

23 februari 2026, 25°



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www.youtube.com/watch?v=TVtrTOeEcc&feature=youtu.be

B-Bop

Our son Bob has embarked on a new career. After many years working as a project manager for others, he is now the project manager of his own company. He has turned his passion – music – into his profession and has ventured out as a DJ. His first performances (at ADE, on the old Veronica ship and at a beach restaurant) were successful, which bodes well for the future. Events, festivals, weddings and parties: you can book B-Bop for a fantastic experience.



Good luck, Bob! I'm proud of you.
www.b-bop.nl

Painting weeks 2026

From april 8th till april 15th and
from september 30th till
october 7th



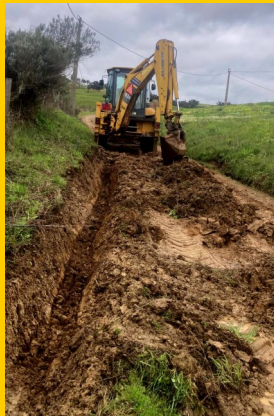
CALM AFTER THE STORM

Finally, we are having Portuguese weather again. After two months of severe weather - continuous rain (we had nearly half a metre of it here) and successive storms - the sun has appeared and temperatures have assumed quite agreeable levels.

You will undoubtedly have seen or read about how Portugal has been flooded. The centre and north have been particularly badly affected. Houses have been washed away, roads have collapsed, hillsides have given way, land has shifted. Eighteen people have lost their lives. The total damage is estimated at around four billion euros.

We have survived Ingrid, Joseph, Kristin, Leonardo, Marta, and Nils without too much damage. I must say that, during the final week, we couldn't reach the tarmac road. Even in a four-wheel drive, you might get stuck in the mud.

Mr Gato has done a sterling job. It took several days' work and a few lorry-loads of debris, but now the road is passable again. Our guests can get about once more. The swallows have returned and the mimosa is in bloom. Back to normal.



ELEPHANT SANCTUARY

The storms and heavy rainfall have also caused delays in the construction of Europe's first elephant sanctuary for former circus and zoo elephants.

Near Vila Viçosa and Alandril, east of Evora, the non-profit organisation Pangea has purchased 400 hectares of land. Ultimately, the sanctuary is planned to cover 1,000 hectares, sufficient space for around thirty elephants. The organisation is committed to giving elephants that have spent many years (often alone) in captivity a new future in a safe and peaceful environment. They will have the space to do everything they would do in the wild: roam, forage, take dust baths and bathe in water - all as a herd, together.



The parcel of land that has been acquired will be fenced, and stables with indoor enclosures will be built for any necessary care and treatment, as well as shelter in really bad weather. The first elephant will arrive from Belgium:

Kariba, an African elephant. Born in 1985 and taken as an orphaned calf to a zoo in Germany after her family was slaughtered for their ivory tusks. After doing time in several European zoos, she ended up in Belgium in 2012. Since 2022 she has been alone there, following the death of her companion Jenny. Obviously, Pangea has a website, and you can also subscribe to their newsletter - a nice way to stay informed on developments.
<https://www.pangeatrust.org/pt/>

THE ULTIMATE RELAXATION

To enhance the holiday feeling on your own mountain, we have recently started offering the services of a masseuse and a pedicurist. What could be more luxurious than a wonderful massage on your own terrace, or a relaxing foot treatment?

Arina provides body and energy work; Lindy takes care of your feet - whether they are painful or not. Both are highly qualified and guarantee a professional treatment.



To boost your physical wellbeing even further, we will soon also begin offering Tai Chi classes. By the swimming pool. It really doesn't get much better than that.

A NEW PRESIDENT

Portugal has a new president, the socialist António José Seguro. After ten years in office, the previous president, the centre-right Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, had to step down. It took two rounds of voting before Seguro emerged as the clear winner. He defeated the far-right candidate André Ventura by a two-thirds majority. Even though the right is gaining ground in Portugal as well, Ventura's plans went too far for most Portuguese voters. Following an unprecedentedly huge turnout, they chose a left-wing president - one of the few in Europe, now. Hats off to the Portuguese people!



Nel