

Civil wedding in Portugal for same-sex couples

A practical Same Vibes guide to the official registry route

Official civil marriage. One registry appointment. Portuguese marriage certificate.

Quick answer

In Portugal, the official route is civil marriage through the civil registry. For same-sex couples, this means the legal result comes from the registry process, not from a symbolic ceremony or wedding celebration.

For international couples, the important part is preparing the document route before the appointment. Same Vibes checks your case, coordinates the registry process, arranges the interpreter when needed and guides you through one official appointment in Portugal.

After registration, you can leave the same day officially married, with your Portuguese marriage certificate.

Legal basis: Lei n.º 9/2010, Diário da República.

Who this guide is for

This guide is for international same-sex couples who are looking for the official civil marriage route in Portugal, not a wedding package.

- you want the legal result, not event planning
- you do not live in Portugal
- you need one clear registry route
- you want to understand the official appointment
- you need a Portuguese marriage certificate
- you want Same Vibes to handle the process for you

Key facts

- A civil wedding in Portugal means official civil marriage through the registry.
- A symbolic ceremony is not the same as legal marriage.
- Foreign same-sex couples can often use the Portuguese registry route when documents are prepared correctly.
- Same Vibes prepares the route before you travel.
- The official appointment happens in Portugal.
- In the standard route, the certificate is issued the same day.

Civil wedding checklist

Before the appointment, the registry route depends on documents, identity, marital status, translations and interpreter needs. Same Vibes checks what applies before confirming the route.

Civil registry route	The legal result comes from the registry process	We coordinate the route with the Portuguese registry
Identity documents	Both partners must be identified correctly	We check consistency and advise what to provide
Birth certificates	Often part of the marriage document route	We check format, issue date, apostille and translation needs
Capacity or no-impediment document	May be required depending on citizenship	We check whether your country issues it and what alternative may apply
Previous divorce or widowhood proof	Needed if one partner was previously married	We verify what document route is needed
Interpreter	Needed when Portuguese is not understood at the appointment	We arrange the interpreter when needed
Portuguese marriage certificate	The official result of the civil marriage	We guide you through receiving the certificate

Do not treat the civil wedding as only the appointment day. The result depends on the preparation before you travel.

How the civil marriage route works

- 1 Send us your case**
Tell us your citizenships, residence, marital status and document situation.
- 2 We check the route**
Same Vibes checks whether Portugal is realistic for your case and what document route applies.
- 3 Documents are prepared**
We explain what must be prepared, apostilled, translated or corrected.
- 4 Registry process is coordinated**
The civil registry process is filed or coordinated before you travel.
- 5 Interpreter is arranged**
When needed, Same Vibes arranges the interpreter for the official appointment.
- 6 You attend the appointment**
You come to Portugal for the official civil registry appointment.
- 7 You receive the certificate**
After registration, you can leave the same day officially married with your Portuguese marriage certificate.

What Same Vibes handles

- case review
- registry coordination
- appointment guidance
- apostille / translation / delivery coordination when needed
- document route
- interpreter arrangement
- Portuguese marriage certificate

No wedding packages. No ceremony upsells. Just the official legal route, handled for you.

Common questions

Is a civil wedding in Portugal legally valid?

Yes. The official civil registry process creates the Portuguese marriage certificate.

Is a symbolic ceremony enough for legal marriage?

No. A symbolic ceremony or celebration is not the same as official civil marriage.

Can foreign same-sex couples use the civil registry route?

In many cases, yes. Same Vibes checks the documents and confirms whether Portugal works for your case.

Do we need to speak Portuguese?

Same Vibes arranges the interpreter for the official appointment when needed.

Can we come for one appointment?

In the standard Same Vibes route, we prepare the process before you travel so you come for one official registry appointment.

Do you plan weddings or ceremonies?

No. Same Vibes handles the legal marriage route, not wedding packages or events.

Next step

Send us your case. We will review your situation and explain the realistic next step.

Check your case: <https://same-vibes.com/en/check-your-case/>

Read the guide: <https://same-vibes.com/en/guides/civil-wedding-portugal-same-sex/>

Website: <https://same-vibes.com/en/>

WhatsApp: <https://wa.me/351935900533>

Telegram: <https://t.me/+351935900533>

Email: info@the-o.legal

Same Vibes handles the official civil marriage route. You come to Portugal for the registry appointment and leave officially married.