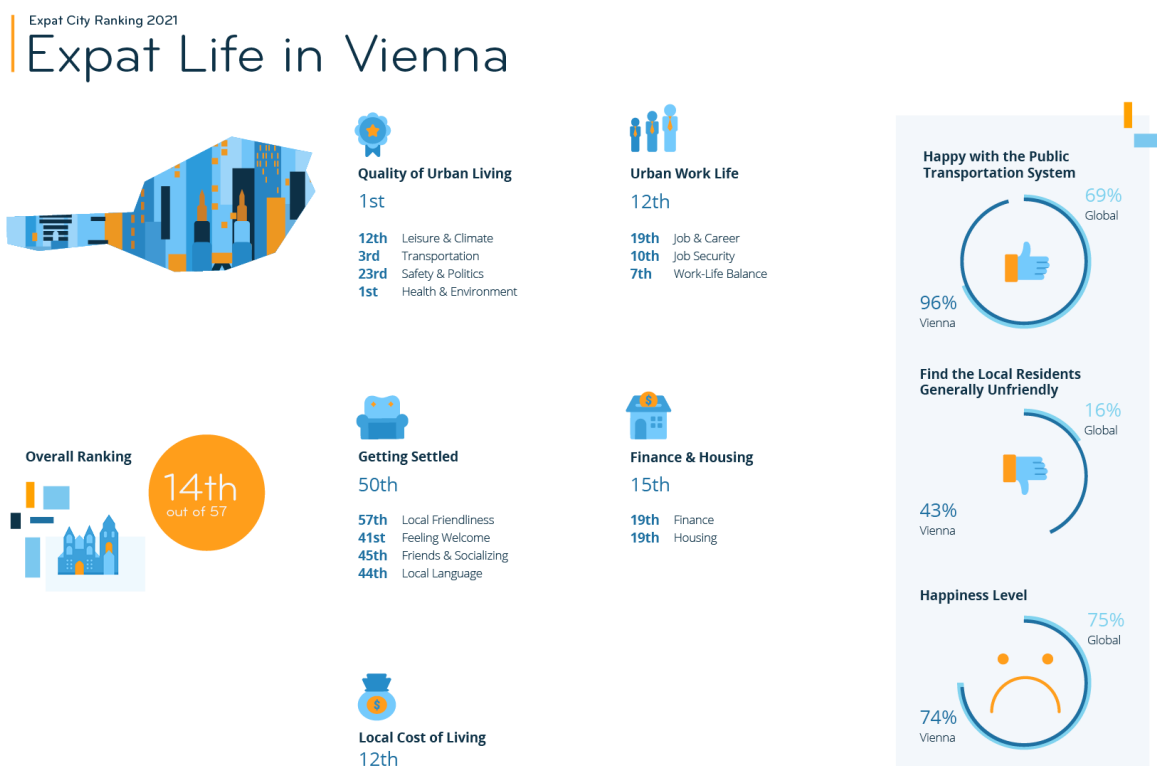


Vienna: The World's Best Quality of Life for Expats

The Expat City Ranking 2021 reveals the best and worst cities for expats around the world, including Vienna.

- Out of 57 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2021, Vienna ranks 14th.
- Kuala Lumpur (1st), Málaga, Dubai, Sydney, Singapore, Ho Chi Minh City, Prague, Mexico City, Basel, and Madrid (10th) are the top 10 cities for expats to live in 2021.
- On the other hand, expats consider Rome (57th), Milan, Johannesburg, Istanbul, Tokyo, Cairo, Paris, Maastricht, Moscow, and New York (48th) the world's worst cities to live in.

Munich, 1 December 2021 — Vienna ranks 14th out of 57 in the Expat City Ranking 2021 by [InterNations](https://www.internations.org/), the world's largest expat community with over 4 million members. It is voted the city with the best quality of life for expats, and expats are also happy with their working life, the local cost of living, as well as finances and housing. However, they struggle to get settled in Vienna, ranking it as one of the worst destinations worldwide for this aspect of life abroad.



The [Expat City Ranking](https://www.internations.org/) is based on the annual *Expat Insider* survey by InterNations, which is one of the most extensive surveys about living and working abroad, with 12,420 respondents in 2021. This year, 57 cities around the globe are analyzed in the survey, which offers in-depth information about five areas of expat life: Quality of Urban Living, Getting Settled, Urban Work Life, Finance & Housing, and Local Cost of Living. Together, the first four topics make up the Expat City Ranking, which reveals the best and worst cities for expats to live in.

What Expats Think about Life in Vienna

Ranking 14th out of 57 in the Expat City Ranking 2021, Vienna is the only German-speaking city to make it into the global top 15. It is rated best in the **Quality of Urban Living Index**, with top results in the Transportation (3rd) and Health & Environment (1st) Subcategories. More than nine in ten expats (92%) are happy with the availability of healthcare (vs. 76% globally), and 88% find it affordable (vs. 61% globally). They are also satisfied with the quality of medical care (92% vs. 71% globally) and the urban environment (94% vs. 71% globally).

The city also does well in the **Urban Work Life Index** (12th), with expats there particularly happy with their work-life balance (74% vs. 66% globally) and working hours (76% vs. 66% globally). *"I like that I have a good job with a great work-life balance and that it is fairly paid,"* states a female expat from Russia. In fact, 69% of expats are happy with their financial situation (vs. 64% globally), and 84% say that their disposable household income is enough or more than enough to cover all expenses (vs. 77% globally). While slightly more than half (51%) also find housing affordable (vs. 42% globally), it can be a little hard to find. Just 54% of expats say it is easy (vs. 60% globally). Overall, Vienna ranks 15th in the **Finance & Housing Index** and even better in the **Local Cost of Living Index** (12th).

The **Getting Settled Index** (50th) is the city's only sore point, and Vienna even comes last in the Local Friendliness Subcategory (57th). Expats describe the locals as generally unfriendly (43% vs. 16% globally), as well as unfriendly towards foreign residents (39% vs. 18% globally). This might be a reason why they find it hard to get used to the local culture (28% vs. 18% globally) and struggle to make new friends (44% vs. 32% globally).

About the Expat City Ranking 2021

The [Expat City Ranking](#) is based on the annual *Expat Insider* survey by InterNations. For the survey, InterNations asked 12,420 expats representing 174 nationalities and living in 186 countries or territories to provide information on various aspects of expat life, as well as their gender, age, and nationality. In addition to their satisfaction with life in their host country, 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, considering both emotional topics and 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 all cities worldwide that had the required number of participants for the minimum sample size. (The survey also includes a Local Cost of Living Index, which does, however, not factor into the overall ranking to avoid overrepresenting financial aspects.) In 2021, the top 10 cities for expats are Kuala Lumpur (1st), Málaga, Dubai, Sydney, Singapore, Ho Chi Minh City, Prague, Mexico City, Basel, and Madrid (10th).

For a city to be featured in the Expat City Ranking 2021, a sample size of at least 50 survey participants per city was required. In total, 57 cities met this requirement.

About InterNations

With more than 4 million members in 420 cities around the world, [InterNations](#) is the largest global community and a source of information for people who live and work abroad. InterNations offers global and local networking and socializing, both online and face to face. At around 6,000 events and activities per month, expatriates have the opportunity to meet other global minds. Online services include discussion forums and helpful articles with personal expat experiences, tips, and information about life abroad. Membership is by approval only to ensure we remain a community of trust. InterNations is part of the NEW WORK SE, a group of brands that offer products and services for a better working life.

Find more information about InterNations on our [press page](#), [in our company blog](#), or in our [magazine](#).

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