

Venue Location

The SEONS 2016 takes place at the Faculty of Science of the University of Beira Interior, Pole I, building 6.

GPS coordinates: N 40.277206, W 7.510062.



Travel Information

By Car

Covilhã city is easily accessible from different parts of the country through a network of motorways and Scuts, with average trip duration of approximately 2-3 hours. Coming from the north you should follow the A1 towards Lisbon, continuing on A25 to Guarda, and finally the A23 up to Covilhã. Coming from the South you should follow the A1 towards Porto and then the A23 to Covilhã. From Coimbra you can use IP3 to reach the city of

Viseu, then use the A25 to Guarda and finally the A23 up to Covilhã. In all cases you should exit at Covilhã South or at Covilhã North towards the Hospital. For more details please see the [map](#).

[Link of the map](#)

<https://www.google.pt/maps/dir/Aeroporto+Internacional+de+Lisboa,+Aeroporto+Internacional+de+Lisboa,+Alameda+Comunidades~/Covilh%C3%A3+Parque+Hotel,+Avenida+Frei+Heitor+Pinto,+Covilh%C3%A3/Aeroporto+Francisco+S%C3%A1+Carneiro,+Aeroporto+Francisco+S%C3%A1+Carneiro,+Avenida+do+Aeroporto,+Moreira+da+Maia/@40.002372,-8.173828,470701m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m20!4m19!1m5!1m1!1s0xd19324616d90183:0xa66a53e58036d46!2m2!1d-9.1353667!2d38.7755936!1m5!1m1!1s0xd3d22fef283f8a5:0x8dec5e86359ba70f!2m2!1d-7.5057048!2d40.2842865!1m5!1m1!1s0xd246f64614a2bad:0x151a578a6d6039d1!2m2!1d-8.6785514!2d41.2421186!3e0?hl=pt-PT>

By Bus

For those who come **by plane to Porto** and want to take the bus:

Airport -> Metro: Line E (Airport-Stadium of the Dragon) -> Station Bolhão -> **Bus – Rua Alexandre Herculano nº366 (Garagem Atlântico)**.

For those who come **by plane to Lisbon** and want to take the bus:

Airport -> Metro: Red Line (Airport-S. Sebastião) -> Switch on S. Sebastian for Blue Line (S. Apollonia – Amadora Este) -> Zoo Station -> **Bus – Praça Marechal Humberto Delgado – Sete Rios**

To get to Covilha by bus from different parts of the country see information via the website of [Network Express](#).

[Link of Network Express](#)

<http://www.rede-expressos.pt/>

By Train

For those who come **by plane to Porto** and want to catch train:

Airport -> Metro: Line E (Airport-Stadium of the Dragon) -> Station Bolhão -> **Station S. Bento**

For those who come **by plane to Lisbon** and want to catch up train:

Airport -> Metro: Red Line (Airport-Gare do Oriente) -> **Gare do Oriente**

The [CP](#) website will show you the best schedules to reach Covilhã.

[Link of CP](#)

<http://www.cp.pt/>

The University of Beira Interior

History



The first steps on the path of what is now the University of Beira Interior (UBI) were given in the 70, when the Instituto Politécnico da Covilhã (IPC) was born, in 1973. The city, once considered "The Portuguese Manchester", by its long tradition, dynamics and wool quality, was struck, in this decade, by an industrial crisis: large and small factories had begun to reveal serious weaknesses that would lead to their closure, with disastrous social and economic consequences for the region.

It was in this panorama, and since the beginning of the activities of the working group for the Regional Planning of Cova da Beira, that the idea to create a higher education institution in the region came up, in order to provide their inhabitants the possibility to pursue post-secondary studies without the obligation to move to other parts of the country, most of the times forever.

Thus, after the publication of the Decree-Law 73/402, of 11 August, in the context of the so-called "Veiga Simão Reform", which led to the expansion and diversification of higher education, the IPC was created and received, in 1975, his first 143 students, in Textile Engineering and Administration and Accounting courses. In July 1979, six years later, the institution becomes Instituto Universitário (University Institute) of Beira Interior (IUBI) (Law 44/79 of 11 September).

IUBI conversion occurred in 1986 (Decree-Law 76-B/86, of 30 April), having the expansion areas and protection of Poles I, II and III been regulated by Government Decree No. 33/87, of 2 November. Pole IV came afterwards, in 1996, with courses in Social Sciences and Humanities.

The first Rector of UBI was Professor Cândido Manuel Passos Morgado, which would keep himself in office between August 21, 1980 and January 19, 1996, date on which Professor Manuel José dos Santos Silva began his functions as Rector until June 19, 2009. On this date Professor João António de Sampaio Rodrigues Queiroz takes over as the third Rector of the institution. Professor António Fidalgo, who took over the September 5, 2013, is the current Rector.

The UBI's statutes were revised in accordance with the Legal Regime of the Higher Education Institutions (Law 62/2007 of 10 September). One of the most interesting of UBI's physical features is the fact that the institution is the result of the recovery of ancient buildings, of great historic, cultural and architectural value. At the same time, it has been possible to preserve some historical landmarks of the city and revitalize them in spaces conceived for teaching and research.

The construction of the IPC had already begun through the recovery of its previous building in the headquarters of Batalhão dos Caçadores 2, settled in Real Fábrica dos Panos (Royal Rags Factory, from the time of Marquis of Pombal), located in one of the traditional centres of industrial concentration in Covilhã, next to the Ribeira da Degoldra.

During the conversion works, in 1975, some buried archaeological structures were found, which belonged to the dry cleaners of the Real Fábrica de Panos, an important wool factory, built in the 18th century by the Marquis of Pombal. After two campaigns of archaeological intervention and a broad investigation, the structure that would give place to the first nucleus of the UBI's Wool Museum was built. It was opened to the public in 1996.

Thus, the old industrial buildings located at the south entrance of Covilhã became, almost naturally, not only a logical solution and of continuity as regards the University physical expansion, but also an option that resulted in a huge benefit to the city, in urban terms and environmental impact, through the recovery of abandoned buildings or ruins that constituted a significant part of the Covilhã industrial heritage making the UBI a unique case in the Portuguese University.

In the 90s, the University was expanded to the far north of the city, along the Ribeira da Carpinteira. In 2006, the construction of the Faculty of Health Sciences was concluded, thus fulfilling the setup program of the Medicine course infrastructures, which started functioning in 2001/2002.

Currently, the UBI hosts more than 6 thousand students spread across five faculties – Arts and Letters, Sciences, Health Sciences, Social and Human Sciences, Engineering – with a formative offer adequate to Bologna, as well as laboratory and research structures to support the teaching process and with strong links to society and to the business world.



[Link of University of Beira Interior](http://www.ubi.pt/)

<http://www.ubi.pt/>

Covilhã City

Located on Serra da Estrela slopes, facing east, Covilhã offers to the visitors a beautiful view, it is almost like a majestic amphitheater framed by mountains. Discover Covilhã it is like discovering the history of textile industry in Portugal. The University of Beira Interior is currently implemented in former factory buildings of high historical value, cultural and architectural heritage, which have been converted into modern facilities for teaching and research. Respect for the past has marked the philosophy of the institution, which contributed significantly for the city and region rehabilitation, through structures such as the Wool Museum, housed in the Royal Textile Factory, established by the Marquês de Pombal. Located in the mountains, it has a snowy winter scene unique in Portugal where it is possible to practice all kinds of winter sports, like snowboarding or skiing. The mountain resort lies at 2000 meters high and offers skiing facilities. There are several touristic places in the mountains, as restaurants, hotels and apartments.



Covilhã has an area of over 550 km² and its population is estimated at 54,506 inhabitants. If it is considered that student population is more than 6 thousand students, it is possible to say that the university is one of the main economic, social and cultural drivers of the city, offering it several activities from the academic community throughout the whole year. UBI also contributes to attracting new investment to the region, contributing to its economic growth, encouraging trade and tourism. In parallel, it reverts the exodus of young people by reversing the flow of migration, thus ensuring a young and qualified population prepared to meet all the challenges inherent to any society in any city anywhere in the world.

[Link of Covilhã Town Hall \(Câmara Municipal da Covilhã\)](#)

<http://www.cm-covilha.pt>

Accommodation

Hotel Turismo da Covilhã (****) [Link http://www.hotelturismocovilha.com.pt/](http://www.hotelturismocovilha.com.pt/)

Hotel TRYP Covilhã Dona Maria (****) [Link http:// www.melia.com/Tryp-Covilha](http://www.melia.com/Tryp-Covilha)

Hotel Solneve (***) [Link http://www.solneve.pt/](http://www.solneve.pt/)

Hotel Santa Eufemia (**) [Link http://www.hotelsantaeufemia.com/](http://www.hotelsantaeufemia.com/)

Hotel Covilhã Parque (**) [Link http://www.covilhaparquehotel.com.pt/](http://www.covilhaparquehotel.com.pt/)

Quinta da Amoreira [Link http://www.quintadaamoreira.pt/](http://www.quintadaamoreira.pt/)

Quinta do Sangrinhal [Link http://www.booking.com/Quinta-Do-Sangrinhal](http://www.booking.com/Quinta-Do-Sangrinhal)

Hotel Serra da Estrela (****) [Link http://www.turistrela.pt/?cix=584&lang=4](http://www.turistrela.pt/?cix=584&lang=4)

Pousada da Serra da Estrela [Link http://www.pousadas.pt/pt/hotel/pousada-serra-estrela](http://www.pousadas.pt/pt/hotel/pousada-serra-estrela)

Hotel dos Carqueijais (****) [Link http://www.turistrela.pt/?cix=587&lang=4](http://www.turistrela.pt/?cix=587&lang=4)

H2otel (Unhais da Serra) (****) [Link http://www.h2otel.com.pt/](http://www.h2otel.com.pt/)