Travel Issue

- Humour in the Sky
- Unique Hotels
- Weird Cuisines
- Student Travel Tips
LEADING UNIVERSITY IN JAPAN
Inheriting tradition, creating an era, nurturing knowledge.
Located in the heart of Tokyo and founded in 1882, Waseda University is well known as one of the top universities in Japan and for keeping its long tradition alive while developing new ideas and cultural thought. With a student population of over 50,000 from Japan and 90 countries worldwide, Waseda University strives to become a truly global university.

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WASEDA University’s English-based degree programs

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WASEDA University's degree programs

School of Political Science and Economics
School of Fundamental Science and Engineering
School of Culture, Media and Society
School of Creative Science and Engineering
School of Advanced Science and Engineering
School of Social Sciences

Graduate Programs

Graduate School of Political Science
Graduate School of Economics
Graduate School of Commerce (Doctoral program only)
Graduate School of Fundamental Science and Engineering
Graduate School of Advanced Science and Engineering
Graduate School of Social Sciences

Graduate School of International Culture and Communication Studies
Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies
Graduate School of Global Information and Telecommunication Studies
Graduate School of Information, Production and Systems
Graduate School of Business and Finance (Waseda Business School)
Graduate School of Sport Sciences (Doctoral program only)

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Want to get into the crazy fast-paced world of advertising? If you’ve got a good grasp of English and you’re resourceful, hard working and passionate, we’ve got 2 options:

Marketeers (full-time job)

Can you sell ice to an eskimo? Can you mastermind a marketing campaign, then 10 people (or less)? Do you know how to manipulate the masses or social media to your will? Then you’re the evil genius we’re looking for! We need someone with a marketing background to help us create cool concepts, public endorsements and generate enough mouldah to fuel our social presence.

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GRAD TRIP 101
AVOIDING A DISASTER OVERSEAS

Grad trips are the new rite of passage for soon-to-be adults in Singapore. I mean, did you really graduate if you didn’t go on a grad trip? And as someone who has helped plan and here witness countless horror stories from grad trips gone wrong, here are some tips that could prevent all the things that went wrong on a recent grad trip to Japan.

Got money or not?

One of the biggest issues for a grad trip is money. Especially in this case, the group wanted to have more than two airlines and Japan is one of the cheapest places for a holiday. With an unlimited train pass that costs close to $50 per person and flight, it’s best to go in a big group and split the cost. This way, you can have a comfortable place to stay with all the amenities you need, while keeping your spending as low as possible. Or you could consider using hostel (1500-4000 yen per night) or hostels ($35-50 per night) if you intend to travel light.

For this trip, the group started their week in Osaka and then travelled to Tokyo, members of the group who bought around $200 in cash, excluding money for the month, and plane tickets, were the most comfortable throughout the entire trip.

In order to bring enough, do a little research into the cost of everything you would like to do or buy so you can estimate how much you need per day and how much extra you would need, like things to eat, shopping, food and nightlife. Most importantly, ensure you have some emergency buffer money. Also ensure that all your cards are activated for international use. Otherwise, you have no access to money and you also need a plan B.

Scheduled fun

Another helpful tip is to create an itinerary. Your schedule does not have to take into account every minute of the trip, but it does need to include roughly what you would want to do during the trip and how to spend it all out. Everyone has their own expectations and desires for the trip, so keeping open communication is key to making sure everyone has the grad trip of their dreams.

There are entire apps dedicated to helping you plan and share your trip, like Trips. It’s a free app (iOS and Android) which acts as a central app, not only for your plans and schedule, but also for storing all your itineraries, photos and even GPS updates. This information can be shared with your trip mates, so planning and going off on a group trip is a great way to get your friends to get involved. One person getting it all done. If this app doesn’t work for you, consider other apps like Google trips, Roadtrippers, Packing Pro and Skyscanner, to name a few.

From here, it would be a lot easier to plan a budget and ensure everyone knows what to expect. Remember to keep the schedule light, as it allows for spontaneous adventures and improvisation as you go along. But do not neglect planning an itinerary, as it could leave you bored or rushing for time.

Take everything in your stride

Most importantly, go for the trip with the right mentality. Know that people will mess up, things will go wrong, and plans will change, but it doesn’t mean the trip was a failure. Just means the trip had other plans for you. So, take any changes in stride, and when you know, you might embark on an adventure you never expected.

PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES: POPULAR WAYS TO TRAVEL BETWEEN CITIES

Travel is all about being on the go. On the lookout for something different. As the adage goes: “Travel is about the journey, not the destination.” Other than going around on a plane or a tour bus, here are some better ways to get between cities or places of interest:

By boat

If you’re looking at a river cruise, there’s no better way to see the countryside than taking a boat. From the canals of Venice to the Nile, one of the longest rivers in the world, the Nile, there’s nothing like it. The beauty is that you can see the landscape from the river, which is something you can’t see from a plane or a bus.

By train

For most people, travelling by train is the most preferred mode of transport. Trains are safe, comfortable, and go to more places than any other mode of transport. They also have the best connection, so you can get from one place to another quickly. High speed trains, like the bullet train in Japan, is a great option to get to places longer than flights. Or you can take a slow train or a train that goes through smaller towns to get a more authentic feel of the country.

By bicycle

With the increasing push towards green living and promoting sustainability, we are now seeing more and more people cycling around. In Thailand, a king of the roads for people, cycling is a popular mode of transport. It’s also a great way to explore the local culture and interact with the locals.

By self-drive

If you have a driver licence and would like to see more of the country, driving your own car is the best option. It’s a great way to explore the local roads and get a feel of the place.

On foot

Forrest Gump says this about running: “My Mamma always said you got to put the past behind you before you can move on. And I think that’s what my running was all about.” The same applies the travelling. It is all about the anticipation and making new discoveries. Travel around on different modes of transportation and keep moving on.
BY VIN LOON

JOBS THAT TAKE YOU PLACES

HIGH FLYING CAREERS

SALES

In today’s world, sales is not only lucrative, it’s also available to anyone. If you have a good network and a positive attitude, you can make a lot of money in sales. The key is to be able to motivate and persuade your customers to buy your product or service.

INSTRUCTOR

If you are passionate about teaching and love to share your knowledge with others, teaching can be a rewarding career. In addition to the regular salary, you may also have the opportunity to travel to different locations around the world, making your job more exciting.

ART BUYER

As an art buyer, you will get to travel to different cities and countries to find new and exciting art pieces. You will also have to negotiate prices with artists and galleries, which can be challenging at times.

MUSICIAN

If you have a passion for music and enjoy performing in front of others, being a musician can be a fulfilling career. You will get to travel to different cities and countries, performing in various venues and events.

TEACHER/PROFESSOR

If you love teaching and enjoy helping others learn, then becoming a teacher or professor could be a great career choice. You will get to travel to different cities and countries, teaching students and passing on your knowledge.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS STAFF

As a foreign affairs staff, you will get to travel to different countries and interact with people from various cultures. You will also get to work on important international issues and policies.

ENERGY INDUSTRY

If you are interested in the energy sector, there are many opportunities available to you. Whether you want to work in renewable energy, oil and gas, or nuclear energy, there are many exciting jobs available.

HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

If you love meeting new people and enjoying different cultures, a career in the hospitality industry could be a great fit for you. You will get to travel to different countries and enjoy the local cuisine and culture.

ARMED FORCES

If you are passionate about serving your country and protecting its borders, then a career in the armed forces could be a great option for you. You will get to travel to different countries and be part of a team that is always on the go.

COSPLAYER

If you love dressing up and enjoying different cultures, then a career as a cosplayer could be a great fit for you. You will get to travel to different countries and enjoy the local culture and food.

SCIENTIST

If you love science and enjoy exploring new ideas, then a career in science could be a great choice for you. You will get to travel to different countries and work on important scientific projects.

CAVEAT

- Managing students can be challenging, but you will learn valuable skills that will help you in your future endeavors.
- Being that we live on a tiny island, most of us love to travel. Most of us only get to travel once or twice a year, perhaps on school trips or summer breaks. But what if we can make traveling part of our career? We're not talking about travel bloggers or even airline crew. Here are some jobs - career paths - that may entice you if you've got a thrill for adventure.

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Want Free Education Abroad?

Check Out These Overseas Scholarships

International Summer School, University of Oslo (Norway)

This will be the premier scholarship for students looking to explore a summer exchange abroad. The University of Oslo, located in the heart of Norway, is renowned for its interdisciplinary programs. The scholarship will cover tuition fees and provide a comprehensive academic and cultural experience.

South Korean Government Undergraduate Scholarship Program

Open to students from Bangladesh, the South Korean Government Undergraduate Scholarship Program is a full scholarship covering tuition fees, living expenses, and international travel costs. Successful applicants will be enrolled in a top university in South Korea, providing a unique opportunity to study in a diverse and multicultural environment.

John Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship

Established in collaboration with the World Bank and the Japanese government, this scholarship is designed for graduate students from developing countries. It covers tuition fees, living expenses, and travel to Japan, providing an excellent opportunity to study at one of the world's leading universities.

Denys Holland Scholarship of the University of Oxford

Offered by the University of Oxford, this scholarship is highly competitive and awarded to students from selected countries. It covers tuition fees, living expenses, and travel to the UK. The scholarship is ideal for students interested in pursuing a degree in a field that aligns with Oxford's interdisciplinary approach.

Alternative Options – A’s Ain’t For Everyone

Don’t think you can make it on an overseas scholarship? Fear not! Here are some other options:

- **Online Courses:** Offered by universities around the world, these courses are often free or affordable. Look for platforms like Coursera or edX to find courses that align with your interests.
- **Government Scholarships:** Check with your local government for scholarships specifically designed for your country. These can often be found on government websites or through local educational authorities.
- **Private Scholarships:** Many private organizations offer scholarships to students based on merit or specific criteria. Research these opportunities thoroughly to find one that best suits your profile.
- **Grants:** Look for grants available from local communities or non-profit organizations. These can provide financial support without the strings attached to scholarships.

In summary, there are numerous opportunities to continue your education abroad. Don’t limit yourself to the traditional routes; explore all your options to find the best fit for your academic and personal goals.
**Checking In: Quirky Hotels Around the World**

By Rachel Lim

People all over the world are getting increasingly outrageous with their hotel ideas. From living with giraffes to experiencing a night as a prisoner—here are these hotels say or say no?

**Glamping 2.0**

These hotels take the trendy phenomenon of glamping to a whole new level, whether they're situated in high-greenery or the middle of winter.

**Live Like a Squid**

Always wanted to live in a tree stump like a real-life Octopus? Now, your chance. Located right by the Otai Canals, Otaki Motel & Canoe Centre in New Zealand welcomes you to do just that. You'll spend your nights in tree stumps and monuments created by chainsaw artists with unique names.

See also: **Experiences** (like in Footpool: Hawaii (Rain Stem Nish) in Kauai, Hawaii, which recreates the entire village from the LoveFilm series.**

**Sleep in a Bubble**

Literally live in your own bubble at the Atttree house Hotel in France. Housed in the surroundings of Allevard, these transparent domes allow you to sleep under the stars and watch the night in grand style with all the comforts of a hotel room. It's one of the first bubble hotels popping up all over the world.

See also: **Kolobrinken Arctic Resort** (located in a canyon just outside Nybro, Sweden, featuring Starlighting and Samsara.

**Glass Igloo**

Kolbriknar Arctic Resort in Finland is the best place to experience the breathtaking views of the Northern Lights, with its glass igloo and log cabins. You can stay warm and cozy, and you can take in the surrounding beauty of the stunning Arctic nature.

See also: **Kyonishigii Asa Farmhouse** (cuts up a log compound, where hotel rooms are individual small igloos of various colours.

**Tacky Architecture**

From luxury (no, it’s not made of bricks!) to construction cranes—there are indeed some pretty weird and bizarre looking hotels in the world.

**In the Belly of the Beast**

It has beds. It has breakfast. But unlike other B&Bs out there, this one is shaped like a heart. Originally known as Sweet Hotel by locals resident, the Dog Bark Park Inn in Idaho, USA stands 50 feet tall. You will be greeted with many dog-themed furniture once you enter the belly of the beast (Penny), Snoopy, the dog sitting on the stool—which is essentially an actual log, or any dog, for that matter.

See also: **In Australia, there’s a Holiday Inn that’s shaped like a crocodile—from the air.**

**Next to Nowhere**

If your first reaction after looking at these buildings resembling something-gigantic, mind-blowing, leave your room, or even your car, for that matter? The answer is yes. They are all in the middle of nowhere. You are not alone. You are definitely not the only one enjoying the view. (In Beijing, the exterior of which is built in the shape of the Chinese symbol for fortune, Prosperity and Longevity. Unfortunately, the interior is more like a boring hotel room.

See also: **For a cheap-chill stay, Hang Kong's Hotel Residency is a cool design affair of the air, located on its own island**.

**Grounded Suites**

If you think Singapore Airlines has suites that are the best there is, think again. Costa V remorse Hotel in Costa Rica has made a living in the luxury suite business. It has been named by Travel+Leisure magazine as the world’s best new hotel.

See also: **Among a number of exciting new accommodations, Canada’s Mt. Ottawa Rail Hotel is housed in a 5-story, 20-bedroom train featuring functioning galleys.**

**Lofty Distractions**

Skitoured in a former banker’s room in Amsterdam’s hotel de ‘Nouvelle Amsterdam, Brouwersgracht. It’s famous for its art and design, the hotel is housed in a 5-story apartment building on the edge of Amsterdam’s Red Light District.

See also: **The Manhattan Skylift, Marina Hotel comprises several luxury double-storey containers which are set by the bay.**

**Hotels au Naturel**

Forget about marble floors and porcelain vases—just as human-like as the needs of your body are, these hotels have been designed so you can get.

**Freeze**

Made entirely with snow and ice, this splendid work of art in Quebec, Canada is completely rebuilded and rebuilt every year. Fortunately, not by Issac. Hotel de Glace is the only one of its kind in North America. You definitely don’t mind its cubic in your real life, but here, keep the heat. It’s not just the ice sculpture that’s cold, but also the floor, the walls, the beds, the bathrooms. Make sure to dress warmly and wear a hat and gloves when you enter this magical place.

See also: **In Stockholm, the world’s largest igloo boasts all the comforts of a hotel.**

**Salty Surfer**

Stay here for a night at your own risk because this place is 100% real. It’s a hotel built right on the beach. It’s a salt, like the scenery and the beach. It’s the world’s tallest salt hotel. It’s not just the salty water, there’s another one called the Luna Salada.

**One with Nature**

In Kakuyakuos Cove in New Mexico (USA), you don’t have to dig deep to find a hidden treasure. Make your own fun just 30 minutes away from a coffee shop or a cinema. If you have family or a group of friends, you can stay in one of the architect’s rooms at this hotel. You’ll be stationed in a bunk bed, a living room, kitchen and dining area and even a classical sauna.

See also: **At Lissabon, the world’s largest hotel suite is housed in a cave in Sake D'Amore, Sweden.**

**Probably Uncomfortable but still pretty cool**

These places may not be as comfy as your favourite 5-star hotels but they certainly have a deep impression.

**Sinking with Bumbles**

Instead of making you sink in the water like floating in water, you’ll actually want to be. This hotel in Sweden has created a floating experience for you to relax and enjoy the view.

**Bedding reader**

Finally, a luxury you can sleep in without being afraid of getting out of bed! The Bed and Breakfast hostel in Austria and Germany can certainly fulfill your dream. Spend the night in a bed, then go out and enjoy the scenery of the lake, the forests, and the mountains.

See also: **In Minneapolis, there’s a resplendent ‘Backwater’ hotel that will offer guests their choice of staying materials.**

**The Dreams**

Constructed from repurposed, restored, and recycled materials, the Park Hotel in Austria and Germany is definitely not for the environmentally-conscious. However, the Bed and Breakfast hostel chain has several locations across Europe, and they are all eco-friendly to the point that they can provide you with lights and proper mattresses, which is probably all that can be found in today’s world.

See also: **The Courtyard Hotel in Helsinki has resident ‘Backwater’ hotel rooms.**

**Fast forward to the future**

The future is now, even when it comes to staying in a hotel. Check out these futuristic high-tech hotels that will surprise anyone.

**Domo Bright, Mr. Roboto**

Say goodbye to check-in delays and key fobs. With the introduction of robotic technology, Henne am Hotel in Tokyo (with rooms on open access) is the world’s first hotel staffed by robots. Imagine being entertained by robotic files while getting checked-in by animated doorknobs. You don’t even need a key card to enter your room, thanks to their facial recognition scanners. Whether it’s another hotel or a fully-staffed by robots, you can use remote staff at hotel check-in: the Hotel Am, M Social and Vetel.

**Sundae Room**

Turkey’s Marmara Antalya is probably the best place to stay if you suffer from motion sickness. This hotel has a cylindrical glass building which provides a 360° panoramic view of majestic mountains and the west Mediterranean. As it constantly rotates with the help of electric motors, imagine waking up to a new view each minute.

See also: **Sited to complete in 2020, Dubai’s 60-storey Dynamic Hotel will feature individually rotating floors.**
COMEDY IN THE SKY
Airline Safety Cards
By Nina Gan

How many of you actually pay any attention to the onboard safety instruction cards that are tucked into the seat pocket in front of your seat? While there’s nothing funny about an airplane emergency, you may find that some safety instruction cards can sometimes be unintentionally hilarious when it comes to their illustrations. Because these cards have to be easily understood and serious, you get the feeling that sometimes the illustrator tries to slip in a bit of fun. Here are some actual airline safety instruction cards from various airlines that are either mind-boggling, or outright hilarious if you add your own captions.

PLEASE DON'T USE YOUR LIFEBELT AS A FASHION ACCESSORY

OXYGEN MASKS WILL DROP

CHILDREN ON A PLANE
When it comes to children, it seems that only women are allowed to bring them on board. Sometimes, an airline will play the role of emotional support for female passengers.

DINING IN THE AIR

AEGEAN AIRLINES
In most pictures of a Vegetarian meal from Aegean Airlines, we can see vegetables, fish, and a variety of side dishes. Sometimes, it’s more like a cheat meal for vegetarians.

Air Koryo
Air Koryo is unique in the way they serve food on board. Their meals are served in a traditional Korean style, with various dishes placed on a tray. Unfortunately, the food quality is inconsistent, and many passengers find the experience disappointing.

AUSTRIAN AIRLINES

UNIFORMS GALORE

Hooters Air
Hooters Air is known for its unique uniforms and service style, with flight attendants dressed in hot pants and bikinis.

VietJet
VietJet is a low-cost carrier that prides itself on its stylish uniforms, featuring a mix of traditional and modern designs.

AUSTRIAN AIRLINES

The airline is considered to be one of the greats in the history of airlines. However, it has also faced criticism regarding its in-flight experiences. Whether you're served cold water or hot tea, it's all in the same shade of red.

AUSTRIAN AIRLINES

VietJet
Just because you’re flying in the air doesn’t mean you can’t rock a chic, edgy look. Here are a few tips for creating a stylish yet practical outfit:

1. Choose a comfortable and slim-fitting dress.
2. Opt for shoes that are both stylish and functional.
3. Accessorize with a chic bag and sunglasses.

AEGEAN AIRLINES

AEGEAN AIRLINES

The airline did apologize, but not for the meat; the airline did not fully address the issue. The airline decided to use the “vegetarian” option instead, which is a great compromise.

AEGEAN AIRLINES

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Weird Foods to Travel For

Culture is what makes a country special, and food is an integral part of it. So whether you need the motivation to travel to a country, or a reason to avoid it, here are some delicacies that may help you decide.

France
Mimolette (mim-o-lot)
Mimolette is a decedent, bright orange cheese. It’s salty and dense, with sweet caramel undertones, and is rather the larger it’s aged. Be sure to dust off the cheese rind at its end before you begin, though. It pairs well with dessert wines or light reds like Pinot Noir. You can travel to France for this, but not America as it’s been banned by the FDA.

Indonesia
Paniki Manado
This fruit bat stew is prepared by the Minahasaans from North Sulawesi. Made with coconut milk and ginger rod, you’re gonna want to fly to Indonesia for this one.

Thailand
Blood Milkshake
Blood and milk are a cornerstone of the Thai community’s diet as their pigs revolve around their cattle – for milk and blood. Cattle blood is drawn over cooked into a sausage, or during a special occasion, mixed with milk. The cow isn’t killed for this blood – its regular artery is nicked to milk the blood.

Peru
Cuy (kew-y)
Guinea pigs make great pets. They’re low maintenance and also cute enough to eat. Which is exactly what you can do if you visit the streets of Peru. They’re mostly cooked whole on a spit, and apparently taste like chicken wings.

Argentina
Cazuela de Llama
Although they are mostly known for their fan, these llamas also make a great main course. Their meat is described to be similar to tender beef, but a little more intense and flavorful, especially when served as a casserole.

United States and Canada
Prairie Oysters
This appetizer has nothing to do with the sea, as it’s found in Canada and the American West, where they’re called Rocky Mountain Oysters. Elk is considered to be an appetizer because nothing spells love more than deep-fried bull testicles.

Nigeria
Mutilacoche (white-tala-coach-a)
This corn smut is a delicious delicacy that grows best on the ear of corn. Don’t like what you hear? Well, it’s also known as Mexican truffles, and is a delicacy that can be enjoyed with a wide variety of dishes from enchiladas to soups.

Turkey
Tavuk Gəşə (tah-vook ger-soo)
Served to royals during the Ottoman empires, this dessert is a rich milk pudding famous for its secret ingredient: ground chicken breast meat.

Philippines
Bulat (bah-loo)
Do you like your eggs boiled, scrambled, or fried? Bulat is a boiled duck or chicken egg containing a half-developed embryo seasoned with chilli, garlic, and vinegar, and it is eaten from the shell.

Zimbabwe
Mopane Worms
These worms are the cigar-sized caterpillars of the Emperor moth. They are protein-packed snacks that can be eaten as dry crunchy chips or drenched in sauce. After squeezing out their arachnids (which appear as green gobs), these critters are dried out and ready to eat.

Indonesia
Warka Jellied Moose Nose
This is one jelly you don’t want in party packs. The snout of a moose is boiled to remove the hair, and then onions, garlic, and spices are added. It’s then left to set into a jelly, and served chilled.

Tanzania
Sannakji (sun-uhk-je)
These live octopuses are the life of a party as they’ve eaten raw, and wriggling, but be warned – they will fight for their lives as they try to choke you on their way down your throat.

Romania
False Morel
Although it’s encroached as a delicacy in other parts of the world, Finland is the only country brave enough to sell these fatal mushrooms fresh. They resemble the highly regarded “true morel,” but being highly toxic, they come at a hefty price – no level of preparation can guarantee them being safe. They may not taste the best, but they’re really just eaten for the adrenaline rush.

Text and illustrations by Ansh Sirahi
Cheatsheet
#54 Student Travel Tips

Volunteer or go for internships abroad

You can work and travel in an international arena - you can find paid internships abroad with specific duties that you can pay for, or you can do an exchange program (which is free) at your university. You can also go volunteer at programmes like WWOOF where you can exchange work for homestays.

Make the most of school and mission trips

Most students take the opportunity to travel with a school or church group. Whether it’s a survey for an educational trip or a volunteer-based one, it’s the cheapest (and safest) way to get you traveling and learning a lot of things.

Get a universal student discount card

Your student card gets you discounts locally, but get an ISIC card and you’ll be able to take advantage of student discounts worldwide. Some discounts can be substantial. Even if a place doesn’t advertise a discount, you can ask if they have student discounts.

Sign up for mailing lists!

Whether it’s for flights or accommodation, a package deal, or for the latest information on events, signing up for mailing lists can actually reduce costs. Especially if you’re not travelling in a group, sign up for airline and hotel mailers, and keep alert to promotions. In addition, check out last minute deals on sites like Sky Scanner.

Book with student-specific travel agents

Student-focused travel agents like STA, CTS, or Cassidy all book students in mind - most of the time, they end up saving on groups tours, as well as accommodation and excursions.

GET A CREDIT CARD THAT REWARDS YOU FOR OVERSEAS SPENDING

If you haven’t already gotten a student credit card (the interest rates and fees are lower for students) - watch out for reward programs that will let you travel for free. There are now some very competitive deals on bills, and there’s a lot of consumer protection.

Learn about airlines

While most people prefer direct flights, take advantage of multiple stopovers - work is cheaper - to minimize the number of countries you can visit if you want to save some money. Some airlines offer cheaper (or even free) accommodation in their home countries on stopovers. Depending on your airline, return will reproduce you if your flight is delayed for a certain length of time.

Plan around non-peak times

Avoid summer (July-August) and last holiday periods (June and December), as well. Make sure to check for special accommodation rates (e.g. Hostel.com). Some companies offer travel insurance (e.g. STA Travel) to help you make the most of your trip.

How to plan a budget

A lot of people let others define their travel as they plan the travel but it may not be the most cost-effective. Some countries that you travel in may charge in a different currency than the one that the trip is generated in. You may need to exchange your money for the local currency. Make sure to plan your budget carefully.

The overall aim is to control your travel budget as you go, and to ensure that you are making your money stretch as far as possible. This is especially important when you are basing your trip around a certain budget target.

The Ultimate Relationship Test

Melissa Bernard

Travelling overseas is one of the top things to do with your significant other. Just ask any couple! After checking off items on your "things couples do" list, such as watching a movie, having a picnic, or going on a first get-together, the next step would be to travel overseas together. Imagining the sun baking on your skin, the cool breeze weaving through your hair, and the sound of waves crashing down on the sand. Not to mention, your partner walking over to you, bringing you an ice-cold pina colada. Seems like something straight out of a movie, right?

Cursed Destinations

That may not be the case. Since the 1990s, the Narita Reins, or Narita Broncos, has been locally considered one of the most dangerous areas in Japan. This phenomenon has affected many young Japanese newspapers, as they share within a year or two of getting through Narita Airport after their honeymoon abroad. In more extreme cases, couples try to avoid the place that they touch down. With their deputies in terms of experiences, they are very much aware of the do’s and don’ts to avoid disasters. According to an interview with a local, couples’ idealized expectations and lack of foothold communication manifest as major notes after marriage.

That being said, there are destinations known for "breaking up couples". According to a research by switzerland.ch, Mexico is the number one destination where couples go to, only to break up shortly after. Another destination, also known as the "breaking island" in Bali, has been known for a long time. When the prince and princesses were visiting the island, they watched a romantic sunset at Texel Lombe and the uninvited couple then became victims.

Falling in love, the couple decided to marry. After which, the prince left the princesses and returned to marry her. Not all couples end up happy. Some even end up breaking up during their honeymoon.

Initially, I was skeptical about the Bali curse. Then it started happening in my friends’ lives, even with their friends’ friends. Travel and relationships. My partner measured out all the time we were together with his timing, and I trusted him. As it turns out, we were planning for our next couple trip to Bali. And as I’m typing this, I can see him out of the corner of my eye whisking his wife away with his smile. It’s a nice to see the curse of Bali has not affected us.

Compatibility and Compromise

What’s the key to making a relationship work? Although compatibility can be a vital factor in determining whether a couple works, it’s more important in making a relationship work. Compatibility can be essential, so is compromise. It’s the ability to accept each other’s differences and the willingness to put in the work to make things work.

A close friend of mine said that she did not believe in marriage. However, she was later found out to be in a relationship. There was a common saying that “marriage is all about compromise,” and when things don’t work out during your planning process, this need to accommodate to your partner’s wishes is crucial.

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Related Reading

Narita Airport

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Handshaking is a common and safe way to say “hello” to people you don’t know throughout the world, although it’s not exactly the most personal way to greet someone especially if you’ve already met them once before and are friendly with each other.

However, the greeting methods vary from country to country, so saying hello in Japan is completely different from greeting someone in France. Who do you hug, how many kisses do you give, or how do you greet the opposite sex? Do you smile in Russia? All of these can be confusing, and sometimes terrifying when both of you greet each other the same side, brush noses, sometimes lips, and bump heads. Or worse, get a stone-cold stare back.

So here’s a list of ways to greet people around the world.

**Cheek Kissing**

In Western and Southern Europe (but not the north), most people greet social acquaintances with cheek-kissing. However, you don’t actually kiss the cheeks, you just touch the air so your cheeks touch together (usually right cheek first). Remember to make a proper “hiss” sound, and not say “mooz”, as it is considered rude to do so.

It’s usually done between two women or a woman and a man; men more commonly shake hands with each other but this is not the case in the Middle East, where cheek-kissing is usually done between men. Women, or by people with higher social status – typically lead.

**Parts of Europe**

In France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Romania, and the UK, ten people see the most common form of cheek-kissing as a “French kiss” (kiss-on-the-lip). In France, there can be up to five people depending on region; usually, it is understood to be for French people. In Italy, men in the south sometimes cheek kiss other men more often.

In Italy, cheek-kissing is usually done only in big cities as a sign of courtship.

People in the Netherlands, Switzerland, Croatia, and Russia prefer these kisses. In Belgium, it’s just one.

**Latin America**

Single pecks cheek to cheek are the norm in Mexico, Colombia, and Brazil; where women are only based on the right cheek only. In Brazil, same range from one to three pecks. In Argentina, it’s a hug and a kiss.

**Middle East**

In much of the Middle East, cheek kisses are between men only – usually following handshakes. In Lebanon and Egypt, it’s not unusual for women to greet each other with 3 pecks. In Arabic, Turkish, Greek and Iran, it’s more common for either a single or double pecks on the cheeks.

When it comes to greeting women – especially if you’re not close – it can be established rule to have any contact, even shaking hands.

**Hugging**

In some Western countries, people prefer to hug rather than kiss to greet someone they know. But only when the person you want to hug extends his or her arms to hug rather than kiss to greet someone.

In some cases, handshakes are a bit tricky: with your other hand on top of your elbow, start with a normal handshake, followed by a thumb clasp, then move back to the normal handshake and end with a thumb clap – when both thumbs come together to snap (yes, with sound) – before putting your hand in your heart.

**Face Greeting**

Some traditional greetings still prevail among Inuit tribes – usually involving very close facial contact. This is probably easier than shaking think-kissed hands. The “Kamik seal” is the most common, involving rolling the lips of their noses (face to face) with each other. A variation is the “hug” which is done by pressing together one’s nose and forehead with the companion’s.

**South African handshake**

In some parts of Africa, most greetings don’t involve any touching at all. The most common is the handshakes, usually with two palm-shaped hands and a sign of respect. If a handshake is in order, the grip is much looser than when you remember in the West. In parts of Africa, handshakes are still the norm, but there are various methods depending on which area you’re in, and some can be very tough to pull off (and remember) so just let your friend lead.

Africa

In Africa, handshakes are the most preferred greeting in most countries, and the marked change greatly. The rule of thumb is to use the right hand only.

In South Africa, handshakes between men are a bit bit different; you shouldn’t shake with a normal handshake. Followed by a thumb clap, then move back to the normal handshake and end with a thumb clap – when both thumbs come together to snap (yes, with sound) – before putting your hand in your heart.

In Ghana, you sort of slap the other person’s out-stretched hand and at your own pace, your middle fingers come together (keep your distance), two pecks are the most common.

In Brazil, when greeting friends, each hug to hug and or cheek-kiss.

**Bow, kiss, or hug?**

Bow, kiss, or hug? In Eastern Europe, people prefer three kisses. In Europe, Germany, and Eastern Europe, handshakes are the norm. But even bowing has its nuances – do you bow your head only, or do you bow 45º from your waist, and who do you bow to?

**South & Southeast Asia**

When you greet each other with a “wai”, you press your hands together and say “namaste”. The prayer fingers are in order, the up hand is higher than the down hand. In India, the proper hand gesture is similar – you also put your hand forward and say “namaste”.

**East Asia**

The bow is the standard greeting in Japan. Bones differ depending on the occasion; among peers, you can just nod your head but if it’s an older person or someone imp- ortant, you should bow at least 15º from your waist (with a straight back).

In Korea, it’s also acceptable to nod your head among peers, and in a formal setting it is common to bow before a handshake (only among men, as women don’t initiate a handshake), with the left hand supporting the right hand at a 90º angle.

**Hajimemashite**

In Japan, greetings are similar – use the “kunik” where you turn to the same side, brush noses, sometimes lips, and breathe in. The Maori people in New Zealand welcome travellers into their village.
Romp in the Ruins: Saucy Ancient Sites
by Nina Gan

If you're the type that's squeamish about seeing anything too explicit or graphic, then read no further. But if you're the Indiana Jones/Nickelodeon type who loves exploring unique ancient sites around the world, then you're in for a treat. These sites have been designed with a sense of humor, and they don't shy away from their sensual aspects.

One of these sites may have a saucier twist than usual, as our magazine stands out from the rest. Yet, they were once dedicated to sacred rituals or are meant for good luck, while others are mere records of daily life dating back thousands of years. These moments remind us that even in the days of ancient civilizations, the Internet existed in the past as we know it to entertain themselves.

**Teledating Temples:**

**KHAJURAO GROUP OF MONUMENTS**
((MADHYA PRADESH, INDIA))

The Khajuraho temples are an architectural marvel - filled with statues and sculptures of plants, gods, and humans that span hundreds of years. This temple, built between 950 and 1050 CE, is one of India's best-preserved temples and is considered to be one of the most important examples of Hindu temple architecture.

**KANDI SUKOH**
((BENGKULU, INDONESIA))

Now, the story of 15th-century Sukoh temple complex situated in Sumatra is one of the most intriguing stories in the region. The temple complex, known as the 'Temple of the Thousand Faces,' is filled with sculptures of deities and animals that depict mythical scenes.

**Ponging Phallics**

**TEMPLE OF QIONGYS**
((TIANQI, CHINA))

Located close to the Haining Village, the Temple of Qiongs is a unique site. It is known for its large number of carved phallic symbols that depict fertility and prosperity. The temple was built to honor the deity of fertility and is said to bring good luck to those who visit it.

**PAINTED PHALLUSES**
((BHUTAN))

Painted phalluses are common in Bhutanese culture and are believed to bring good fortune. The paintings are said to have been created by monks as a form of protection against evil spirits.

**KAHALIABI CEMETERY**
((NORTHERN NAMIBIA))

Situated near the town of Henties in Namibia, this site is known for its intricate carvings of phallic symbols on rocks and stones. These symbols are believed to symbolize fertility and virility.

**Graphic Graffiti**

**POMPEII (ITALY)**

Of course, let's not forget the iconic ancient city. Pompeii is known for its vibrant street art. The graffiti on the walls is a testament to the city's rich history and its people's creativity. The images are a blend of ancient symbols and modern graffiti, creating a unique blend of old and new.

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OUT AND ABOUT

EVENTS

6-9 Jul 2019 | All day
Singapore Expo Mall
Admission: $20 - $5800

Campus Party

Campus Party Singapore is the world’s largest technological extravaganza which primarily serves as a platform for technology professionals from diverse backgrounds to learn, collaborate and create the future. This first edition in Asia incorporates talks, workshops, challenges, showcases and special performances in a fun, interactive environment with options of冒用 or overnight camps. There will be drone racing workshops, coding + robotics showcases, interactive art installations, hackathons and more!

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Stress Relief

Have you ever been stressed about air travel? All the security checks and cramming into small spaces can take their toll on some of us – especially if the flight doesn’t have in-flight entertainment. So the best way to relieve that stress is to entertain ourselves onboard – with Instagram. If you’re seated by the window, imagine the fun you can have posing dinosaurs by the airplane window. Use your filters creatively, and create your own origin story!

MOVIES

Christopher Robin

(August 2019)

Cast: Ewan McGregor, Hayley Atwell, Bronte Carmichael

In Christopher Robin, Ewan McGregor stars as a grown-up version of the title character who was Winnie the Pooh’s best friend when he was a young boy. The film picks up with the Christopher Robin as a hard-working adult who’s lost the sense of wonder, and after he’s forced to abandon a family vacation at his boss’s request, Robin is shocked to reunite with Winnie and his old friends in London, as he learns to appreciate life’s simple pleasures again by reconnecting with his favourite childhood toy.

Crazy Rich Asians

(August 22)

Cast: Constance Wu, Henry Golding, Awkwafina, Ken Jeong, Michelle Yeoh

The story follows native New Yorker Rachel Chu (Wu) as the accompany her long-time boyfriend, Nick Young (Golding), to his best friend’s wedding in Singapore. Excited about visiting Asia for the first time but nervous about meeting Nick’s family, Rachel is surprised to learn that Nick is not only the son of one of the country’s wealthiest families, but also one of its most sought-after bachelors. Being on Nick’s arm puts pressure on Rachel’s back, with jealous socialites and rivals, Nick’s own disapproving mother (Yeoh) taking aim. And it soon becomes clear that while money can’t buy love, it can definitely complicate things.

PRODUCTIONS

7 Jul | 4pm
South Bond Theatre
Tickets: $69 (Advance) $65

Voices of Youth

Voices of Youth is a fundraising initiative by Singapore Red Cross to celebrate local talent while raising funds for local humanitarian services. This concert will feature local celebrities such as Samuel Seow and Ya Hui, and other performances by groups such as Seabreather, an independent hip-hop dance group for the deaf, and Volunteer Singapore’s V’Squad.

21 - 29 Jul | 3pm & 8pm
Capitol Theatre
Tickets: $60-$140

Happy Ever Laughter

Happy Ever Laughter is a Singaporean’s fourth installment of the biggest local live standup comedy event. Hosted by “BATTLE where 12 of Singapore’s best comedians are pitted against each other as they pull no punches in a no-holds-barred battle of laughs live at the Esplanade. Emcees Ang, Koh Chong Han, Serina Tan, Sebastian Tan, Scarlet Yu, and Kamar will be defending their egos and reputations against Laila Tan, Julia Tan, Phum Mehan, Akash Arora, Freyja and Rachel Midwood.

DIRECTIONS

1. Cut out the dinosaur shape carefully. For better effect, photocopy this onto cardboard paper.
2. Puck them in your carry-on luggage, and pose them near the window.
3. Snap away!

This is what you can do - post Instagram
Go ‘qoo!’ with Singapore’s only co-brand credit card with online marketplace, Qoo10. Enjoy highest rebates from your daily spends and supercharge your shopping sprees on Qoo10!

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- 10% rebate** for public transport rides (SBS / SMRT Buses and MRT)
- 3% rebate** for all Qoo10 purchases
- 3% rebate** for other spends (such as dining, entertainment, taxis / Grab, online shopping and overseas spend)

**Sign-up Gift**
- Get $100 Qcoupons to kick-start your shopping!
- Limited to the first 2,000 successful card applications

**Up to $100 cash**
- Get $10 for every successful referral, up to a maximum of $100 cash rebate
- Valid for the first 3,000 successful referrals

**Unlimited Rebate**
- Valid till 31 Dec 2018

*Rebate is awarded in the form of Qmoney, and will be awarded subject to the fulfilment of the minimum spend of the BOC Qoo10 World Mastercard card and BOC Qoo10 Platinum Mastercard card. Please visit bit.ly/BOCQOO10REBATE for full details of the minimum spend and rebate tiers. **Limited to the first 2,000 successful BOC Qoo10 Card applications. Terms and conditions for the usage of Qcoupons apply. ***Valid for posted transactions under the specific spend categories from now till 31 Dec 2018 (date inclusive). Applicable only with the fulfilment of the minimum spend tier of $600 & above for the BOC Qoo10 World Mastercard card, and $200 & above for the BOC Qoo10 Platinum Mastercard card. Terms and conditions apply, visit bit.ly/BOCCEE2018 for full details.

Other terms and conditions apply. Visit bit.ly/BOCQOO10REBATE or call our hotline 1800 338 5335 for more details.