

Law concerning Carrying of Identification in Portugal

Foreign residents and visitors to Portugal sometimes get stopped by police and asked to produce identification. The law concerning this is outlined in:

Law no. 5/95

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The extract concerning the Obligation to carry identification document is as follows:

1 - Citizens over 16 years of age must carry identification documents whenever they are in public places, open to the public or subject to police surveillance.

2 - For the purposes of the previous number, it is considered an identification document:

- a) The identity card or the passport, for the Portuguese citizens;
- b) The residence permit, the identity card or the passport, for nationals of Member States of the European Community;
- c) The residence permit, the foreigner's identity card or the passport, for foreign nationals of third countries.

3 - If it is not possible to present the documents referred to in points a) and b) of the previous number, an original document, or certified copy, containing the full name, signature and photograph of the holder may be presented.

4 - Identification documents, for the purposes of this article, shall also be considered as documents referred to in article 5, paragraph 2, of Decree-Law no. 59/93, of March 3, replacing the passport.

The full law concerning this can be [read here](#)