

Important information



Venues

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation | 14–16 Oct

Av. de Berna 45A, 1067–001 Lisbon

Cascais & Sintra | 15 Oct

For more information on the different locations, see page 5–13. Gathering point for shuttles to Cascais and Sintra: just outside the main entrance of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. Please be there by 8:45 am. The last shuttle leaves at 9:00 am sharp.

Mercado do Rato | 15 Oct

R. Alexandre Herculano 64, 1250–012 Lisboa, Portugal

Teatro Thalia | 16 Oct

Estrada das Laranjeiras 205, Lisbon 1600–134, Portugal

Explore Lisbon guide

To make the most of your time in Lisbon, we have prepared an [Explore Lisbon guide](#) with recommendations on public transport, emergency numbers, and places to visit, eat, and discover in the city.



Registration

We open doors at 12:30 pm on Wednesday, 14 October. The registration desk at the foyer of the entrance of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation will be your first stop. There you will receive your name badge, which you need to access all sessions and venues. Your badge also includes the information on which city you will be visiting on Day 2, as well as which session you have registered for on Day 3 and indicates whether you have signed up for the final evening reception.



Pre-registration for parallel sessions

Pre-registration for the parallel sessions on Day 2 and Day 3 is now closed. If you did not pre-register, or would like to change your selection, please go to the registration desk on Day 1. Our team will let you know where places are still available. Please note that on Day 3 there is a wide range of open walk-in sessions as well.



Free museum entry

With your festival badge, you have free entry to the Gulbenkian Museum and the Centro de Arte Moderna (CAM) throughout the festival. We warmly encourage you to make use of it.



Wi-Fi

At the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, you will find an open-access Wi-Fi connection called 'FCG free wifi'.

At Teatro Thalia, the access is as follows: Teatro_ Thalia, password: W1-F1-Thalia.



Culinary networking

Lunch, snacks, coffee, and tea will be provided at the festival free of charge. Please note that alcoholic drinks cannot be covered or reimbursed by us and are to be paid for on site. Some participants have specific dietary needs, such as gluten-free or lactose-free meals. We kindly ask you to leave these options for those who have requested them. Water dispensers will be available throughout the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, so we warmly encourage you to bring your own reusable water bottle. This helps us reduce single-use cups and cutlery.



Guest list

You can find a complete registration list with names and organisation of all guests at the registration desk.



Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

Our [FAQ_page](#) answers the most common questions on logistics, participation, and practical arrangements.



Awareness

At the NECE Festival 2026, we are committed to creating an inclusive and respectful space for all participants. The festival brings together people from diverse backgrounds and experiences, and we believe everyone should feel safe, seen, and able to contribute equally. Ahead of the festival, we kindly encourage you to read our [code of conduct](#). Our team, easily recognisable by their yellow name badges, will be present throughout the festival. In the unlikely case that you experience or witness exclusion, discomfort, or discrimination, please feel free to approach any member of THE CIVICS team in full confidence. Our team members are also happy to help with any general questions.



New this year: human library

On Day 3, we are introducing a new format to the NECE Festival: the human library. Instead of books, you "borrow" people for a personal conversation. Each "human book" shares their own story and experience, and you are invited to listen, ask questions, and engage in open dialogue. It is a unique opportunity to meet perspectives you might not otherwise encounter, in a small and trusting setting.

Where: Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Room 4
(on-site registration)

When: 16 October, 10:30 – 11:30 am, 2:00 – 3:00 pm & 3:00 – 4:00 pm



Making democracy stick: join the action lab

Over the course of the festival, many inspiring examples of civic innovation will come to light. But how can these ideas travel beyond Lisbon and take root elsewhere? In this action lab, facilitated by Michelle Blanchet, Nina Alonso, and Tamara Stalitz, you will work together with other participants to explore what makes civic ideas transferable, what stands in their way, and how promising approaches can become practical tools others can use. You are also invited to bring your own "seed ideas" and develop them further with the group. It is a walk-in session, so no pre-registration is needed. Just bring your curiosity and ideas.

Where: Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Room 1 (walk-in session)

When: 16 October, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

15 October 2026

Masterclasses in Cascais

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Shuttle to Cascais

All shuttles will depart from the **main entrance of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation**.

Please be there by **8:45 am at the latest**, as all shuttles will leave at 9:00 am sharp. Please remember to bring your **badge**.

We recommend wearing appropriate clothing for temperatures below 15°C, as it may be quite cool inside some of the venues.

For assistance:

- Kameliya Tomova, THE CIVICS: **+359 889 737 435**
- Teresa Pais, Municipality of Cascais: **+351 911 041 735**



Masterclasses

Please note that the masterclasses, lunch, and afternoon sessions in Cascais will take place at different venues, all within walking distance of one another.

Building trust in an age of insularity
with the Edelman Trust Institute

By Caitlin Semo & Theresa Peterson

Time: **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Location: **Rua Luis Xavier Palmeirim 4**

Building trust from the ground up

Lessons from community foundations

By Gabriela Solomon, Monica Jac & Sonia Constantin

Time: **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Location: **Rua Luis Xavier Palmeirim 4**

Building trust through youth participation

From voice to impact

*By Beatriz Cardoso Nunes, Liliana Pereira de Melo & Lisa Correia
Municipality of Cascais*

Time: **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Location: **Escola Básica e Secundária da Cidadela**

Building trust through environmental action

Engaging citizens for sustainable communities

*João Cardoso de Melo & José Romana
Municipality of Cascais*

Time: **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Location: **Quinta do Pisão (Estr. da Serra, Alcabideche)**

Building trust through co-decision

Sharing power in local governance

*Karin Pereira & Teresa Pais
Municipality of Cascais*

Time: **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Location: **Câmara Municipal de Cascais**

Building trust through community action

Strengthening social cohesion and local resilience

Marta Sanches Osório & Liliana Sintra
Municipality of Cascais

Time: **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Location: **Biblioteca Municipal de Cascais – Casa da Horta da Quinta de Santa Clara**



Lunch

Time: **12:30 – 2:00 pm**

Location: the garden of the **Museu do Mar Rei Dom Carlos I**



Reflection & afternoon session

Connecting community, landscape, and local heritage

Municipality of Cascais

Time: **2:00 – 5:00 pm**

Meeting point: **Casa das Histórias Paula Rego** (next to the lunch venue)



Shuttle back to Lisbon



Recap & dinner

Time: **6:30 – 9:00 pm**

Location: **Mercado do Rato**

15 October 2026

Masterclasses & discoveries in Sintra

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Shuttle to Sintra

All shuttles will depart from the **main entrance of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation**.

Please be there by **8:30 am at the latest**, as all shuttles will leave at 08:45 am sharp. Please remember to bring your **badge**.

We recommend wearing comfortable clothing and walking shoes suitable for exploring Sintra, and dressing in layers for temperatures of around 15–20°C, as it can be cooler in Sintra and some venues require some walking to reach.

For assistance:

- Tchernó Amadú Baldé, IPAV: **+351 960 216 559**
- Tea Dorogi, THE CIVICS: **+385 91 592 4655**



Masterclasses and Discoveries

Please note that the masterclasses, lunch, and afternoon sessions in Sintra will take place at different venues. The transport between the venues will be organised by shuttles, so please be on time.

Masterclass

Recognising polarisation and strengthening social cohesion

By Sonja Jöchl and Winfried Kneip (Love Politics)

Time: **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Location: **Valenças Palace, R. Visc. de Monserrate 60, Sintra**

Discovery

Trust in Lifelong Learning – inclusion, skills and second chances

By the Municipality of Sintra

Time: **10:00 – 11:30 am**

Location: **MELKA, 2735-521 Agualva-Cacém**

Discovery

Trust in communities – participation, creativity and belonging

By the Municipality of Sintra

Time: **10:00 – 11:30 am**

Location: **Centro Lúdico do Rio de Mouro, Av. Gil Eanes 1A, Rio de Mouro**

Discovery

Trust in schools – Escola Casa: Educating through Ubuntu

By the Municipality of Sintra

Time: **10:00 – 11:30 am**

Location: **Escola Básica D. Carlos I, sede do Agrupamento de Escolas D.Carlos I, R. Alecrim, Sintra**



Reflection and lunch

Time: **12:30 – 2:30 pm**

Location: **High School of Santa Maria, R. Pedro de Cintra 4, Sintra**

Masterclass

Trusting young people with real money and real decisions

By Helena Habdija (YouthBank International)

Time: **3:00 – 5:00 pm**

Location: **Valenças Palace, R. Visc. de Monserrate 60, Sintra**

Discovery

Quinta da Regaleira

By the Municipality of Sintra

Time: **3:00 – 5:00 pm**

Location: **Quinta de Regaleira**

Discovery

Palácio Nacional de Sintra

By the Municipality of Sintra

Time: **3:00 – 5:00 pm**

Location: **Palácio Nacional de Sintra, Largo Rainha Dona Amélia, Sintra**



Shuttle back to Lisbon



Recap & dinner

Time: **6:30 – 9:00 pm**

Location: **Mercado do Rato, Lisbon**

15 October 2026

Masterclasses, workshops & discoveries in Lisbon

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Masterclasses & Discoveries

Please note that the masterclasses, lunch, and afternoon sessions in Lisbon will all take place at Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. Be mindful and on time for your sign-up sessions. Gathering point for Discoveries will be at the main entrance at the indicated times.

Discovery

Building trust infrastructures through shared action

By Gonçalo Folgado, Locals Approach

Time: **9:30 am – 12:30 pm**

Location: **Main entrance of Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (9:15 am)**

Masterclass

Building relational trust through deep listening

By Carmen Garcia de Andrés & Maria Carburaru

Time: **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Location: **Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Room 2**

Workshop

YOU DECIDE Co-Creation Lab

By Joe Cullen, Lucas Leardine & Maria Paula Barros

Time: **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Location: **Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Room 1**

Workshop
Learning to trust again

By Greta Pelucco

Time: **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Location: **Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Room 3**



Lunch

Time: **12:00 – 1:30 pm**

Location: **Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation**

Discovery
Democracy at play: Gamified civic education in action

By Bernardo Gonçalves, MyPolis

Time: **1:30 – 4:30 pm**

Location: **Main entrance of Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (12:50 pm)**

Discovery
Mensagem in Kriativu, Chelas – Journalism in the 'Hood'

By Catarina Carvalho

Time: **1:30 – 4:30 pm**

Location: **Main entrance of Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (1:15 pm)**

15 October 2026

Masterclasses, workshops & discoveries in Lisbon

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Masterclass

Building trust through relationships: The Ubuntu Methodology

By Maria Guerra & Sara Martins Silva

Time: **2:00 – 4:00 pm**

Location: **Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Room 2**

Workshop

Trust, transformation and active citizenship: Building resilient communities through citizenship education

James Sloam, Liz Moorse & Naomi Kennedy

Time: **2:00 – 4:00 pm**

Location: **Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Room 1**



Recap & dinner

Time: **6:30 – 9:00 pm**

Location: **Mercado do Rato**