

Daily chart

The best places to live

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BY G.S., K.N.C. AND G.D.

A data-driven ranking of the most liveable cities

Best cities

Based on liveability index*

Rank	City	Country
1	Melbourne	Australia
2	Vienna	Austria
3	Vancouver	Canada
4	Toronto	Canada
5	Calgary	Canada
5	Adelaide	Australia
7	Sydney	Australia
8	Helsinki	Finland
9	Perth	Australia
10	Auckland	New Zealand

*Based on 30 factors spread across five areas: stability, infrastructure, education, health care and environment
Source: Economist Intelligence Unit

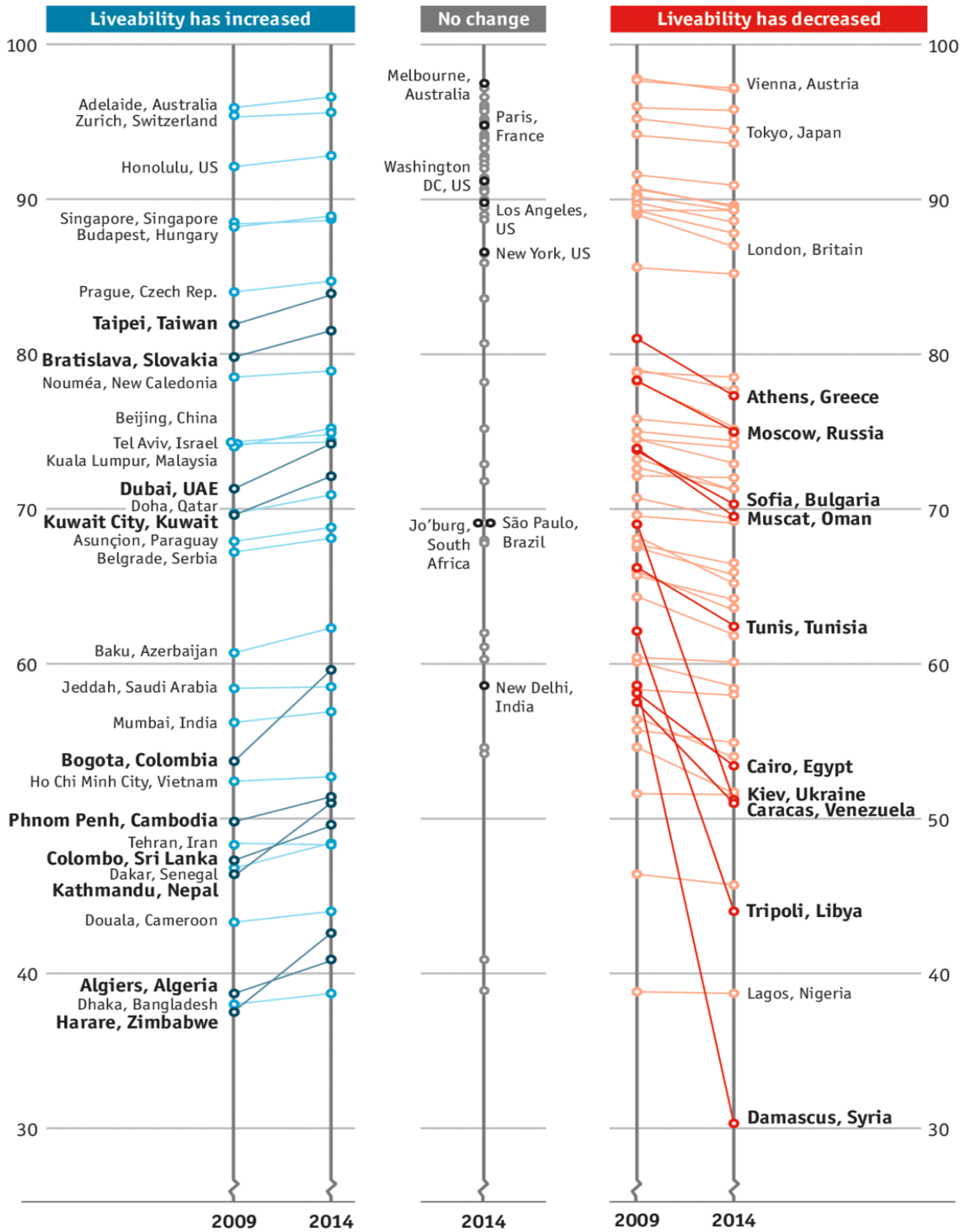
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NOT New York nor Paris nor Tokyo. Urbanites in Britain's former dominions should count themselves lucky, according to data from the Economist Intelligence Unit, our corporate cousin. Its annual "liveability index" puts eight

of the ten most comfortable places in Australia, Canada or New Zealand. The index crunches 30 factors related to things like safety, healthcare, educational resources, infrastructure and environment in 140 cities. Over the past five years urban life has deteriorated somewhat: liveability has declined in 51 places and improved in 31 places. During that time, the index average has dropped 0.7 percentage points (skewed by cities in conflict areas where survival, rather than living well, is the priority). Interestingly, the top cities have not changed much over time. The EIU notes that they “tend to be mid-sized cities in wealthier countries with a relatively low population density.” Hence those of us in London, San Francisco and Shanghai must endure the rat-race, and dream of dwelling amid Viennese coffee houses or Vancouver’s sailing and skiing.

City "liveability" index*

100=ideal, ten cities with most change highlighted in **bold**



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Source: Economist Intelligence Unit

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