

# InterNations Opens Four New Expat Communities in Spain

The world's largest expat community expands its presence to support the ever-growing number of expats moving to Spain for a better quality of life.

Munich, 14 June 2018 — Expats keep moving to Spain, as a recently published <u>study</u> by market research company Finaccord shows. According to their research, the number of expatriates in the country is steadily growing and is predicted to exceed 1.5 million in the near future. *"These results are no surprise for us, as we have been observing this trend in our Spanish Communities for years,"* says Malte Zeeck, Founder and Co-CEO of InterNations, the largest expat community worldwide. *"In fact, 26 percent of respondents living in the country moved for a better quality of life, compared to only 8 percent of expats doing the same on a global level."* 

## 420 InterNations Communities in 170 Countries and Territories



With more than 121,000 InterNations members as of June 2018, the member base in Spain has grown by about 82 percent since 2015. *"In order to satisfy this high demand, we opened new communities in Pamplona, Bilbao, Gran Canaria, and Tenerife,"* says Malte Zeeck, *"and within just a couple of weeks up to 2,800 members joined per new community."* The network is now present in 14 cities and islands across Spain. In addition to its online services, InterNations Communities allow members to personally meet other expats and global minds. During after-work events and activities based on shared interests, they make friends, find business contacts, and build the personal network that many expats are missing.

### Spain among the Top 3 Expat Destinations for a Better Quality of Life

With an outstanding quality of life, weather, and leisure activities, <u>Spain ranks among the top 10</u> <u>destinations for expats</u> as well as the <u>top 3 for a better quality of life</u> in the latest <u>Expat Insider survey</u>, conducted by InterNations. In fact, when asked about their most important reason for moving abroad, close to one in five expats (19%) moved there in search for a better quality of life in 2014 and an even larger share in 2017 (26%). This is more than three times the global average of expats moving abroad



for that reason (8%). As reflected by a 90 percent satisfaction rate with their life abroad, expats do not seem to be disappointed with their choice of destination. Expats in Spain particularly enjoy the warm weather (96%) and the "the sense of freedom and happiness", as described by a British expat. Moreover, with a satisfactory work-life balance (66% positive ratings), it seems like expats have enough time to enjoy the sunny weather and make most of the wide range of leisure activities (89% positive ratings). Maybe this is the reason why almost half of expats in Spain (46%) can imagine staying in Spain forever, whereas globally only 29 percent feel the same way about their new home.

#### Interested in Talking to Expats in Your City?

Cost of Living

Visit an InterNations Official Event and personally meet expats from all over the world who will share their stories with you.

#### Find out here when and where the next official event in your community will take place.

To receive a personal press invitation including free access to the event and interview opportunities with InterNations members, please contact press@internations.org or +49 (0)89 4613324-79 and let us know which event you would like to attend.

#### Read More about the InterNations Communities



#### **Introducing Our Newest Communities**

From Changchun in China to Tangier in Morocco, InterNations is launching 30 new communities across the globe. Just as our existing communities, our new communities will offer our members the chance to meet fellow expats and global minds, take part in activities and events, as well as share information, tips, and all things expat on our local forums.



### Going the Extra Mile: How InterNations Groups Make New Memories **beyond Their Communities**

Not only are InterNations members making friends with other expats and global minds in their community, but we are also seeing people using our network to cross borders and reach out to members in other communities across the globe.



#### Three Million Members — Nobody Stands Alone!

With three million members around the globe, InterNations has grown into a colorful and vibrant community, both online and offline. Our groups help our members to come together to share their hobbies and interests with others in their InterNations Community.

**Overall Rank** 10 14 A 4 Quality of Life 3 A 1 4 Ease of Settling In 14 **v** 5 9 Working Abroad 52 A 2 54 Family Life (out of 45 countries) 26 8 ▲ 18 Personal Finance 41 46 A 5 7 12 4 5

2017\*

2016\*\*

90% generally satisfied

Life in Spain



#### About the InterNations Expat Insider 2017 Survey

For its annual, *Expat Insider* survey, InterNations asked about 13,000 expatriates representing 166 nationalities and living in 188 countries or territories to provide information on various aspects of expat life, as well as their gender, age, and nationality. Participants were asked to rate 43 different aspects of life abroad on a scale of one to seven. The rating process emphasized the respondents' personal satisfaction with these aspects and considered both emotional topics as well as more factual aspects with equal weight. The respondents' ratings of the individual factors were then bundled in various combinations for a total of 16 subcategories, and their mean values were used to draw up six topical indices: Quality of Life, Ease of Settling In, Working Abroad, Family Life, Personal Finance, and Cost of Living Index. Except for the latter, all indices were further averaged in order to rank 65 expatriate destinations around the world. In 2017 the top 10 were Bahrain, Costa Rica, Mexico, Taiwan, Portugal, New Zealand, Malta, Colombia, Singapore, and Spain.

For a country to be featured in the indices and consequently in the overall ranking, a sample size of at least 75 survey participants per country was necessary. The only exception to this is the Family Life Index, where a sample size of more than 40 respondents raising children abroad was required. In 2017, 65 and 45 countries respectively met these requirements. However, in most countries the sample size exceeded 100 participants.

#### **About InterNations**

With 3.1 million members in 420 cities around the world, InterNations (<u>http://www.internations.org/</u>) is the largest global community and information site for people who live and work abroad. InterNations offers global and local networking both online and face-to-face. At around 6,000 monthly events and activities, expatriates have the opportunity to meet other global minds. Online services include country and city guides created by a team of professional writers, guest contributions about life abroad, and discussion forums to help members with topics such as the local job or housing search. InterNations membership is by approval only to ensure we remain a community of trust.

The InterNations app is available for Android and iOS and can be downloaded for free on <u>Google Play</u> and the <u>App Store</u>.

Find more information about InterNations on our <u>press pages</u>, <u>company website</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, or in our <u>Expat Magazine</u>.

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