

HOUSING- the specialist advice

Emilie Veillon Le temps, March 2nd 2011 (Free translation)

Nice open spaces, fully equipped kitchen, parquet floor, a fireplace... to find an adequate rental at a reasonable price between Geneva and Lausanne has become a nightmare for many, with deceptions and wasted time.

To avoid being a number among 30 or so people waiting in front of the door or on the stairway waiting to visit an apartment, it is better to know a few things.

To have an impeccable presentation as well as having a perfectly completed application will help you tremendously. Internet is a useful tool: such sites as Homegate.ch and immostreet.ch have the advantage of re-grouping objects from most of the large real estate agencies. But other ways, such as discussing with friends or asking the concierges may also provide useful information.

Guillaume Fracheboud, housing coach in Geneva recommends that all means to inform oneself are useful, such as looking for “chantiers” in construction, writing to the builders and asking if one can register in advance for a home.

Requesting the services of a relocation agency is no longer the privilege of a few corporate expatriates, but is also for individuals searching for a new home, without having the time or necessary connections.

These intermediaries are very familiar with the local MARKET AND THEY ALSO UNDERSTAND THEIR CLIENT’S NEEDS. They are usually appreciated from the Real estate agencies who sometimes treat their files on a priority basis.