10 Ways to Travel Endlessly



Out of all the posts I've published on <u>Do Something Cool</u>, easily the most popular is "6 Ways to Travel Endlessly". As of writing this, it has been shown on Stumbleupon 378,000 times. In one day, the post boosted traffic by over 16,000 views to the site.

Even though it was released almost four years ago, it's still my mostly widely read post. Readers have found the travel resources in it extremely valuable and helpful. But much of the information is old and in good need of an update.

Over the years, I've met many travelers who have opened my eyes to a wide array of different ways you can see the world for long periods of time. They've developed some really ingenious methods which most people can do; all of these are now listed here.

Like I said in the original post, "Saving all year long at a job for just two weeks a year won't let you see the world the way you want to see it."

Here's the newer and more complete list of all the ways to travel endlessly.

1. Jobs in travel industry

If you want to travel more, it can be very beneficial to check out jobs in the travel industry itself. Someone has to take care of all those tourists. And most of these jobs don't require specialized skills so just about anyone can find a position to earn a little money and see the world at the same time.

Cruise Ships

First, let's take a look at cruise ships. There are about 300 different types of jobs available on them. Everything from cook to cruise director needs to be filled. In a way, they're almost like a city in itself with plenty of opportunities to go around.

Just make sure you closely investigate the policy of the cruise ship you're going to work on. Some offer better shore leave than others.

Resources:

All Cruise Jobs, Cruise Ship Jobs, Carnival Jobs, Cruise Lines Jobs, Princess Cruise Jobs

Resorts

Resorts are similar to cruise ships. The biggest difference, of course, is that you're not going from place to place, but staying in only one spot. But the opportunities for employment are just as great.

The wonderful thing about resort work is that you're usually in a beautiful location. Ski resorts are located on the side of mountains while others are near the relaxing shore of a beach.

These jobs require a lot of energy and many places have stipulations that you cannot leave the resort during your contract. But once your time has ended, you're free to explore the area for as long as you want.

Resources:

Resort Work, Cool Works Resorts, Resort Jobs

Flight attendants

I've become friends with a few flight attendants. Each one of them says that the job offers plenty of opportunities for free travel.

Essentially you're earning money and getting a free flight at the same time. Once you've reached your location, you're free to explore the area - at least until you're required to punch in for your next shift on another plane.

As an added bonus, some flight attendants get free flights (as passengers, not on the job) and they even get free tickets to share with friends.

Resources:

Flight Attendant Job Listings

Tour Guides

If you're a people-person, you might want to consider work as a tour guide. It's a great way to meet a lot of fellow travelers. Plus, you'll get to know a city on a much deeper level.

A few agencies look for tour guides as spot work, that is, they look for people to work for a few weeks at a time. Others look for tour guides for longer periods. It all depends on the position.

Another option is to self-organize some people together and offer to show them around. I met a guy in Morocco who would look for tourists to do quick tours and would make a decent income off just two or three people.

Resources:

Cool Works Tour Guide Jobs, So You Want to be a Tour Guide, ITMI Tour Guide Training

2. Couchsurfing

Couchsurfing has become really popular over the past few years. As people open up their homes (and couches), people have had a nice free place to stay for the night.

Paying for a hotel or hostel every night can be extremely costly. So finding a place to stay for free each night can really cut down on expenses and make your travel money last a lot longer.

Since you're spending the night in someone's house or apartment, you also have the opportunity to meet local people who can inform you about fun things to do in the area. This can be a great way to get an insider's look into things you might not normally find in your travel guide.

These programs take safety very seriously. Referrals and references are encouraged and a system of verification is also available. But due to the fact that you're in someone's home, a healthy amount of caution is advised.

Resources:

Couchsurfing, Servas, Hospitality Club, BeWelcome Tripping

3. Freelance Work

There is a large community of businesses that are looking to hire people on a short-term contractual basis. The beauty of this work is that it's all online and can be done from anywhere in the world.

The variety of work is diverse. From web programming, administrative support, sales, marketing, legal work and engineering, most people can find something to do.

You set your own hours, so the work is flexible around your travel schedule. As long as you finish the project on time, you're free to go anywhere you want.

Resources:

Elance, Freelancer.com, ifreelance.com, guru.com, Odesk, Fiverr

4. Make an income online

Working online probably won't make you rich, but the little it brings in can supplement other lines of income. In some cases, the little you're earning will be all you need if you're traveling on a tight budget.

With all the activity happening on the internet, there is plenty of opportunity to earn your way to more traveling.

Blogging

Think about starting a blog. You can sell advertising or make money on affiliate links. Although, it can be a tough route to make money at first, since you often need a lot of traffic to make any decent amount of income.

Resources:

Blogger, Wordpress, How to Make Money Blogging, How to Make Money From Your Blog

Coding

New websites go online every day. Each of them requires someone to do the coding and web development so that it looks nice and functions efficiently. Learning to code with HTML or CSS can get you hired on to develop these sites.

Another option is to design apps. I know someone who makes a good living from designing and selling apps for smart phones. If you have the self-drive, motivation and know-how, you can earn a good living from them.

It should be noted that you don't necessarily need to go to school to learn how to code. There are many free online courses that will teach you everything you need to know to get started.

Resources:

Code Academy, Code Avengers, Code School, Treehouse

Selling Products

If you're good with crafts, you can make some money selling products online. People make jewelry, clothing, arts, ceramics and a whole wide variety of other items and put them online for others to buy.

There are also sites that will buy photos, especially stock photo sites. It's easy to upload photos and you'll get a royalty for each download.

Resources:

Etsy, eBay, iStock Photo, SmugMug, Alamy



5. Temporary international jobs

I met a traveler in Nicaragua who was traveling his way through Central America simply by finding construction jobs in the area he was in. He would work for a few days, get his paycheck and then do what he wanted for the rest of the week.

His story seems unusual, but there are actually a lot of unconventional, temporary ways to make money while traveling.

Some people make a few dollars as street performers. If you can do a magic trick or play a musical instrument, you can make a few quick bucks at a busy intersection.

Some travelers have made money by handing out flyers for night clubs. I've met some travelers who earn money as bartenders when bars are having trouble finding employees.

Then there is seasonal work. Many travelers can get free room and board (plus some spending money) if they are willing to pick fruit or work on organic farms.

One such organization is WWOOF which stands for World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms. It's an international organization of gardens, ranches and farms where you exchange work for food and shelter.

It's farm work so most of it is manual labor, but the workday is generally about five hours long so there is plenty of time to see the area you're visiting.

Resources:

Picking Jobs, Wwoofing, Help Exchange, Workaway

6. Teach Scuba Diving or Surfing

When I went scuba diving in Vietnam, the instructors told me they were expats who were using their specialized skills in diving as a way to live abroad.

There are many companies around the world who are looking for people with a specialized skill to be instructors. And it's not just scuba diving.

Some of these skills include things like surfing, scuba diving, snowboarding and just about anything that requires you to teach novices a new skill, especially in the tourist industry.

Once you get set up with a job, you'll be able to work in live in the country. There will be plenty of extra time to enjoy the city or travel around the region.

Resources:

Surf Travel Jobs, Alliance Abroad, Dive Zone Jobs

7. Odd jobs for other travelers

Some people can make money by doing odd jobs for fellow travelers. There are a lot of different services you can provide such as haircuts, pedicures and manicures. If you're good around a kitchen, some travelers might pay to get a delicious home-cooked meal.

Some travelers know how to give top-notch massages. It might be something another traveler might need after a long day of walking in the cold air.

Think what you have to offer that other travelers might need. Look around for a need that travelers have and look to fill it. It seems as if travelers are always thinking up new ways to make a little money around hostels every day.

8. Teaching in a school

Teaching abroad is a great way to get a long term placement in another country. You don't even need to know the language of the host country before you go.

Teaching English

Teaching English can be a great way to move abroad simply because there is so much demand. South Korea and Japan are popular destinations for teaching English abroad, but most countries are looking for native English speakers too. Contracts are generally about a year.

You don't need to have a teaching degree, but you want to make sure to get a licensing certificate in ELT/TEFL/EFL since most places will require this. The places that don't often pay less and are questionable in reputation.

Resources:

Goabroad.com, Council on International Educational Exchange

Teaching Other Subjects

Of course, teaching English is only one option. If you have a teaching degree in any subject, you can still work and live abroad.

My teaching degree is in English, but I worked in a school in Morocco with American teachers in subjects as diverse as Science, Math and even Physical Education. There's plenty of work in American Schools abroad that look for licensed teachers in all subjects.

Resources:

University of Northern Iowa Job Fair, Teach Away, Tutors Worldwide

9. Travel Nursing and Au Pair

Don't want to be a teacher, but still want to find a job with plenty of travel opportunities? There are other options to choose from.

Travel Nursing

There are more opportunities to travel as a nurse than most people realize. There's even a job title specifically called "Travel Nurse" for those who want to spend a few months in one place before moving to another spot.

Plus, many countries are drastically short of nurses and desperately seek them out to work there. This seems to be especially true of Middle Eastern countries, but most other countries are looking too.

Resources:

Travel Nursing Jobs, Travel Nursing & RN Jobs, American Mobile, Worldwide Travel Staffing

Au Pair

Another job that goes well with travel is being an Au Pair. If you can take care of a child and you have good parenting instincts, you can do well in this position.

Most au pair work seems to be in Europe, but demand comes from most countries. Check with each country as to what regulations you need to follow. Some countries require au pairs to get visas. France requires au pairs to take French language lessons.

It's advised to work through an agency when setting up a position. It's possible to do it yourself, but there's not much you can do if the job falls through upon arrival.

Resources:

Au Pair Jobs, Au Pair Worldwide, Great Au Pair

10. House Sitting

House sitting is very simple. Someone owns a house and will be absent for some time. But they still need someone to take care of it while they're away. That person might as well be you.

Taking care of someone's house might include such duties as gardening, getting the mail, keeping trespassers off or even taking care of a pet. But at its basic level, you're just looking after the house.

The great thing about house sitting is that you're living in what's often a big beautiful home. However, house sitting has become very popular over the years and it's becoming harder to find homes to sit. As demand shifts, homeowners have started to ask that sitters pay their share of the bills.

In order to get started, you need to sign up on a house sitting site. There's an annual fee to join, but it's a great way to live abroad for a short period of time.

Resources:

Caretaker's Gazette, Mind My House, House Carers

Additional Resources

Are you looking for other ways to get started traveling? These are some of the best resources online.

<u>Frequent Flyer Master</u> – How to go anywhere in the world for nearly free using frequent flyer miles, even if you don't travel very often. This is a great resource to get miles towards your plane ticket. Sign up and get the special bonus: "One free plane ticket. Guaranteed."

<u>The Unconventional Guide to Luxury Travel on a Budget</u> – Traveling well can be a lifestyle of regular trips and adventures...they'll show you how to do it.

<u>Live and Work from Anywhere</u> – Transplant your career, job or business to the global location of your choice. Learn the tricks of the trade so you can hit the road and work from anywhere.

Also, you have to check out the book I wrote about how to save money for traveling. It goes step-by-step in exactly what I've done to make travel a lot more frequent and affordable.

When you've finished reading this book, you will have discovered some of the best practices for financing your trips and traveling cheaper.

Here are just a few things you will learn:

- Cutting costs so you save more for travel
- Everything you need to know about frequent flyer programs
- Best places to get frequent flyer miles
- How to save enormous amounts of money on plane tickets
- The best ways to save money while traveling
- Where to find affordable places to stay
- The best credit cards for travelers
- 3 examples of international travel plans that total \$1000 or less (airfare included)
- Tons more...

Click the link below to get access to the book now.

Spend Less, Travel More: The Guide to Financing Your Travel Plans

Additional Books and Resources

Once in a Lifetime Trips: The World's 50 Most Extraordinary and Memorable Travel Experiences by Chris Santella

Break Free: The Ultimate Guide to House Sitting by Jessica Ainlay and Dani Heinrich

Journeys of a Lifetime: 500 of the World's Greatest Trips by National Geographic

1000 Places to See Before You Die, the second edition: Completely Revised and Updated with Over 200 New Entries by Patricia Schultz

Work Your Way Around the World: The Globetrotter's Bible by Susan Griffith

World's Best Travel Experiences: 400 Extraordinary Places by National Geographic

The Essential Guide to Becoming a Flight Attendant by Kiki Ward

<u>Teaching Overseas: An Insider's Perspective: Everything You Need to Know to Secure a</u>
Job in an American or International School by Kent M. Blakeney

The Practical Guide to Wwoofing by A. Greenman