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- [12697 | Waterfalls database of Portugal: Inventory and main types](#)

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In all continents we can behold one of the most incredible and fascinating natural beauties that nature gives us, the Waterfalls. Despite few systematic information available about them, a World Waterfall Database exists, presenting basic data about the world's waterfalls. However, there are many countries which don't have any information, like Portugal. Thereby, our main objective is to create a waterfalls database for Portugal and subsequently contribute with information to the world database. Building this database for Portugal, started with a Google search with the names, waterfall + Portugal. This was meant to identify and select the most important, referenced and emblematic examples of Portugal. This process was followed in order to simplify the research and have a rapid access to data but also to have a synthetic view of the main characteristics inherent to each example. Then, Google Earth Pro, Google Maps and the Wikiloc portal were used to find out the location of each waterfall and to complete the inventory data, like, coordinates, geographic information and photos, among others. The results show that they are mainly found in the mountainous areas and there is a significant variety of lithological bed for the waterfalls, being the majority in granite, shales and quartzites. The highest fall at the NW is Frecha da Mizarela (Arouca) with aprox. 70m of one jump and is also considered the highest in Continental Portugal. There are waterfalls with only one jump, however, most of these have two or more jumps. Actually, there is a significant increase in the use of waterfalls for geotourism, since people seek these places to rest, relax and contemplate something that they don't usually see. Waterfalls such as Frecha da Mizarela, Fiskas do Ermelo, Cai d'Alto and Tahiti are the most emblematic and sought after by tourists as well as by extreme sports companies that intend to develop their activities in these places, such as Canyoning.