

## THE CULTURAL AND CREATIVE CITIES MONITOR



The **Cultural and Creative Cities Monitor** is a new tool to **benchmark the performance** of European cities compared to their peers using both quantitative and qualitative data. It provides a common evidence base at city level that helps decision-makers learn from each other and inspires fit-for-purpose policies to boost economic growth and job creation, foster social development and citizens' well-being, and strengthen resilience. This year's first edition covers **168 cities in 30 countries**, **selected from about 1000 cities** in Eurostat's Urban Audit on the basis of their **verifiable engagement** in promoting **culture** and **creativity**. Being included in the Monitor is thus in itself an acknowledgement of the importance these cities attach to culture and creativity.



The Monitor's quantitative information is captured in **29 indicators**. These are grouped into **9 dimensions** reflecting **3 major facets** of cities' cultural, social and economic vitality: **'Cultural Vibrancy'**, **'Creative Economy'** and **'Enabling Environment'**. In addition, qualitative evidence helps illustrate what cities are good at.

## Selected cities



- Three European Capitals of Culture: Guimarães, Lisbon and Porto
- One city hosting at least two international cultural festivals: Coimbra

## **Key findings**

**Lisbon** does particularly well on **'Cultural Vibrancy'** where it takes the top spot in the XL group of 34 ranked cities, thanks to its 1<sup>st</sup> position on Cultural Venues & Facilities. Since 1994, when Lisbon was a European Capital of Culture, various international events (such as Expo '98 and Euro 2004) have taken place in the city, boosting the local cultural infrastructure and activities. Co-working spaces, fab labs and start-up incubators are now available in various rehabilitated urban areas. In addition to long-lived international events such as the Lisbon Architecture Triennale, the Lisbon Fashion Week and the Lisbon & Estoril Film Festival, the city has started to host new creativity-related events, such as the European Creative Hubs Forum in 2015 with over 200 creative hubs across Europe.

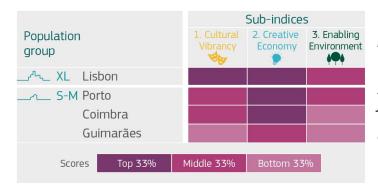
Porto ranks best on 'Creative Economy' (13<sup>th</sup> in the S-M group of 64 ranked cities) mainly thanks to its 3<sup>rd</sup> position on New Jobs in Creative Sectors. Porto, which was a European Capital of Culture in 2001, is today a



cosmopolitan and lively city, a venue for reputed cultural and artistic events and a location open to the cultural and creative sectors. The Creative Industries Center of UPTEC - Science and Technology Park of University of Porto supports hundreds of business projects, in the field of design, communication, architecture, audiovisual, music, visual arts, performing arts and publishing.

**Coimbra**, which comes 15<sup>th</sup> in the S-M group on '**Creative Economy**' thanks to its 4<sup>th</sup> position on New Jobs in Creative Sectors, is the birthplace of the so called 'Coimbra Fado' - a music genre which can be traced to the 1820s. Coimbra also has a lively contemporary music scene, boasting several live music venues, popular clubs and music festivals. Its educational offer in music has a very good reputation in the country.

Guimarães, which positions 32<sup>nd</sup> in the S-M group on 'Creative Economy' thanks to its good performance on New Jobs in Creative Sectors (21<sup>st</sup>), was a European Capital of Culture in 2012. Since 2005, the city has a major venue for cultural events (Centro Cultural Vila Flor - CCVF) housed in the 18<sup>th</sup> century Vila Flor Palace. The CCVF was also one of the main locations of Guimarães 2012.



**Note**: Cities are ordered by Cultural and Creative Cities (C3) Index score within each population group. The Index is obtained by aggregating weighted scores of sub-indices as designed by experts in the field. The C3 online platform allows customising the weights, inserting your own data and comparing cities.

## Did you know that...?

**Lisbon**'s rich cultural heritage includes two UNESCO World Heritage Sites, namely the Belém Tower and the Jerónimos Monastery as beautiful examples of the Manueline architectural style.

**Porto** has experienced important transformations in recent years through major investments in new cultural infrastructures, such as the concert hall Casa da Música, designed by the Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas.

**Coimbra** is home to the oldest academic institution in the Portuguese-speaking world,



Casa da Música. Credit: Jose Luis Hidalgo R. under CC BY 2.0 licence

the University of Coimbra. In 2013, its buildings were classified as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

**Guimarães** hosts various Europe for Festivals, Festivals for Europe-labelled festivals. During one of these - Guimarães noc noc - all artistic disciplines are exhibited in unconventional venues such as private houses, studios, cafés, squares and streets.