

Livable Cities 2025: Society, Cultures & the City Strand

A Double Conference Call:

[Lisbon](#) 9-11 July 2025 | [Barcelona](#) 16-18 July 2025

Abstracts: 25 April, 2025

<https://amps-research.com/conference/livable-cities-2025/>

Livable Cities 2025 is an initiative between the Instituto Universitário de Lisboa, Lisbon; La Salle, Universitat Ramon Llull, Barcelona, and AMPS (Architecture, Media, Politics Society)

Issues of interest include, but are not limited to: contested spaces; socialization and planning policy; racial justice and the city; immigration; affordable housing; land rights; refugees and forced displacement; participatory planning and more.

Both conferences take their host cities, and the social issues related to them, as a starting point for debate around issues of 'livable cities'.

LISBON: 9-11th July 2025

Lisbon, the capital of Portugal has increasingly become a 'mecca' for European expats wishing to relocate. Attracted by sun, beaches, food, culture and a low cost of living, it has been ranked as the world's third most livable city for foreigners. Inevitably, the results of this have been varied: boosting the local economy, adding to property prices, straining public services and challenging sustainability goals. In all this it is prototypical of the social and urban changes of recent times: Daniel Bell's post-industrial society, Jane Jacob's life and death of cities, and David Harvey's city and social justice. Employing Lisbon as starting point for debate, this conference seeks to explore the varied readings on all these issues.

BARCELONA: 16-18th July 2025

Barcelona is seen as one of the world's most livable cities. Ranked particularly high for its renowned cultural scene, lifestyle, architecture and outdoor parks, it is also Europe's third most progressive city for start-ups. However, it is also a city that suffers from unaffordable housing, uncontrolled tourism, noise pollution and over density. It has a high cost of living, has experienced gentrification and has pockets of social deprivation. In such contradictions and paradoxes, it is a microcosm of cities the world over – a place where notions of 'livability' are far from consistent. Using the city of Barcelona as an example then, this conference explores how cross-disciplinary readings of cities the world over shed light on what makes the places we inhabit 'livable'.

Organisers:

Instituto Universitário de Lisboa, Lisbon; La Salle, Universitat Ramon Llull, Barcelona, AMPS, UK