

LIVING IN SPAIN

For many people, living in Spain is a dream and a privilege. For those who have travelled a lot it is easy to see why Spain is one of the most popular countries to live or visit. Spain is the most popular holiday destination in Europe. The standard of living in Spain is very high, the weather in Spain is the best in Europe and the cost of living is cheaper.

COST OF LIVING IN SPAIN

Comparing the **cost of living in Spain** to other European countries is a difficult questions to answer. Prices can vary substantially depending on the area, generally the cost of living is higher in urban centres such as Madrid or Barcelona than in Valencia.

PERMITS AND TAXES IN SPAIN

Spain has a double taxation agreement with many countries. You are liable for income taxes when you reside 183 days per calendar year in Spain, or if you have your main business interest in Spain. In some cases paying for **Permits and Taxes in Spain** may be advantageous since there are deductions that may not apply in other countries.

OBTAINING A RESIDENCE PERMIT IN SPAIN

Obtaining a residence permit in Spain is necessary for anyone planning to live indefinitely, study, work in Spain, they must apply for a residence card within 15 days of arriving in Spain. Before arriving in Spain it is best to contact embassies and consulates in Spain or in your own country. If you are planning a short stay (on a short-term contract perhaps) then you will be issued with a temporary residence card for the period required. Children under 18 years of age can be included on the parents' residence card.

WORKING IN SPAIN

There are many jobs in Spain for foreigners, nevertheless, throughout the coastal areas most jobs are seasonal. **Working in Spain** depends to a large extent on what you can and are be able to do. Most of the qualifications obtained in the United Kingdom and Europe are recognized in Spain.

BANKING IN SPAIN

The Banking in Spain system has been relatively profitable by European standards, as operating income has been above the Euro Area average. Capital adequacy roughly equals the EU average, although Banco de Espana requires somewhat stricter capital standards than many EU countries.

SCHOOLS IN SPAIN

There are many very good international schools and colleges in Spain with tailored packages to suit your needs. All are bilingual in English and Spanish and many are co-educational. Choose an area from our selection of International Schools in Valencia to see more information. (**Link de los colegios**)

HEALTHCARE IN SPAIN

If you pay social security, healthcare in Spain is free or low cost, (families and retirees are also included). Like many countries however, the health service in Spain has a waiting lists to see specialists and for non-urgent operations.

Find out information about the E111 form for non residents and the E-121 form for permanent residents.

BUYING CARS IN SPAIN

In order to buy a Spanish registered car you need a residence card, a deed (escritura) or rental contract for a Spanish property, or a certificate of residence (certificado de empadronamiento) in Spain. E.P.S can help you in your purchase of a car as part of it's after sales service.

BRINGING PETS TO SPAIN.

Pets brought into Spain need an International Vaccination Health Certificate or Pet Passport showing they can be imported into Spain without a quarantine. The health certificate must be issued no more than 15 days prior to bringing your pet into the country.

TV IN SPAIN

Apart from the normal Terrestrial and national satellite services it is also possible to receive Sky services from Valencia provided you have a big enough dish. If you require more information on this service please contact us to discuss how E.P.S can help.

TELEPHONE IN SPAIN

The telephone service is controlled mainly by Telefónica which owns several other companies (including Terra and Teletel).

When you get your telephone installed expect a fee of about 150 Euros to be charged for this service.

INTERNET IN SPAIN

Dial up internet is available in Spain provided you have a telephone connection. You can either pay for a flat-rate service with the ISP (internet service provider) or alternatively request an ADSL or CABLE Modem service although the latter is less common. Lastly Iberdrola, the Electric company" are currently trialling an internet service via their electric lines.

UTILITIES IN SPAIN

E.P.S or your appointed solicitor will automatically take care of the change of names on all of your utility bills after buying a property.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN SPAIN

Public transport is generally very good in Spanish cities most of which have efficient bus and rail systems. Further information about trains, buses, taxis and the metro in Valencia can be found in the Getting here section.