

Beira Network is a non-profit business network that connects local and international entrepreneurs in the Beira region of inland Portugal.

Beira Network is a non-profit business network dedicated to fostering meaningful connections and development in the rural regions of Portugal. It was founded in 2024 by engineer and business leader Arnold ter Horst, entrepreneur Luís Filipe Freire and Leonardo Hofman, who is active in technology, real estate and the arts.

The network brings together local and international businesses, professionals and communities to unlock the potential of an often overlooked region: attracting investment, exporting local products and creating lasting partnerships. Its informal gatherings, held at landmark venues in Vila Pouca da Beira, Oliveira do Hospital, combine networking with regional wine, food, live music and culture.

Since its first edition in October 2024 the network has connected entrepreneurs from IT, real estate, architecture, tourism, hospitality, agro-industry and the social sector. Beira Network is a member of the Dutch Portuguese Chamber of Commerce (CCPH).

Editions

1st Edition — 20 October 2024

Flag Hotel Convento do Desagravo, Vila Pouca da Beira. Launch of the network, attended by the mayor of Oliveira do Hospital, José Francisco Rolo.

2nd Edition — 4 July 2025

Flag Hotel Convento do Desagravo, Vila Pouca da Beira. Dozens of participants from many sectors, a Quinta do Pé Torto wine tasting and the Rui Monteiro Quartet.

3rd Edition — 30 October 2026

Casa Gerrit Komrij, Vila Pouca da Beira. With the Fundação Gerrit Komrij: an art exhibition, live music, poetry and the bilingual edition of Lucebert's Apocrief/Apócrifo.

Name	Beira Network
Type	Non-profit business network
Founded	2024
Founders	Luís Filipe Freire, Arnold ter Horst, Leonardo Hofman
Base	Vila Pouca da Beira, Oliveira do Hospital (Coimbra district), Portugal
Region	The Beira region, inland Portugal
Format	Informal networking evenings with regional wine, food, music and culture
Membership	Dutch Portuguese Chamber of Commerce (CCPH)
Languages	Portuguese, English, Dutch, French, Hebrew
Tagline	Unite. Innovate. Thrive.
Website	beiranetwork.pt
Press contact	info@beiranetwork.pt

Founders



Arnold ter Horst

Seasoned engineer and business leader, member of the Dutch Portuguese Chamber of Commerce, with 40 years of experience in Portuguese culture and commerce.



Luís Filipe Freire

Executive MBA from London Business School, innovating in healthcare, education and agribusiness with international experience.



Leonardo Hofman

Active in technology, real estate and the arts, with a passion for cultural impact.