



Billund offers an easy, playful, child-oriented life

MARIANNE WITTE BILLUND MUNICIPALITY

"In Billund we live an easy life: everything that we need for our daily lives is available. We don't need to rush and commute for hours. You can easily ride your bike to school or work. We live in a small, caring and very colourful community, where having newcomers in your neighbourhood is absolutely normal. We have a vivid cultural life with a strong focus on children; and we have the privilege to use LEGOLAND, the country's most popular tourist attraction, as a playground. If you want to get away for a while or visit family and friends abroad, you can easily use Billund Airport, the second largest airport in Denmark, which is just around the corner."

This is how Marianne Witte, Billund Municipality's newcomer guide, describes the region that she loves so much. She has always loved to travel and to see the world with her family. Marianne also loves to be surrounded by different nationalities, but she never really wanted to leave the place where she has always lived, because it offers everything that she needs.

Instead, she combines the things she loves and cultivates her passion within her job. Her goal is to make newcomers feel as much at home in Billund Municipality, as she does.



"This is my main drive: to help families find their place here. I like to meet newcomers, I like to hear their stories and to be in contact with them as often as they need. In this way, I can help with all kinds of problems, as well."

Marianne has been working as a newcomer guide for 3 years. She truly believes that it is extremely helpful to have an 'ordinary', kind person to contact, who has knowledge about the local life. Her aim is to be that person, who pops up in your mind, when you need help with your doctor, apartment, children or family activities, schooling or anything else, really.





Message from Marianne

“Just be yourself and ask if you have any question or uncertainty. Moving to a new place brings up a lot of unexpected issues, but do not think that these are only your problems. Most of the families that I meet (both Danish and international) face similar challenges, so chances are that I’ve met the problem that you are struggling with before and I might have a good idea how to solve it. So, please come and ask. There’s no such thing as a stupid question.”

“There are some people who come to me several times, because they have lots of questions. Some other newcomers ask me only once or twice, then they find their own ways to tackle the challenges. I appreciate and respect both. For me there’s no such thing as a small or big question. Everything can be very important. I often experience, for instance, that sometimes a family can’t solve a small problem, because they don’t have the information about how to do it and then it grows into a really serious issue. It’s understandable that asking for help can sometimes be very difficult for a newcomer, but please, ask anyway, because it can make your life so much easier.” – says Marianne.

Billund Municipality is not only about LEGO

Obviously, a lot of newcomers (both Danes and Internationals) come to live in the area because they’ve got a job at LEGO. Billund has many other international-related jobs too. Marianne works closely with many local companies, which are growing rapidly, and they are also interested in international employees.

“We see a lot of potential for international spouses who come with great professional experience too, and I believe that the companies in our region are beginning to see this potential, as well.”

This growing interest from local companies makes it possible for the partners of newcomers to get jobs within the region or to change to a new workplace without the need to move away from the region. This can save a lot of struggle for the families. Thanks to the great investments and development projects in Billund Municipality, there’s a great potential here to create a very vivid working and living community, where locals and internationals build their lives together.

CONTACT

You can find Marianne Witte at the Billund Center in Billund during working hours. You will always see her photograph and phone number if you open up a Billund-related brochure or website, because she really wants you to know that there’s help out there if you need it.

You can reach out to Marianne Witte at +45 2012 3133 or mwi@billund.dk, too – even before you move to Billund Municipality.

If you wish to read more about Billund Municipality and the opportunities there, please visit www.welcome2billund.dk. If you want to be part of the local community, please join the Facebook group of Billund Internationals & Friends.



Capital of Children™

