



<https://cleverexpat.com/future-expats-meetup/>
<https://www.meetup.com/Future-expats>

August 2021

Designing a Preview Trip

<p>Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the new city or country environment • Explore living conditions and daily life • Gather information about residence locations and services 	<p>Vocab:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocation management company (RMC) • Destination service provider (DSP) • Also called Look-and-see or Look-See- Decide trips
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What can a preview trip do for you?

- Advanced knowledge of the new environment
- Reduce moving stress
- Make connections before the move
- Consolidate expectations about the new home

Group comments

Frequency	Comment
20	Reasonable cost of living and housing (incl. taxes)
12	Interesting and friendly people/community
12	Favorable climate and scenery
11	Safety
6	Health care and access to sanitary conditions
5	Culture, activities and entertainment
4	Good internet
4	Good food
4	Walkability and outdoor activities
4	Public / reasonable transportation
4	Quality of life / standard of living
4	Availability of goods and services (incl. food)
3	Proximity to US and US way of life
3	Language resources (or English)
3	Diversity (age, nationality) & LGBTQ+
2	Medical resources
2	Work availability
1	Reasonable banking services
1	Low crime rate(s)
1	Easy visa process



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Preview trip components:

- Travel to potential new home; accommodations and meals
- Area orientation
- Home finding
- School search (for both children and adults)
- Language potential challenges and strategies
- Proximity to work, sport, leisure, and related facilities
- Availability of medical services, including doctors, dental providers, vision providers, and mental health providers
- Expatriate community connections
- Driving and transportation
- Safety and security
- Immigration obligations and rules
- Financial services (including banks, ATMs, insurance)

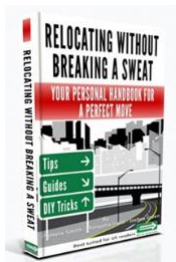
Pro tips:

- Relocation guides, city guides and calendars
- Chamber of commerce connections
- Rental review, including furniture
- “Behind the scenes” resources: plumbers, painters, electricians, repair professionals
- Car rental and parking space rentals (and maybe driving classes, too!)
- Cleaning services
- WiFi and cellphone options

Website resources:

- <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/20140811191038-40742521-why-a-relocation-look-and-see-trip-is-important/>
- <https://paragonrelocation.com/international-preview-trip/>
- <https://www.prorelo.com/en/relocation/preview-trip>
- <https://www.relocationsupport.co.uk/relocation-services/area-orientation/>
- <http://www.lodge-relocation.com/our-relocation-services/a-la-carte-services/>

Resource of the month:



Relocating Without Breaking A Sweat: Your Personal Handbook For A Perfect Move Kindle Edition by [Manuella Irwin](#), [Pamela Smith](#), [Joshua Green](#)

<https://amzn.to/3xJhWmp>