

Arable Cross Visit

Getting to know the reality of arable cropping in the
centre of Portugal

PORTUGAL, RIBATEJO/ALENTEJO

JUNE 16-18, 2025



The OrganicAdviceNetwork project aims at building a strong network of advisors with organic competences across Europe. As part of this mission, the project organizes cross visits for agricultural advisors to meet, exchange and share their innovative organic farming practices.

What you can expect from this cross visit:

Join us and explore the evolving organic sector in Portugal. The Alentejo and Ribatejo region in Portugal have a rich history of arable cropping, and Portugal is a country with high growth in the organic area between 2022 and 2023.

- You will learn about the conversion process from conventional to organic, the stages and understanding the motivations and challenges of new entrants to organic.
- You will see how the main arable crops are grown and what kind of experiments are carried out.
- Afterwards, we will explore organic processing in Portugal, the organic market and the mentality of the Portuguese consumer towards organic products, always with the support of sector advisors.
- This will help us understand the advisory system for farmers, processors, and traders in the organic sector.

PROGRAMME

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
DAY 1 - 16 JUNE 2025		
13:30 - 14:30	Introduction session	Lisbon Introduce the cross-visit program and agricultural context
14:30 - 15:30	Overview of organic production in Portugal and its certification	Lisbon Presentation of Portugal's organic sector and the certification systems. Gain insights into the context of the organic sector in Portugal.
15:30 - 16:30	Exchange time on organic advisory systems and certification	Lisbon The aim of this session will be to exchange ideas between the participants, the certification body and the team of advisors present.
16:30 - 17:30	Networking Cocktail	Lisbon Wrap up the day by connecting with participants and hosts during this networking opportunity.
DAY 2 - 17 JUNE 2025		
9:30 - 10:30	Travel to Montemor-o-Novo	Montemor-o-Novo is located about 45 minutes from Lisbon, in the district of Évora in the Alentejo region.
10:30 - 13:00	Visit to <u>Herdade do Freixo do Meio</u>	Montemor-o-Novo Visit Herdade do Freixo do Meio in the Alentejo to learn about the journey of a farmer who transitioned from conventional to organic farming. Explore his organic cornfields and gain insight into his primary goal: to remain economically competitive while preserving and enhancing the ecosystem.
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch in Herdade do Freixo do Meio	After visiting the farm you will be able to enjoy a 100% organic meal on the premises of the Herdade do Freixo do Meio, using only the farm's own produce.
14:30 - 15:30	Travel to Santarém	Santarém is located in the center of Portugal, about 45 minutes from Lisbon.
15:30 - 17:00	Visit to <u>Vivid Farms</u>	Santarém A visit to Vivid Farms, an organic farm that aims to promote and support regenerative and organic farming in Portugal. It will be an opportunity to get to know a farm that aims to continuously improve the ecosystem, carrying out experiments focused on improving crop quality without harming the soil and the environment, such as fertilizer management, careful soil management, preserving soil conditions as much as possible by changing the crops planted.

PROGRAMME

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
17:00 - 19:00	Return to Lisbon Reflections on day 2	Exchange on observations and lessons learnt from the visit
20:00 - 22:00	Social Dinner in Lisbon	
DAY 3 - 18 JUNE 2025		
8:00 - 09:00	Travel to Lourinhã	Lourinhã is located in the center of Portugal, in the western region next to the Atlantic Ocean. It has a connection to agriculture with a strong focus on greenhouse production.
9:00 - 11:00	Visit to BioFrade	Lourinhã The visit to BioFrade will give participants an insight into the processing and marketing of organic products. You will learn about the precautions to be taken when processing 100% organic products and also about the Portuguese consumer's perception of organic. BioFrade's main activity is the production, processing and sales of organic products, with several stores in Portugal.
11:00 - 12:00	Travel to Lisbon Reflection on day 3	Exchange on observations and lessons learnt from the visit
12:00 - 14:00	Lunch in Lisbon	
14:30 - 14:45	Travel to CONSULAI	
14:45 - 16:00	Closing session with Agrobio	Discussion on lessons learnt from visit and feedback to the farms/places visited Presentation of AgroBio's work and how the organization support the organic sector in Portugal



Funded by
the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the European Union nor the European Commission can be held responsible for them.



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Requirements

Participation to the entire cross visit program. There is no possibility to arrive later or leave earlier, except for local participants. We suggest arriving before noon to have time to get to CONSULAI's facilities on the first day.

Participants

Agricultural advisor supporting organic farmers, or farmers in conversion as well as, advisors or young graduates willing to gain competences in organic advice, are welcome to join this cross visit. Maximum 15 participants.

Registration

You will be asked to provide some personal information, a brief description of your interest in joining this visit and your capacity in covering your travel costs. Participation is not guaranteed because the number of advisors who may join the visit is limited. Participants will receive a confirmation message.

 [Register here](#)

Travel costs

In case you do not have budget to cover your travel costs, the project advisory partner in your respective country can reimburse part of your travel costs.

Eligible countries for cost reimbursement are FR, BE, DE, IT, BG, EE, DK, AT, CH, HU, ES, PT, HR, RO, IE, NL, SE, FI, CZ, PL, GR, SI, RS.

Eligible costs for reimbursement are transport (train, flight), accommodation (2-3 nights), social lunch and dinners, up to a limit of 800EUR/participant.

Once your participation to the cross visit is confirmed, you will receive more detailed information by the advisory project partner in your country about the conditions for cost reimbursement.

Costs during the Cross Visit are estimated to 500EUR including for breakfasts, social lunch & dinner & activity as well as the accommodation for 2 nights. This estimation does not include the food and transport expenses to reach Lisbon.

Contact information

For any additional information, please contact:

Diogo Valente: dvalente@consulai.com

Inês Assunção: iassuncao@consulai.com

Rui Almeida: ralmeida@consulai.com



Funded by
the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the European Union nor the European Commission can be held responsible for them.



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra