



renkuosi
lietuva

**Great to see
you again!**



FIRST STEPS UPON YOUR RETURN

 **IOM**
UN MIGRATION



VIDAUS REIKALŲ
MINISTERIJA

Following your return to Lithuania after you had lived abroad, there will be many things that may seem to have changed here. The process concerning your return home from emigration may be less smooth than you would like it to be.

Returning expats are interested in different aspects of life in Lithuania: jobs or business opportunities, housing, health care, children's education and adaptation to the changed environment. The Migration Information Centre "I choose Lithuania" sees your return as a planned process which makes an extraordinary decision on returning to Lithuania much easier if you have an understanding of it in advance. Here you will find the main steps that should be taken before and upon your return to Lithuania.

Do you have any questions about returning to or coming to live in Lithuania? Visit the Migration Information Centre's "I choose Lithuania" website at renkuosilietuva.lt, ask burning questions using our live chat, by giving us a call or dropping an email and we will be happy to respond.

Photograph by Tadas Kazakevičius

The leaflet uses works of creative Lithuanians - photographs that capture modern day life and naturalness.

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FIRST STEPS UPON YOUR RETURN

STEPS FOLLOWING RETURN TO LITHUANIA

#1. First, you will need to declare your **departure from the foreign country** of your previous residence. Upon your return, you will have to **declare your residence in Lithuania** (if departure from Lithuania had been declared at the time of leaving Lithuania). This can be done on the E-Government Gateway website at epaslaugos.lt or at your local ward (*seniūnija*) of your intended place of residence to be declared.

#2. You must make arrangements for the **Compulsory Health Insurance** (*privalomasis sveikatos draudimas* or *PSD*) to be in place. As soon as your residence is declared in Lithuania, you will immediately have an obligation to pay your PSD contributions to Sodra.

If you are employed under an employment contract, you will not have to do anything yourself as all compulsory contributions will be paid by your employer together with your wages.

If an expat returning to Lithuania from abroad is temporarily not in employment, they must pay the PSD contributions independently. If a person is retired, in school, a full-time student, a parent raising a child under 8 years of age (for more information see vlk.lt), they will be covered at the public expense. If a person has an intention to become a job-seeker, the PSD contributions will be paid by the state when they register with the Employment Services (*Užimtumo tarnyba*).

#3. The next step is to **choose your health care institution and register with it**. Before registering, you should make sure that the chosen health care institution (*an outpatient clinic, a family medical centre, a clinic*) has an agreement with the Territorial Health Insurance Fund (*teritorinė ligonių kasa*) for the services provided to patients to be covered. This will ensure that you will not have to pay for the services covered through the budget of the Compulsory Health Insurance Fund (*Privalomojo sveikatos draudimo fondas* or *PSDF*).

For more information, please visit renkuosilietuva.lt/lt/pirmieji-zingsniai.

DOCUMENTS TO BRING HOME

When returning to Lithuania, it would be practical to bring the following documents with you:



- documents showing periods of employment and proof of employment (like employment contracts, payslips, P45, P60 and PD U1 forms) (for more, see "Essential documents");



- documents showing social contributions paid (like E104 forms or their equivalents);



- documents proving health insurance during your residence abroad (if social contributions and health insurance were paid for you by your employer, an employment contract will suffice);



- documents showing your child's/children's completed or partial education abroad (diplomas, certificates, letters from school).



ESSENTIAL DOCUMENTS

#A U1 form. A document issued by the social security or employment institutions in the EU member states, which provides information on employment periods abroad and which is required for the aggregation of unemployment insurance record.

#B U2 form. A document issued by the social security or employment institutions in the EU member states, which is necessary to establish a person's right to retain the unemployment social insurance benefit. If you are entitled to unemployment benefit in another country, this form is required to export/transfer the benefit to Lithuania.

#C S1 and S2 forms. Documents issued by health care institutions in the EU member states which authorise planned health care services to be obtained in another country and let their costs be reimbursed using the compulsory health insurance funds of the EU country where the person works.

#D P45 and P60 forms. In the United Kingdom and Ireland, these are the forms issued by the employer which may be presented to Sodra for the purpose of having the PSD contributions revised.

For more information about these forms, visit europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/work/social-security-forms/index_en.htm.

TIPS



- #2.** If you are planning to terminate your employment contract before returning to Lithuania and you are entitled to unemployment benefit in the country, you may export it to Lithuania and continue receiving it for a period of up to 3 months while looking for work. To do so, you will need to make an application with the national employment service of the country of departure for authorisation to export unemployment benefit.



- #1.** When returning to Lithuania from abroad, it would be handy to have an E104 form issued by the local institutions responsible for social benefits to be paid. It states the contributions paid by a person to the budget of the country of their former residence.

This form must be submitted to Sodra if you wish to receive maternity benefit (*motinystės išmoka*) or to have your record calculated or aggregated. Submitting this form helps obtain the necessary details faster than making a standard enquiry to the foreign authorities. This form also contains information about periods of employment, payment of contributions and residence abroad.



- #3.** If you have been in employment abroad, the periods worked abroad and in Lithuania will be added up when you reach retirement age. For this reason, before you leave you must inform the services responsible for paying retirement pensions in the country of departure.

Sodra does not collect any preliminary data on people's record. To have the record periods added up for pension purposes, the necessary documents (such as employment contracts, payslips, etc.) must be submitted 3 months before the retirement age is reached.