



Hello Abroad

Practical help for feeling at home in Spain.

Hello Abroad offers personal, bilingual support for the real steps of arriving and settling in: understanding what comes next, preparing paperwork, arranging appointments and services, and making everyday life feel more manageable.

01 BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

Give yourself a landing period.

A short-term base gives you time to view homes, understand neighbourhoods and assemble documents without choosing under pressure.

Three to six weeks before

- ☐ Book temporary accommodation for roughly three to six weeks.
- ☐ Confirm whether you are visiting, studying, working, joining family or relocating under another route.
- ☐ Save the official page for your exact nationality, route and intended length of stay.
- ☐ Write down the deadline, form number, fee code and appointment authority for that route.
- ☐ Confirm passport validity and the health cover your route requires.
- ☐ Order criminal-record, medical or civil certificates only if your route requests them.
- ☐ Check whether each foreign document needs an apostille/legalisation and sworn translation.
- ☐ Ask your doctor for prescriptions and a medication letter where needed.
- ☐ Check driving-licence, pet, family and school requirements if they apply.
- ☐ Scan all key records and keep secure copies separately from the originals.

ROUTE-SPECIFIC DOCUMENTS TO ORDER EARLY

A criminal-record certificate is not part of ordinary standalone NIE assignment. Certain visa or residence routes may instead require criminal-record, medical, birth, marriage or family certificates. Foreign public documents may need a Hague Apostille or consular legalisation and an official Spanish translation. Follow the current checklist of the Spanish consulate handling your exact application.

FURNITURE IS USUALLY NOT THE BIGGEST WORRY

Many rentals in Seville are furnished, but confirm the inventory before signing. Budget for bedding, towels, cookware, a desk or personal essentials rather than assuming you need to furnish an entire home.



Get connected without waiting for every document.

A Spanish number makes apartment calls, bank checks, deliveries and appointment messages much easier.

Your first practical errands

- ☐ Buy a prepaid (prepago) SIM from an attended shop or authorised point of sale.
- ☐ Take your original valid passport and ask what identification is currently accepted.
- ☐ Make sure the SIM is registered in your name.
- ☐ Save your Spanish number in more than one place.
- ☐ Keep the SIM package: it contains the PIN and PUK codes you may need after a restart or lockout.
- ☐ Save your accommodation address exactly as it should appear on forms.
- ☐ Locate your nearest pharmacy, health centre, supermarket and public-transport stop.

PREPAID FIRST, CONTRACT LATER

A postpaid phone contract may require Spanish residency documents and a bank account. Prepaid is often the practical bridge while those pieces are still being arranged.

KEEP THIS SMALL FOLDER WITH YOU

Identity

- ☐ Put your original passport in the folder
- ☐ Add your visa or entry documentation
- ☐ Store copies securely

Arrival

- ☐ Add accommodation confirmation
- ☐ Save the Spanish address
- ☐ Save the local phone number



Banking and money: ask for the right route.

Documentation varies by provider and by whether you are still a non-resident or already resident in Spain.

Take a complete bank folder

- ☐ Original passport.
- ☐ NIE, TIE or EU registration certificate if already issued.
- ☐ Proof of your Spanish or current address.
- ☐ Tax identification from your previous country.
- ☐ Proof of work, pension, income or savings.
- ☐ A recent statement showing where funds come from.
- ☐ Ask for all fees, conditions and required insurance in writing.

While you wait

- ☐ Check whether an existing Revolut account can cover card spending and euro transfers.
- ☐ Compare Wise and PayPal using the final euros received, not only the headline fee.
- ☐ Do not open duplicate personal accounts where a provider prohibits them.

Before committing

- ☐ Confirm whether the account is resident or non-resident.
- ☐ Check maintenance fees and card charges.
- ☐ Confirm the account supports the Spanish direct debit you need.
- ☐ Never rely on one option until approval is confirmed.

INDEPENDENT EXAMPLES ONLY

Provider examples are comparison starting points, not sponsored recommendations or financial advice. Eligibility, documents and fees change; confirm them directly for your circumstances.



Find a home without rushing the decision.

View in person where possible. Ask what type of contract is being offered and get the complete economic terms before paying anything.

At the viewing

- ☐ Check noise with the windows open and closed.
- ☐ Test air conditioning, heating and water pressure.
- ☐ Look for damp, pests and poor ventilation.
- ☐ Check natural light at a realistic time of day.
- ☐ Test the actual commute when you expect to travel.
- ☐ Photograph the condition and included furniture.

Before paying

- ☐ Confirm habitual-home or seasonal contract.
- ☐ Request the rent and every additional cost in writing.
- ☐ Ask which utilities and community costs are included.
- ☐ Confirm deposit, guarantee and payment schedule.
- ☐ Verify who owns or is authorised to rent the property.
- ☐ Make sure the address supports the registration you need.

On move-in day

- ☐ Record meter readings and photograph every room.
- ☐ Compare the furniture and appliances with the inventory.
- ☐ Report existing damage in writing immediately.
- ☐ Keep the signed lease, payment proof and deposit information together.
- ☐ Ask how repairs, rubbish, post and community access are handled.

What paperwork costs can include.

Some costs are fixed official fees. Others depend on nationality, issuing country, language, route and how much specialist help you choose.

POLICE ADMINISTRATION

2026 examples: standalone NIE assignment €9.84; EU registration or the listed family-category card €12; first TIE €16.08; renewal TIE €19.30; long-term TIE €21.87. Pay only the option matching your procedure.

CONSULATE + DOCUMENTS

Visa fees, criminal records, apostilles and legalisation are separate and vary by consulate, nationality and issuing country. Allow roughly €10–€25 locally for photographs, printing and copies.

SWORN TRANSLATIONS

Common English–Spanish documents are often about €40–€60 plus VAT per page. A multi-document visa pack can reach roughly €200–€400. Language, urgency and paper delivery change the quote.

OPTIONAL HUMAN HELP

Hello Abroad practical support is €69–€299. Published immigration-law examples start around €30–€60 for a consultation and €180+ for casework. Legal, translation and government fees remain separate; request a written quote.

WHY THERE IS NO SINGLE GOVERNMENT-FEE NUMBER

The police fee is only one part of some routes. Consular visa fees, foreign criminal records, apostilles, translations and professional advice are charged separately and may not apply at all. Verify your exact route before ordering or paying.



Plan with better information.

Write in the amount you want to reserve. If a category does not apply, leave it blank. Use a buffer for unknowns rather than inventing an exact figure.

CATEGORY	PLANNING RANGE	MY BUDGET
Temporary accommodation (3–6 weeks)	€900–€2,500	€ _____
First month of long-term rent	€700–€1,200	€ _____
Deposit and possible guarantee	1–3 more months' rent	€ _____
Phone, internet, utilities and transport	€150–€550	€ _____
Household basics for a furnished home	€150–€500	€ _____
Official fees, photos and copies	€25–€150+	€ _____
Apostilles and sworn translations	€40–€400+	€ _____
Optional practical or legal support	€69–€800+	€ _____
Emergency buffer	€500–€1,500	€ _____
MY PLANNED TOTAL		€ _____

A PLANNING TOOL, NOT A
QUOTE

These broad Seville ranges were reviewed in August 2026. Confirm the contract, procedure and professional quote before paying. If your dates overlap or the process takes longer, add another month of living costs to your buffer.



NIE, TIE and padrón are three different things.

People often say NIE or NIE card when they mean any foreigner document displaying the NIE number. Officially, these words do not mean the same thing. Here is the simple map before you prepare any paperwork.

NIE	Número de Identidad de Extranjero	Your unique foreigner identification number for dealings with Spain. It can appear on official records, contracts, tax and administrative documents. The number alone is not proof of identity or legal residence, so you may still need your passport and the document that proves your status.
TIE	Tarjeta de Identidad de Extranjero	The physical foreigner identity/residence card issued to people in the applicable legal-residence categories. It carries the NIE and records the administrative permission or recognised right to remain. It does not replace the valid passport used to prove identity.
PADRÓN	Padrón municipal de habitantes	The town hall register of the people who normally live in the municipality. It proves the address recorded locally and is used when local address evidence is needed. It does not grant immigration status or prove legal residence.

WHY MIGHT YOU NEED BOTH AN NIE AND A PADRÓN?

They answer different questions. The NIE identifies you in Spanish administrative and economic dealings; the padrón records where you actually live. A bank, authority or later procedure may need one, the other or both. Neither one automatically gives you permission to reside in Spain.

AND WHERE DOES THE TIE FIT?

For people whose route requires a TIE, the card comes after the underlying permission or right to remain has been granted or recognised. It carries the NIE, but applying for a standalone NIE is not the same procedure as applying for or collecting a TIE.



Two useful windows that are easy to miss.

These are not universal newcomer steps. They matter only if the relevant immigration or tax route applies to you, but missing the correct window can limit your options.

DIGITAL NOMAD PERMISSION

A consular international-telework visa can be valid for up to one year. If you want to continue under this route, official guidance says the residence authorisation may be requested during the 60 calendar days before the visa expires, provided the conditions remain satisfied.

Someone already legally in Spain may instead apply for the international-telework residence authorisation, which can be granted for up to three years. Renewals can be for two years. Establish the correct route before your lawful stay is almost over.

THE 'BECKHAM LAW' TAX REGIME

This nickname refers to Spain's special tax regime for qualifying workers and certain other people who move to Spain. It is not automatic, and a digital-nomad visa does not by itself guarantee eligibility.

The principal applicant generally submits Modelo 149 within six months from the qualifying activity start date shown by Spanish Social Security registration or the relevant supporting document. Discuss eligibility and timing promptly with a qualified tax adviser.

RECORD THE TRIGGER DATE

Do not save only the deadline. Write down what starts the clock - entry, activity start, registration, grant or expiry - and keep the official document that proves that date.

Official sources reviewed 28 August 2026: Spain's Ministry of Inclusion guidance for international teleworkers and the Agencia Tributaria instructions for Modelo 149.

Prepare the right papers for the right procedure.

Start with the padrón if local address registration is the next step for your circumstances. Treat standalone NIE assignment as its own specific procedure, not a universal moving-to-Spain application.

Prepare for the padrón

- ☐ Complete and sign the municipal padrón form.
- ☐ Collect the passport or identification accepted by your Ayuntamiento.
- ☐ Collect the signed lease plus latest rent receipt, or the correct authorisation.
- ☐ Find the property cadastral reference when available.
- ☐ Add the telephone, email and previous municipality details requested.
- ☐ Update the recorded identification after receiving a TIE if required.

For a standalone NIE assignment

- ☐ Complete and sign EX-15; prepare the original and a copy.
- ☐ Pay Modelo 790, code 012, selecting the correct NIE-assignment option.
- ☐ Prepare the original and copy of the complete valid passport or accepted identity/travel document.
- ☐ Write the explanation and collect evidence of the economic, professional or social reason.
- ☐ Prepare written authority if a representative submits the application.

CHECK THE APPOINTMENT CATEGORY FIRST

A TIE card, EU registration certificate, visa or residence application follows a different procedure and may use different forms and evidence. Check the current official instructions for your nationality, status and intended appointment before preparing papers.

PROCEDURES CHANGE

Check current requirements with the relevant Ayuntamiento, Police or immigration portal before relying on any checklist. Your address and individual circumstances can change what is required.

Official starting points checked 28 August 2026: interior.gob.es (NIE and TIE guidance), sede.policia.gob.es (EX-15 and Modelo 790 code 012), and sevilla.org (Seville padrón requirements).



Connect the parts of ordinary life.

These steps depend on work, family, health cover and how long you will remain in Spain. Tick only the ones that apply.

Health, work and official life

- ☐ Confirm how your healthcare access works for your status.
- ☐ If working, confirm Social Security registration and save your affiliation number.
- ☐ Choose a local health centre or private provider.
- ☐ Ask whether and when Spanish tax residency or reporting may affect you.
- ☐ Check whether your driving licence remains valid and whether deadlines apply.
- ☐ Save 112 and the appropriate non-emergency contacts.

Household and family details

- ☐ Arrange utilities or confirm which bills remain in the landlord's name.
- ☐ Check internet installation, permanence and cancellation terms.
- ☐ Arrange school or childcare steps if applicable.
- ☐ Register pets locally and find a vet if applicable.
- ☐ Confirm home or contents insurance where appropriate.
- ☐ Keep contracts, receipts and reference numbers in one folder.

VERIFY, DO NOT ASSUME

Healthcare, tax, driving, school and pet rules are not universal. Nationality, work status, family and length of stay change what applies.

Build your everyday map – and leave room to enjoy it.

Feeling settled is not only paperwork. It is knowing where to go, who to ask and how your ordinary week works.

Save your local essentials

- ☐ Save your nearest health centre and pharmacy.
- ☐ Find where to check the late-opening pharmacy.
- ☐ Choose a market, supermarket and hardware shop.
- ☐ Save a copy/print shop for administrative paperwork.
- ☐ Save reliable transport routes and taxi options.
- ☐ Add a trusted local contact for questions.

Your first sense of home

- ☐ Choose one café or local place you enjoy.
- ☐ Walk your neighbourhood without an errand.
- ☐ Join one social, language or interest group.
- ☐ Plan one day with no administration.
- ☐ Write down what is still unclear rather than holding it all in your head.
- ☐ Celebrate what you have already completed.

Need a hand with the next step?

Bring the unfinished parts of this checklist to Hello Abroad. We can identify a useful next step and shape the level of support around what you actually need.

UNDERSTAND THE NEXT STEP

A practical consultation to sort what applies and which official or professional route comes next.

GET READY

Help organising documents, forms, appointment requirements and bilingual preparation.

COME WITH ME

In-person bilingual support for applicable appointments in Seville province.

SETTLE IN

Help with banking, phone, internet, housing coordination and useful local introductions.

START WITH A HELLO

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PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES

Hello Abroad provides practical bilingual administrative and settling-in support. Where legal advice, immigration representation, sworn translation or specialist tax advice is required, qualified independent professionals may be consulted and additional fees may apply. Government fees and third-party costs are separate unless expressly included.

General orientation only. Requirements and commercial offers change. Verify current information with the relevant authority, provider or qualified independent professional.