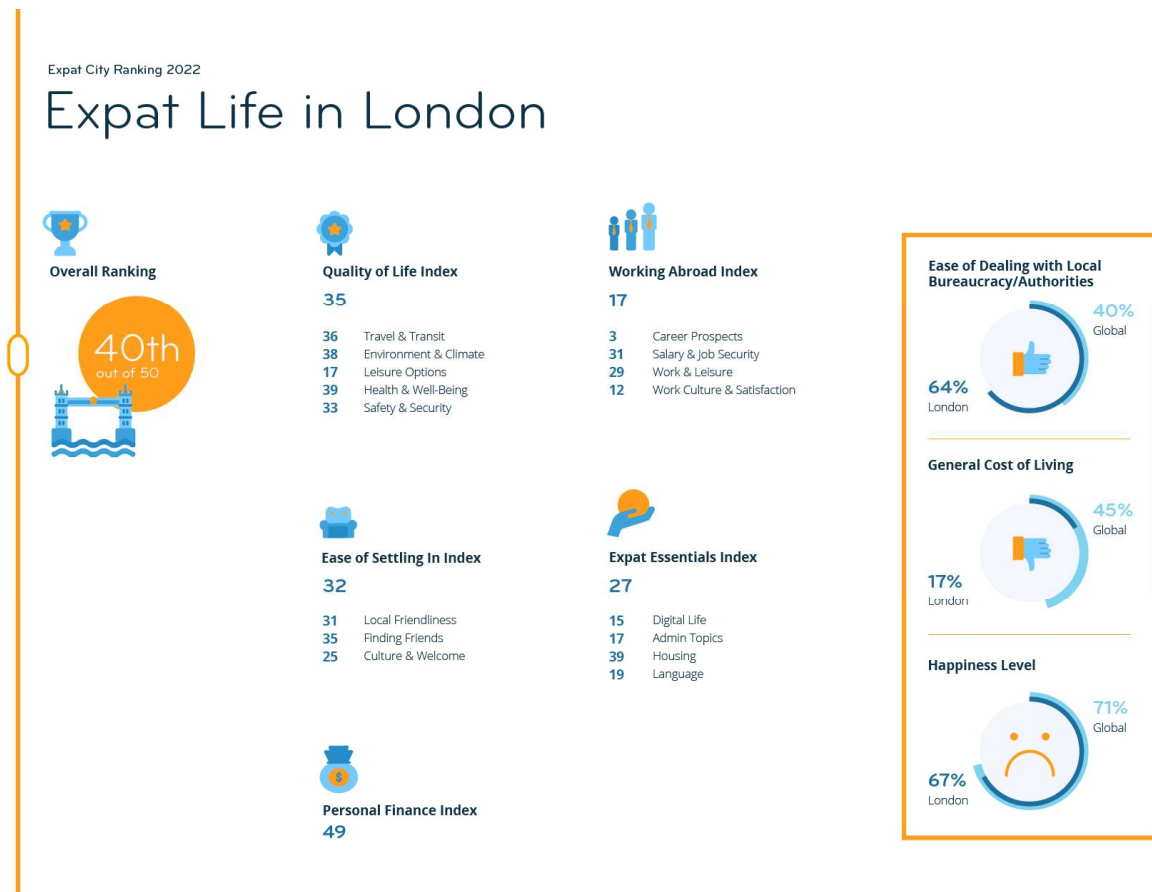


London Offers Expats Great Opportunities to Boost Their Career, but the Price Might Be Literally Too High

The Expat City Ranking 2022 reveals the best and worst cities for expats around the world, including London.

- London ranks 40th out of 50 cities in the Expat City Ranking 2022, performing best for working abroad and worst for personal finance.
- In 2022, Valencia (1st), Dubai, Mexico City, Lisbon, Madrid, Bangkok, Basel, Melbourne, Abu Dhabi, and Singapore (10th) are the top 10 cities for expats to live in.
- On the other hand, expats consider Johannesburg (50th), Frankfurt, Paris, Istanbul, Hong Kong, Hamburg, Milan, Vancouver, Tokyo, and Rome (41st) the world's worst cities to live in.

Munich, 29 November 2022 — London ranks 40th out of 50 in the Expat City Ranking 2022 by [InterNations](https://www.internations.org/), the world's largest expat community with over 4.5 million members. The UK capital performs best in the Working Abroad Index (17th), thanks to excellent career prospects for expats. However, its results in the Expat Essentials (27th) and Ease of Settling In (32nd) Indices are just average at best. But expats struggle most with the financial aspect of living in London. The city ends up in 49th place in the Personal Finance Index. It does not do all that well for the local Quality of Life (35th) either.



The [Expat City Ranking](#) is based on the annual *Expat Insider* survey by InterNations. It is one of the most extensive surveys about living and working abroad, with 11,970 respondents in 2022. A total of 50 cities around the globe are featured this year, offering in-depth information about five areas of expat life: Quality of Life, Ease of Settling In, Working Abroad, Personal Finance, and the new Expat Essentials Index, which covers digital life, admin topics, housing, and language.

40 | London: Good for Your Career Abroad but Not Your Budget

Coming 40th out of 50 in the Expat City Ranking 2022, London narrowly escapes the bottom 10. On the plus side, it ranks 17th in the **Working Abroad Index** and is even among the top 3 for Career Prospects (3rd): 73% of expats in London rate their career opportunities positively (vs. 58% globally), while 78% have improved their career prospects by moving there (vs. 60% globally). *"Here, I have better opportunities to achieve my goals,"* says a Kenyan expat. However, though most respondents view their jobs as secure (66% happy vs. 59% globally), only 56% feel paid fairly (vs. 62% globally).

Monetary concerns are generally a big issue, with London coming second to last in the **Personal Finance Index** (49th). Only Vancouver (50th) does worse. Seven out of ten expats in London (70%) consider the cost of living too high, twice the global average (35%), and 38% say their disposable income is not enough for a comfortable life (vs. 28% globally).

The financial aspect also affects London's results in the Housing Subcategory (39th) of the **Expat Essentials Index** (27th): 80% consider housing in London to be unaffordable (vs. 43% globally). However, the city does well for Digital Life (15th) and Admin Topics (17th). For example, 80% are satisfied with the availability of government services online (vs. 61% globally), and 64% consider it easy to deal with the local authorities (vs. 40% globally).

In the **Ease of Settling In Index** (32nd), London gets a slightly below-average result. On the one hand, it is not too hard for expats to get used to the local culture (21st). On the other hand, 30% are unhappy with their social life (vs. 26% globally). Lastly, London also gets sub-par results for many factors in the **Quality of Life Index** (35th). Those in the Leisure Options Subcategory (17th) are among the exceptions. However, 16% rate their personal safety negatively (vs. 9% globally), 34% describe public transportation as too expensive (vs. 15% globally), and 35% are unhappy with the air quality (vs. 19% globally). *"I do not like the pollution and certain restrictions to NHS services,"* says a German expat. In fact, London features among the bottom 10 for both the availability (45th) and the quality (44th) of healthcare.

You can find out more about the 50 cities featured in the Expat City Ranking in the full report as well as in the press release about the best and worst destinations worldwide (both available under "Downloads" in the email).

About the Expat City Ranking 2022

The [Expat City Ranking](#) is based on the annual *Expat Insider* survey by InterNations. For the survey, InterNations asked 11,970 expats representing 177 nationalities and living in 181 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 up to 56 different aspects of urban life abroad on a scale of one to seven. The rating process emphasized their personal satisfaction with these aspects, considering both emotional topics and more factual aspects with equal weight. The individual factors were then bundled in various combinations for a total of 16 subcategories, and their mean values were used to draw up five topical indices: Quality of Life, Ease of Settling In, Working Abroad, Personal Finance, and Expat Essentials. These were further averaged — together with the responses to the question “All things considered, how happy are you with your life abroad in general?” — to create the Expat City Ranking. In 2022, the top 10 cities for expats are Valencia (1st), Dubai, Mexico City, Lisbon, Madrid, Bangkok, Basel, Melbourne, Abu Dhabi, and Singapore (10th).

For a city to be featured in the Expat City Ranking 2022, a sample size of at least 50 survey participants per destination was required. In total, 50 cities met this requirement.

About InterNations

With more than 4.5 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](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#) for updates and data insights on expat life.

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