Expat Explorer Survey 2018 Overall territory ranking Expats in Taiwan **Economics** Based on 222 interviews Have kids 3RD**9**<sup>TH</sup> for Female Experience Age 27% 18-34 46% for Family 35-54 27% 55+ Own property More disposable income in Taiwan Ave income 29% VD 2,716,370 Short working days Employment status 6% 73% 2% 11% 8% ■ Employed ■ Unemployed ■ Retired Other Top of regions of origin Top 3 reasons for moving 32% Europe 20% The Far East 18%To challenge myself 26% To progress my career 25%

To improve my quality of life





## Taiwan

## Expats in Taiwan

Taiwan might be the expat world's best kept secret. While other nations grab the headlines for the financial returns or bask in their reputation for a great experience, Taiwan has risen through the league tables to become a serious contender for the best international way of life overall – including financial, personal, career and family wellbeing. But there are still aspects of the expat life here that could be improved.

Coming in 9<sup>th</sup> overall this year, Taiwan now ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world for superior expat experience thanks to a 7-place gain since 2017.

Expats living in this territory are often from similar backgrounds. They are highly educated and almost half now work in education themselves. A third moved to Taiwan to challenge themselves while a quarter came to boost their career.

But Taiwan only comes in 15<sup>th</sup> for economics and the expats working here earn around USD 18,000 less than other expats. They are more likely to be worried, pessimistic or unsure of their financial future.

For now though, the cost of living means most have more disposable income than they did at home and they often use the money to take more holidays, live in better property, pay off their debts and build up emergency funds. In fact, almost half (44%) say living in Taiwan can help them build their personal wealth.

The expat working life here is mixed too. Almost half (44%) say they work more evenings and weekends than they used to. But more than a third are now happier at work and the move has made many more adaptable (61%), confident (54%) and productive (41%) in their professional lives.

Usually from Canada, the USA and UK, almost 60% have been here for more than 5 years. They have stayed to continue pushing themselves personally and professionally but also for the quality of life.

The rich local culture adds to their experience and three quarters say they enjoy immersing themselves in it. Their native language may be English but almost 60% also speak Mandarin or Cantonese. The vast majority are integrating well with local people and have found it easy to make new friends here.

In general, life is better than it was at home for almost 60% of expats in Taiwan. Perhaps that's why half felt at home here within six months of arriving.