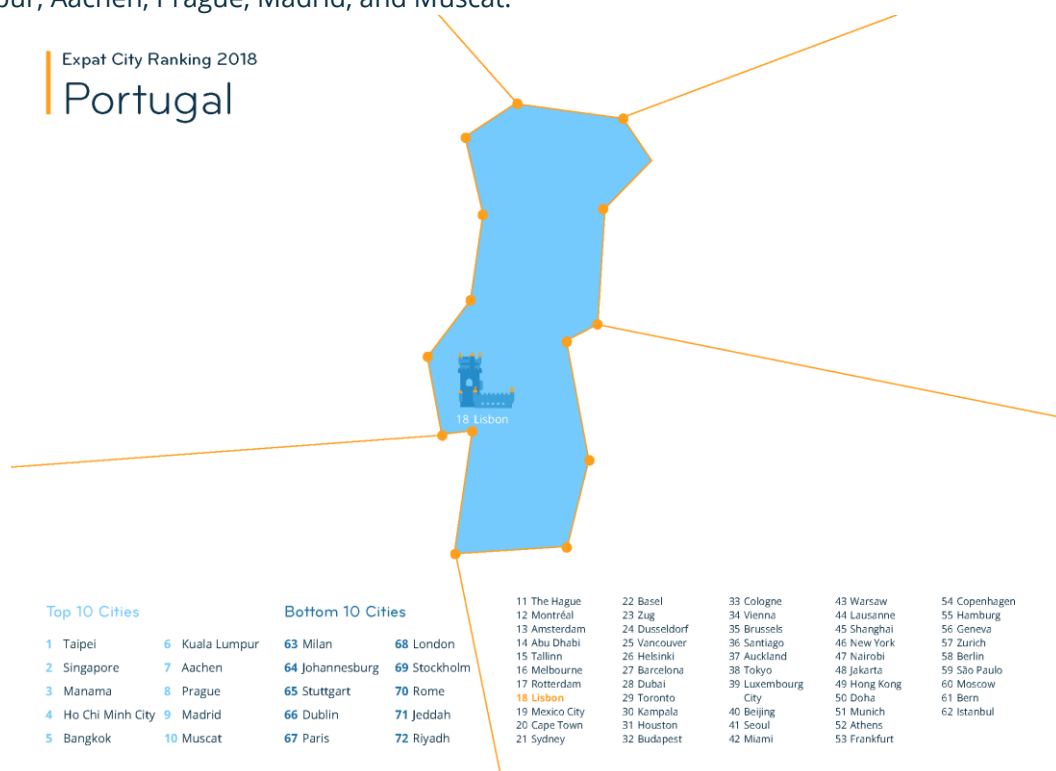


Expatriate City Ranking 2018: Welcoming Locals Make Lisbon a Great City for Expats

Expats feel welcome in Lisbon but are disappointed by their working life in the Portuguese capital.

- Lisbon comes in a good 18th place out of 72 destinations worldwide in the Expatriate 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.
- Expats find it especially easy to get settled in Lisbon — the city is only beaten by Manama, Kampala, Taipei, Kuala Lumpur, and Nairobi.
- More than four in five expats (85%) rate the general friendliness of local residents in Lisbon positively (vs. 62% globally).
- Almost three in ten expats in Lisbon (29%) are dissatisfied with their job in general, compared to 18 percent globally.

Munich, 20 November 2018 — Coming in a good 18th place out of 72 cities in the Expatriate City Ranking 2018 by InterNations, Lisbon impresses expats with its welcoming local population and the low cost of living. However, the Portuguese capital fails to provide them with a satisfactory working life, as the so-far unpublished Expatriate City Ranking 2018 reveals. It 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.



Friendly Locals Make Expats Feel at Home in Lisbon

Lisbon makes it into the top 10 cities for settling in (6th out of 72), only beaten by Manama, Kampala, Taipei, Kuala Lumpur, and Nairobi. This might be due to the fact that 85 percent of expats find the residents of Lisbon generally friendly, and another 83 percent state that the local population is also nice towards foreign residents in particular (vs. 62% globally for both factors). In fact, *“the friendly people”* are one of the best things about life in Lisbon, an expat from Finland explains. This attitude might help expats with making new friends: 61 percent consider this to be easy, which is 15 percentage points more than the global average (46%). What is more, 78 percent of expats also say it is easy to adapt to the local culture in Lisbon (vs. 61% globally). This may account for the 74 percent of expats who feel at home in the Portuguese capital, compared to only 62 percent of expats worldwide who feel that same about their city of residence.

However, it is not just the warm welcome that makes expats happy: Lisbon comes in 2nd place out of 72 cities worldwide for its climate & weather, ranking only lower than Cape Town. Nearly every expat in the city (97%) rates this factor positively, which is 42 percentage points more than the global average (55%). Additionally, more than two-thirds (67%) are satisfied with the cost of living in Lisbon, compared to a global average of 44 percent.

Career Opportunities in Lisbon among Worst in the World

In terms of working abroad Lisbon performs considerably worse, ranking in the bottom 10 for jobs & career (66th out of 72). In fact, almost three in ten expats (29%) are not satisfied with their job, which is eleven percentage points more than the global average (18%). To make matters worse, 41 percent of expats are also unhappy with their local career opportunities, ranking the city 68th worldwide. Only the career opportunities in Bern (69th), Jeddah (70th), Rome (71st), and Athens (72nd) are perceived to be worse. A Brazilian expat thinks that *“the job market is terrible”* in Lisbon. Concerns with working life persist when it comes to the low satisfaction with working hours (66th). Over one in four expats in Lisbon (27%) are dissatisfied with their working hours (vs. 19% globally). What is more, the city also ranks poorly for personal finance (52nd): one-third of expats in Lisbon (33%) are unhappy with their financial situation, which is eight percentage points more than the global average (25%).

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 [Expat Magazine](#).

Press Contact

Vera Grossmann
Media Spokesperson

InterNations GmbH
Schwanthalerstrasse 39
80336 Munich, Germany

Tel: +49 (0)89 461 3324 79
Fax: +49 (0)89 461 3324 99
Email: press@internations.org

Homepage: <http://www.internations.org/press>