Get used to Middle East weekends. Weekends fall on Fridays and Saturdays and it often takes getting used to having to go to work on Sundays.

Most professional jobs in Qatar pay well enough to afford a lifestyle with a certain level of luxury—housing, cars, or service. It definitely helps that there is no tax on employment income in Qatar.

An expat-heavy place, it’s easy to make friends. I was taught local etiquette on dress codes, shaking hands, and religious sensitivities by expat friends. For instance, I was told that I should not offer to shake an Arab man’s hand during a meeting unless he first extends his hand towards me.

A little goes a long way! The locals react positively when they hear I am from Singapore. I never realised how much goodwill we had as a country until I went abroad.

Be open minded. Refrain from forming cultural biases before personally interacting with anyone.

Women empowerment. Women are empowered in the workplace and often hold leadership positions.

Decision by committee. Group decision making is preferred over individual ownership. Meetings usually have many attendees and fewer agenda items than in Singapore.

An amazing cultural melting pot. My co-workers were from many different countries like Egypt, France, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Netherlands, Pakistan, Portugal, Tanzania, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, and more! They were extremely warm and shared many enriching personal and cultural experiences.

Open-mindedness. A drive to continuously improve. Diverse experiences.

NBS ALUMNI GLOBAL EXPERIENCES

QATAR

Leading Across Cultures

Pro Tips

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Working in Qatar

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