

## How I Came to live in the United States

This story begins with my second marriage.

My husband is an American Citizen and he lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

When we got married he retired and moved to Bogota, Colombia.

I was working for a company in the Technology Department. The company required long working hours. My husband did not like this situation and he was alone and waited for me every night.

One day we spoke about our future and he proposed to make changes and come to the United States.

I initially did not want to come to the U.S.A. because all my family lived in Bogota and when I visited my husband, in Minneapolis, had a snow storm. It was cold. I thought that this place was not very good to live in Winter.

Also I remembered when I visited my cousin in Wisconsin one January it was terribly cold and not very good to stay there. The roads were closed and many cars were off the road in the ditch. The nice view changed as the snow turned black and all things were gray.

My children and I needed winter clothes. I felt that I was on a different planet.

I mention this because Colombia does not have a change of season.

I began to think of the possibility of moving to the U.S.A and my husband invited me to come to Florida on vacation and see new places.

We stayed in New Port Richey and visited Tarpon Springs, Clearwater, Safety Harbor and other places.

I liked this area and we thought that this place could be our next home.

After the vacation I needed some time to make a decision because I was thinking about changes in my life and I could retire and move to another country.

In 2018 I had two factors that helped to make a decision: my son who lived with us decided to go to England and study for a Master's degree in Economics; and in my work I had high stress and many responsibilities. I was sick and tired of the job. I had done for 28 years.

I decided to resign from my job. My husband was happy and so was I.

We began to plan to move to Florida and eight weeks later we came to Tampa. We were initially in a hotel and after that we went to a tiny Airbnb house. We began to look for a house to rent but the price was high so we decided to buy a house instead.

After one month we found a house in Palm Harbor. We felt lucky because house prices began to rise and fewer houses were available.

I have been here almost five years and think that this place is still very nice.