

Portugal solar panels

After you buy your home in Portugal, you might be interested in energetically renovating it, since this is not only more efficient, but also cheaper long-term, with various financial aids from the Portuguese government and European Union. One of the ways through which you can achieve this is Solar panels. Let's understand them better.

The decentralized private electricity production is currently regulated by a Decree-Law which establishes the legal regime applicable to the production of electricity for self-consumption in the installation of use associated with the respective production unit, with or without connection to the public electricity grid, based on renewable or non-renewable production technologies, called UPAC (Unidades de Produ??o para Autoconsumo=Production Units for Self-Consumption).

It is made up of a single crystal of ultra-pure silicon and is considerably more efficient than the others - between 15% and 25% more. So, strictly technically speaking, this is your best option. But, of course, monocrystalline panels are much more expensive. If you do have the means, though, their durability (estimated at more than 30 years) and efficiency can prove massively advantageous in the future.

This is the monocrystalline's less successful younger sibling. Polycrystalline panels, as the name indicates, are made of multiple, less pure silicon crystals - like copper and iron. This results in an efficiency that is significantly lower than monocrystalline - at around 15%. Of course, this also makes it cheaper, which is a plus. However, the loss of efficiency and high sensitivity to high temperatures make polycrystalline less reliable.

As the name suggests, bifacial panels are made up of two cell faces. The upper one faces the sun directly, absorbing the light, while the lower one captures the indirect radiation that's reflected by the area the panel occupies. This means that their efficiency depends directly on the reflective capacity of this said area. If this capacity is good, they can be highly efficient.

This type of panel is made up of very thin structures that can be set up on roof tiles, glass, and masonry. Their thinness makes them light and the fact that they are made of amorphous silicon, cadmium telluride, and/or gallium gives them flexibility, also. This option is, most of the time, chosen for aesthetic purposes and large-scale projects, due to its cheaper price point. However, their efficiency is lower (7-10%), since thin film panels have a much harder time during low temperature/low sunlight season. Plus, its lifespan is only around fifteen years.

The definite plus of this hybrid model is that it works as both a solar and thermal panel. During summer - at high temperatures and sunlight - this is the most efficient type of panel. Plus, it is also very durable and resistant. However, much like the monocrystalline solar panel, its efficiency makes it more expensive. Hybrid



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models are also rather recent, so they aren't marketed as much as the other panels - yet. But, technically speaking, they are a great option.

These can't be considered solar, since they are not made up of solar cells and only produce heat. There are three types of solar thermal panels:

Yes, it is possible. The important thing is that you sell the surplus solar energy that exceeds your own use and that you don't install the panel just to sell it. The prices for surplus solar energy range between 4 cent and 8 cent in Portugal. It does not really compensate the investment. So you should only install the solar panel system based on your own consumption needs. It does make sense to install as well a battery. In Portugal you will need a lot of energy as well during the night.

To sell surplus solar energy from your solar panels you need to meet these 5 requirements:

Before going ahead with energetic renovations and investing in solar panels, you should get informed about the different types of this equipment and figure out which one would work best for you. But first, get to know some advantages and disadvantages of solar panels with us.

This program promotes state reimbursement for the purchase of solar panels. This contribution can go up to 85% with a maximum limit of EUR1,000 in the districts of Lisbon or Porto, or EUR1,100 in the rest of the country, for systems without batteries. For systems with battery, the reimbursement can go up to 85% with a maximum limit of EUR3,000 in Lisbon or Porto; and EUR3,300 in the rest.

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