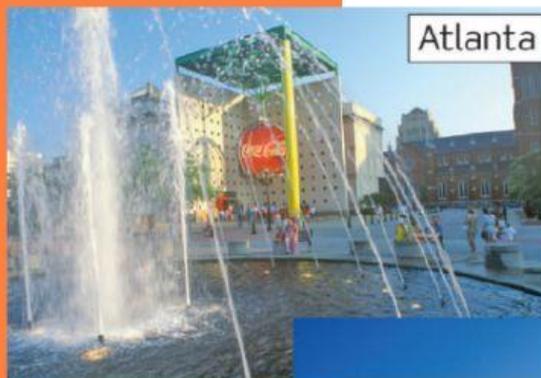


First Impressions

1. Look at the photos of the cities. Do you know what countries they are in?



Atlanta



Malmö



Valencia

2. Read two blogs on the UK travel website, about people's first impressions of two of these cities. Which two are they?

16 September **Moira in** _____

The driving

I think people drive **quite dangerously**, which surprised me because I thought they were careful drivers here. They don't drive **fast**, but people are always on the phone in the car, which you don't often see in the UK nowadays.

The food

The food can be delicious, but I think people eat **very unhealthy**. In restaurants they often add salt to their food. And they drink litres of Coke! The headquarters of the Coca-Cola company is based here, and they even have a Coca-Cola museum. Once I went to a coffee shop and asked for a double espresso, no milk no sugar. I had to repeat my order three times, because the waitress couldn't understand me. She said people here only ask for lattes and cappuccinos with lots of sugar!

The people

In general, people are very friendly. The people I'm staying with, who live just outside the city, know all their neighbours **really well**. They often don't lock their doors, which surprised me because people say it's a dangerous city. They speak **incredibly slowly**, with a strong accent and sometimes I have a problem understanding them.



14 December **Mark in** _____

The weather

It's December – and it gets dark at about 3 p.m., which is depressing! There's a lot of snow at the moment, but all the buses and trains are running **perfectly**, not like in Britain where everything stops when it snows!

The houses

All the houses are painted in pretty colours, like red, green and blue, and many houses have a yellow and blue flag. Inside the houses are decorated **beautifully** with lots of flowers and modern wooden furniture.

The people

People are friendly and polite, but quite formal. They dress fashionably but casually, and of course you see a lot of very blonde women here. You also see a lot of men who are looking after very young babies. Everybody speaks English really well, maybe because a lot of the TV is in English with subtitles.

