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Company formation in Cabo Verde

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Flag



Coat of arms

Common form	Lda (sociedade por quotas)
Registry	Commercial Registry (Empresa no Dia, Casa do Cidadão)
Minimum capital	No meaningful minimum
Directors	1 manager
Local director	Not required
Corporate tax	20.4% including surcharge
VAT / sales tax	15%
Typical timeline	Often within 1 day (Empresa no Dia)
Tax treaties	Domestic rates and treaty list [5]
Currency	Cape Verdean escudo (CVE)

In short: To set up a company in Cabo Verde, most founders form a Lda, registered with the Commercial Registry (Empresa no Dia, Casa do Cidadão). Minimum capital: no meaningful minimum. Corporate tax: 20.4% including surcharge. Registration: often within 1 day (Empresa no Dia) (as of November 2026).

Short guide. Tax figures come from PwC Worldwide Tax Summaries (reviewed 29 May 2026); company-law details summarise official guidance and can change. Confirm requirements with the Commercial Registry (Empresa no Dia, Casa do Cidadão) before filing.

In **Cabo Verde**, a company can be registered in a day through the **Empresa no Dia** service of the Casa do Cidadão. Corporate tax is 20.4% including the surcharge.

Business structures

Most founders in Cabo Verde form a Lda, registered with the Commercial Registry (Empresa no Dia, Casa do Cidadão). Other forms are listed below.

- **Lda** – the usual company form for private businesses

Requirements

Minimum share capital in Cabo Verde (2026): no meaningful minimum. Directors required: 1 manager. Local resident director: not required.

- A company name that is available, checked with the registry.
- Share capital: no meaningful minimum.
- Directors: 1 manager.
- Local residency: not required.
- A registered office address in Cabo Verde.
- Articles of association; standard templates are often available.

Registration process

Typical time to register a company in Cabo Verde (2026): often within 1 day (Empresa no Dia). The usual steps are:

1. Choose the company form and check that the name is available.
2. Prepare and sign the articles of association.
3. File the registration with the Commercial Registry (Empresa no Dia, Casa do Cidadão).

4. Receive the company's registration number, and pay in the share capital where required.
5. Register for corporate tax and VAT or sales tax with the National Directorate of State Revenue.

Taxation

The corporate tax rate in Cabo Verde in 2026 is 20.4% including surcharge. Standard VAT or sales tax: 15%.

Tax	Rate and notes
Corporate income tax	20.4% including surcharge
VAT / indirect tax	15%
Withholding tax on dividends to non-resident companies	0%

Ongoing compliance

Annual compliance in Cabo Verde: Companies file annual financial statements and tax returns with the National Directorate of State Revenue, and keep their details up to date with the Commercial Registry.

Double tax treaties

Cabo Verde has a network of double tax treaties. A double tax treaty decides which country may tax cross-border income and usually caps the withholding tax the paying country can charge.

Domestic withholding tax on payments to non-resident companies

Dividends	Interest	Royalties
0%	20%	20%

The reduced rate for each partner country is set by the treaty concerned; PwC's withholding tax summary for Cabo Verde lists them.

Domestic rates from the PwC Worldwide Tax Summaries withholding tax quick chart (November 2026). Treaty benefits require proof of tax residence and are subject to anti-abuse rules.

Frequently asked questions

How long does it take to register a company in Cabo Verde?

Typical registration time in Cabo Verde: often within 1 day (Empresa no Dia) (as of November 2026), once all documents are ready. Opening a bank account and tax registrations can take longer.

What is the minimum share capital for a company in Cabo Verde?

Minimum share capital in Cabo Verde: no meaningful minimum (as of November 2026).

What is the corporate tax rate in Cabo Verde in 2026?

The corporate tax rate in Cabo Verde in 2026 is 20.4% including surcharge. See the Taxation section for reduced rates and other taxes.

Can a foreigner own 100% of a company in Cabo Verde?

Yes, for most activities, though some sectors restrict foreign ownership or require approval. Local director rule in Cabo Verde: not required.

What withholding tax applies to dividends paid from Cabo Verde?

Cabo Verde charges no withholding tax on dividends paid to non-resident companies under domestic law. See the Double tax treaties section.

Official registries and resources

The official websites of the Commercial Registry (Empresa no Dia, Casa do Cidadão) and the National Directorate of State Revenue have not yet been verified by our editors, so they are not linked here. Use the names above to find them, and beware of unofficial look-alike sites.

Figures as of November 2026. Rates, thresholds and procedures change; confirm with the official registry, the tax authority or a local adviser before filing.

See also

- Comparison of company formation by country
- Company formation in South Africa
- Company formation in Mauritius
- Company formation in Angola
- Company formation in Botswana
- All countries

References

Entries marked **Official** are the registry, government and tax authority sources for this country; footnote numbers in the infobox point to them.

1. Cabo Verde: Corporate – Taxes on corporate income (reviewed 29 May 2026) . PwC Worldwide Tax Summaries. Accessed November 2026.
2. Quick charts: Corporate income tax (CIT) rates . PwC Worldwide Tax Summaries. Accessed November 2026.
3. Quick charts: Value-added tax (VAT) rates . PwC Worldwide Tax Summaries. Accessed November 2026.
4. Quick charts: Withholding tax (WHT) rates . PwC Worldwide Tax Summaries. Accessed November 2026.
5. Cabo Verde: Corporate – Withholding taxes . PwC Worldwide Tax Summaries. Accessed November 2026.

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