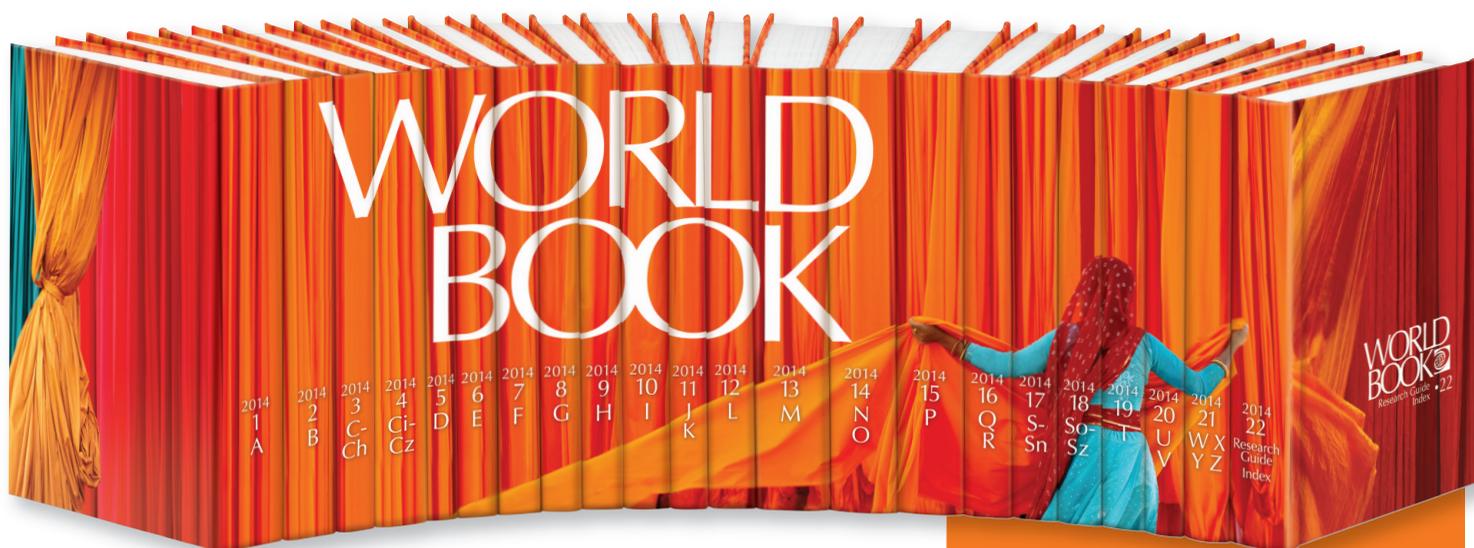


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- Structure and writing style facilitate use by a wide range of readers
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president may serve no more than two consecutive terms in office.

The president appoints a prime minister, who heads the government. The person chosen for the office is usually the leader of the political party that has the most seats in the parliament. The prime minister chooses members of the Council of Ministers. The prime minister and the Council of Ministers plan government policy and carry out the operations of the government.

Local government. Portugal is divided into 18 administrative districts. Cities and towns within the districts have their own administration and legislative assemblies. The Azores and Madeira are *autonomous* (self-governing) regions. Each has its own executive government that is responsible to its legislative assembly.



Portuguese Porto, on the Douro River, is one of Portugal's largest cities. It is also a chief seaport and the commercial and industrial center of northern Portugal. The Dom Luís Bridge, shown here, links Porto with the city of Vila Nova de Gaia. Houses with red tile roofs line the river banks.

Portugal

Portugal is the westernmost country of continental Europe. Most of this small country lies on the Iberian Peninsula. Spain, also on the Iberian Peninsula, borders Portugal to the north and east. The Atlantic Ocean borders continental Portugal to the west and south. The Azores and Madeira island groups, both in the Atlantic, are part of Portugal. Lisbon is Portugal's capital and largest city.

Most Portuguese people live in cities and towns near the coast. They work mainly in the service and manufacturing industries. Tourism is extremely important to Portugal's economy. The country's wines are popular around the world.

During the 1400s and 1500s, during Portuguese explorations, the great age of European exploration, Bartolomeu Dias commanded the first European voyage around the Cape of Good Hope at the southern tip of Africa. Vasco da Gama sailed around the cape and discovered a sea route to Asia. Pedro Álvares Cabral sailed to what is now Brazil. These expeditions and other voyages led to the establishment of a vast Portuguese empire. The empire included colonies in Africa, Asia, and South America.

Portugal's power and influence began to weaken in the late 1500s. Still, the country kept much of its empire for more than 400 years. Eventually, in the 1960s and 1970s, Portugal withdrew from all but one of its remaining overseas territories. The last remaining territory was Macau, a tiny area on the southern coast of China. Portugal returned control of Macau to China in 1999.

The 1970s brought about a major political change within Portugal. Dictators had ruled the country from 1926 to 1974. During this period, personal freedoms were limited, and opposition to the Portuguese government was crushed. In 1974, a group of young military officers

staged a revolution and overthrew the country's dictatorship. Portugal adopted a democratic system of government in 1976.

Government. The Constitution, adopted in 1976, grants the people such rights as freedom of speech, religion, and the press. Portuguese citizens who are 18 years old or older may vote in elections.

National government. A parliament called the Assembly of the Republic makes Portugal's laws. It has 220 members. The members of the Assembly are elected by the people and serve four-year terms. The people elect a president to a five-year term. The president may serve no more than two consecutive terms in office.

Outline	
I. Government	D. Courts
A. National government	E. Armed forces
B. Local government	
C. Politics	
II. People	D. Religion
A. Population and ancestry	E. Education
B. Way of life	F. The arts
C. Language	
III. Land and climate	
A. Land regions	
B. Rivers	
C. Climate	
IV. Economy	E. Foreign trade
A. Natural resources	F. Transportation
B. Service industries	G. Communication
C. Manufacturing	
D. Agriculture and fishing	
V. History	

declined sharply since the 1800's.

Portuguese farmers raise a variety of crops. However, they are best known for their fine grapes that are used to make wine. People in many parts of the world enjoy Portuguese wines. Portuguese winemakers use mostly native grape varieties and employ the latest winemaking techniques.

The Portuguese people value family and try to maintain close family ties. Villagers who move to cities tend



Portugal's flag has a band of green, which stands for hope; and of red, which symbolizes the blood of the country's heroes. Portugal's coat of arms appears on the flag and at the right. It shows castles and shields that recall Portuguese history.



Portugal lies in southwestern Europe. The Azores and Madeira, two island groups to the west, are Portuguese territories.

BEYOND THE PAGE

World Book has created a complimentary web-based resource that enhances *The World Book Encyclopedia 2014* and offers an essential link between traditional and new learning formats. Selected articles in *The World Book Encyclopedia 2014* include a QR code that links to a companion website featuring a chronology of events, quizzes, videos, and other special material prepared by World Book editors. The site is updated weekly to engage students with information, media, and activities related to current and historical events.

180 Parrot

<http://bit.ly/11TXG4v>

Scarlet macaw
Ara macao
Found from Mexico to Bolivia
(½ life size)

Rainbow lorikeet
Trochiloxos haematodus
Found from East Indies and Australia to Vanuatu
(½ life size)

Sulfur-crested cockatoo
Cacatua galerita
Found in Australia and New Guinea
(½ life size)

Yellow-headed parrot
Amazona oratrix
Found from Mexico to Ecuador and Brazil
(½ life size)

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Immune system

Immune system is a combination of cells, proteins, and tissues that defend the body against disease and

The scientific study of the immune system is called **immunology**. It dates from about the late 1800's. Scientists

A child without a working immune system is kept in a sterile environment to guard against disease. *Left*: Normally, the immune system defends the body against disease-causing organisms. But without the protection of the immune system, infections that typically are not serious can be fatal.

<http://bit.ly/16nYASr>