



ULTIMATE GUIDE TO MOVING TO

# *Valencia*

**AN EXPAT GUIDE BY GLOBEXS**

VERSION 3.0



**ULTIMATE GUIDE TO MOVING TO**

***Valencia***



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## Introduction

I moved from **Belgium** to Valencia, Spain, 15 years ago, and it was life-changing. While you can't buy happiness, living in Spain comes pretty close. I was lucky to have arrived in **2005**, before the financial crisis, and found a good job in export sales due to my language skills

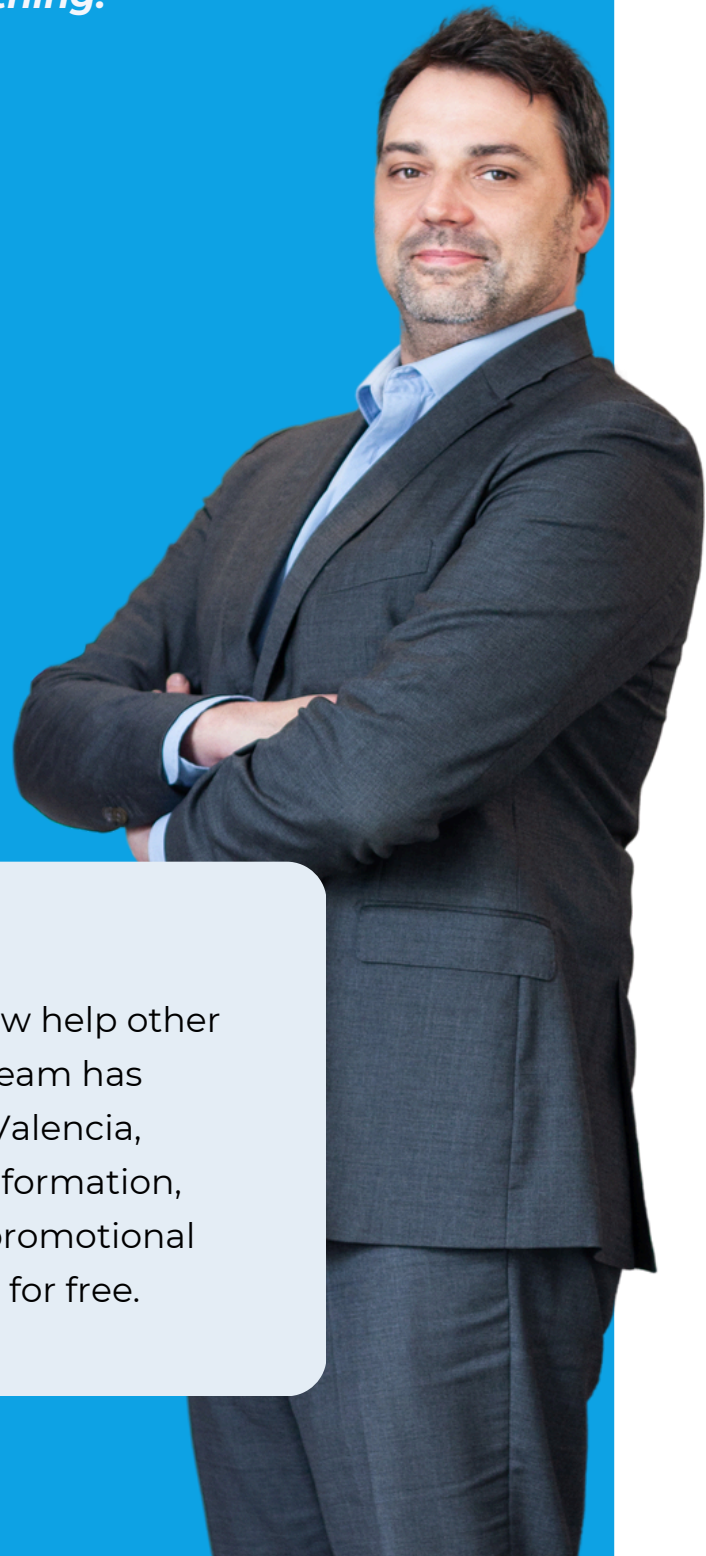
I was fortunate to end up in Valencia, one of the best places to live in Spain, known for its great weather, beaches, downtown areas, and job opportunities. I also met my wife, Tiscar Navarro, a successful immigration lawyer and manager at Globexs, which further validated my choice to live in Spain for life.

**Globexs is a Valencia-based** company that helps expats, digital nomads, and remote workers with relocation services, such as finding accommodation and navigating bureaucracy.

I'm happy to have moved to Spain and now help other **expats** through my role at **Globexs**. Our team has created the ultimate guide to moving to Valencia, offering an objective view with relevant information, without it turning into a tourist guide or promotional catalogue. This guide can be downloaded for free.

**WRITTEN BY OUR FOUNDER  
LODEWIJK CUYPERS**

*"You can't buy happiness, but you can go to Spain, and that's kind of the same thing."*



# *The preparation*

**THE CORRECT MINDSET.**

**CASE STUDY MILES JOHNSON**

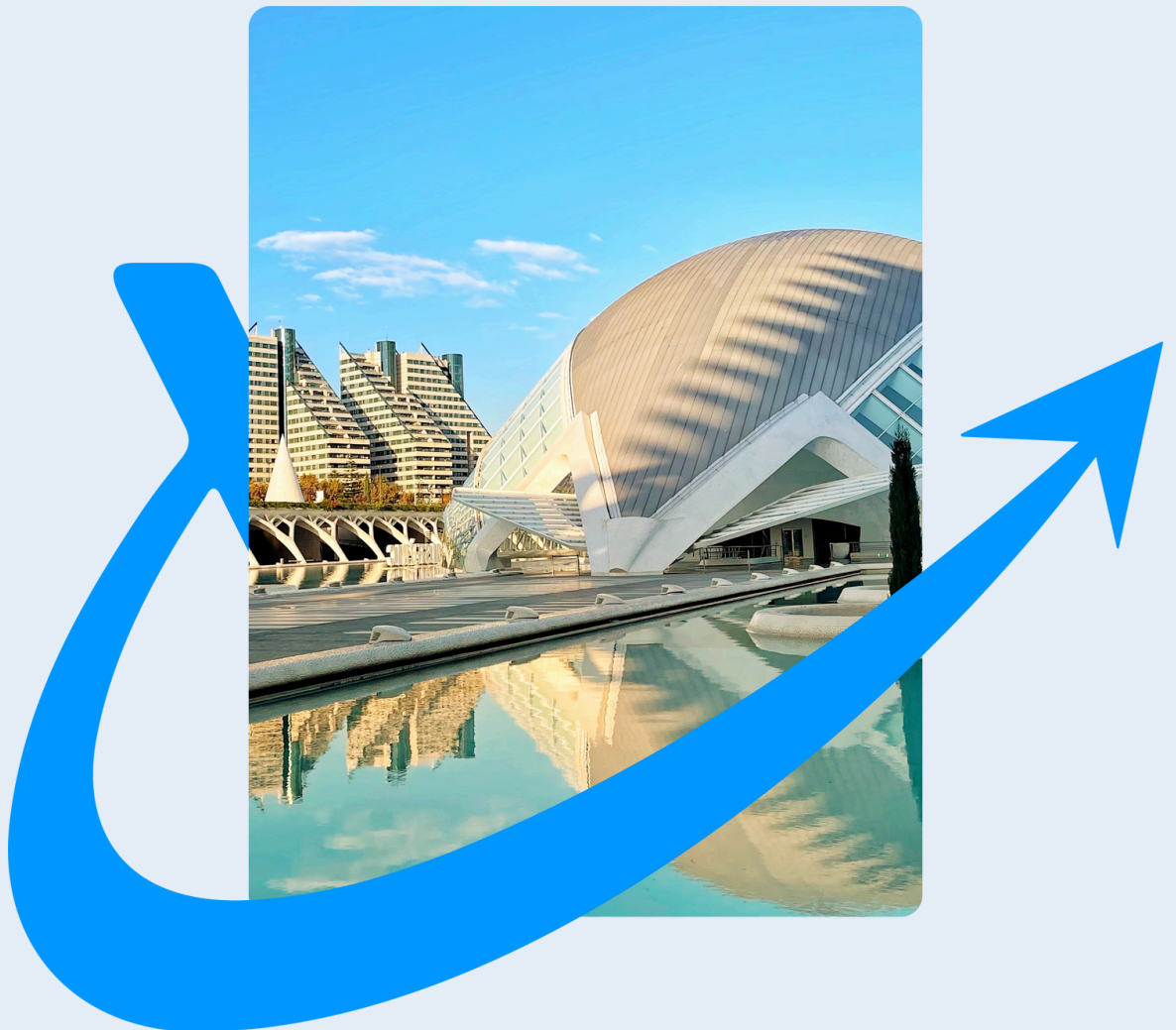
**FINDING THE RIGHT PLACE TO LIVE**

**FINDING THE RIGHT NEIGHBOURHOOD**

**SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**CASE STUDY PIM AND LOUISE**

**FINDING A JOB**





Valencia has become a popular destination for people from various backgrounds, including digital nomads, retirees, and exchange students.

The foreign population in Valencia has significantly increased since 2000, with around 13% of the approximately one million residents being foreigners. The top five EU nationalities in Valencia are Romanians, Italians, Bulgarians, French, and British, although the UK has left the EU as of January 1, 2021.

# THE CORRECT MINDSET

Valencia attracts people for various reasons, but it's always a good decision if you are thinking of living in Spain. Valencia has many things to offer and has a large variety in activities and opportunities. Living in Valencia with a **positive mindset** is a choice you won't regret.

Moving to Spain is enriching, but even after fully immersing yourself in the local culture, you'll always be a foreigner. **Embrace your differences**, as racism isn't an issue in Valencia.



Learn **Spanish** quickly as it's important to respect the culture and **fully experience** the expat life. Use this guide to move to Valencia with inspiration and useful information.

Valencia is a friendly place, but arrive with the right mindset and do your homework, especially if you have children. Join **Facebook groups** and talk to other expats to find information about neighborhoods, schools, banks, and the social security system.

# The International Business Nomad

MILES JOHSON (46)

As a **digital nomad**, I have the freedom to work from anywhere, and Valencia stood out to me for its relaxed lifestyle and abundant leisure opportunities.

I initially assumed Valencia was mostly about beaches, and even though I'm not particularly drawn to spending time on the sand, I do appreciate enjoying the sea view with a cocktail in hand. Another highlight for me is Valencia's unique converted riverbed park, an amazing green space running right through the city.

**"What I love about Valencia is that the lifestyle here is unbeatable."**

I'm from **Switzerland**, living in Valencia since 2018, working as head of business development for a Swiss engineering company.

I live with Aline, a Brazilian psychologist specializing in eating disorders, who has been living in **Spain** for 20 years.

My **advice** to anyone moving here is, do it and be patient – you must make an effort to get to know **Valencian people**, they are not sitting there waiting for you to turn up to start the party.

Before I moved to Valencia, I lived in Buenos Aires for six years, and one night in 2016 I literally had a **dream** that I would move to Valencia. So I decided to follow my dream and to move here. And it has been everything that

I wanted it to be.

I have no intention of leaving.





Valencia's rental market has been transformed by Airbnb's popularity, and it currently has **three rental** types excluding student housing and flat-sharing.

## *Finding the right place to live in Valencia*



### **TOURIST RENTALS**

Airbnb has significantly changed **Valencia's vacation** rental industry.

Although there are still numerous apartments listed on the platform, the local government's strict regulations and high fines have caused a decrease in their numbers due to the opposition of locals to unregulated apartment tourism.

### **TRADITIONAL RENTALS**

Traditional real estate agencies in Valencia offer unfurnished apartments for a **minimum one-year** lease, with prices lower than Madrid or Barcelona, but higher than southern Spain.

A monthly rent of at least **650€** is required for a decent neighborhood, and additional expenses like agency fees, wifi, water, and electricity are not included. These long-term options are not suitable for temporary stays, and speaking Spanish is essential.



### **EXPAT RENTALS**

If you want to experience **life in Valencia** for a few months, an expat rental is the ideal choice, between traditional and holiday rentals are the expat rentals.

These rentals are available and suitable for **medium-long** expat stays: fully furnished and ready to move in.

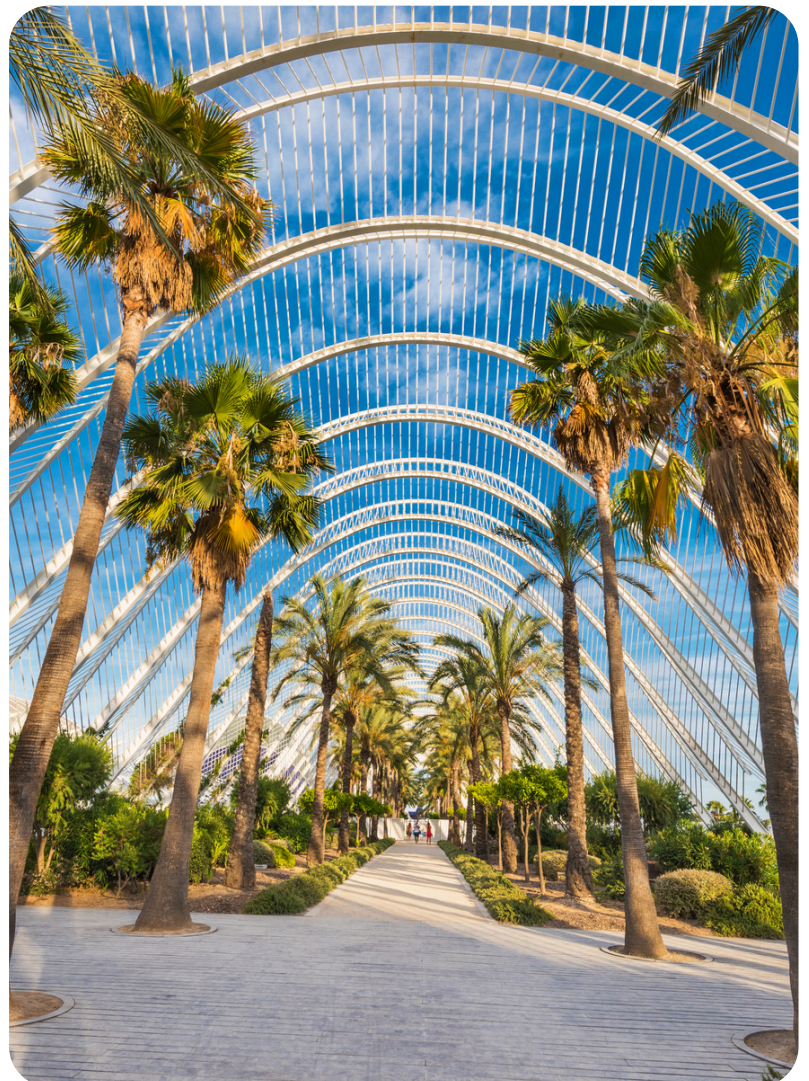
All expenses are included in the rental price.



## Finding the right neighbourhood to live in Valencia

So, if you also fell in love with this fabulous city, then you'll most likely want to know the best locations to live in **Valencia as an expat**, won't you? Well, that really depends on the kind of expat you are; there are horses for courses.

Most expats in Valencia prefer to live centrally, but some may choose to live near the beach during warmer months. **The three most popular** areas for expats are; La Ciutat Vella (El Carmen), Ruzafa, and La Gran Via (Cánovas).







## EL CARMEN

El Carmen is popular among expats for its attractive old buildings and central location with many bars and cafes offering good wi-fi. However, it lacks conveniences like supermarkets and parking.

## RUZAFÁ

Ruzafa is a popular area among expats for living and working, with supermarkets and many businesses started by expats. It has a lively nightlife with a variety of bars, nightclubs, and restaurants serving international cuisine.

## CANOVAS

La Gran Via or Cánovas is a centrally located and upmarket neighborhood with great facilities, bars, and restaurants. It has traditional architecture and bars like St. Patrick's and Portland where expats can enjoy quiz nights and sports events.



## CABAÑAL

Cabañal is an historic and traditional neighborhood in Valencia, located close to the beach. It has become popular among digital nomads and expats due to its affordability and authenticity.



## MONTEOLIVETE

Another area which is definitely worth looking into, but not so well-known for most expats is; Monteolivete, which is an area just across a main road from Ruzafa, so close, but not in the party zone, and within walking distance to the world famous Calatrava designed City of Arts and Sciences. There are also plenty of supermarkets and schools, making it family-friendly!

In Valencia, education is compulsory between 6 and 16 years. The education system is organised as following:

- **PRE-SCHOOL 1**
- 0 - 3 YEARS OLD
  
- **PRE- SCHOOL 2**
- 3 - 6 YEARS OLD
  
- **PRIMARY EDUCATION - COMPULSORY**
- 6 - 12 YEARS OLD
  
- **SECONDARY EDUCATION - COMPULSORY**
- 12 - 16 YEARS OF AGE
  
- **SECONDARY EDUCATION - NON COMPULSORY (BACHILLERATO)**
- 16 - 18 YEARS OLD
  
- **UNIVERSITY**

## *The school system*

Valencian education options include public, private, international, government-subsidized, and special needs schools.

- Public schools are free and government-subsidized.
- Private schools are not subsidized by the government and therefore have a higher cost
- International schools in Spain blend the national curriculum with that of their represented country, offering a unique cultural education. Graduates are often eligible for higher education both in Spain and abroad.
- Non-subsidized schools are private and have the same timetables, rules and programmes as the public schools. But they have an agreement with the administration. They pay the staff and subsidise running costs.
- Special education centres can be private, public or government subsidized. These schools are adapted to the needs of children who need special education.





## The Young Entrepreneurs

PIM (27) & LOUISE (25)



"We didn't move to Valencia to have a 9-5 office job."

**Pim Hollander** moved to Valencia in 2019 and opened a franchise of the **Dutch football** club concept FC Urban. Despite the challenges posed by Covid, they managed to make it work. He also took a job with a Dutch company that outsources customer service to Valencia.

I live in a central flat in **El Barrio Chino** with my girlfriend Louise. Valencia is a chilled city with friendly people, lots of opportunities, and a fraction of the cost of living back home.

We work during the week and enjoy the beach and other leisure activities on weekends. Rent and dining out are **cheaper** here. The city has improved its cycling infrastructure since 2018, which is great.

**Louise Vierstraete** moved to Valencia from Beverwijk and has been working for a Dutch company, but also has an **entrepreneurial spirit**. She and a Dutch guy named Eric launched a Silent Disco business in Valencia after he saw the opportunity and was looking for a business partner. Eric has now moved back to Amsterdam, leaving Louise to run the **business** in Valencia.

The couple moved to Valencia to **pursue their dreams** and escape the boring office jobs. They found new opportunities: Pim with FC Urban and Louise with a Silent Disco venture. They love Valencia's vibe, friendly people, and endless leisure options like the beach and El Turia. They are excited to be involved in something unique and fun that no one else is doing in Valencia.

**IF YOU WANT A GREAT  
WORK-LIFE BALANCE...  
CHOOSE VALENCIA!**

In the end, it isn't new that Spain is not the best country to work in, in terms of pay and remuneration, but this is offset by the relaxed lifestyle and friendly people.

There is an effort from Spaniards to improve work and living standards, but in the face of a homogenous European economy skewing trade in favour of northern countries, it's a tough ask.

That said, Spain recently announced that it will be the first country in the world to champion a four-day week for the same pay, so lifestyle is the big draw here.

## *Finding a job*

**Many people think that little work is done in Spain.** This is not so on the contrary, the normal working week is 40 hours and Spaniards tend to work 9 hours a day instead of the standard 9 to 5.

If you come to Valencia as an expat, it is ideal to have a **remote job**. If this is not the case, we recommend you to **learn Spanish**.

Finding a job in a Spanish company without knowing the language is a **Mission Impossible** situation.

You don't need a **whopping salary** to live and work in Spain, people are friendly and life is more relaxed. For young people coming for the adventure, teaching English is always a fallback as jobs are always available, even plentiful.

Many qualified teachers from the UK and the USA find work in international schools where the pay and conditions are much better than in language academies. Just don't expect to get close to UK/US wages



**"We recommend  
you to learn  
Spanish"**

## *Local Administration*

**NIE**

**RESIDENCY**

**EMPADRONAMIENTO**

**HEALTH INSURANCE**

**SPANISH DRIVER'S LICENCE**

**CASE STUDY ARTHURO AND YVETTE**

**NON LUCRATIVE VISA**

**GOLDEN VISA**

**OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT**

**TAXES**

**INVESTING IN SPAIN**

**CASE STUDY BECKY SANDERSON**



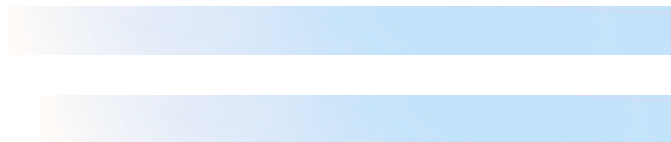




# LOCAL ADMINISTRATION



NIE  
Residency  
Empadronamiento  
Health insurance  
Spanish driver's licence  
Case study Arturo and Yvette  
Non lucrative Visa  
Golden Visa  
Opening a bank account  
Taxes  
Investing in Spain  
Case study Becky Sanderson



# IMMIGRATION LAYWER AND CEO @GLOBEXS

TISCAR NAVARRO



Many of our clients at Globexs, including British, Chinese, Russian,..... investors, come to Spain to invest in property.

To invest in Spanish property, non-Spanish citizens need a NIE, which requires a verified reason, such as buying property, setting up a company, or working.

## NIE

### Okay so what exactly is it?

Basically, this is your identification number. This number will never change and will be your best friend in Valencia. This number is unique and personal, just like you!

### What can I do with it?

For stays of more than 90 days, applying for residency is required, but a NIE is sufficient for procedures within that timeframe.

You will need this number for any kind of economic or bureaucratic procedure in Valencia such as:

- Buying or selling a property
- Paying taxes
- Setting up a business
- Getting your driver's license
- Working

When you decide to take the step and move to Valencia, or Spain in general, a **NIE** might make life easier.

Although, it is not obligatory to get one. But what does it mean? If we translate it, it means **Identification number for foreigners** (Número de identidad extranjeros in Spanish). To obtain this NIE you will have to prove why you need it.

## EMPADRONAMIENTO

In Valencia, it's mandatory for foreigners planning to reside in the city to register themselves ("empadronarse") at the local census office (Padrón). To register with a rental contract, the agreement must have a **minimum duration of six months**.

### How do I get it?

You have to make an appointment at your local office and bring originals and copies of your documents. Keep in mind that you have to renew this document every **2 years** as a non-resident.



# HEALTH INSURANCE

If you live in Spain and pay taxes here, you also pay for social security. This provides you from the state healthcare. The public health insurance covers the following:

- Social security contributors in Spain are entitled to health coverage.
- Freelancers, business owners and self-employed. You have to pay your own social security contributions.
- Children. All children from workers, residing in Spain, have access to the state healthcare system.
- EU students in Spain are covered by EHIC, while non-EU students need private health insurance which they can inquire about at their university.
- Non-EU residents may need private health insurance before receiving a Spanish Visa.
- EU retirees can access free healthcare in Spain by filling out an S1 form before moving to Valencia.

Your **SIP card (public healthcare card)** covers doctor and hospital visits. It also covers care at home, which is good for the elderly and disabled. However, it doesn't cover all medications, or dental care.

## How to get the card

To register for a healthcare card in Valencia, register your address and obtain an empadronamiento Certificate. Then, call your local Centro De Salud to make an appointment and bring your social security number and relevant documents.

## PRIVATE HEALTHCARE

However, you can always choose to get private health insurance. Here are some of the advantages of a private insurance:

- No waiting times.
- You can select your doctor/specialist yourself.
- You are able to see an English speaking doctor.
- Test results can be fast tracked.
- Digital services such as video consultations.
- Extras such as: dental covers, reimbursement for medications,...
- Worldwide coverage (make sure to check this)

Many companies offer private health insurance, so compare quotes to find the best fit for you.

# RESIDENCY

*The process of obtaining residency in Valencia varies for each person, regardless of their citizenship.*

As an EU citizen in Valencia, you must first register with the "empadronamiento" before obtaining residency. You'll need to provide original documents and copies. Once you have residency, you can apply for a permanent resident card after 5 years.

## What do I need as an EU-citizen?

If you are an EU citizen you have to apply for the Certificado de registro de ciudadano de la UE. Here are some of the documents that you need:

- Passport
- Proof of income / working contract / self-employment papers
- Empadronamiento

## What do I need as a non-EU-citizen?

If you want to get the residency card as a non-EU-citizen you have to apply for it at the Spanish consulate in your country of origin.

There are few exceptions: for example, if you are a family member of a resident you can apply within 90 days of your stay in Valencia.

# DRIVER'S LICENSE

EU citizens can keep their license to drive in Spain as long as it is valid. If you eventually decide to live in Spain permanently, you will need to switch to a Spanish driver's license. Non-EU citizens must exchange their driving license ("canje") for a Spanish one within six months from the date their Spanish residence permit is granted. To be eligible for this exchange, your original driving license must have been issued by a country that maintains an exchange agreement with Spain, and you must fulfill the administrative requirements established by the Spanish Traffic Authority (DGT)

## How do I get it?

First of all you have to make an appointment online. You choose the service that you need and book the appointment. Some of the documents that you need:

## If you are an EU citizen you need:

- Passport
- Residency
- Current driving licence
- Empadronamiento

**Non-EU citizens** must retake the theoretical and practical driving exam to obtain a Spanish license, often arranged through an autoescuela. Certain documents are required for the application process

- Certificate of mental and physical fitness
- Application form
- Current driving licence
- Residency
- Declaration that you don't have a similar licence

Note that these are the general procedures. It can occur that the procedure of your specific country might differ.



## The Serial Entrepreneurs

Arhuro Kramer (64) & Yvette Muytjes (56)



**Yvette and Arhuro** met on a blind date in Spain. They both lived in the Netherlands and had mutual connections through a restaurant and a boating company.

Arhuro **convinced** Yvette to come early for their first meeting, and they have been **together** ever since.

They opened a **bistro** and bar in Monteolivete, where they now live.



**"We shook ourselves down, we picked ourselves up and we started all over again."**

**Arthuro:** *After losing my house and two restaurants in Denia during the 2008 financial crisis, I went to Norway for a business opportunity that failed. I returned to Denia and opened a successful bar in Valencia's city center near Mercat Central.*

*But then came the pandemia, and I lost everything all over again. We relied on tourists and when there were no tourists, it was fatal. We still had to pay all our staff every month but with no income. We had no choice but to close.*

**Yvette:** But we did what **serial entrepreneurs** would do. We shook ourselves down and we started all over again. We opened this bar last Saturday, and it was a bank holiday weekend so the past three days have been successful and this makes us realise that we have done **the right thing**.

**Arthuro:** *We aim to offer something for **everyone** with honest prices and high-quality, simple food. Our chef, Yvette, manages the kitchen and design.*

*We expect to attract Dutch and Belgian businesses. We also want to attract Spanish locals, as we're **fluent in Spanish**. Our corner location with two terraces gets sun all day, and it was the first place we saw, so we believe it was fate.*

*To succeed in opening and running a business in Spain, follow the rules and work with a reliable lawyer and relocation expert.*

# NON- LUCRATIVE VISA

This visa allows you to stay in Spain for longer than 90 days and can be renewed easily. It must be applied for in your home country, with private health insurance and proof of financial means. Family can also come along.

After five years, you can apply for permanent residency. Upon arrival, apply for a TIE within a month. Don't leave Spain for more than 183 days in a year or renewal will be rejected.

## GOLDEN VISA

The Golden Visa program allows non-EU citizens to obtain residency and work permits in Spain by making qualifying investments, offering a quicker and simpler process than traditional visa routes. It operates under the Entrepreneurial Law and is centrally approved by a dedicated business unit in Madrid. However, this program will be discontinued as of April 3, 2025, after which new applications for residency through the Golden Visa will no longer be accepted.

### **Here are different options when applying for the Golden Visa. Some of the most common ways to obtain it are these:**

There are three ways to obtain the Golden Visa: investing in property over €500,000, investing in shares of a Spanish company or depositing over €1 million in a Spanish bank, or investing in a business project that requires a scientific or technological advance or generates significant employment in Spain.

### **What can I do with it?**

- Pretty much everything!
- It is the only permit that authorizes you to live and work in Spain for 2 years instead of 1 year
- It provides freedom to travel worldwide and come back to Spain
- You do not have to be physically present in Spain to obtain this Visa, you can just send a representative to do this for you

After the initial two-year period, you can renew the Golden Visa for five years, but you must prove you still own the property and have visited Spain at least once per year.

### **How long does it take?**

The Golden Visa is the easiest and fastest visa to obtain. However, it can still be a complicated process. Valencia immigration offices like Globexs can help simplify the process for you.





## OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

Non-residents can open a Spanish bank account, but requirements vary by bank. Typically, you'll need a passport, proof of habitual residence in your home country, documentation of your employment status, and evidence of your financial situation or income sources. In-person appointments are recommended, and bringing a translator may be helpful. Children's savings accounts can also be opened using the child's and parent's identification documents.

## TAXES

### Non-resident tax — IRNR

#### Taxes for Non-Residents in Valencia

Non-residents in Spain pay taxes only on income earned within the country. This non-resident tax can be paid quarterly or annually.

#### Which tax form should I fill in?

Individuals (personas físicas) must submit Modelo 210. Self-employed (autónomos) have separate tax requirements and use different forms.

#### What if I own property as a non-resident?

Non-resident property owners pay two taxes:

- IBI (property tax).
- Income tax, applicable whether the property is rented or not.

## The Personal Income Tax (IRPF)

Spanish tax residents must pay taxes every year on their worldwide earnings. Personal circumstances are taken into account, and the Model 100 form must be filed by the end of June the following year at the local tax office.

## Wealth tax

Annual tax is imposed on residents and non-residents based on the value of their assets. It applies worldwide for residents and only to assets in Spain for non-residents. The amount varies depending on individual circumstances.

However, not everything will be taxed. You will not be taxed for household contents, pension rights or shareholdings in a family company. Luckily, there are more items to add to this list and these are only a few.

### When do I have to pay this tax?

In Spain, you need assets worth over €600,000 to be eligible for the wealth tax. Some regions have their own rules, such as the Comunitat Valenciana where the tax rate ranges from 0.12% to 3.25%

## ITP and AJD

When buying a newly constructed property in Valencia, you'll pay AJD tax (1.5%) and VAT (10%). For second-hand properties, you'll pay ITPAJD (10% of purchase price). Renting a property requires payment of ITP tax.

# INVESTING IN SPAIN

Get a reliable lawyer in Valencia when dealing with their unique real estate market to avoid surprises.

In Valencia, it's not safe to invest in property without a lawyer due to their unique market.

Notaries have limited roles, so hiring a lawyer is crucial to avoid legal and tax issues.

The first thing that you have to keep in mind is that every property purchase involves an extra cost! This cost is about 15%-16% over the purchase price. (including taxes, notary and property registration fees).

Usually there are **three steps** to a buying process here:

- Reservation contract
- Arras contract
- Signing at the notary

.Hire a lawyer before bidding on a property. Property lawyers typically offer a package that includes researching property information, due diligence, and document editing and clarification.





# INVESTING IN SPAIN

- Checking the registration of the property status
- Checking and preparing the purchase draft with the notary
- Contacting the bank to prepare bank cheques and financial details
- Personal assistance on the day of the purchase

Right now you might think, "Why do I need a lawyer?" Let us give some examples of what could occur:

- In most cases, the one that is selling the property, is not the owner!
- Something else that we often see is that there are lots of debts attached to the property. You need to be aware of these debts!
- You will find structural damages to the building. How do you find out about this? You need your lawyer to do a proper investigation with the "administrador de fincas", the neighbours, and the council.
- The building is not attached to the land. Which means that you are only buying bricks because the land belongs to the city. In Cabañal and Nazaret, this is very common.
- The seller is not a resident in Spain. This needs proper investigation in order to avoid future tax issues.

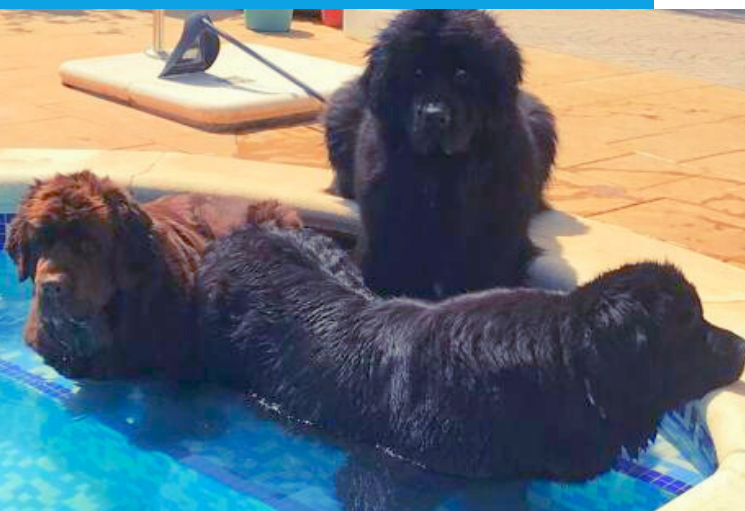
So, in conclusion: hire a lawyer!





## The Happy Ever After Retiree

Becky Sanderson (54)



**"We adore life here and we will definitely never go back to the UK..."**

A couple moved from Gloucestershire to **Spain in 2017** to escape the high cost of living in the UK and to improve the wife's **painful condition**, fibromyalgia. After visiting for six weeks, they **fell in love** with Spain and sold their house quickly to move there permanently in July.

The couple lives in the hills near Turis, Spain, with their four Newfoundland dogs.

They have a villa with a swimming pool and a 1,000 square metre plot, which is much cheaper than in the UK. The climate is better for the wife's fibromyalgia, and they enjoy walks in the countryside and swimming from April or May to October.

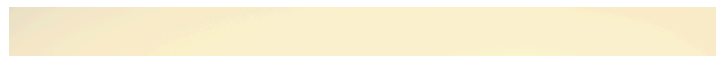
They have made friends with people from the UK, Holland, and Spain, and love their life in Spain so much that they want their ashes sprinkled there.

# LIFE IN VALENCIA

EXPLORE AND DISCOVER



Making friends & connecting  
Beaches in Valencia  
Mercats in Valencia  
Public transport  
Events  
Holidays  
Emergency numbers





# MAKING FRIENDS & CONNECTING

## PARTYING

Valencia has a large expat community and it's easy to meet people. One popular event is the Flag Tandem Party held on Fridays during summer at Umbracle, where attendees wear their country's flag for easy networking.

## INTERCAMBIO

Valencia has many cafés that host events and language exchanges ('intercambios'), making it easy to meet locals and expats

## CO-WORKING

If your job allows you to, you can go to co-working places, where you meet like-minded people and exchange ideas about your company. At the moment Wayco is the most popular coworking space in Valencia, with 2 locations: El Carmen and Russafa.

## FACEBOOK

Join Facebook groups such as expats and businesses in Valencia or expats living and working in Valencia. You will be joining a community with over 4 thousand members. Enough people to meet, right?

## VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering at animal shelters or La Cruz Roja is a great way to meet people, make friends, and improve your Spanish while helping others.

## SAY YES

Furthermore, we can advise you to just say yes! A cute guy that asks you out? Yes! A group of friends still need an extra person to play Beach Volleyball? Yes! You will be surprised about how fast you have your own social life!





# BEACHES

## LA PATACONA

Patacona is a great beach near the city with a relaxed vibe, accessible by bike, public transport or foot. It's less crowded than Malvarrosa and has beach bars where you can enjoy cocktails with your toes in the sand.

## PINEDO

Playa Canine Pinedo is a dog beach with fine sand and calm waters to cool off in summer. It's open from June 15 to August 30 only. No dogs allowed outside those months.

## MALVAROSSA

Malvarossa beach is one of the most popular beaches in Valencia, known for its lively atmosphere and great facilities. It's easily accessible by public transport and bike. The beach is surrounded by a variety of restaurants, bars, and shops, making it a great spot to spend the day or night.

## EL SALER

El Saler is a natural beach with clear water, white sand, and dunes. It's in the southern part of the city and accessible by car or bike. It's near Albufera Natural Park, making it a great combo.

## PORT SAPLAYA

Alboraya's beach, known as "little Venice," has a Biblioplatja (beach library) and outdoor cinema in summer. A must-visit spot.



# MERCATS

## MERCAT CENTRAL

Mercat Central is a beautiful, historic market in the heart of Valencia. It's known for its stunning architecture and offers a wide variety of fresh produce, seafood, and local delicacies. It's a must-visit spot for foodies and anyone interested in Valencia's culinary culture.

Open Mon - Sat 07.30 - 15.00

## MERCAT RUZAFÀ

Ruzafa Market is a vibrant, indoor market in the Ruzafa neighborhood of Valencia. It's a great spot to explore local produce and grab a bite to eat.

## MERCAT COLON

Mercado Colon is a beautiful, modernist-style market in the heart of Valencia. It offers a range of gourmet food and drink options, and has a great atmosphere for socializing and people-watching.

## MERCAT CABAÑAL

This is one of the city's most emblematic markets. Located in the heart of the maritime district, this popular self-managed market has been open to the public for 52 years. Throughout the passages you can see colourful products and smell delicious smells. Anyone visiting this market for the first time will be fascinated by the atmosphere. A stroll through this district can not be missed.

## MERCAT BENIMACLET

Mercado Benimaclet is a cozy, indoor market in the Benimaclet neighborhood of Valencia. It offers a variety of fresh, locally-sourced produce and artisanal goods.





# PUBLIC TRANSPORT

## EMT BUSESSES

The bus in Valencia is relatively cheap. A single ticket will cost you around €1,50. However, if you buy a rechargeable card, it is a lot cheaper!

This is called a Bono and it is a card of ten tickets. On the Bono, you'll get 10 tickets for €8,50. Tickets for the EMT bus are sold in tobacco shops, newspaper kiosks,...

## CONTACT EMT

Phone: 96 315 85 15

[www.emtvalencia.es](http://www.emtvalencia.es)

e-mail:

[atencionalcliente@emtvalencia.es](mailto:atencionalcliente@emtvalencia.es)

## VALENBISI

Valenbisi is a public bike rental service in Valencia, with stations all over the city. You need a subscription, which costs around €30 per year, and a Valenbisi card from EMT to use it. The service is available 24/7.



## METRO

Ticket Prices of the metro vary from location and destination. They are sold per zone and round trips. However, as a senior or a large family you get discounts. The metro usually runs from 5:00 am to 11:30 pm.

Don't worry if you're not sure which line to take, you will find an information board with the arrival time of the metro line at every station.

However, Valencia is a great city to explore by bike. Just rent a bike for one day or a weekend and bike it up!



## TRAIN

Valencia has several train stations that connect the city to other parts of Spain. The main train station is Valencia Joaquín Sorolla, which serves high-speed trains. The cost of a train ticket depends on the destination and type of train, with prices varying from €10 to over €100. It's recommended to book in advance to get the best prices.





## EVENTS

In Valencia, there is always something to do. There are a few websites that are helpful to stay up to date of all events and activities. We made a small list with the most important websites:

- [The Valencian](#)
- [Visit Valencia](#)
- [Valencia Secreta](#)
- [Xceed](#)
- [Comunitat Valenciana](#)
- [Love Valencia](#)

## HOLIDAYS

- Jan 01 — New Year
- Jan 06 — Tres Reyes
- Mar 19 — St Joseph
- Apr 02 — Good Friday
- Apr 05 — Easter Monday
- Apr 12 — San Vicente Ferrer
- May 1 — Labour Day
- Jun 24 — St John the Baptist
- Aug 15 — Assumption of the Virgin
- Oct 9 — Valencian Community Day
- Oct 12 — Hispanic Day
- Nov 1 — All Saints
- Dec 06 — Constitution Day
- Dec 08 — Immaculate Conception
- Dec 25 — Christmas

## EMERGENCY

- Police — 091
- General emergency — 112
- Ambulance — 061
- Fire department — 080





7 THINGS  
I WISH  
I HAD KNOWN  
BEFORE MOVING  
TO  
VALENCIA



# 1

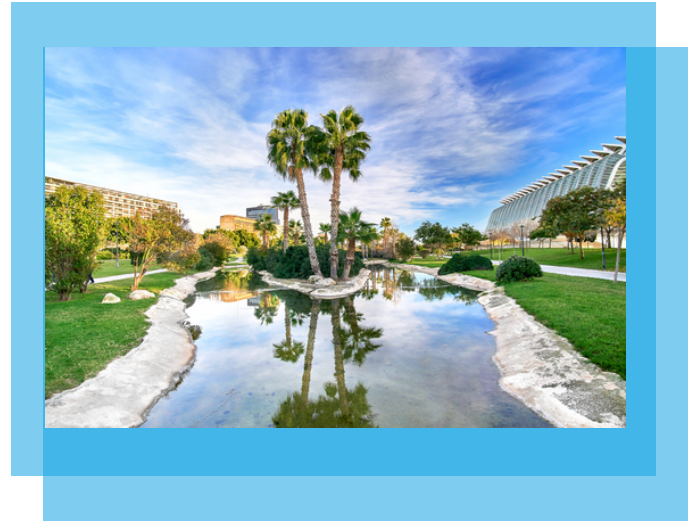
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## Oh dear... the language

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Basic Spanish is essential **for** living in Valencia as it shows respect to locals, aids in finding employment and making Valencian friends. Speaking only English and surrounding **your**self with expats is not advised.

Valencia has language schools offering 6-8 week crash courses for basic language skills, but they can be **expensive**. Recommended schools include ILE Spanish School, AIP, and Route66, but it's best to research based on personal preferences.



# 2

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## The first year bubble

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Adjusting to life in Valencia takes about a year. The first three months are the honeymoon phase, followed by a confirmation of your expat status after six months. It may feel like a holiday during the first year, but true immersion comes with fluency in Spanish.

At that point, you'll realize that Spanish politicians are no better than those in other countries, but the kindness and warmth of the Spanish people will be reconfirmed. Expect an enriching experience once you reach a decent level of Spanish.

# 3

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## Winter is coming...

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Valencia has cold winters (6-18°C) with high humidity, and most apartments lack central heating. Summers are hot (up to 32-33°C) lasting nine months, with AC widely available. Heat waves are rare.





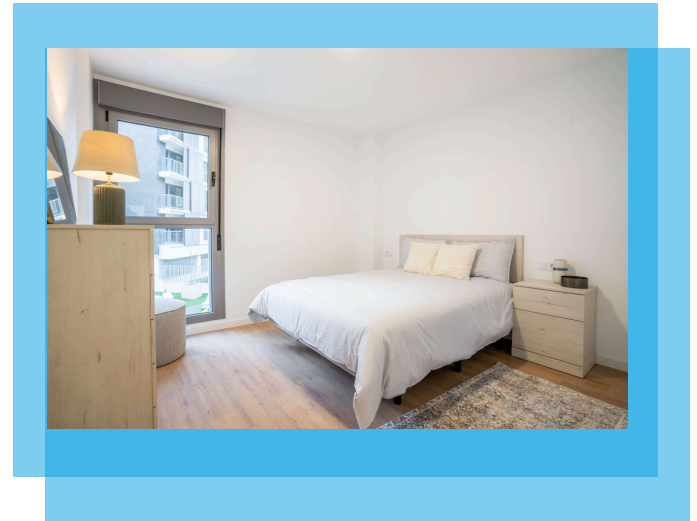
## 4

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### Too many bedrooms

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Expats often make the mistake of choosing an apartment that is too big because they expect visitors. However, after their first visit, interest in Valencia fades and the expat is left with too much space. It's important to choose the right apartment with considerations like noise and space for belongings. Consider a furnished expat rental for the first few months before committing to a long-term rental, and focus on outdoor space rather than extra bedrooms.



## 5

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### The Spanish administration

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Consider using a relocation company when moving to Valencia to make administrative tasks like opening a bank account and obtaining a NIE certificate and residencia easier. They can save time and avoid frustrations, as officials may not be helpful even if you speak Spanish.



## 6

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### Networking? how.

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To enhance your expat experience in Valencia, it's helpful to meet locals and form long-lasting friendships, but it can be challenging. Joining local clubs or expat groups can help, but be cautious of solely trusting fellow expats based on nationality. Expect to spend time alone at first, but with the right mindset, you can make new friends

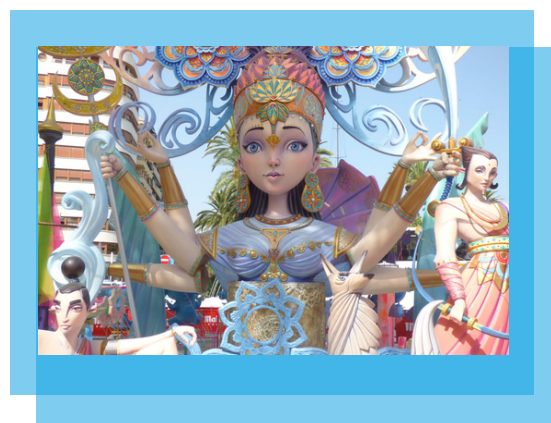
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### You will never want to leave

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Once you taste life in Valencia, you will never want to leave. That is a fact!





# WELCOME



Thanks for reading our ultimate guide to moving to Valencia!

Leave your email for updates or email [info@globexs.com](mailto:info@globexs.com) to sign up.

For help with your move, contact Globexs at [info@globexs.com](mailto:info@globexs.com) or visit [www.globexs.com](http://www.globexs.com)

# TO



# VALENCIA

## Written by

Lodewijk Cuypers - [lodewijk@globexs.com](mailto:lodewijk@globexs.com)  
Eugene Costello - [eugenecostellojourn@gmail.com](mailto:eugenecostellojourn@gmail.com)

## Designed by

Bjork Weenk / Outsiders 2025

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