

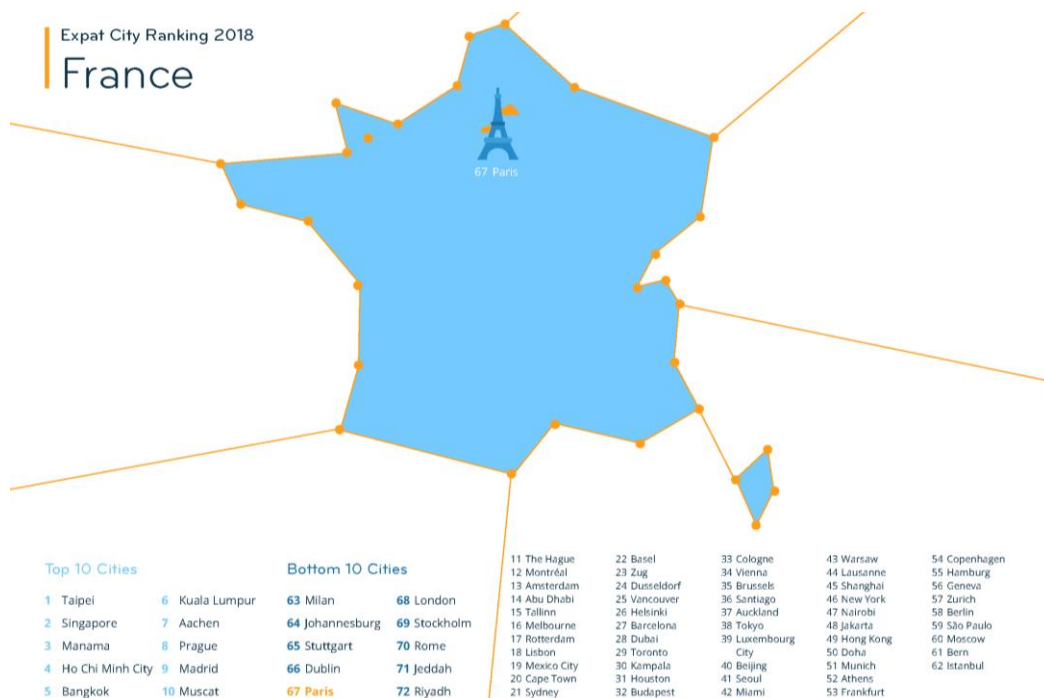
Expatriate City Ranking 2018 Reveals: Paris Is among the 10 Least Popular Cities for Expats in the World

Great local leisure options and the availability of healthcare do not make up for the high cost of living and housing in Paris.

- Coming in 67th place out of 72 cities worldwide, Paris ranks among the worst destinations in the Expat City Ranking 2018 by InterNations. The top 10 cities for expats are Taipei, Singapore, Manama, Ho Chi Minh City, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Aachen, Prague, Madrid, and Muscat.
- Paris still ranks in the bottom 10 for finance & housing, but it has improved when it comes to the quality of urban living and urban work life.
- Just about three out of eight expats in Paris (38%) say their disposable household income is more than enough to cover their daily expenses (vs. 51% globally).

Munich, 20 November 2018 — Coming in 67th place out of 72 cities worldwide in the Expat City Ranking 2018, Paris ranks among the ten worst cities for expats for the second year in a row. Only London, Stockholm, Rome, Jeddah, and Riyadh are even less popular this year. Respondents in Paris are not satisfied with their financial situation, mainly due to the high local cost of living and the lack of affordable housing. On the bright side, expats appreciate the local leisure options and are more satisfied with the urban work life in Paris than last year.

The so-far unpublished Expat City Ranking 2018 is based on this year's [Expatriate Insider survey](#), conducted by [InterNations](#), the largest expat community worldwide. With more than 18,000 respondents living and working abroad, it is one of the most extensive expat studies in the world. Apart from offering an in-depth analysis of expat life in 72 cities, the survey ranks them by a variety of factors such as quality of urban living, getting settled, urban work life, as well as finance & housing. The top 10 cities for expats in 2018 are Taipei, Singapore, Manama, Ho Chi Minh City, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Aachen, Prague, Madrid, and Muscat.



Expats in Paris Find It Hard to Get Settled or Save Money

Expats in Paris keep struggling with their financial situation. The city ranks at the bottom of the list for finance & housing (68th), with only Munich (69th), Vancouver (70th), Stockholm (71st), and Dublin (72nd) being rated worse. Exactly two-thirds of expats (66%) find it difficult to find housing in Paris (vs. 30% globally), and another 72 percent state that housing is not affordable (vs. 44% globally). *"It is expensive and difficult to be accepted for a lease to rent an apartment"*, summarizes a US American expat. Moreover, more than two-thirds of respondents (68%) rate the local cost of living negatively: it is no surprise, then, that 36 percent of expats in Paris are not satisfied with their financial situation, which is nearly twice the share of expats across France saying the same (19%). Lastly, just 38 percent of expats in Paris state that their disposable household income is *more* than enough to cover their daily expenses (vs. 51% globally).

Expats do not only struggle financially, but also personally, ranking Paris a low 62nd place in terms of getting settled. In fact, close to half the expats (46%) find the local residents generally unfriendly towards expats (vs. 21% globally) — Riyadh is the only city worldwide that is rated worse for this factor. A Swiss expat thinks that one of the worst things about life in the city is the *"Parisian attitude"*. However, it seems that things are slowly getting better in the French capital: in 2018, 58 percent of expats state they feel at home in Paris, six percentage points more than in 2017 (52%), and almost three in five (59%) are happy with their social life in 2018 (vs. 48% in 2017).

Local Leisure Options and Career Opportunities Make Life in Paris Better

More than six out of seven expats (87%) are satisfied with the local leisure options in Paris, which is 13 percentage points more than the global average (74%). The city offers *"lots of options for entertainment and socializing"*, as an Italian expat confirms. In fact, coming in 10th place out of 72 cities, Paris is among the best cities in the world for leisure options. The same is true for the availability and affordability of healthcare (both ranking 10th out of 72), with 78 percent of expats finding medical care affordable (vs. 59% globally) and 84 percent being happy with its availability (vs. 75% globally). However, Paris only ranks 39th overall for the local quality of urban living, which is mainly due to the respondents' low satisfaction with personal safety (65th) and the local weather (52nd). Nearly two in five (39%) rate the latter negatively (vs. 27% globally), and 17 percent worry about their personal safety (vs. 9% globally).

Despite a below-average 41st rank (out of 72) for urban work life in 2018, Paris has improved somewhat since last year. While only 34 percent rated the state of the local economy positively in 2017 (vs. 60% worldwide), 65 percent do so in 2018, which is now close to the global average (66%). The local career opportunities seem to have improved as well: just 25 percent of expats in Paris are not satisfied with their career options in 2018, compared to 30 percent last year.

The Best and Worst Cities for Expats

Taipei (1st), Singapore (2nd), and Manama (3rd) top the list of the Expat City Ranking 2018. This is largely due to how easy expats find it to settle in to life in these cities. This might be related to the friendliness of the local population and the personal safety in the cities. In fact, Taipei is rated the world's friendliest city by expats, with 94 percent finding the local residents friendly. *"People here are so friendly and always want to help,"* shares an expat from the Netherlands. The majority of expats in Manama (87%) also agrees that there is a friendly attitude toward foreign residents in the city, compared to 62 percent globally. Personal safety is one of the biggest perks of expat life in Singapore: 88 percent state to feel completely safe in the city (vs. 48% globally). *"It is easy for everyone to enjoy life here without worrying about safety,"* shares an expat from India.

On the other hand, Riyadh (72nd), Jeddah (71st), and Rome (70th) rank at the bottom of the list. While all three cities receive low ratings across the board, they seem to be particularly disappointing in terms of urban work life: close to three in five expats in Rome (58%) are dissatisfied with the local career opportunities (vs. 27% globally). An Albanian expat states that “*career opportunities are non-existent*”. Meanwhile, Jeddah and Riyadh are rated the two worst cities in the world for work-life balance: 34 and 38 percent, respectively, are unsatisfied with this factor (vs. 20% globally).

Read More about the Best and Worst Cities for Expats



Best & Worst
Cities for Expats



Quality of Urban
Living Index



Getting Settled
Index



Urban Work Life
Index



Finance &
Housing Index

About the Expat City Ranking 2018

For its annual [Expat Insider survey](#), InterNations asked more than 18,000 expatriates representing 178 nationalities and living in 187 countries or territories to provide information on various aspects of expat life, as well as their gender, age, and nationality. In 2018, the fifth year the survey was conducted, respondents were also invited to share their opinions on the city they are currently living in.

Participants were asked to rate more than 25 different aspects of urban 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 13 subcategories, and their mean values were used to draw up four topical indices: Quality of Urban Living, Getting Settled, Urban Work Life, and Finance & Housing. These were further averaged in order to rank 72 cities worldwide. In 2018, the top 10 cities for expats are Taipei, Singapore, Manama, Ho Chi Minh City, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Aachen, Prague, Madrid, and Muscat.

In total, the responses used for the city ranking represent 11,966 expats living in 55 countries. For a city to be featured in the Expat City Ranking 2018, a sample size of at least 45 survey participants per city was required; 72 cities in 47 different countries made this threshold in 2018.

About InterNations

With 3.3 million members in 420 cities around the world, InterNations (www.internations.org) 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 official events and activities per month, 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 [Google Play](#) and the [App Store](#).

Find more information about InterNations on our [press pages](#), [company website](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), or in our [Expatriate Magazine](#).

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