

## COUNTRY FACT SHEET

### MONTENEGRO

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#### Disclaimer

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## I. CHECKLIST

### 1. To do before the return

The returnee should:

- apply for Travel Order in case he/she does not have a Montenegrin passport (or ID in case of Schengen Countries).
- gather information concerning the arrival at the airport and the onward journey.
  - There are two airports on Montenegrin territory: in Podgorica and in Tivat.
  - Bus service comprises urban transport, suburban transport and intercity transport. The following link provides information regarding bus schedule, prices, reservation, etc.: <http://www.balkanviator.com/me/autobuske-stanice>
  - Train tickets for rail transportation can be bought at railway stations, in travel agencies or during the trip from the conductor. The following link provides information regarding train schedules, prices, reservation, etc.: <http://www.zcg-prevoz.me/>
  - Taxi services are quite affordable in Montenegro: <http://citytaxi.com/> | <http://halotaxi.me/>
- find a temporary accommodation.

The following links provide information regarding possibilities for finding temporary accommodation: <http://www.smestaj.me/> | <http://krov.me/property-type/stan-na-dan/>

### 2. To do immediately after the return

There is no need to register at any authority after return.

The returnee should:

- apply for a Work Book at the Center for Social Work if he/she does not have one.
- register at the Employment Agency if unemployed.
- apply for child care, schools or other educational institutions.

## II. HEALTH CARE

### 1. Health care system

#### a. General information on the health care system

Public health insurance is available to Montenegrin citizens. Primary healthcare protection is implemented through the Selected Doctor (each insurer is assigned to one Physiatrist at his/her municipality).

#### b. Access, especially for returnees

- Eligibility and requirements

Children under age of 18 years; regular high school and university students aged under 26 years; pregnant women; persons aged 65+; unemployed persons who are recorded at the Employment Agency (EA); handicapped persons; and persons who have at least 10 times voluntarily donated their blood are entitled to the free of charge healthcare protection. Employed persons are entitled to public health care if they pay contributions along with the employer.
- Registration procedure

Montenegrin citizens need to register for the public health insurance either through his/her employer or through the EA in case of unemployment.
- Required documents:

When registering through the EA the person has to provide his/her Work Book and an ID. Concerning family members the returnee needs to submit a Marriage certificate for the spouse and Birth certificates for children.
- Costs

When registering through the EA unemployed insurers do not pay anything. When employed, insurers' contribution is 8.5 % of the paycheck, and employers' contribution is 3.8%.

### 2. Medical treatment and availability and costs of medication

#### a. Medical facilities and doctors.

In every Montenegrin municipality there is at least one General Hospital (or Health Centre) where his/her Selected Doctor sits, there is a Clinical Centre in Podgorica, a Lung Disease Hospital in Niksic and the Institute for Physical Medicine, Rehabilitation and Rheumatology in Herceg Novi.

#### b. Procedures of admission

The person should firstly schedule a medical check at his/her Selected Doctor. The Selected Doctor will examine the person and direct him/her to a Specialist Doctor if needed.

c. **Availability and costs of medication**

Within the frame of the mandatory public health insurance persons have the right on medication. The medication needs to be prescribed by a doctor and has to be listed on the list of medications provided by the Health Insurance Fund of Montenegro. In this case patients do not need to pay at all or pay a small participation (up to 2 EUR).

More information: [http://www.rfzo.rs/download/lista\\_A\\_uobj.pdf](http://www.rfzo.rs/download/lista_A_uobj.pdf).

### III. LABOR MARKET AND EMPLOYMENT

1. **Labor market situation and assistance to find employment**

a. **Labor force:** 263,700 active persons (male: 145,200 ; female: 118,500)

b. **Average income**

- Average income: 739 EUR (491 EUR without taxes and contributions)
- PPP: 807 EUR

c. **Unemployment rate:** 48.9 unemployed persons (male: 27.8; female: 21.1)

2. **Ways / assistance to find employment**

The National Employment Agency provides the following services:

- List of vacancies
- Assistance for finding employment, vocational trainings, issuing of a national professional certificate, mediation
- Stimulation of entrepreneurship development through credit support

a. **Access, especially for returnees**

- Eligibility and requirements  
Any Montenegrin citizen or foreigner can use EA services.
- Registration procedure and required documents  
The person should register at the Employment Agency at his/her municipality. He/she needs the Work Book issued by the municipal Secretary for Social Welfare and an ID.
- More information (including locations): <http://www.zzzcg.me/>
- Portals that advertise vacancies: <http://zaposli.me> | <http://www.prekoveze.me/> | <http://posao.crna.gora.me/list/2> | <http://www.klikdoposla.me/> | <http://www.sezonac.com/> | <http://www.careerjet.me/posao-crna-gora-125176.html>

b. **Benefits and costs**

There is no cost for registering at the EA or for using portals.

3. **Further education possibilities and vocational trainings**

The National Employment Agency organizes vocational trainings and provides information on possibilities.

### IV. HOUSING

1. **Housing situation**

Housing prices depend on the region of Montenegro (2 room apartment/approximate price):

- North and central region (except Podgorica): 150 - 250 EUR / month
- Podgorica: 250 - 400 EUR / month
- Coastal area: 250 - 400 EUR / month

2. **Ways / assistance to find accommodation**

Daily newspapers provide most information. Following are some links that consist advertisements: <http://www.smestaj.me/> | <http://krov.me/property-type/stan-na-dan/> | <http://srbija-nekretnine.org/crna-gora/stanovi> | <http://nekretnine.crna.gora.me/> | <http://krov.me/>

In exceptional cases municipalities can lend apartments until the person resolves her/his housing.

### V. SOCIAL WELFARE

1. **Social welfare system**

The Center for Social Work is the institution for social welfare in charge of social, family and legal welfare.

a. **Access, especially for returnees**

- Eligible are disabled persons; children; persons with dependencies on drug, alcohol or other narcotics; victims of neglect, abuse, exploitation and domestic violence or who might become a victim; victims of human trafficking; homeless persons; pregnant women without family

support and adequate living conditions; single parents without family support and adequate living conditions and persons who need certain social protection due to special circumstances and social risk.

- Registration procedure and needed documents for social security/insurance  
Basic prerequisites for the person to receive social aid are to hold an ID issued within the territory of Montenegro, to be on the list of unemployed at the Employment Agency, to have an income below the average level in the state or to be without any income, not to be owner of worthy real estate in Montenegro, etc.  
These services are free of charge.

b. **Benefits**

Basic financial aid provided within social protection includes: financial support, fee for disabled persons, fee for care and assistance, health protection, funeral costs, one-time financial aid (50-150 EUR).

Basic financial aid within child protection includes: fee for newborn child, fee for children, food expenditures in kindergartens, aid for education and bringing up of children and youth with special educational needs, reimbursement of earnings for maternity leave, i.e. parental absence, reimbursement of earnings for part-time work.

## 2. Pension system

a. **General information on the pension system**

Rights on retirement and disability insurance may be exercised within the Pension and Disability Fund (Fond PIO). Fond PIO is an organization which is authorized to resolve issues regarding rights on retirement and disability insurance.

Within Fond PIO, issues concerning rights to retirement and disability insurance are resolved by municipal departments in the territory the insurer was insured for the last time (the last insurance principle).

There are the following types of pension within Montenegrin pension system: Retirement Pension and Early Retirement Pension; Disability Pension and Family Pension.

Other aid provided by Fond PIO: Reimbursement for body injuries and Compensation of funeral expenses

b. **Access, especially for returnees**

- Eligibility and requirements

Montenegrin citizens can receive Retirement Pension if the following requirements are met:

Options	Conditions regarding the age of person is to receive Retirement Pension		Years of pension service necessary for Retirement Pension	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Option 1	65 years and 2 months old	60 years and 9 months old	15 years of work	15 years of work
Option 2	No age requirement	No age requirement	45 years of work	45 years of work
Option 3	No age requirement	55 years and 6 months old	40 years of work	35 years of work
Option 4	No age requirement		30 years of work (20 spent in mines or etc.)	

- Registration procedure for retirement insurance

The returnee will be registered either by his/her employer or by the Employment Agency. The returnee should visit Fond PIO in order to register years of pension services that he/she gained abroad in case that the foreign country is not the insurer. The person should present an ID.

c. **Costs**

When registering through the EA unemployed insurers do not pay anything. When employed, insurers' contribution is 15 % of his/her paycheck, and employers' contribution is 5.5%.

## 3. Vulnerable groups

a. **General information on vulnerable groups**

The following groups are recognized as being vulnerable in Montenegro: RAE population; persons with disabilities; victims of violence; children without parents; persons above 65 years who live alone; pregnant women and single women with children.

b. **Assistance for vulnerable groups**

There are NGOs and IGOs that deal with these issues. Contacts are available on page 6.

## VI. EDUCATION

### 1. Educational system

General information on the system

Educational level	Age
Child care / nursery school	0-3
Kindergarten	3-6
Primary level	
Elementary school, etc.	6-15
Secondary level	
High school, vocational training, etc.	15-19
Higher education	
University	from 19

### 2. Access and registration procedure, especially for returnees

- Enrollment in 1<sup>st</sup> grade:
  - Filled application
  - Birth certificate
  - Parents' proof of employment
  - Certificate stating child's disability (if needed)
  - Medical certificate (issued by an official health institution)
  - If the child is not on the list of school-age children, which schools receive from the register of the citizens of Montenegro, the Certificate of birth should be submitted too.
- Enrolment in other grades:
  - Verified school transcript

### 3. Costs, loans and stipends

#### a. General information on tuition fees

All levels of education, except higher education, are free of charge in public schools. When it comes to university education, fees for public universities vary from 250 to 500 EUR per semester. There are few private universities in Montenegro, and fees for those vary from 700 to 1.500 EUR per semester.

#### b. Access and requirements to stipends and/or loans for covering tuition

University of Montenegro (public university) grants free tuition to approximately 5.000 students. Number of stipends per university unit depends on the number of accepted students. Some private universities grant stipends to successful athletes or to honor roll students.

### 4. Approval and verification of foreign diplomas

Requests shall be submitted to the Ministry of Education including the following documents:

- Request
- Three certified copies of diploma or certificate of graduation
- Certificate of passed exams (transcript of records) or diploma
- Payment receipt to the amount of EUR 150

## VII. CONTACT INFORMATION AND USEFUL LINKS

Governmental, International, Non-governmental, Humanitarian Organizations

<b>IOM</b> Address: UN Eco building, Stanka Dragojevic, 8100 Podgorica E-mail: <a href="mailto:IOMMontenegro@iom.int">IOMMontenegro@iom.int</a> Tel: 020 447 411 Fax: 020 447 409	<b>Ministry of Human and Minority Rights</b> Address: Rimski trg br. 46, 81000 Podgorica E-mail: <a href="mailto:arhiva@mmp.gov.me">arhiva@mmp.gov.me</a> Tel: 020 482 129
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<b>UNHCR (RAE assistance)</b> Address: UN Eco building, Stanka Dragojevica, 8100 Podgorica E-mail: <a href="mailto:mnepo@unhcr.org">mnepo@unhcr.org</a> Tel: 020 447 423	<b>Ombudsman</b> Address: Ul. Svetlane Kane Radević 3 E-mail: <a href="mailto:ombudsman@t-com.me">ombudsman@t-com.me</a> <a href="mailto:public.relations@ombudsman.co.me">public.relations@ombudsman.co.me</a> Tel: 020 241 642
<b>SOS lines for victims of domestic violence</b> SOS Podgorica            020 232 254 SOS Nikšić                040 213 086 SOS Ulcinj                030 411 700 SOS Bar                    030 314 300 SOS Plav                   051 51 292 SOS Bijelo Polje        050 433 660 SOS Rožaje                069 644 673	<b>NGO Secure House for Women</b> Address: 69 Bul. Ivana Crnojevica, 8100 Podgorica E-mail: <a href="mailto:shelter@t-com.me">shelter@t-com.me</a> Tel: 020 232 352