

INFORMATION

PRESENTATION, LOCATION AND INVITATION

Maia Handball Cup 2026 - 22nd International Tournament - will be organised by the Maiastars Club and by the Town Hall of Maia City. It will take place in this city from **the 4th to the 11st of July 2026**, in a unisex competition.

This tournament is suitable for teams of associations and schools all over the world, and it will welcome regional, state or national teams, from all ages. In this twenty-second edition, we are willing to accept a limited number of teams following the order of enrolment. We offer a great handball party involving peoples and races from the entire world. In the twenty previous editions plenty of success, it was been represented, besides many regions of Portugal, countries like Republic of Angola, Algeria, France, Spain, Lithuania, Bulgarian, Switzerland, Poland, South Africa, Austria, Sweden, Serbia, Montenegro, Taiwan, Canada, Brazil, Estonia, Germany, Netherlands, Greece, Senegal, Egypt, India beside others.

Is **Maia** situated 8km from Porto (the second city in the country and the capital in the north of Portugal) and 10 Km from the wonderful Atlantic Ocean seaside. It is a city of 140.000 inhabitants. The access to Maia is by means of good roads or the International Francisco Sá Carneiro Airport, which serves the north of the country. Due to its quite varied industrial park,



Maia offers both the locals and the tourists a high quality lifestyle based on the city's facilities and services, which have been developing for 40 years.

Maia Town Hall is the main responsible for this development always bearing in mind the well-being of the inhabitants. Sport activities are considered a fundamental part of this development.

The Town Hall has about 100 high level sports resorts from which we give evidence to indoor activities gym halls, stadiums, swimming pools, aerodrome, hippodrome, football fields, cycling track, among others.

The Town Hall strongly supports the associative movements, offering all kinds of means in order to promote their development. All the organised events are quite relevant due to the level of their participants as well as the variety of social groups that can be involved in them: children, youngsters, adults, elder people, and handicapped people among others. This is the reason why Maia is known to be the city of sport in Portugal. And, 2014, **MAIA is EUROPEAN CITY of SPORT**.

The residents of Maia are, by nature, adventurous, kind and welcoming, and they are happy to receive visitors. In fact, these are general characteristics of the Portuguese people, along with the ability to welcome great sports events. For example, our country was proud to have organised the last World Handball Championship in 2003 as well of organising the European Football Championship 2004 and all editions of Maia Handball Cup.

Maiastars is a club dedicated only to the female Handball. Hundreds of children and youngsters do regular sports activities in this club, which has already won several prizes in regional, national and international competitions. It is one of the largest handball clubs in terms of the level and the number of its participants, because of its strategic vision a promising future is expected for this club.

The city of Porto, located about 8 kilometers from the city of Maia, was recently distinguished as **the Best Destination in the World at the World Travel Awards 2022**. For the North American magazine Forbes, the city of Porto is one of the fifty must-visit places in 2023. Last January, for the British magazine Food and Travel, **the city of Porto was distinguished with the "City of the Year 2022" award**. Here is another excellent reason to participate in the Maia Handball Cup 2026 - 22nd International Tournament.

Maiastars and the Town Hall in Maia are honoured to invite Handball clubs from all over the world to take part in Maia Handball Cup 2026, assuring that you won't regret it and you will forever remember all the good moments spent in Maia, the extra activities, the new friendships, the socialising, the amusements, among so many other things.