

Évora_____27
capital europeia
da cultura
european capital
of culture

OUR TURN
OPEN CALL
A NOSSA VEZ
Call for Proposals___FAQ

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1. What is Évora_27 European Capital of Culture?

Évora_27 is an initiative resulting from the city of Évora's application for the title of European Capital of Culture 2027 (ECoC 2027).

Originally created to highlight the richness and diversity of European cultures and their shared characteristics, as well as to promote greater mutual understanding among European citizens, the title of "European Capital of Culture" has gradually also come to represent a driver of sustainable and inclusive development for candidate and designated cities.

The decision to submit Évora's candidacy for European Capital of Culture in 2027 is framed within Decision No. 445/2014/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of the 16th of April 2014, which establishes a Union action for the European Capitals of Culture (ECoC) for the years 2020 to 2033, setting out a timetable determining that the title will be awarded to a Portuguese city in 2027, alongside a city in Latvia. In Latvia, the city of Liepāja was designated in May 2022.

On the 7th of December, at a press conference, the international panel of ECoC experts announced the selection of Évora as the European Capital of Culture in 2027, following two selection phases in which 12 Portuguese cities competed.

Submitted for evaluation in October 2022, the Bid Book Évora 2027, presented the transformative concept of Vagar. As a way of being and living rooted in the Alentejo region, refined over millennia, Vagar asserts itself, even more convincingly, as "another art of existence" for Humanity. Évora 2027 aims to make the city and the region a centre of culture and reflection on humanity's actions, based on the holistic culture of the Alentejo. The concept, materialized through the cultural and artistic programme, reflects the consultation process developed in the city and region over about a year and a half.

The application programme was conceived around three pillars: cultural heritage, intangible assets, and biodiversity. Évora 2027 will focus on the challenges that society faces collectively, taking the territory as its starting point to address issues such as climate change, forced migration, global cooperation, and even digital transformation. The Évora 27 application and its artistic programme arise from this concept, extending it in a contemporary interpretation that invites Europe to embrace Vagar as a possible path to overcoming the challenges we face as Europeans.

2. Why this call for proposals?

This call is intended to select proposals for collaborative artistic creation and programming projects (open to all artistic fields), as well as for the safeguarding, recognition, and promotion of artisanal production in the Alentejo region (arts and crafts). These projects will be presented throughout 2027, in spaces across the Alentejo region.

Proposals should promote synergies and partnerships between local artists, creators, and/or collectives at an national or/and international level.

Proposals must ensure physical, social, and intellectual accessibility in both the projects and their hosting spaces.

3. Who can participate?

All individuals or legal entities that simultaneously meet the following requirements:

- a. Provide evidence that they are cultural agents, artists, creators, or collectives, born in, residing in, or professionally active in the Alentejo for more than three years;
- b. Provide evidence of partnership(s) with one or more venues or entities (regional, national, or international) for the development and hosting of the artistic proposal submitted to the call.

4. When?

The call for proposals will be open from the 10th of November 2025 to the 4th of January 2026. Selected proposals may begin their creative processes (research, artistic residencies, rehearsals, etc.) from April 2026 and must be presented between the 6th of February and the 31th of December 2027, as part of the Évora_27 programme.

5. How should the proposals be submitted?

Projects must be submitted within the stipulated deadline by completing the online form available at:

Applications must be submitted in Portuguese.

6. How many proposals can be submitted?

Each applicant may submit only one project but may also participate as a partner in other projects.

7. Can someone who leads one of the projects registered in the Bid Book apply?

No.

8. What is the mandatory content of the proposals?

The preparation and presentation of the proposals must include:

A. Identification and tax documentation of the applicant:

- i) For individuals: a copy of an identification document (Citizen Card or Identity Card);
- ii) For individuals belonging to an informal group: identification document (Identity Card or Passport) for all members of the group;
- iii) For legal entities: a copy of the incorporation document and statutes, as well as a copy of the minutes confirming the current governing bodies or a valid permanent certificate;
- iv) Proof of compliance with tax and social security obligations.

B. Applicant's artistic curriculum vitae.

C. Project dossier, including the following elements:

- i. Applicant's name;
- ii. Address;
- iii. Project title;
- iv. Identification of the artistic field(s);
- v. Preferred presentation space(s), in line with point 3 of Chapter III of the regulations;
- vi. Amount of financial support requested, in accordance with the established funding levels;
- vii. Artistic team (biographical notes);
- viii. Project synopsis, describing its main characteristics and key activities;
- ix. Target audiences;
- x. Descriptive report of the project, outlining its activities, justifying artistic choices and explaining its implementation and partnerships;
- xi. Artistic objectives, articulated with the context of Évora_27;
- xii. Proposed schedule for all project activities;
- xiii. Digital communication plan;
- xiv. Detailed budget (expenses and revenues), in line with point 5 of Sections III and VI of the regulations;
- xv. Estimated expenses for project circulation, in line with point 6 of Section III of the regulations;
- xvi. If available, images or other visual/audiovisual materials (including open access links) to support the proposal's assessment;
- xvii. Technical rider;
- xviii. Proof of regional, national and/or international artistic and institutional partnerships, and co-financing.

9. What types of projects will be accepted in this call?

This call is intended to select proposals for collaborative artistic creation and programming projects (open to all artistic fields), as well as for the safeguarding, recognition, and promotion of artisanal production in the Alentejo region (arts and crafts). These projects will be presented throughout 2027, in spaces across the Alentejo region.

Projects should promote synergies and partnerships between local artists, creators, and/or collectives and others at a national or international level.

Projects must ensure physical, social, and intellectual accessibility in both the projects and their hosting spaces.

10. What will not be supported?

Current expenses of the applicant or its partners are not eligible.

Additional financial support is valued, such as patronage or co-producers (public or private).

11. What are the evaluation criteria?

Admitted applications will be assessed by the jury according to the following criteria:

- . Artistic relevance, originality and impact of the proposal (30%);
- . Alignment with the Vagar concept (20%);
- . Demonstrated capacity for implementation in terms of budget, including co-financing, sustainability, and accessibility (20%);
- . Suitability of the team(s) for the project characteristics, in terms of their CVs (10%);
- . Presentation of new work(s) in premiere (10%);
- . Proof of regional and national artistic and institutional partnerships (5%);
- . Proof of international artistic and institutional partnerships (5%).

Each criterion will be scored on a scale from 1 to 5, with half points allowed. Each member of the jury will assign their score individually. The final evaluation will be based on the average score, weighted according to each criterion.

Financial support will be granted to projects receiving the highest total score, as determined by the Jury, applying all criteria and considering the maximum number of projects to be supported at each funding level, as well as the total available for each.

Once deliberations are concluded, the jury will issue a report. All decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

12. How will the projects be selected?

Proposals are received and evaluated, according to the criteria stated in the regulations, by a panel composed of five (5) individuals of recognized merit and multidisciplinary experience:

- John Romão, President of the Jury (Artistic Director of Évora_27);
- Celina da Piedade (Accordianist, singer, composer and researcher);
- Jesse James (Curator, cultural programmer and artistic director of the Walk&Talk Biennial);
- Rita Fabiana (Curator and coordinator of Live Arts at the Modern Art Centre of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation);
- Tiago Navarro (Director of the School of Arts of the University of Évora).

Substitute members:

- Ana Borralho (Artist and cultural programmer);
- Luís Sousa Ferreira (Designer, cultural programmer, and assistant to the Artistic Director of Teatro Nacional D. Maria II).

If any circumstance arises that prevents a member of the selection committee from evaluating a particular application, that member will be replaced, for the analysis of the proposal in question, by a substitute member of the selection committee.

13. What are the support amounts?

This call for proposals has a total budget of €1,000,000 (one million euros).

Each project may apply for one of the following funding levels:

Funding levels
50.000€
40.000€
30.000€
20.000€
10.000€

The jury reserves the right not to allocate the full amount available in this call if the submitted projects do not demonstrate sufficient merit or quality to justify selection.

14. When and how will the results be communicated?

The evaluation results will be published on the website www.evora2027.com, listing projects as “Supported” or “Not Supported”, according to funding level. Each applicant will also be informed of their result via email (to the email address provided in the application form) by the 4th of February 2026.

15. What if my project is selected?

Following the publication of results, a Contract will be signed between Associação Évora 2027 and the applicants whose projects have been selected for financial support.

16. What other issues should I consider when preparing the proposal?

At Évora_27 we value collaboratively developed projects. Proposals must therefore identify the project partners in detail. It is not sufficient to indicate only the type of partners; they must be identified by their name, and the applicant must ensure that these partners have been contacted and have confirmed their intention to participate in the project at the time of submission under this call.

All projects included in the Évora_27 artistic programme will have their authors and promoting organization(s) duly acknowledged.

17. Do you have any questions?

Questions may be submitted until the 20th of December 2025 through the Évora_27 Applicant Support Office, via email at:

Any situations not covered by this notice will be decided by the jury in accordance with the applicable legislation.

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