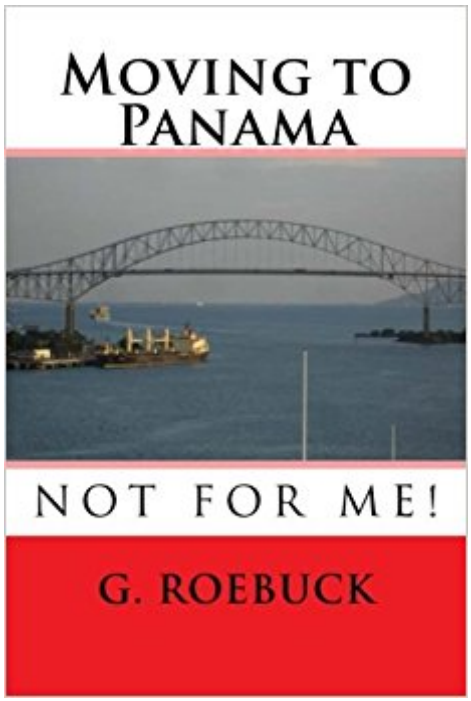
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Moving To Panama - Not For Me!



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Synopsis

Moving to Panama - Not for Me! was written as the definitive guide for those considering moving to Panama to live, work or retire. It covers over 40 topics with worthwhile tips, real-life examples, photos, quotes and information. If you are thinking of moving to Panama to retire, or to live and work in Panama permanently, what you really need to know are the negatives.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

5.0 out of 5 starsÃ Â An honest look at Panama.Ã Â ByÃ Â Wesley Trammel Verified Purchase This book is a refreshing counterbalance to all the rah rah boosterism about relocating to Panama. As a foreign resident of Panama for 20 years, I can attest that everything the author says is true. Panama is a real country that has real problems like all others. Those who paint Panama as a giant live-in WalMart or paradise do the country and people and any perspective immigrant a grave disservice. Thank you G. Roebuck for giving prospective immigrants a more realistic look at Panama.

Many retirees and baby boomers still move to Panama every month and for many it lives up to their expectations. However, many more people discover that Panama is not the place they envisaged. There is sadly a ready supply of homes on the market being sold by expats planning to move out and move on.Ã Â Those considering Panama as a place to move to will find plenty of helpful positive "advisors" during their initial research who will tell them what they want to hear. However, buyer beware! Estate agents, lawyers, local shop keepers, restaurateurs and even expats themselves may all have their own reasons for convincing you to move to Panama. For some it is

simply a good business move for them - in short they want your business and may be getting a commission or kickback on any home you purchase.Ã Â Lonely and unsettled expats may be yearning for new social company or are too proud to admit their mistake. Others cannot afford to sell up and move elsewhere and are making the best of a bad decision. They are unlikely to tell you why you should not move to Panama. If you are considering moving to Panama, as well as buying magazines and books that tell you all the plus points about this Central American country (perhaps with rather rose-tinted spectacles), you need a truthful guide to point out why you should perhaps NOT move to Panama.Ã Â This book has pinpointed over 40 important issues about living in Panama and covers the good and bad points of each. It aims to tell you the truth, as we saw it, about what you really need to know so you can make an informed decision about your life-changing move to Panama.Ã Â You may disregard these points as unimportant to you, but if you don't know the negatives of moving to Panama, can you really make an informed choice? Before you invest your hopes, life-savings, aspirations, health and future social life in the Republic of Panama, you need to understand the full picture. You will then be better positioned to decide for yourself whether moving to Panama is the right choice for you.

Mr. Roebuck tries to document what he experienced in Panama ... although he was there such a very short time. The book is a "book of complaints" ... hard to read if one is an optimist. His decision to not move there, in his case, is a good thing. I would caution anyone reading his book. Some people will complain in any circumstance and we all those know those types. I encourage anyone reading this book to find out directly about Panama for themselves. It's cheap to get there and fun to experience. My wife and I are world travelers and I work currently in Africa. Every place we have ever been offers something different and interesting. After spending time in Panama, we have decided that it remains number one on our retirement list due to it's pristine jungles, green mountains, world class coasts (on both sides), and wonderful people. And hey, taking time to live in new culture and learn a second,language keeps the brain young and happy.

An honest look at life in Panama as experienced by one expat couple. Even if a person is set on moving to Panama this short book gives some important insights to think about. Being prepared for some of the down sides could make a move there less stressful. I noticed with interest that the author had multiple experiences with locals charging far more than the going rate simply because the locals figure the foreigners are "rich" and can afford to be ripped off. I experienced that in the Philippines quite a few times. Although there can be great experiences there too, some will call you

stingy (or worse) if you're willing to pay only twice the normal price for a product or service instead of 5 times. That can get tiring. There are plenty of books extolling the virtues of Panama and some websites call it one of the top 5 retirement destinations. It may be exactly that for some people. This book helped convince me to check out other places.

Roebuck is entitled to his opinion. But he's honest. There is no postal service or ambulance protocol, police response in the boonies might be spotty. Grills on windows of expensive houses in Boquete. Etc. HOWEVER, having said that, go to Boquete, stay at Valle Escondido, and try to keep from getting misty over the absolute beauty of the place..

If you are thinking about maybe moving to Panama, this book is a MUST READ. In 72 short pages (several of which are completely blank), author Roebuck gets directly to the heart of each of the issues he discusses, without any extraneous fluff. In doing so he corroborates the suspicions one may have developed through reading other books or websites that hype Panama as the perfect place to retire--either because one is trying to read between the lines or because the issues are entirely undiscussed.For example: "Electricity is many times more expensive than in the USA . . . The cost of air-conditioning 24/7 would be prohibitive." "[S]tores . . . do not have a returns policy, even for faulty items. . . . Customer service still has to be introduced to Panama." "[H]ome burglaries are very common." "[M]ost Panamanians do not have any respect for their environment. It is perfectly normal for them to spend a day on a beautiful clean beach and then dump their bottles, litter, carrier bags, and dirty diapers on the paths leading down to the beach." A "country with high levels of corruption." Etc.To be fair, among the many issues he discusses, he does also mention a number of advantages one may find in moving to Panama. It's not all negative.In the end, one needs, for themselves, to answer the question, "Yes, it's true, I do want very much to get out of the United States, but, given reality, will I be truly happy living in Panama day after day after day after day . . . ? Or do I want to look elsewhere?" Reading this short book is very helpful in answering that question. Much easier than making a move and then figuring it all out.

This book is a must read for anyone thinking of moving to Panama. It is only 72 pages and it took me only about an hour to read it. But it is well worth every cent I paid for the book. Though I will have to do some more research to flesh out more details and obtain additional supporting evidence. Contrary to what one reviewer said, the author does balance the good with the bad in Panama quite well. So this book is not meant to bash Panama but to provide the potential Panamanian expat with

some valuable "caveat emptors". For example, the mail system is Panama is very primitive, rarely delivers to home addresses, and often gets lost. Setting up and getting mail delivered to a post office box will cost "a minimum of $60/month". The Panamanians have little sense for customer service and getting your money back or getting repairs done for defective products or services is almost non-existent except for US made products. Since you are living in a tropical "paradise" be prepared for mosquito borne diseases like malaria, west Nile virus, and dengue fever to name just a few. The author recommends using Deet insecticide and wearing full length shirts and pants at night. Since about 30% of the population lives in poverty, theft is pervasive even among household employees and the beaches are often littered with trash. I could go on, but you really need to read this book. As the author notes, rarely do you get negative information about a country (especially these days of Facebook inspired "likeness") because most other authors have a vested interest in providing only positive information. I congratulate the author for being brave enough provide these valuable "caveat emptors".

Great personal coverage of one family’s evaluation of their experience relocating to Panama. Covers the negative areas that are glossed over by so many businesses and writers and is very realistic about the plusses and minuses. As a traveler who have been all over the world for over 40 years I applaud this book. The considerations covered in this book also apply to many other countries and can be useful for anyone planning reallocating overseas.

Overpriced. Over 9 dollars for 72 pages. Not that we should pay by the page, but the price should be more in the 5.95 range. Other than that, helpful and eye opening, but still not very much in depth.

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