

SEVEN POINTS OF GOOD ADVICE FOR YOUR FIRST 3 MONTHS

1. ACCOMMODATION

Start searching for different types of accommodation a long time before you arrive and be aware of unrealistic cheap prices which may be fraudulent! Bear in mind that you need a permanent address to apply for a Civil Registration Number (CPR), required for residency in Denmark.

2. PAPERWORK

You will need to register with the authorities at your local citizen center or at International House in Copenhagen upon arrival. Make sure that you have all your paperwork in order beforehand and have photocopies of your documents. Check expiration date of your passport, driver's license etc. and renew them if necessary while still in your home country.

3. FINANCES

Set a Budget! Denmark is known to be an expensive country. Although the cost of living can be high, there are ways to make it cheaper e.g. by living outside of the town and comparing different supermarket prices. Since you may experience some unexpected expenses, be sure to have an emergency fund.

4. ACTIVITIES AND SETTLING IN

Find time for social activities and stay active! Join a club or association of your choice that you can share with like minded people. A good recommendation is that you find a club where you will be able to attend indoor sports during a long winter. Remember that the more you put yourself out there meeting other expats and locals, the more you will identify and fall in love with your new home.

5. APPROPRIATE WATER AND WINDPROOF CLOTHING

A saying that you will often hear is "There's no such thing as bad weather, only unsuitable clothing"! So come rain, come snow, do not let the weather keep you indoors, just dress appropriately with waterproof and windproof clothing and explore your new neighbourhood. Explore new routes to get to places like your job or university. Danes ride their bicycles all year round and if dressed accordingly, you will be able to do the same. :-)

6. LANGUAGE BARRIER

Danes are taught English from a very young age and therefore most Danes have a reasonable level of spoken English. However, most Danes will appreciate it if you learn a handful of basic phrases e.g. how to introduce yourself. Even minimal language skills will help you while you're settling in.

7. HAVE FUN

Last but not least, make sure to have fun. Even though life as an expat also comes with challenges, it is vital to have a positive mindset. Accepting both the good and the bad experiences with the same open mind will help you overcome many challenges. Be patient with fitting in and understanding the new culture and make sure you enjoy your new expat life!!