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Five Affordable World Travel Destinations

By C.J.Gustafson

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Locations
That Offer More But Cost Less

So
you want to travel the world but you have a tight budget?
Are you tired of reading about everyone else's exotic adventures and
ready to have some of your own? Have
you always wanted to take an international vacation but thought you couldn't
afford it? There are numerous
travel destinations across the world that are both exciting and affordable.
Five of them are described here to give you ideas and get you started
planning your own getaway.

There
are two ways to approach affordable vacations to distant destinations.
Either you will save money getting there or the savings will occur once
you arrive at your selected spot. If
you want the trip there to be affordable, many travel consolidators recommend
choosing well-known destinations that are served by numerous airlines and
receive millions of travelers each year. The
competition for customers usually drives costs down for everything from lodging
to tour packages. Airfares between
major hubs tend to be more affordable and there are often plenty of discounts
and last minute travel deals.

London
In
Europe, London is a top pick for affordable vacation destinations, for these
exact reasons. Not only do you have

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more flights to choose from, they are cheaper than if you flew to a more remote location. On average, staying in London may be a bit more expensive than other European destinations, but the seemingly endless choices in hotels, restaurants, transportation, tours, and other travel essentials gives travelers opportunities to mold their vacation to fit their budgets. And you can use London as your home base to set out on day trips to other more exotic locations or buy a Eurorail pass and see those more remote countries without the expense of flying there.

Playa
del Carmen, Mexico

This theory also works well for traveling in the Caribbean. Belize is an appealing destination, with wonderful Caribbean beaches and a lush tropic setting, but since it has only recently emerged as a popular travel destination, it is more expensive than Cancun, Jamaica or other well-traveled locations along the Mayan Riviera. With fewer flights, getting there is more expensive, and there are few moderate lodging options. Development of larger luxury resorts have begun to boom, but the only real alternative for those on a budget is staying in local facilities that may be hard to locate from home and may be more rustic than most travelers are willing to try.

Although there are many options for affordable vacations in the Caribbean, an excellent pick is Playa del Carmen, Mexico. Accessible via flights to Cancun, which are often some of the cheapest in the region, Playa is just a half hour away. It is filled with a multitude of lodging choices, from expansive luxury resorts on the ocean to quaint but clean hotels downtown. From Playa, travelers can branch out and visit Tulum and other locations on the Mayan Riviera or take the ferry across to the island of Cozumel where snorkeling is prime and the attractions are many.

For Asian destinations, travelers often do better to focus on saving money once they get to their destination. Depending on your country of origin, getting to just about any spot in Asia is going to be a sizable chunk of your travel budget. The difference will come from the cost of lodging, food, entertainment and other travel expenditures once you arrive. By choosing destinations where you get the most for your money, you can save a great deal on your international vacation. A drink or dinner in Tokyo will cost you many times more than what it

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would in Saigon. The key here is to go where your dollars buy you more and where the local cost of living is low.

Tioman

Island

An

affordable yet exotic choice for Asia is Malaysia and specifically Tioman Island, known as the mythical 'Bali Hai' from the film 'South Pacific.' Tioman Island is located at the southern end of the east coast of Malaysia on the South China Sea. Its sandy beaches, bordered by lush jungles and stunning mountains make it a relaxing yet intriguing destination, ideal for sun

lovers, snorkelers and divers. The island also has many villages for exploring and shopping. English is widely spoken and the rates are amazingly affordable, with a two night lodging package for a suite at a lovely oceanside resort averaging around 100 U.S. dollars. Typically visitors reach the island via the speed ferry from the mainland. Although the trip can take over two hours, it is enjoyable and provides opportunities for dolphin watching along the way.

Buenos

Aires

South

America also has many destinations that are affordable because of the savings once you arrive. Locales like Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, the area's top destination, are coming down in price but are still more expensive than cities such as Buenos Aires in Argentina, where the rates are lower and the U.S. dollar goes further.

A

huge metropolis that is more European than South American, the city has much to offer including cultural events, thriving nightlife, shopping, local sports, and a host of tours and excursions. La Boca, with its street performers, shops, and unique architecture is a big tourist draw. The large number of choices for lodging, restaurants, and activities provides opportunities for budget travel and savings. Airfare to the city is relatively reasonable for an international destination, with discount fares from the U.S. averaging around \$500 round trip. Buenos Aires might not be one of the most exotic or inspiring destinations in South America, but it is a city that everyone should see at least once, and with some of the most affordable rates and fares around, it makes the list as a top South American destination.

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Las Vegas
The list would not be complete without a North American destination, and the champion of all affordable locales is Las Vegas. It too is a city that should be seen at least once, and many world travelers return again and again for the gaming, art, shows and people watching that just can't be found anywhere else. Close enough to other top U.S. attractions like the Grand Canyon, Vegas provides other options for those who have had their fill of casinos.

The city has long been known for its cheap vacation packages with hotels and resorts that offer discount rates for rooms, meals and entertainment in hopes of attracting people to their gaming tables. Airfare

rates into Vegas are some of the most reasonable in the United States, no matter the origination destination. And with more than 100,000 hotel rooms to choose from, there is sure to be a lodging choice that fits your budget.

The world provides hundreds of affordable travel destinations. With all the options available, there is no excuse to put off that life-long desire to travel to exotic places at the far ends of the earth. Destinations can be researched on the Internet or your travel consolidator can make recommendations and help with locating

and

that fit your budget. So

what are you waiting for? Get out there and explore the world.

About
the Author
C.J.

Gustafson is a freelance writer and photographer who travels extensively for work and

.

A cheapskate by nature and necessity, she is always on the lookout for bargain travel deals and affordable vacation destinations.

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None

Adventure Travel Tips, Deals, And Destinations

By Frank Johnson

For some people, taking city tours, visiting breweries, and lying out on the beach just isn't enough. These tourists want a trip filled with adventure; one that's off the beaten path. Adventure travel is a specialized type of travel that isn't filled with the typical tour buses and bed-and-breakfasts. Adventure travel engulfs a more exploratory sense of the word "travel". Adventure travelers would rather hike up a mountain, trek through a jungle, or ride white water rapids than sit in an air conditioned bus and be chauffeured from place to place.

However, although adventure travelers don't partake in all-inclusive resort stays, adventure travel can still be quite expensive. That's because the destinations adventure travelers travel to (and the activities they do) often require special guides, groups, and sometimes equipment.

If you want a change of scenery and want to experience adventure travel, here are some tips on how to make it more affordable. Follow these tips and save a few bucks for when you're in-country.

Adventure Travel Tips and Deals

Tip #1: Find Affordable Airfare to Your Adventure Travel Destination

Regardless of what you do when you arrive at your destination, getting there can be costly. Airfare will always be a factor in your travel budget, regardless of if you're traveling to go on a safari, hike the Himalayas, or lay on a beach. Flying is an expensive way to travel; however, thanks to the Internet, it doesn't have to be. The Internet is filled with deals on airfare to destinations all over the world. If you're planning an adventure travel trip, search the web for airfare and budget travel deals. The web is jam packed with travel web sites offering amazing rates on airfare to many travel destinations. So if you're planning an adventure travel trip, find airfare deals online.

Tip #2: Book Your Adventure Travel Adventures When You Get There

Since adventure travel takes you off the beaten path, it's fairly simple to find great deals on rooms, materials, and tours in the outskirts of town. However, if you try to book a room or find a tour guide before you leave, you'll probably have to deal with a middleman to book your accommodations; and anytime you deal with a middleman, the more it's going to cost you. The middleman will most likely

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charge you some sort of service or finders fee. By waiting until you are in-country to book your accommodations and materials, you'll be able to cut out the middleman and save some money on your adventure travel.

However, before you jump on the plane, it's a good idea to check out adventure travel blogs and websites online. They'll help you get in touch with other adventure travelers who can give you advice on who you should contact when in-country to make the necessary arrangements. You don't want to journey to a foreign land completely blind.

Tip #3: Find an Adventure Travel Group to Travel With

Believe it or not, there are travel groups out there that specialize in adventure travel. These groups are experienced in adventure travel and have the right connections to get you deals on your trip. Adventure travel groups normally travel as a group and benefit from group rates. They also have connections with people in other countries to plan the best and most affordable activities. Planning an adventure travel trip on your own can be complicated and very costly. By finding an adventure travel group and going with them on their adventures, you'll be able to cut down the cost of your trip and also meet some new people along the way.

Top Adventure Travel Destinations

Africa Africa is referred to as the cradle of human life as we know it, being the oldest inhabited territory in the world. Travel through Africa will reveal the modern dilemma of a region pushing forward with globalization and technology at the same time that many cultures and tribes are striving to protect their traditional way of life. In addition to human life, Africa supports the world's most spectacular collection of rare species and biodiversity. Encountering Africa's wilderness firsthand is not only a radically unique experience, but also a once-in-a-lifetime privilege that future generations may not have the opportunity to share. For more information on adventure travel to Africa, visit

Thailand Thailand offers the diversity of a society running in parallel: booming city life and leisurely beach escapes, thickly canopied jungles and white sand islands, indulgent cuisine, clubs and cocktails and the sanctuary of Buddhist lifestyle. Thailand has come of age as a traveler's dream destination, an affordable gateway to paradise with adventure at your fingertips. For more information on adventure travel to Thailand, visit

cFares is the first choice thousands of knowledgeable travelers are using right now to save hundreds of dollars on low airfares. For more information on adventure travel to Africa and Thailand, and great travel deals and savings, visit



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