



ILS
WORLD | BEYOND
BORDERS

LIVING AND WORKING IN
THE ISLE OF MAN



WHY RELOCATE TO THE ISLE OF MAN?

A survey of expats in 2019 by HSBC ranked the Isle of Man as the best place to live in the British Isles and the 12th best in the world. The 2019 police chief's annual report revealed the Island had the lowest number of recorded crimes in the British Isles.

For many years the Isle of Man has welcomed individuals and their families from all over the world.

As well as being a very safe place to live it has a stunning, natural beauty. At 33 miles long and 13 miles wide it lies in the Irish Sea - between England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. It covers 227 square miles, has 95 miles of coastline and 32 beaches.

The Isle of Man's parliament, Tynwald, is more than 1000 years old, making it the oldest continuous assembly in the world. The Island is a self-governing British Crown dependency with the head of state, Queen Elizabeth II, holding the title, Lord of Mann.

High standards of education and health care combined with quality of life, fascinating heritage and culture, an excellent infrastructure all help to create an enviable lifestyle. The Island's 85,000 residents enjoy a great work life balance and with minimal commute times there is more time for people to do what they enjoy.

- Superb quality of life
- High standard of living
- Outstanding natural beauty
- Well connected
- Low crime rate
- Low personal tax rates
- No capital gains tax
- No inheritance tax
- Tax cap of £200,000
- No house purchasing restrictions
- No stamp duty
- Exceptional business environment
- Financial assistance for relocating businesses.



LIVING THE DREAM

Individuals and families who have successfully relocated to the Isle of Man have been attracted by the safety, stability, the strong sense of community and the high standards of living in a beautiful Island setting.

It appeals to people who are looking for a better quality of life.

More than 40 per cent of the Island is uninhabited, and there are 26 official 'Dark Skies' sites - the highest concentration of stargazing spots in the British Isles.

The Island is a UNESCO Biosphere, which is a marque given by the United Nations as a sign of international recognition to a specified area. There are 701 biosphere reserves in 124 countries, but the Isle of Man is the only entire nation to be awarded such a credit.

New residents can enjoy the strong sense of culture, heritage and national identity.



A WARM WELCOME

The Island is well known for its hospitality and has a blended community with 50 per cent of residents not born on the Island.

There are many properties with house names in Manx Gaelic, a language which has experienced a revival recently.

There is a diverse property portfolio ranging from modern, sea view apartments and traditional Manx stone cottages to country mansions with acres of grounds. Average house prices are around £300,000 and there are no restrictions on purchasing property and no stamp duty. Each of the Island's unique towns and villages has an individual character with average commute times 20 minutes. On the commercial side, everything from residential units in high footfall areas to corporate headquarters are available.

There are more than 200 flights a week from Ronaldsway airport to the UK's major cities including London, Manchester and Liverpool as well as several daily ferries crossing to the North West of England and Ireland. The Private Jet Centre is able to assist with executive lounges, crew rooms, aircraft handling and private charters for aircraft of varying sizes and configurations. The Isle of Man also has an abundance of helipads with several residents frequently travelling to and from the Island by helicopter.



THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Although world famous for its annual motor sport events, the Isle of Man has a thriving sporting scene away from the racecourse.

Having inspired a good number of champions, including Mark Cavendish and Peter Kennaugh, cycling attracts all age groups. The annual IOM End2End Mountain Bike Challenge is a chance to ride from one end of the Island to the other whilst conquering some sizeable peaks along the way. The 75km course incorporates 1500 metres of climbing on a mixture of fast roads, moorland paths, country lands and forest tracks.

With 95 miles of coastline sailing, kayaking, open water swimming and paddle boarding are all popular. There are eight challenging golf courses ranging from a classic course on a stunning peninsula, an 18-hole course designed by five-time Open Championship winner James Braid and a course designed by Dr Alexander (Alister) MacKenzie, the architect of the Augusta National in Atlanta and Australia's Royal Melbourne.

The Island hosts two Crown Green Bowling Festivals each year, an annual International Darts Festival and the wacky World Tin Bath Championships is a sight not to be missed.

Due to its varied landscape, the Island is a walkers' paradise, with more than 169 miles of public footpaths. Visitors have come from all over the world to travel the Raad Ny Foillan (English: 'Way of the Gull'), a 102 mile coastal path skirting the Manx coastline. Thousands of people take part in Parish Walk, an annual endurance walking race covering 85 miles.





TAKE ME THERE

The Island's beautiful countryside and 600 miles of roads means driving is often leisurely. You can reach any point on the Isle of Man within a 60-minute drive and many areas are zoned for free parking. The Island also has an extensive bus network connecting attractions, towns and villages with a late-night service operating on Friday and Saturday evenings. While the Isle of Man may be sat in the middle of the Irish Sea, it does not suffer from being out of the loop.

There have been huge investments in fibre optic technology with improved services for customers from the Island's telecoms service providers.

The Isle of Man Steam Packet makes moving possessions, vehicles and pets easier and cheaper. There are services between the Island and Heysham in Lancashire, Liverpool/Birkenhead, Dublin and Belfast.

<https://www.steam-packet.com/>

There are also several Isle of Man based courier companies offering a range of freight solutions.

If you are coming from further afield the Isle of Man airport, Ronaldsway, has flights to and from England, Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland.

<https://www.gov.im/categories/travel-traffic-and-motoring/isle-of-man-airport/>

Most dogs and cats may travel between the Isle of Man and the United Kingdom without export certificates with exemptions for certain breeds.

All tortoises require CITES permits, a UK export permit and an IOM import permit, unless moving back and forth on a Personal Ownership Certificate.

Dogs, cats and ferrets are prohibited from importation directly into the Isle of Man from non-EU countries. They must travel through a UK Border Inspection Post first.

<https://www.gov.im/categories/travel-traffic-and-motoring/travelling-with-pets/>





A LIFE OF LEISURE

Residents benefit from a rich Viking and Celtic heritage. Peel Castle was built by the Vikings in the 11th century and Castle Rushen is one of the most well-preserved medieval castles in the world. Manx Heritage, a government funded organisation, protects and promotes the Island's many interesting museums and tourist attractions.

The Island's motor racing history is famous around the world – the TT (Tourist Trophy) is the greatest motorbike challenge. It takes place on public roads, with no speed restrictions. One lap is 37.73 miles and includes a mountain and a seemingly never-ending series of bends. First held in 1907 it attracts thousands of spectators wanting to soak up the passion, competition and danger.

Residents and tourists take great delight in the Isle of Man's three heritage railways – the Manx Electric Railway, a Steam Railway and the Snaefell Mountain Railway. They are all seasonal and do not normally operate during commuting hours but they are a fun and popular way to sightsee. In the Island's capital the Douglas Bay Horse Tramway is the oldest horse-drawn passenger tram to remain in service anywhere in the world. Established in 1876 it runs along the seafront promenade for 1.6 miles and is a distinct landmark.



A PASSION FOR FLAVOUR

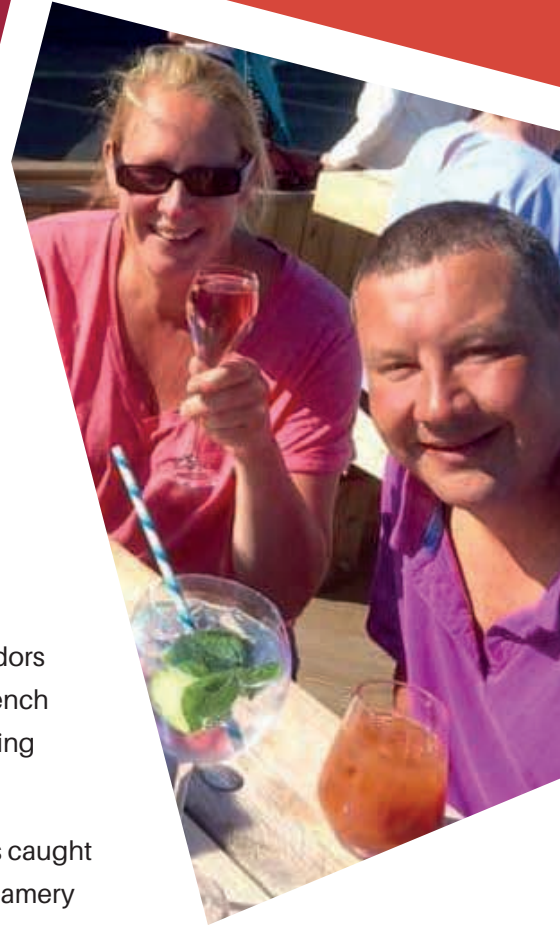
Those who are lucky enough to call the Isle of Man home enjoy some award-winning cuisine.

There is a fantastic choice of restaurants, cafés, street-food vendors and pop-ups and whether you're in the mood for a romantic French bistro or a modern, fusion menu you will be able to find something to tickle your taste buds.

Popular dishes include sweet and tender Manx Queen Scallops caught by local fisherman off the Island's coastline. The Isle of Man Creamery has won many accolades for its fine cheeses and Manx Loaghtan, a native rare breed of sheep, is a favourite of chefs. Manx Kippers, fished, cured and served on the Island since the 1500s are also popular.

The Isle of Man has four independent breweries as well as exclusive gin and vodka distilleries which can all be sampled in the numerous pubs and cocktail bars.

- A wide selection of restaurants, pubs and cocktail bars
- A variety of leisure facilities
- A premier entertainment complex hosting A-list artists and comedians
- Beauty spas, health clubs, hotels and a casino
- Breath-taking scenery.



NATURAL WONDERS

The Isle of Man would make a perfect home for anyone who enjoys beautiful countryside, dramatic seascapes, unspoilt views, nature and wildlife.

There is a real commitment to celebrating and maintaining the Island's unique environment, both on land and in the seas surrounding it.

The Isle of Man is a hotspot for basking sharks, the second largest fish in the world and although they can grow to more than 10 metres long and weigh as much as 7 tonnes, are known as gentle giants. They feed on tiny animal plankton which they sieve out of the water by swimming through it with their vast mouths wide open. In the summer, the plankton comes to the sea surface, followed by the sharks, which appear to be 'basking' in the sun, hence their name.

The Manx Wildlife Trust is responsible for the maintenance of 24 nature reserves across the Island, eight of which are open to the public. The Trust has a dedicated marine environment team collecting information on basking sharks and marine mammals including a large grey seal breeding colony on the Calf of Man, a small islet off the south of the Island. Another local group, Manx Whale & Dolphin Watch, carry out important research of whales, dolphins and porpoises living on the coastline.





TAKING TIME OUT

Many families with young children enjoy wallaby watching – wild wallabies have flourished on the Island after a pair escaped in the 1970s from the Curragh Wildlife Park, which is now home to a large collection of animals including big cats, birds of prey, primates, Meerkats and Penguins. It is thought there are now more than a 100 wallabies and their numbers have increased due to a lack of predators.

According to legend, St Patrick banished toads and snakes from the Island, and you won't find any to this day. Also notable by their absence are voles, badgers, squirrels and foxes. By way of compensation the Isle of Man can claim two particularly unusual four-legged friends - one is the famous Manx cat, which is tailless and the other is the Loaghtan sheep, which has four horns and a rich brown fleece, thought to have been introduced by the Vikings.

The Island attracts a rich and diverse range of bird species including the Chough, Little Tern, Purple Sandpiper, Hen Harrier, Raven, Peregrine Falcons and the Manx Shearwater. A few of the more spectacular cliffs have Kittiwake and Guillemot colonies, there are a number of places where Black Guillemots nest and Stonechats are common on gorse and bramble scrub.

For those who enjoy open spaces there are 18 mountain and coastal National Glens across the Island which are maintained in a semi-natural state and open to the public throughout the year. There are also many forests and plantations to explore. Traditionally they have been popular with walkers and dog owners, but they are now being developed to suit horse riding and mountain biking with many plantations featuring cycle trails.

The Isle of Man benefits from a temperate climate with warm summers and mild winters.

Due to the proximity of the Gulf Stream, the Island doesn't suffer from extreme swings in temperature, with a similar climate to Ireland or the Lake District in England.





FIRST CLASS EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Those thinking of relocating the Isle of Man will be reassured to know there is a very high quality, comprehensive health service which is operated on an NHS style basis and free at the point of contact.

Services include:

- General practitioner and dental services
- Social services for adults and for children and families
- Specialist off-Island care.
- Community healthcare
- Hospital healthcare
- Mental healthcare

Residents benefit from the £112 million state-of-the-art Noble's Hospital and there are also options for private healthcare.

For those families with children the Isle of Man has an excellent education system with incredibly high standards of teaching and a very strong appetite for sports and culture. Content mirrors the English national curriculum but also draws on the Island's unique geographical, cultural and historical features.

There is no state-run pre-school on the Isle of Man, but there are many privately run options to choose from. Children start school in the academic year in which they turn five-years-old. The school year starts in September and runs until late July with holidays at Christmas and Easter. There are half-term breaks in the Autumn and Spring. The Island has 32 state primary and five secondary schools that work on a catchment system with children expected to attend the school designated to the area where they live. Parents get in touch with a school directly to enrol.

The Island has two highly regarded independent, public schools. The Buchan School is the junior to King William's College and consists of three parts (Nursery, Pre-Prep and Prep) with small class sizes for children aged 1-11. King William's College is a boarding and day school for girls and boys aged 11-18 and is rated as one of the best International Baccalaureate schools in the UK.

There are also options for higher education on the Island at the University College Isle of Man. It has partnered with the University of Chester and offers degrees in a range of areas including the arts, business and computer science. It also provides vocational training and apprenticeships centred on practical skills, including health and social care, engineering, plumbing and supervisory skills.

FREEDOM TO FLOURISH

The Isle of Man wants to increase its economically active population and to assist this operates an attractive visa system to appeal to entrepreneurs.

The Island's mature and globally connected economy has proved to be very appealing to those looking to relocate their existing business or establishing a new operation in the Isle of Man.

Often recognised for its long-established financial services and insurance sectors, the economy has significantly diversified in recent years and there are around 5000 businesses operating across a wide range of sectors including e-business, e-gaming, manufacturing, aviation, media, shipping, construction and retail.

The banking system is similar to the UK - all current accounts, deposit accounts and other services offered by UK and international banks are offered on the Isle of Man. Interest rates are comparable to those prevailing in the London money market, and whilst the Island's currency is sterling, deposits are accepted and competitive returns are available in all major currencies. As a recognised international finance centre supervision and effective regulation falls to the Financial Services Authority which licenses and supervises all banks, investment businesses, fiduciary businesses, collective investment schemes and building societies.





THRIVING ECONOMY

The manufacturing industry is a main provider of full time employment and second only to finance in terms of growth and contribution to the economy. Two hundred firms are engaged in this sector, varying from small family businesses to major employers.

Mass tourism, prevalent in past decades, has given way to specialist 'niche' markets such as short breaks, special interests and specific events.

The Isle of Man is an ideal location to facilitate the growth of global e-business. With advanced telecoms, connectivity infrastructure and a highly stable self-generated power supply it has been successful in attracting the sector which has in turn led to comprehensive support services such as website design, software and hardware suppliers and internet payment facilities.

The Department for Enterprise offers a range of support schemes to starting, growing and developing businesses including financial grants, loan and equity investments as well as training and business mentoring. Last year more than £4.5 million was invested. Support is also given through 0 per cent standard rate of corporate income tax, zero capital gains tax and personal tax rates amongst the lowest in Europe.



ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

Rent rebates of between 40 and 100 per cent on office spaces in a business' first year are available together with an employee relocation incentive providing employers funding of up to 20 per cent towards an employee's first year net salary, capped at £10,000 per position. The incentive is to encourage employers in target sectors to bring staff to the Isle of Man and is primarily aimed at businesses with a new position which they are unable to fill with a local employee.

Recently there has been the introduction of a National Insurance holiday scheme aimed at attracting new people to take up employment and residence in the Island as well as attracting students back once they have completed their studies elsewhere.

The Office of Cyber Security and Information Assurance (OCSIA), in partnership with the Department for Enterprise, allows Isle of Man businesses to apply for a 50 per cent funding grant up to £5,000 to gain a Cyber Essentials or Cyber Essentials Plus Accreditation.

The appeal of the Isle of Man for many entrepreneurs is that as a smaller, yet still globally connected jurisdiction, networking and making connections is easier and there are many business events and interactive initiatives facilitated by local organisations.

For further information on relocation, immigration as well as living and working on the Isle of Man please contact:

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