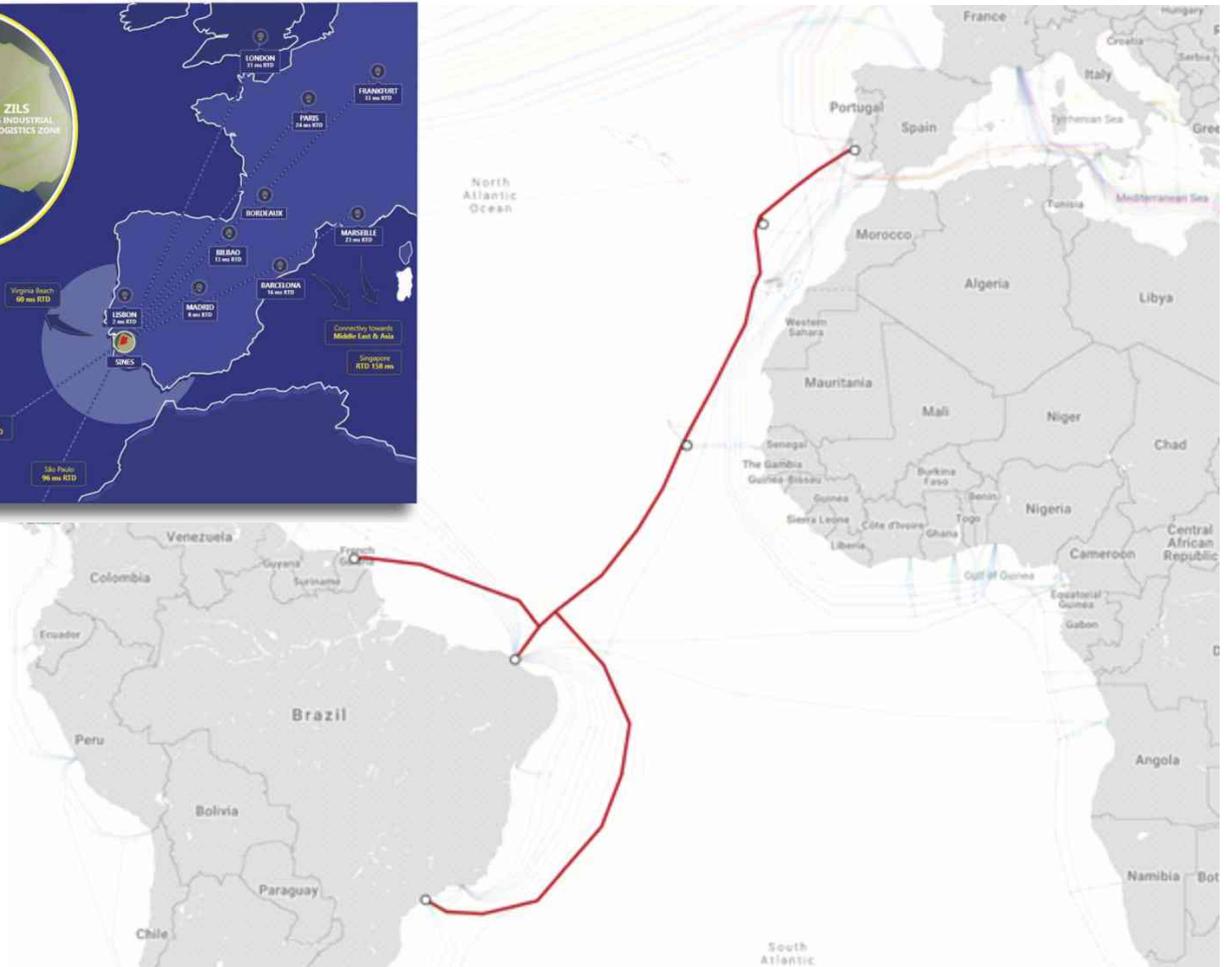
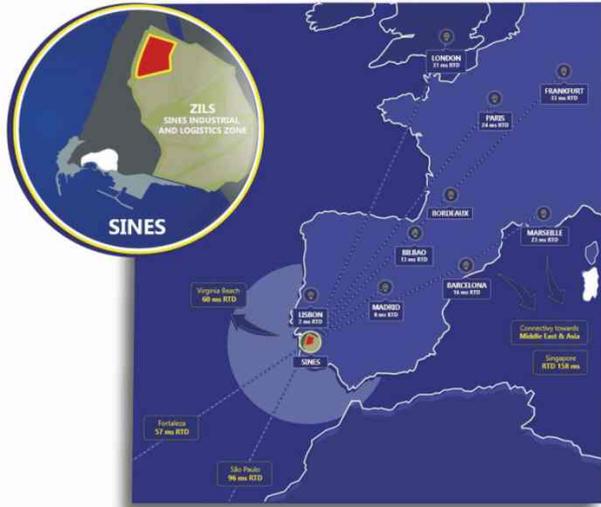
03. A NEW TECHNOLOGY PARK ASSOCIATED WITH THE ELLALINK UNDERWATER CABLE

Sines TECH - Innovation & Data Centre Hub is a new space for technology companies within the Sines Industrial and Logistics Zone (ZILS). It has emerged from the opportunity created by the installation of the EllaLink **underwater cable**, with its landing station in ZILS, and the associated data processing centre.

The EllaLink transatlantic cable is 10,119 kilometres long. It connects **Fortaleza (Brazil)** to **Sines (Portugal)**. Its data transmission capacity is **72 terabits per second**, with low latency.

Among the **competitive advantages** offered by Sines TECH are the redundancy of fibre links to Lisbon and Madrid, a secure sea connection to the data centre (on HDD infrastructure), 100Gbps capacity for scientific purposes, a high density and diverse energy supply and extensive land availability.

Find out more: <https://sinestech.pt>



04. ZALSINES, A LOGISTICS ACTIVITY ZONE RIGHT BESIDE THE PORT OF SINES

The ZALSINES, Port of Sines logistics activity zone, sits on a huge area of available land that is just right for logistics activities. It is geared towards industrial, logistics and service companies and offers excellent support and infrastructures.

The ZALSINES terrain is comprised of two areas:

- **Intra-port area** (30 hectares)
Managed by Porto de Sines (www.portodesines.pt)
- **Extra-port area** (268 hectares)
Managed by aicep Global Parques (www.globalparques.pt)



05. ZIL 2, A MUNICIPAL ZONE FOR LIGHT INDUSTRY BESIDE THE CITY

The ZIL 2 - Light Industry Zone, is managed by Sines Municipal Council. Its plots house different activities, such as **manufacturing**, **warehousing**, **trade** and **services** that are more related to and may be integrated in the town's urban centre.

The zone covers **147 hectares** with plots ranging from 50m² to 24,000 m², available under surface rights leases.

It offers access to mains water, sewers, electricity and telecommunications.

ZIL 2 has recently undergone renewal and expansion, with the addition of 40 new plots.

Further details: www.sines.pt



06. MUNICIPAL LAND FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT

Apart from the plots in ZIL 2, Sines Municipal Council also has land in other parts of the municipality for investment by various kinds of economic activities such as **trade, tourism, housing** and so on.

If you are interested in investing in Sines and want to know if there is municipal land available that meets your needs, please contact Sines Municipal Council.

Further details: www.sines.pt



07. A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE MANAGEMENT ENTITIES FOR INVESTMENT LOCATIONS

The three Sines industrial and logistics zones' management entities - **aicep Global Parques**, **Ports of Sines and the Algarve Authority** and **Sines Municipal Council** - work together so investors can find the best spaces for the kind of activity they want to undertake and their objectives.

The three entities signed a collaboration protocol in 2015 to ensure the joint promotion of the «Sines Economic Space - EES».

08. INVESTMENTS BY THE PORTUGUESE STATE IN TRANSPORT ROUTES

All political forces in Portugal are aware that Sines is **one of the country's main assets**.

The Portuguese state is currently building the **Southern International Corridor (railway)**. This work is going to close the Trans-European Atlantic Transport Corridor and will cut the rail distance between Sines and the Spanish border by 140km, slashing journey times by three and a half hours and transport costs by 30%. Sines will then be even more competitive in its connections to Madrid and the other European markets.

In terms of roadways, and like the country as a whole (ranked 8th out of 137 in the world with the best roads - Global Competitiveness Index 2017-2018), the Sines region is served by **high-quality roads** that help move people and goods.

09. A POWER PRODUCTION CLUSTER AND POTENTIAL FOR ALTERNATIVE ENERGIES

Sines is a benchmark in energy production. Nearby, there is the country's largest **refinery** (Galp), **wind farms**, co-generation plants, biofuel refineries and a **port** that supplies the country's other energy production plants with their raw materials.

Its history as an energy industry centre has provided Sines with incomparable know-how in this area as well as **excellent infrastructures to connect it to the national grid and the fuel transport network**.

These links give it a competitive edge when companies want to set up generation activities using alternative energy sources such as **biofuels, wind and solar power**, for which Sines provides wonderful natural conditions (in terms of wind and sunshine).

Sines is also set to become a cluster in the field of **green hydrogen**.



10. CRITICAL MASS IN INDUSTRIAL SECTORS SUCH AS CHEMICALS, PETROCHEMICALS AND METALWORKING

There are huge areas with infrastructures to house companies and there is space for **all kinds of industries** that comply with environmental values and a return for the local community.

Sines is a benchmark for the **chemical** and **petrochemical** industries. The country's largest refinery, owned by Galp, is here, as are two petrochemical plants that are also the biggest of their kind in Portugal - Repsol Polímeros and Indorama - along with other industrial plants such as Air Liquide, Euroresinas and Recipneu.

The **metal manufacturing** sector is also very competitive, qualified and used to international competition, with acquired experience in building and maintaining the Sines' industrial complex.



11. KNOW-HOW, LOCAL TRAINING AND DESIRE TO INNOVATE

The construction of the port and industrial complex in the 1970s made Sines a centre of economic activity but also of **knowledge**. This critical mass is evident in the quality of the **human resources** who work in its plants.

In the training area, many entities train the workers in several areas of specialisation, namely the **Escola Tecnológica do Litoral Alentejano** (www.etla.pt), **CENFIM** (metalworking and metallurgy; www.cenfim.pt) and **ISQ** (www.isq.pt).

The **Sines Tecnopolo** technology centre (www.sinestecnopolo.org) also offers courses but extends its range of activity to support the entire business ecosystem in Sines, with a company incubator and a constant search for opportunities to make Sines better prepared to compete at home and abroad.

In July 2021, the Sines Municipality and **Instituto Politécnico de Setúbal** signed an agreement for the creation of a college in Sines.



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12. PORT AND INDUSTRIES IMPACT ON THE SERVICE AND TOURISM SECTORS

The port and local industries are a powerhouse that provide opportunities for companies from **various service sectors**: labour provision, consulting, engineering, vehicle and equipment leasing, real-estate, transports, logistics and warehousing, specialised services connected to the port and industrial sectors and so on.

Sines also has a thriving **accommodation** and **catering** sectors related with the operation of the industrial and port complex.

Within this **business tourism sector**, there is demand for accommodation throughout the year with considerable peaks at times of major works or stoppages of the main industrial units.



13. A BEAUTIFUL COASTLINE AND PORTO COVO, AN ICON OF ALENTEJO'S ATLANTIC SHORE

Stretching for 30km, the Sines coastline is endowed with excellent conditions for **sun and sea tourism**, mainly in the south of the municipality.

Porto Covo, which is inside the **South West Alentejo Nature Park** (Parque Natural do Sudoeste Alentejano), has some of the best beaches on the Portuguese coast and some of the loveliest countryside.

The village of **Porto Covo** is one of the most typical on the entire Alentejo coast and it is the starting point for hikes around the region with views of the Atlantic and towards the Vicentina region (www.rotavicentina.com).



14. VASCO DA GAMA AND THE COSMOPOLITAN CITY WHERE HE WAS BORN

Sines sits on the **only south-facing bay in the region** and is a maritime town with centuries of history. Fishing has been the basis of the locals' subsistence as far back as records go, but it has also had port and manufacturing activity (fish salting) from as far back as Roman times.

Sines has had administrative autonomy since 1362 and one of the most important moments in its history came around 1469 with the birth of **Vasco da Gama**, the hero of the Portuguese discoveries. He later became the admiral who discovered the sea route to India. There are echoes and remnants of this life all over the town. The castle was where he was brought up with his family and the Nossa Senhora da Salas church he ordered to be rebuilt.

Sines today is a town that is clearly **open to the world**. The community is cohesive and includes well-integrated immigrants (about 10% of the population), most of whom come from countries with historical connections to Portugal such as Brazil and the Portuguese-speaking African countries.



15. GREAT POTENTIAL TO DEVELOP NAUTICAL ACTIVITIES

Sines bay, São Torpes beach, the Ilha do Pessegueiro and the entire coastline offer wonderful conditions for **water sports**.

There are various **companies in Sines dedicated to tourism** in this area (surf schools, diving, boat trips, spear fishing and so on), as well as a wide range of nautical events that reached a high point in 2017 with the Sines Tall Ships Festival.

It should also be noted that Sines is currently the only town between Troia and the Algarve to boast a **marina**. It offers 230 moorings and is managed by the Ports of Sines and the Algarve authority (www.portodesines.pt).

Sines' **Nautical Station** (<https://nautical.sines.pt>) is certified since 2018.



16. FISHING, A TRADITIONAL SECTOR WITH ITS EYES SET ON THE FUTURE

Fishing has been Sines' historical industry. At the centre of its activities lies Alentejo's largest **fishing port** and the 5th biggest in the country in terms of the quantity and value of fish that is landed there.

Apart from the fish that is sold at Sines fish market, there is a significant economic activity connected with the **freezing industry** as various companies operate out of the Sines Light Industry Zone.

A new generation of producers has been recovering the **fish canning** activity.

Sines, likewise, offers great potential for the **fish farming** industry.

The **gastronomy**, based on seafood, is very high quality.



17. ABOVE-AVERAGE INCOME AND OTHER STIMULI TO COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY

Trade in Sines reflects the local characteristics, the **average income** of its inhabitants and their purchasing power. Actually, Sines has consistently been ranked among the top 5 municipalities in Portugal (out of 308) in terms of **purchasing power** per capita and the highest monthly income for employed workers.

The countless **events** the municipality organises also drive commercial activities and help combat seasonality.



18. FAVOURABLE TAX CONDITIONS AND MUNICIPAL INCENTIVES

Over and above the Portuguese state support under the scope of European funds and national tax incentives, Sines municipality adds:

- **Property tax (IMI) for urban buildings** of 0.34% (2025), which is lower than the legal ceiling of 0.45%.
- **No local income tax surcharge** for companies in the municipality with a turnover under €150,000 the previous year. Also applicable to companies with a turnover exceeding €150,000 but equal to or below €250,000, provided they create and maintain jobs in the last two financial years.
- **Various benefits for refurbishing properties.**



19. **QUALITY PUBLIC FACILITIES BUILT SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE CENTURY**

Sines has built high-quality public facilities for culture, sports and economic activities. Three stand out:

- **Pavilhão Multiusos de Sines - Multipurpose hall**

The hall can host international sports competitions, concerts, fairs, exhibitions and congresses. The central area covers 2,351.10 m² and the stands can accommodate up to 2,086 spectators.

- **Centro de Artes de Sines - Art centre**

Short-listed for the Mies van der Rohe 2007 prize, the building has an auditorium (175 seats), library, exhibition centre and archive.

- **Piscina Municipal Carlos Manafaia - Swimming pool**

The 25x17m swimming pool has 8 lanes and is 2m deep, plus there is a learners' pool. There are swimming classes in various formats.



20. A WEALTH OF CULTURE, SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Sines municipality runs an intense year-round programme of cultural and sports events for all ages.

One of the stand out events is the world music festival, **FMM Sines – Festival Músicas do Mundo** (www.fmmsines.pt), one of the most important of its kind held in Europe.

There are **gyms and sports clubs** that offer most sports and a network of **cycle paths, seaside paths** and **walking routes** that allow you to criss-cross the municipality on foot or by bicycle.

Just a few kilometres from the centre of Sines are **some of the most beautiful wild beaches in Europe** with water quality and bathing facilities that are Blue Flag certified.



MEET THE MAYOR

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USEFUL CONTACTS

LOGISTICS AND INDUSTRIAL AREA MANAGERS

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Tel. (+351) 213 827 750 | www.globalparques.pt

PORT OF SINES AND THE ALGARVE AUTHORITY

Tel. (+351) 269 860 600 | www.portodesines.pt

NON-BUSINESS PARTNERS

SINES TECNPOLO

Tel. (+351) 269 000 300 | www.sinestecnopolo.org

ETLA – ESCOLA TECNOLÓGICA DO LITORAL ALENTEJANO

Tel. (+351) 269 633 475 | www.etla.pt

CENFIM – CENTRO DE FORMAÇÃO PROFISSIONAL DA INDÚSTRIA METALÚRGICA E METALOMECÂNICA

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ISQ – INSTITUTO DE SOLDADURA E QUALIDADE DE SINES

Tel. (+351) 269 632 858 | www.isq.pt

CIEMAR – LABORATÓRIO DE CIÊNCIAS DO MAR DA UNIVERSIDADE DE ÉVORA

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