



TRAVEL TALK

**SPEAK
ENGLISH
ANYWHERE**

**EUROPE'S TOP 10
DESTINATIONS**

**REAL ENGLISH
FOR TRAVELLERS**

**STAYING IN A
JAPANESE TEMPLE**

**COOLCATIONS:
THE NEW TRAVEL TREND**

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ZE STRONY
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WARP SPEED AHEAD: IS STAR TREK TRAVEL FEASIBLE?

Is Star Trek-style space travel, jumping across galaxies in minutes, feasible at all? Not with current technology, but physics hasn't ruled it out entirely. The most discussed concept is the Alcubierre Drive, a theoretical idea that avoids breaking the speed of light by bending space itself. It creates a "warp bubble" that shrinks space in front of a spacecraft and expands it behind, letting the ship set off without moving through space faster than light. It's like surfing a wave of spacetime. But the obstacles are massive: the drive would require exotic matter with negative energy. Something never observed, let alone produced. NASA's Eagleworks and DARPA have studied the maths, but no working designs exist. For now, warp speed remains just beyond our reach, but as Captain Picard once said, "Things are only impossible until they're not."



warp speed | prędkość nadświatłowa, prędkość zakrzywienia (przestrzeni)
feasible | wykonalny, możliwy do zrealizowania
at all | w ogóle
current | obecny, aktualny
to rule sth out | wykluczyć coś
entirely | całkowicie
to avoid sth | unikać czegoś, omijać coś
to bend space itself | zakrzywiać samą przestrzeń
warp bubble | bąbel (zakrzywienia) przestrzeni
to shrink sth | kurczyć, zmniejszać coś
spacecraft | statek kosmiczny, pojazd kosmiczny

to expand sth behind | rozszerzać coś z tyłu
to let sth do sth | pozwolić czemuś coś zrobić
to set off | wyruszyć w drogę, rozpocząć podróż
obstacle | przeszkoda, utrudnienie
drive | *tu*: napęd
to require sth | wymagać czegoś
let alone produced | nie mówiąc już o wyprodukowaniu
to remain beyond one's reach | pozostawać poza czymś zasięgiem
Things are only impossible until they're not. | Rzeczy są niemożliwe tylko do momentu, gdy przestają takie być./Rzeczy są niemożliwe, póki nie staną się możliwe.

FERRARI SETS SAIL – SORT OF



Just when you thought travel had taken every form imaginable, along comes a yacht that doesn't quite sail, and doesn't quite float either – it flies. Ferrari's latest venture, Hypersail, is a 100-foot foiling monohull, currently under construction and set to launch in 2026. It rises above the water on three hydrofoils and is powered entirely by renewable energy: solar, wind, and its own motion, with not a drop of fuel on board.

Developed in collaboration with naval architect Guillaume Verdier, Hypersail borrows liberally from Ferrari's hypercar expertise: carbon-fibre structures, dynamic aerodynamics, and the kind of engineering usually reserved for circuits, not coastlines.

It's not a yacht you can charter – yet. But it marks something more intriguing: a step toward travel reimagined, where motion becomes lighter, cleaner, and stranger. If speedboats once conquered leisure and sailboats defined adventure, Hypersail hints at a third category altogether: travel as experiment.

to set sail | wypłynąć w morze, wyruszyć w rejs, podnieść żagle

sort of | *tu*: w pewnym sensie

to sail | żeglować, płynąć pod żaglami

to float | unosić się na wodzie, pływać (o przedmiotach)

currently | obecnie, aktualnie

set to launch in X | planowany do wodowania w X, którego wodowanie planowane jest na X

hydrofoils | *tu*: skrzydła nośne

renewable energy | energia odnawialna

its own motion | swój własny ruch

with not a drop of fuel on board | bez ani kropli paliwa na pokładzie

naval | morski, marynarki wojennej

carbon-fibre | wykonany z włókna węglowego

circuit | *tu*: tor wyścigowy

coastline | *tu*: żegluga przybrzeżna/morska

to charter sth | czarterować coś, wynajmować coś (np. jacht)

speedboat | motorówka

to conquer sth | podbijać coś, zdobywać coś

leisure | czas wolny, rekreacja

to hint at sth | dawać coś do zrozumienia, sugerować

STAYING OVERNIGHT IN A JAPANESE TEMPLE

For those weary of hotels that promise “authenticity” and deliver complimentary slippers, Japan offers something altogether more profound: the shukubō – a temple stay. Nestled in places like Mount Kōya (Kōyasan), Nagano’s Zenko-ji, and Mount Haguro, these serene lodgings provide not only tatami-matted rooms and a plant-based meal shōjin ryōri, but also a curious sense of having paused time entirely.

Checking in to a temple means surrendering, gently and willingly, to a rhythm dictated by bells, incense, and monks with very early alarm clocks. Most stays last one or two nights, which is just long enough to question your attachment to your smartphone and, occasionally, your knees.

Guests are welcome to join morning prayers, meditation sessions, and even sutra copying, though participation is never obligatory. That said, turning up late to a 5:30 a.m. ceremony does rather defeat the point. As for rules, they are straightforward: shoes off, voices low, and under no circumstances should anyone attempt to Instagram the monks.

Whether or not you emerge spiritually transformed is beside the point. A temple stay offers the rarest kind of travel: the kind that takes you nowhere at all, except deep inside yourself.

overnight | przez noc, na nocleg
temple | świątynia
weary of sth | zmęczony, znużony
 czymś
to deliver sth | dostarczać czegoś
complimentary slippers
 | bezpłatne kapcie, kapcie w cenie
altogether | całkowicie, w sumie, ogółem
temple stay | pobyt w świątyni
nestled in sth | położony w czymś (np. w górach)
serene | pogodny, spokojny, idylliczny
lodgings | kwatera, zakwaterowanie
to check in to sth | zameldować się w czymś (np. w hotelu)
to surrender to sth | poddać się czemuś
incense | kadzidło
monk | mnich
to question one’s attachment to sth | kwestionować swoje przywiązanie do czegoś, poddawać w wątpliwość swoje przywiązanie do czegoś

to join sth | dołączyć do czegoś
morning prayer | poranna modlitwa
sutra copying | przepisywanie sutr
though | chociaż
that said | pomimo tego
to turn up late to sth | spóźnić się na coś
to defeat the point | niweczyć sens czegoś, mijać się z celem
straightforward | prosty, nieskomplikowany, jasny
shoes off | zdjęte buty
voices low | *tu*: mówienie szeptem
under no circumstances | pod żadnym pozorem, w żadnym wypadku
to attempt to do sth | próbować, usiłować coś zrobić
to emerge spiritually transformed | wyłonić się/powrócić przemienionym duchowo
to be beside the point | nie mieć znaczenia, być nieistotnym
except | oprócz, z wyjątkiem





COOLCATIONS: ESCAPING THE SWELTER

When European summers turn scorching hot and Mediterranean cities feel hotter than Hades, a new breed of traveller heads in the opposite direction – north. Coolcations have emerged as a stylish and sensible way to escape the swelter, favouring destinations where the crisp air still bites and the sun isn't trying to flatten you. Think Iceland, the Faroe Islands, Arctic Norway, or anywhere with fog, fleece, and a functioning breeze.

Originally born of climate necessity, wellness culture and remote-work fatigue have helped bolster this trend, adding a hint of escapism to the mix. As Andrew Harrison-Chinn, CMO of Dragon Pass, notes: "Travellers are opting for trips that align with their values. Nordic destinations offer something increasingly valuable to modern travellers: space, serenity, and sustainability."

And yet, even serenity has its price. Coolcations can be expensive, logistically tricky, and often lack the postcard glamour of their southern rivals. Some "off the beaten track" spots are so far off, they barely have a track at all. Limited infrastructure, fewer flights, and unpredictable weather mean you may return with more stories about delayed ferries than scenic hikes.

Still, for those willing to trade Aperol for anoraks, coolcations offer more than just lower temperatures. They offer relief, reflection, and the rare joy of not sweating through your own sightseeing.

swelter | upał, skwar

to turn scorching hot | stać się upalnym

breed | *tu: typ/rodzaj*

to head in the opposite direction

| kierować się w przeciwnym kierunku

sensible | rozsądny, sensowny

to favour sth

| sprzyjać czemuś, faworyzować coś, preferować coś

crisp | *tu: rzeński, ostry*

to bite | *tu: szczypać*

to flatten sb

| powalać, przytłaczać kogoś (np. o upale, zmęczeniu)

fleece | *tu: polar, bluza polarowa*

breeze | bryza

originally | pierwotnie, początkowo

remote-work fatigue

| zmęczenie pracą zdalną

to bolster sth

| wzmacniać coś

a hint of escapism

| odrobina eskapizmu/ucieczki od rzeczywistości

to align with sth | być zgodnym z czymś

increasingly | coraz

bardziej, w coraz większym stopniu

serenity | spokój,

pogoda ducha

sustainability

| zrównoważony rozwój

tricky | trudny, skomplikowany

to lack sth | być

pozbawionym czegoś

off the beaten track

| poza utartym

szlakiem, na uboczu

spot | *tu: miejsce*

barely | ledwo,

zaledwie, prawie wcale

track | szlak, ścieżka

unpredictable

| nieprzewidywalny

delayed | opóźniony

ferry | prom

hike | wędrówka,

wycieczka piesza

relief | ulga, ukojenie

to sweat through sth

| pocić się przez coś

sightseeing

| zwiedzanie

TROUBLESOME TRAVEL TALK

Planning a trip? The real journey might be navigating English travel terms. Let's have a look at a few that love to cause trouble.

Travel vs trip vs journey vs voyage

Travel

Used as both a verb and an uncountable noun, travel is the broadest and most abstract of the bunch. You can't have "a travel," but you can love travel, write about travel, or travel the world.

- "I've always wanted to travel through South America."
- "Travel broadens the mind – and empties the wallet."

Trip

A countable noun, trip refers to a specific outing or excursion – usually with a destination and a return. It can be short or long, work or pleasure, but it always has shape.

- "We took a weekend trip to the Lake District. It rained the entire time."

Journey

This focuses on getting from A to B. It doesn't necessarily involve a return and often has a bit of narrative drama.

- "The journey to the remote village took three buses, a ferry, and a fair amount of patience."

a few | kilka

of the bunch | spośród wszystkich, z całej grupy

to broaden sth | poszerzać coś

to empty sth | opróżniać coś

outing | wypad, wyjście

destination | *tu: cel podróży*

return | powrót

pleasure | przyjemność

to focus on sth | skupiać się, koncentrować się na czymś

to involve sth | wiązać się z czymś,

obejmować coś

remote | odległy

ferry | prom

a fair amount of patience | spora dawka cierpliwości, dość dużo cierpliwości

Voyage

A rather grand word, mostly used for sea travel or poetic metaphor. You'd rarely call your ferry to Calais a voyage, unless you're particularly theatrical.

- "Their honeymoon was a two-week voyage around the Norwegian fjords."

Arrive in vs. arrive at

Use **arrive in** for countries and big places:

- "We arrived in Scotland just as the rain did."

Use **arrive at** for specific sites:

- "We arrived at the hotel soaked and furious."

Luggage vs. Baggage

Both luggage and baggage mean the same thing: the suitcases, bags, and items you take when travelling. They are uncountable nouns, which means you can't say

unless | chyba że

honeymoon | miesiąc miodowy

vs.=versus | kontra

soaked | przemoczony

suitcase | walizka

instead | zamiast tego, w zamian

So far, so interchangeable. | Jak na razie, wszystko jest zamienne.

to emerge | wyłaniać się, pojawiać się

hand luggage | bagaż podręczny

literal | dosłowny

on the other hand | z drugiej strony

money changing hands | pieniądze przechodzące z rąk do rąk

to pay for sth | płacić za coś

train fare | opłata za przejazd pociągiem, bilet kolejowy

service charge | opłata za usługę, opłata serwisowa

entrance fee | opłata za wstęp

set cost per time or unit | ustalony koszt za czas lub jednostkę

worth | wart/y

breaks between flights | przerwy między lotami

duration | czas trwania, długość

intent | zamiar, intencja

excuse | wymówka, usprawiedliwienie

en route | fr. w drodze, po drodze

charger | ładowarka

to book sth | zarezerwować coś

"a luggage" or "two baggages." Instead, you'd say:

- "How much luggage are you bringing?"
- "We had three pieces of baggage; all lost in transit."

So far, so interchangeable. The real difference emerges in figurative use: baggage is the one that travels into psychology.

- "He arrived with nothing but hand luggage – and years of emotional baggage."
- "She's still carrying a lot of personal baggage from her last job."

Luggage stays literal. Baggage, on the other hand, tends to unpack itself whether you ask it to or not.

Fare, Fee, Rate & Price

They all involve money changing hands, but the difference lies in what you're paying for.

A fare is what you pay to travel, e.g.: bus fare, taxi fare, train fare.

A fee is a service charge, e.g.: booking fee, visa fee, entrance fee.

A rate is usually a set cost per time or unit, e.g.: hotel rate per night, hourly parking rate.

And price is the most general word, e.g.: the total cost of whatever it is you're buying.

- "The train fare was £46, the booking fee £5, the hotel rate £90 a night – and the final price? More than it was worth."

Stopover vs. Layover

Both refer to breaks between flights, but the real difference lies in duration and intent.

A layover is usually short (typically under 24 hours), often just enough time to change planes.

A stopover is a longer pause, often planned and sometimes used as an excuse to explore a second city en route.

- "We had a seven-hour layover in Frankfurt. Just enough time to get bored and lose a charger."
- "On the way to Tokyo, we booked a two-day stopover in Seoul, the best decision of the whole trip."



Europe's Top Ten



by Paul Martin from www.go-native.pl

Have you ever wondered which European countries are the most popular among international tourists? In this quick guide, Paul Martin counts down the top ten destinations, revealing their most iconic hotspots, some off-the-beaten-track treasures, as well as the culinary experiences that deliver the most authentic taste of each country.

POBIERZ NAGRANIA



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s38

LUB ODSŁUCHAJ
NA STRONIE
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to wonder | zastanawiać się
to count down sth | wyliczać coś
to reveal sth | ujawniać coś
off-the-beaten-track | poza utartym szlakiem, niepopularny, mało uczęszczany



10. Netherlands (16 mln international tourists)

The Netherlands offers must-see attractions like Amsterdam's Canal Ring, the Van Gogh Museum, and Keukenhof Gardens in Lisse with its spring tulip display.

For lesser-known experiences, visit Zaanse Schans with its traditional windmills, or Texel Island for beaches and bird-watching. Enjoy culinary delights such as stroopwafels, raw herring, and Jenever, the juniper-flavoured gin-like spirit.

must-see | obowiązkowy punkt do zobaczenia, coś, co trzeba zobaczyć

spring tulip display | wiosenne kwitnienie tulipanów

lesser-known | mniej znany
windmill | wiatrak

stroopwafels | stroopwafle, holenderskie wafle z syropem

raw herring | surowy śledź
juniper-flavoured | o smaku jałowcowym

gin-like | podobny do ginu
spirit | *tu:* alkohol



9. Portugal (22 mln)

Portugal's capital, Lisbon, features historic neighbourhoods, yellow trams, and the UNESCO-listed Jerónimos Monastery and so much more. Porto is famed for its port wine cellars and challenging city walks, while the Algarve is a perennial suntrap. Off the beaten path, marvel at panoramic views from the rocky crag at Marvão, or trek the wild Trilho dos Pescadores coastal trail. Parque Nacional da Peneda-Gerês, the country's only national park, boasts awe-inspiring peaks and waterfalls.

Enjoy sweet Pastéis de Nata tarts, or Porto's meaty Francesinha sandwich alongside refreshing Vinho Verde wine or local beer.

to feature sth | mieć coś w ofercie

neighbourhood | sąsiedztwo, okolica, dzielnica

monastery | klasztor

famed for sth | sławny, znany z czegoś

perennial | nieprzemijający
suntrap | dobrze nasłonecznione miejsce

off the beaten path | poza utartym szlakiem, z dala od

głównych szlaków turystycznych

to marvel at sth | podziwiać coś, zachwycać się czymś

crag | skała, ostry szczyt skalny

to boast sth | szczycić się, chwalić się czymś

awe-inspiring | budzący podziw
peak | szczyt (góry), wierzchołek

waterfall | wodospad

meaty | *tu:* mięsny, treściwy

alongside X | razem z X



8. Austria (26 mln)

Vienna's imperial magnificence lives on in landmarks like Schönbrunn Palace, while Salzburg's baroque charm is framed by the Eastern Alps. Hallstatt, with its lakeside houses and historic salt mine is dreamlike but overcrowded.

For quieter experiences, Gesäuse National Park has rugged mountains and scenic trails, and Mostviertel's pear orchards showcase rural life. Bregenz, on Lake Constance, hosts a renowned floating stage and annual festival.

Austrian cuisine is epitomised by Wiener Schnitzel and decadent Sachertorte cake, best enjoyed with whipped cream in a traditional coffee house. Sample wines like Grüner Veltliner during a tasting in the Wachau Valley or at a cosy Viennese Heuriger (wine tavern).

magnificence | wspaniałość, przepych, majestat

landmark | *tu*: zabytek

salt mine | kopalnia soli

overcrowded | przepełniony, zatłoczony

rugged | *tu*: surowy

pear orchard | sad z gruszkami

to showcase sth | prezentować, pokazywać coś

rural | wiejski

to host sth | gościć coś, być gospodarzem czegoś

renowned | renomowany, znany, sławny

floating stage | pływająca scena

annual | doroczny, coroczny

cuisine | kuchnia

epitomised by sth | ucieleśniony przez coś, najlepiej wyrażony przez coś

decadent | *tu*: wykwintny

whipped cream | bita śmietana

to sample sth | *tu*: degustować coś

cosy | przytulny, wygodny



7. Greece (27.8 mln)

Greece is steeped in ancient history, with Athens' Acropolis a must-see part of any walking tour. Greece's 6,000 islands are Europe's paradise, with Santorini's sunsets, Mykonos' nightlife, and Crete's mountains among the most-visited.

Nafplio, a former capital, and Zagori's stone bridges and Vikos Gorge offer unique escapes. A lesser-known island can be found at Ikaria, celebrated for its laid-back lifestyle and longevity of its residents.

Foodies will enjoy Moussaka, a hearty baked aubergine dish, and Horiatiki, a refreshing salad. No evening in a taverna is complete without a glass of ouzo, an anise-flavoured aperitif.

steeped in sth | przesiąknięty czymś, głęboko zanurzony w czymś

must-see | obowiązkowy punkt do zobaczenia, coś, co trzeba zobaczyć

sunset | zachód słońca

former | dawny

lesser-known | mniej znany

laid-back | wyluzowany, zrelaksowany, spokojny

longevity | długowieczność

foodie | *pot.* smakosz, łasuch, osoba kochająca jedzenie

hearty | *tu*: pożywny

aubergine dish | danie z bakłażana

anise-flavoured | o smaku anyżowym

WARTO ZAPAMIĘTAĆ!

to marvel at sth

*podziwiać coś,
zachwycać się czymś*



6. Germany (28.4 mln)

Berlin's Brandenburg Gate still symbolises European unity amidst difficult times, while Neuschwanstein Castle in the Bavarian Alps is busy but evokes a Disney-esque magic. For quieter climes, the Black Forest's dense landscapes offer respite, while Rügen Island features historic seaside resorts and Jasmund National Park. Heidelberg, with its romantic cityscape and bustling university atmosphere, is perfect for a weekend getaway.

Diners should try Sauerbraten, a marinated beef pot roast, and Bratwurst, the famous sausages. Germany's celebrated beer culture is essential, with traditional beer gardens and breweries offering Pilsner, Weizenbier, and Kölsch.

amidst difficult times |

w trudnych czasach

to evoke sth | wywoływać coś,
budzić coś

dense | gęsty

respite | chwila wytchnienia, ulga,
oddech

seaside | nadmorski

resort | kurort, ośrodek
wypoczynkowy

bustling | tętniący życiem,
ruchliwy, gwarny

getaway | ucieczka, wypad
(np. weekendowy)

diner | bar szybkiej obsługi,
restauracja (często stylizowana
na amerykańskie bary
z lat 50.)

marinated beef pot roast
| marynowana pieczeń wołowa
z garnka

sausage | kiełbasa

brewery | browar



5. United Kingdom (31 mln)

London's landmarks like the Tower of London and Buckingham Palace are essential for first-timers, but this global city offers much more. Edinburgh is charming, and becomes a capital of comedy during the August Fringe Festival.

Cornwall's sandy beaches, rugged coastlines, and fishing villages are worth the trip, while the Cotswolds' rolling hills capture English country life. In Pembrokeshire, Wales, explore coastal paths and historic castles dating back to Welsh Kings. British cuisine, though not world-renowned, offers must-tries like fish and chips, afternoon tea with sandwiches, pastries and scones (cream first, then jam!), and a full and hearty English breakfast to start your day.

first-timer | ktoś, kto robi coś po
raz pierwszy

coastline | linia brzegowa,
wybrzeże

worth sth | wart/y czegoś

rolling | falisty, falujący

world-renowned | światowej sławy

fish and chips | ryba z frytkami
pastries | ciastka, wyroby
cukiernicze

scones | scones (rodzaj słodkich
bułeczek, popularnych w kuchni
brytyjskiej, często podawanych
z dżemem i śmietaną)



4. Italy (49.8 mln)

Italy's majesty has drawn sightseers for generations. Rome, the Eternal City, blends ancient wonders with modern vibrancy, while Florence, cradle of the Renaissance, shines in marble. Venice, with its canals and lagoon, remains a bucket list location despite the crowds.

Elsewhere, the Dolomites offer breathtaking landscapes for hiking and skiing, and in Puglia, explore the trulli houses of Alberobello, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Sicily's Aeolian Islands, like stylish Panarea and rugged Stromboli, are replete in volcanic beauty.

Italian cuisine is world-renowned. Naples is the birthplace of pizza, and each region has its own bounty of specialties. No visit is complete without artisanal gelato, available in a variety of flavours, and a Tuscan wine tasting tour will enable you to encounter varieties like Chianti and Brunello di Montalcino at source.

to draw sb | przyciągać kogoś
sightseer | turysta (szczególnie zwiedzający zabytki)
to blend sth with sth | połączyć coś z czymś, mieszać coś z czymś
cradle of the Renaissance | kolebka renesansu
to shine in marble | lśnić marmurem
bucket list location | miejsce z listy rzeczy do zrobienia w ciągu życia
despite X | po/mimo X
crowd | tłum
breathtaking | zapierający dech w piersiach
hiking | piesze wędrówki, turystyka piesza

trulli houses | domy trulli (charakterystyczne kamienne domki o stożkowatych dachach, typowe dla regionu Apulia we Włoszech)
replete in sth | obfitujący w coś, pełen czegoś
bounty of sth | obfitość czegoś, bogactwo czegoś
artisanal | rzemieślniczy, ręcznie wyrabiany
gelato | wł. lody
available | dostępny
to enable sb to do sth | umożliwić komuś z/robienie czegoś
to encounter sth | natknąć się na coś, spotkać coś
variety | tu: rodzaj



3. Turkey (50.5 mln)

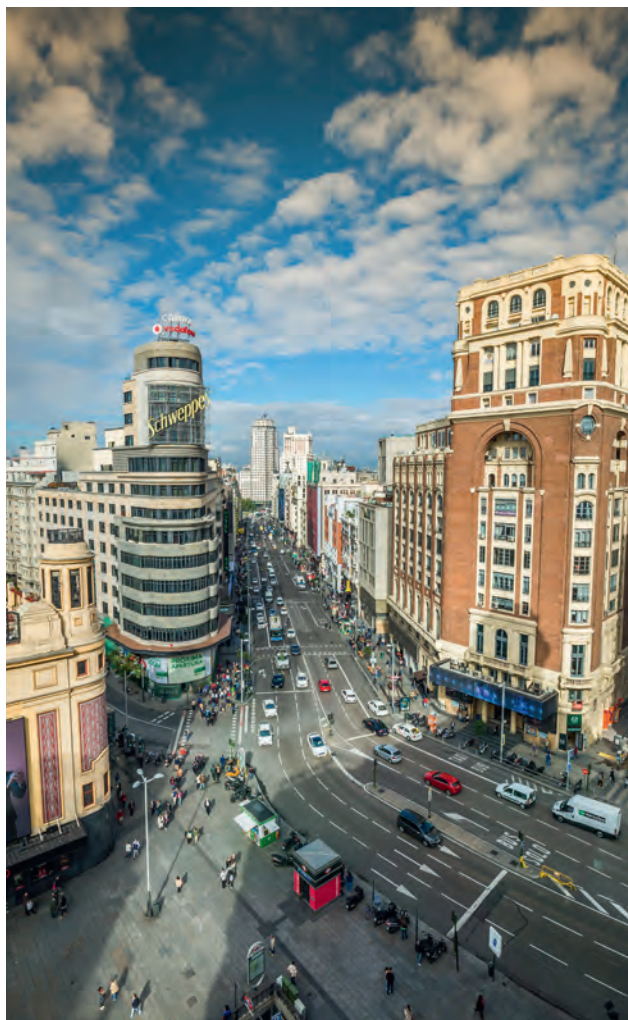
Istanbul, straddling two continents, serves as a gateway to both east and west. Admire the Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque, and Topkapi Palace. Experience Cappadocia's surreal "fairy chimney" rock formations and take a hot air balloon ride for a sky-high view. Pamukkale's mineral-rich thermal waters are natural wonders not to be missed.

Go off-piste by visiting Kaş, a charming village on the Turquoise Coast with a bohemian vibe and ancient ruins, or the cliff-side Sumela Monastery in the Pontic Mountains. Butterfly Valley in Fethiye, accessible only by boat, boasts immaculate beaches bordered by azure waters.

Enjoy authentic Turkish kebabs like spicy Adana and succulent İskender. Satisfy your sweet cravings with baklava, a pastry filled with nuts and syrup, and wash everything down with Turkish tea in a çay bahçesi (tea garden) or rich Turkish coffee in a traditional kahvehane (Ottoman Coffee House).

to straddle sth | rozciągać się po obu stronach czegoś, obejmować coś
fairy chimney | bajkowy komin
sky-high | niebotyczny, bardzo wysoki
to go off-piste | zjeżdżać, jechać poza trasą (o narciarstwie)

immaculate | nieskazitelny, perfekcyjny, bez skazy
spicy | pikantny
succulent | soczysty
sweet cravings | ochota na słodkie
to wash sth down with sth | popić coś czymś



2. Spain (71 mln)

Barcelona is a destination for the ages, with Gaudi's Sagrada Familia and Park Güell attracting the tourist hordes. Madrid, the capital, offers cultural richness with the Prado Museum, Royal Palace. Seville, the heart of Andalusia, features its Cathedral, Alcázar, and the lively Feria de Abril festival in spring.

Seek out the dramatic bridge across the El Tajo gorge in Ronda, Cudillero's charming fishing village with fresh seafood, or Albarracín's sunlit sandstone buildings. Valle del Ambroz in Extremadura is ideal for nature lovers with lush landscapes and outdoor activities.

Come for Paella, a traditional Valencian rice dish with seafood or mixed meats, and stay for tapas plates like patatas bravas, calamari, and Iberian ham. Round out your Spanish experience with sangria, a refreshing drink made from red wine and chopped fruit, perfect for those long sunny days, evenings and beyond.

to attract sth | przyciągać coś

to seek out sth | szukać, poszukiwać czegoś

gorge | gardziel

sunlit | oświetlony słońcem, nasłoneczniony

sandstone | piaskowiec

lush | bujny

outdoor | na świeżym powietrzu

seafood | owoce morza

mixed meat | mieszane mięsa

chopped | posiekany



1. France (79 mln)

Paris, the "City of Light," with its iconic Eiffel Tower, Louvre, and Notre-Dame Cathedral, has been the setting for countless personal stories. Why not add your own? Experience the joie de vivre of the French Riviera, with its stunning Mediterranean coastline and idyllically situated urban centres like Nice and Cannes.

Roam across Dordogne's river landscapes and prehistoric caves, or immerse yourself in Brittany's rich Celtic traditions. Alsace offers a unique blend of French and German cultures, while the Camargue's salt flats and marshes south of Arles are perfect for spotting flamingoes and the region's famous white horses. France's culinary scene is legendary, with wine regions like Bordeaux, Burgundy and Champagne producing world-renowned vintages. The country's diverse cheese offerings, including Camembert, Brie and Roquefort, await you. Delight in delicate French croissants, macarons and éclairs from kerbside patisseries.

setting for sth | sceneria, tło dla czegoś

countless | niezliczony

joie de vivre | fr. radość życia

stunning | oszałamiający, zachwycający

urban | miejski

to roam across sth | przemierzać

coś, włóczyć się po czymś

to immerse oneself in sth

| zanurzyć się w czymś

salt flats | solniska, płaskie tereny pokryte solą

marshes | bagna, mocزارy

to spot sb/sth | dostrzec kogoś/ coś

vintage | zabytkowy, klasyczny
including sth | włączając coś, w tym coś

kerbside | tu: łatwo dostępny, widoczne z ulicy, tuż przy ulicy
patisserie | fr. cukiernia

Going Global



by Paul Martin from www.go-native.pl

With European travellers taking more trips outside the continent, nearly reaching the pre-pandemic high of 436 million, you might also be considering a major global getaway. Paul Martin reveals the ten most popular international destinations.

Destinations

WARTO
ZAPAMIĘTAĆ!

moss-draped
pokryty mchem

NAGRAŃIA
MP3
POBIERZ



KOD DOSTĘPU:
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to consider sth | rozważyć coś

major | główny

getaway | wypad, wyjazd

to reveal sth | ujawnić coś, odsłonić coś



10. South Korea (17.5 mln international tourists)

South Korea's capital Seoul pulses with life, from its ancient palaces to the vibrant Gangnam district. Busan, on the southern coast, juxtaposes big city living with stunning beaches like Haeundae, whilst Jeju Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site, features the volcanic Hallasan Mountain with accessible trails to the summit.

In Gyeongju, the "museum without walls," explore dynastic history at Bulguksa Temple and Seokguram Grotto, or visit Suncheon to spot migratory birds in its vast reed fields.

Grill Korean BBQ at your table; try kimchi, bibimbap, soju, and makgeolli, staples of Korean cuisine.

ancient | starożytny, dawny

to juxtapose sth with sth

| zestawiać coś z czymś

stunning | oszałamiający, zachwycający

UNESCO World Heritage site

| obiekt Światowego Dziedzictwa UNESCO

to feature sth | *tu*: mieć coś,

obejmować, zawierać coś

accessible | dostępny, przystępny

trail to X | szlak do X

summit | szczyt (góry),

wierchołek

without X | bez X

temple | świątynia

to spot sth | dostrzec, zauważyć coś

vast | *tu*: rozległy

reed fields | pola trzcinowe

staple | podstawowy składnik

(np. diety)



9. India (17.9 mln)

The Taj Mahal in Agra is a symbol of eternal love that gleams in white marble. Jaipur, the Pink City, is known for its handicrafts markets and the 16th-century Amer Fort. Varanasi, India's spiritual heart, hosts nightly fire rituals along the Ganges.

In Ladakh, the Himalayas frame Tibetan prayer flags against deep blue skies, while Gujarat's Rann of Kutch, a white salt desert, shimmers under the full moon during the Rann Utsav cultural festival.

Masala chai, brewed with ginger, cardamom and cloves, warms the soul. Biryani, a fragrant rice dish with marinated meats or vegetables, has many varieties. Mango lassi, a chilled blend of mangoes, yoghurt and cardamom, cools in the oppressive heat.

eternal | wieczny

to gleam in white marble | lśnić

białym marmurem

handicrafts market | targ

rękodzieła, rynek wyrobów rzemieślniczych

to host sth | gościć coś, być

gospodarzem czegoś

Tibetan prayer flags | tybetańskie

flagi modlitewne

to shimmer | migotać,

połyskiwać

brewed with ginger, cardamom

and cloves | parzony z imbirem,

kardamonem i goździkami

fragrant | pachnący, wonny

variety | *tu*: odmiana

to cool | chłodzić (się)

oppressive | *tu*: uciążliwy

heat | upał



8. Vietnam (18 mln)

In Hanoi, stroll through the Old Quarter, and taste the famed egg coffee of condensed milk, egg yolks, sugar and robusta beans. Halong Bay, with its emerald waters and towering limestone islands, is best seen by cruise.

For explorers, Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park is littered with vast cave systems, including Son Doong, the world's largest, or go kite surfing beyond stunning sand dunes in Mui Ne.

Pho, a staple broth with noodles is enjoyed throughout the country. Banh Mi, a delicious fusion of French and Vietnamese cuisine, is a crunchy baguette filled with meats and fresh vegetables.

to stroll through sth

| przechadzać się po czymś

famed | sławny

condensed milk | skondensowane mleko

egg yolk | żółtko jajka

robusta beans | kawa robusta, ziarna robusta

emerald | szmaragdowy

limestone | wapień

is best seen by cruise

| najlepiej podziwiać ze statku wycieczkowego

littered with sth | *tu: usiany*

czymś

cave systems | systemy jaskiń,

kompleksy jaskiń

including X | włączając X, w tym X

sand dune | wydma piaskowa

staple broth with noodles

| podstawowy bulion z makaronem



7. Canada (22 mln)

Misty Niagara Falls, with its roaring waters, is best seen from a boat tour. Banff National Park's turquoise lakes, snow-capped peaks and diverse wildlife in the Rockies are truly unforgettable. Old Quebec's cobblestone streets and historic architecture reflect its deep French connections.

Gros Morne National Park offers a unique immersion into Newfoundland and Labrador's wild north, while Tofino on Vancouver Island is famed for its rugged surfer's coastline. Churchill in Manitoba, the "Polar Bear Capital of the World," attracts 10,000 ecotourists annually to see the bears and beluga whales.

Canadian cuisine is as varied as its scenery. Poutine features fries with cheese curds and gravy. Maple syrup is best enjoyed fresh from a Quebec sugar shack, and butter tarts are gooey pastries in flavours like raisin and pecan.

roaring | *tu: huczący*

snow-capped | ośnieżony, pokryty śniegiem

peak | szczyt (góry)

cobblestone | bruk, kociołby

to reflect sth | odzwierciedlać coś

immersion into sth | zanurzenie się w czymś

to attract sb | przyciągać kogoś

annually | corocznie, co roku

beluga whale | białucha

cuisine | kuchnia

scenery | krajobraz, sceneria,

widoki

poutine | poutine (nazwa kandyjskiego dania)

fries with cheese curds and gravy

| frytki z kawałkami sera i sosem pieczeniowym

maple syrup | syrop klonowy

Quebec sugar shack | kanadyjska cukrownia (*dosł. "chata cukrowa"* – miejsce, gdzie produkuje się syrop klonowy i często serwuje posiłki na jego bazie)

gooey pastries | kleiste, ciągnące się ciastka

raisin | rodzynka



6. Malaysia (26 mln)

Kuala Lumpur's Petronas Towers rise tall among mosques and colonial buildings. Langkawi's 99 beachy islands are set within crystalline waters, with inland rainforests soaking up the wet season (March-November). Go wildlife trekking in one of the world's oldest rainforests in Taman Negara National Park.

In Borneo's Sarawak, visit the dramatic Mulu Caves, or meet the Iban and Bidayuh tribes. The Perhentian Islands, off the northeast coast, are perfect for snorkelling and diving, and in Penang, beyond George Town's colonial charm, discover fishing villages and hikes through Kek Lok Si Temple.

Try Nasi Lemak - coconut rice with sambal, anchovies, peanuts and egg - and Laksa, a spicy noodle soup varying by region from rich Asam Laksa to tangy Penang Laksa. Don't miss Teh Tarik, the frothy "pulled tea." Watching tea masters pour it is mesmerising.

mosque | meczet

to be set within sth | znajdować się w czymś, być usytuowanym w czymś

inland | śródlądowy, w głębi lądu

to soak up | chłonać (coś), nasiąkać (czymś)

snorkelling | nurkowanie z rurką

hike | piesza wędrówka, wycieczka piesza

sambal | sambal (ostry sos lub pasta, popularna w kuchniach Azji Południowo-Wschodniej)

anchovies | sardele, anchois

peanuts | orzeszki ziemne, fistaszki

tangy | cierpki, kwaskowaty, ostry (o smaku)

frothy | spieniony, pienisty
"pulled tea" | "ciągnięta herbata" (specjalnie przygotowywana herbata, np. Teh Tarik)

to pour sth | nalewać, wlewać coś

mesmerising | hipnotyzujący, urzekający, fascynujący



5. Japan (32 mln)

In Tokyo, the neon-lit capital, navigate the Shibuya Crossing with 500,000 other daily visitors. Kyoto, the former imperial seat, features the Golden Pavilion and Fushimi Inari Shrine's iconic red gates. View Mount Fuji from Kawaguchiko Lake or hike up-close, but time your visit for clear visibility.

Naoshima, "Art Island," blends contemporary art museums with traditional scenery. Yakushima Island is shrouded in ancient cedar forests, hiking trails, and hidden hot springs. Shirakawa-go in the Japanese Alps is famous for its gassho-zukuri farmhouses with snow-resistant thatched roofs.

Enjoy regional ramen variations, teppanyaki dining where chefs perform, and sake rice wine tastings. Matcha, finely ground green tea, is key in traditional ceremonies and desserts.

neon-lit | oświetlony neonami, neonowy

former | były, dawny

shrouded in sth | spowity czymś

hidden | ukryty

hot spring | gorące źródło

snow-resistant | śniegoodporny

thatched roof | dach kryty strzechą

to enjoy sth | cieszyć się, rozkoszować się czymś

chef | szef kuchni

to perform | dawać pokaz

sake rice wine tasting

| degustacja wina ryżowego sake

finely ground | drobno zmielony



4. Thailand (40 mln)

In Bangkok, historic **temples** like the Grand Palace and Wat Pho **stand out against** modern **skyscrapers** and **bustling** markets. Chiang Mai, in the northern mountains, is a cultural **hub** with a **thriving craft culture**. Phuket's stunning beaches and lively nightlife **draw** an international **crowd**.

Koh Lanta offers serene shores and **cheeky** monkeys, perfect for relaxation away from nearby Krabi's party scene. In northern Thailand, Pai is a favourite with **backpackers** for its relaxed pace, night markets and ethical elephant tourism.

Thai food is an art form. Pad Thai, a **stir-fried** noodle dish, is iconic. Tom Yum Goong, a spicy **shrimp soup**, and Mango Sticky Rice, a dessert with sweet mangoes and coconut sauce, are fragrant **must-tries**.

temple | świątynia

to stand out against X

| wyróżniać się na tle X

skyscraper | drapacz chmur

bustling | tętniący życiem,

gwarowny, ruchliwy

hub | *tu*: centrum, ośrodek

thriving | prosperujący, kwitnący

craft culture | kultura

rzemieślnicza

to draw sb/sth | przyciągać

kogoś/coś

crowd | tłum

cheeky | bezczelny, zuchwały

backpacker | turysta podróżujący
z plecakiem

stir-fried | smażony w woku,

smażony szybko na dużym

ogniu

shrimp soup | zupa

krewetkowa

must-try | obowiązkowy,

konieczny do spróbowania; coś,

czego trzeba spróbować



3. Mexico (45 mln)

Cancun's beaches and turquoise waters offer relaxation and adventure, with nearby snorkelling, diving and Mayan ruins. **Sprawling** Mexico City **boasts** museums and historic sites like the Zócalo and Templo Mayor. Chichen Itza, a Wonder of the World, features the iconic El Castillo pyramid.

Copper Canyon provides **solitude** and trails larger than the Grand Canyon. Isla Holbox is ideal for ecotourism with its **bio-luminescent** waters, and towns like Tulum and Taxco **highlight** Mexico's **lesser-known heritage**.

Tacos, mezcal, and mole – a complex sauce with chilli peppers, spices and sometimes chocolate – will leave your taste buds dancing long after you've left.

sprawling | *tu*: rozległy

to boast sth | po/szczycić się czymś

solitude | samotność,

odosobnienie

bioluminescent

| bioluminescencyjny

to highlight sth | podkreślać,

uwypatniać coś

lesser-known | mniej znany

heritage | dziedzictwo



2. China (66 mln)

China's **landmarks** watch over its rich history. Hike the **rugged** paths of The Great Wall and watch the sunset. In Beijing, the Forbidden City reveals imperial grandeur, while Xi'an's Terracotta Warriors, **unearthed** in 1974, **guard** the tomb of Qin Shi Huang, the first emperor.

Zhangjiajie National Forest Park's **quartzite pillars** and **lush** forests inspired the movie Avatar, Guilin's Li River **winds through limestone karst hills**, and Chengdu's Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding offers deep **insights into** these beautiful creatures.

Enjoy Peking duck with its **crispy** skin and **tender** meat, or **dim sum**, a Cantonese tradition of small dishes like **steamed dumplings** and **baked buns**, best paired with Chinese tea. For a potent drink, try baijiu, a **heritage spirit distilled from** fermented grains.

landmark | znany obiekt (np. historyczny), zabytek

rugged | nierówny, skalisty

unearthed | odkopany, odkryty (np. podczas wykopalisk)

to guard sth | strzec, pilnować czegoś

quartzite pillars | kwarcytowe filary

lush | *tu*: bujny

to wind through sth | wić się przez coś, przecinać coś

limestone | wapień

karst hills | wzgórze krasowe

insight into sth | wgląd w coś, zrozumienie czegoś

crispy | chrupiący

tender | delikatny, kruchy

dim | mdły

steamed dumplings | kluski/ pierogi na parze

baked buns | pieczone bułeczki

heritage spirit | duch dziedzictwa, tradycji

distilled from sth | destylowany z czegoś

grains | ziarna, zboża



1. USA (79 mln)

The USA offers a **wealth of** attractions for all tastes. From the big cities of New York, Los Angeles, Miami or Vegas, to the Grand Canyon, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World that draws around 5 million visitors each year.

For unique experiences, explore Savannah, Georgia's **antebellum** architecture and **moss-draped oaks**, or Sedona, Arizona's red rock formations. Mackinac Island, Michigan, is a step back in time with its **horse-drawn carriages**, and Kauai, Hawaii is a joyful blend of American-Polynesian culture beneath **flourishing** emerald peaks.

In America, they **eat big**. **Whether** its Texas brisket, Kansas City **ribs**, New England **clam chowder**, Louisiana **gumbo**, or Tex-Mex dishes like **fajitas** and nachos, expect large portions. Craft beer and wine enthusiasts can explore **microbreweries** and regions like Napa Valley.

wealth of sth | bogactwo, obfitość czegoś

antebellum | przedwojenny

(odnosi się do okresu przed wojną secesyjną w USA)

moss-draped | pokryty mchem

oak | dąb

horse-drawn carriage | powóz konny, dorożka

flourishing | kwitnący, prosperujący

to eat big | jeść obficie, dużo jeść

whether | czy

ribs | żeberka

clam chowder | zupa z małży (zagęszczona zupa, często o konsystencji kremu)

gumbo | gumbo (pikantna zupa lub gulasz, popularny w Luizjanie, z owocami morza, mięsem i warzywami)

fajitas | fajitas (danie kuchni meksykańskiej, paski mięsa lub warzyw podawane z tortillami)

microbrewery | mikrobrowar



Travel – Price Watch



by Paul Martin from www.go-native.pl

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Destinations

Budgets significantly influence the final destination for your holiday plans. Paul Martin examines various types of holidays, comparing budget-friendly options with luxurious alternatives.



price watch | śledzenie, monitorowanie cen

significantly | znacząco, znacznie

to influence sth | wpływać na coś

to compare sth with sth | porównywać coś z czymś

With a 9-night holiday for a Eopean family of four averaging around £ 4,500, many are eager to find ways to save on travel. Conversely, some view vacations as an opportunity to enjoy the finer things in life and experience the best a destination has to offer. Let's explore some of the most extravagant holiday spots, and their more economical counterparts.

averaging around X | osiągając średnio X
eager to do sth | chętny do z/robienia czegoś
to save on sth | zaoszczędzić na czymś
conversely | i na odwrót
to view sth as sth | postrzegać coś jako coś
opportunity | sposobność
to experience sth | doświadczyć czegoś
spot | miejsce
counterpart | odpowiednik

**WARTO
ZAPAMIĘTAĆ!**

pricey
pot. drogi

Expensive City Break: **London**



Budget travellers in London spend £60-95 daily on accommodation, with even multiple-occupancy hostel beds averaging £33 per night. Public transport is also costly: a Visitor Oyster Card costs £5 plus fares, whereas the London Day Travelcard provides unlimited travel for £15.90 off-peak for Zones 1-4, or £22.60 peak for Zones 1-6. Dining at an inexpensive restaurant costs around £15-20 per head.

Luxury seekers can stay at The Ritz or Claridge's, with rooms from £290 to £829 per night, and feast at Michelin-starred restaurants where mid-range meals for two average £80. Premium hampers from Fortnum & Mason start at around £150 should you wish to take an elite taste of London back home with you.

However, visits to London can be economical with the right advice. Travel off-peak, or cycle on a city bike, visit free attractions like the British Museum or Hyde Park, eat in Brixton, Camden, or at a street food market like Borough Market, and find discounted theatre tickets online or at TXTS in Leicester Square.

multiple-occupancy

| wieloosobowy

fare | opłata za przejazd/przelot

whereas | natomiast, podczas gdy

to provide sth | dostarczać, zapewniać coś

off-peak | poza godzinami szczytu, poza sezonem

seeker | poszukiwacz

to feast | ucztować

mid-range | średniej klasy, ze średniej półki cenowej

premium hamper | kosz prezentowy premium (zwykle z ekskluzywnymi produktami spożywczymi lub delikatesami)

however | jednak / że

discounted | przeceniony, objęty zniżką

Affordable City Break: **Porto**



In Porto, Portugal's beating heart of a second city, hostel beds start at €10 per night, with budget hotels ranging from €20-30. Mid-range hotels cost around €45-70 per night. Public transport is eminently affordable, with single metro tickets at €1.20 and a 24-hour Andante Travel Card at €7.

Food and drink are eminently affordable, with meals at lower-end restaurants costing around €5-10 and a three-course meal for two at mid-range establishments starting at around €30.

For luxury, vineyard resorts like Six Senses Douro Valley offer rooms starting at €1,450 per night, and feature a range of high-end amenities and panoramic vineyard views.

affordable | przystępny cenowo

beating | bijący

eminently | w najwyższym stopniu

single metro ticket | pojedynczy bilet na metro

lower-end | niższej klasy, z niższej półki cenowej

three-course meal

| trzydaniowy posiłek

vineyard resort | ośrodek wypoczynkowy/kurort w winnicy

to feature sth | mieć w ofercie coś

high-end | wysokiej klasy, z najwyższej półki cenowej

amenity | udogodnienie, wyposażenie

Expensive Beach Holiday: **Maldives**



The Maldives **epitomises** luxury, making it one of the world's priciest beach destinations. Accommodation costs can be **exorbitant**, with **overwater** villas at resorts like Conrad Maldives Rangali Island starting at \$1,000 per night and reaching as high as \$37,500 at the St. Regis Maldives Vommuli. These resorts offer private **infinity pools**, **personal butlers** and exclusive beach access. **Gourmet meals** are often included in all-inclusive packages, but dining at specialty restaurants can be as **pricey** as you wish it to be, with wine bottles priced up to \$52,000 on offer. While activities like **snorkelling** and **scuba diving** are typically included, private yacht charters and helicopter tours can further **increase** costs.

to epitomise sth | stanowić ucieleśnienie czegoś, być kwintesencją czegoś, doskonale coś uosabiać
exorbitant | wygórowany
overwater | położony nad wodą
resort | kurort, ośrodek wypoczynkowy

infinity pool | basen bez krawędzi (dający iluzję nieskończoności lub łączenia się z horyzontem)
personal butler | osobisty lokaj
gourmet meal | wykwintny posiłek, posiłek dla smakoszy

pricey | *pot.* drogi
snorkelling | pływanie z rurką i maską
scuba diving | nurkowanie (z aparatem oddechowym)
to increase sth | zwiększać coś

Affordable Beach Holiday: **Goa**



Goa, India, is a budget-friendly beach destination that doesn't **skimp on experience**. Known for its vibrant culture,

stunning beaches and **affordability**, Goa is a favourite among budget travellers. Accommodation **ranges from**

guest houses starting at \$10 per night to mid-range hotels at \$50 per night. Even luxury resorts like the Taj Exotica Resort & Spa offer rooms for around \$200 per night, providing great value. Dining in Goa is also very affordable, with meals at local restaurants costing \$2-5. Fresh seafood and traditional Goan dishes like fish curry are popular and inexpensive. Activities such as **beach hopping**, water sports and exploring local markets are **either** free **or** low-cost, making it easy to enjoy a full vacation **without overspending**. Additionally, Goa's generally low cost of living **allows** travellers **to stretch their budgets further**.

to skimp on experience | iść na kompromis kosztem doświadczenia (np. rezygnować z pełni wrażeń, by zaoszczędzić)
stunning | oszałamiający, zachwycający, olśniewający
affordability | przystępność cenowa

to range from sth to sth | wahać się od czegoś do czegoś
beach hopping | odwiedzanie wielu plaż, 'skakanie' po plażach (zwiedzanie różnych plaż, często w krótkim czasie)
either... or... | albo... albo...

without X | bez X
overspending | nadmierne wydatki, przekraczanie budżetu
to allow sb to do sth | pozwalać komuś coś zrobić
to stretch one's budgets further | sprawić, by budżet wystarczył na dłużej/na więcej

Expensive Skiing: Gstaad



Gstaad, in the Swiss Alps, is known for its luxury and exclusivity. Luxury hotels like The Alpina Gstaad and Gstaad Palace offer rooms starting at CHF 820 (CHF means Swiss Francs, so about €830) per night, reaching up to CHF 10,000 for the most ornate suites. Even mid-range hotels average CHF 330 per night.

Ski passes are also expensive, with day passes ranging from CHF 49 to CHF 74, depending on the season. A six-day pass costs about CHF 327 for adults. Private ski lessons and guided tours will further increase costs, especially for premium services. Gstaad's restaurants are equally expensive, with establishments often charging over CHF 100 per person. Michelin-starred

establishments like Sommet offer gourmet tasting menus with top-tier ingredients. The après-ski scene is upscale, featuring exclusive bars and clubs where drinks can cost over CHF 20.

skiing | narciarstwo, jazda na nartach
to mean sth | oznaczać coś
to reach up to sth | sięgać do czegoś (np. do określonego poziomu, kwoty)
ornate | bogato zdobiony
suite | *tu*: apartament (w hotelu)
ski pass | karnet narciarski
depending on sth | w zależności od czegoś
adult | dorosły
guided tour | wycieczka z przewodnikiem
equally | równie
top-tier | najwyższej klasy, z najwyższej półki
ingredient | składnik
après-ski | après-ski (czas spędzany po jeździe na nartach, zazwyczaj na rozrywce, spotkaniach towarzyskich, często w barach u podnóża stoku)
upscale | ekskluzywny, z wyższej półki (o produktach, usługach, miejscach)

Affordable Skiing: Borovets, Bulgaria



Borovets, Bulgaria, offers an affordable and quality skiing experience as one of the country's oldest ski resorts. Budget hotels cost around €30 per night,

mid-range about €60, and luxury hotels start at €100.

Ski passes are reasonably priced, with a day pass at €30 and a six-day pass at

€150. Equipment rental starts at €15 per day. Dining is inexpensive, with meals at local restaurants costing €10-15 per person. The après-ski scene is lively and budget-friendly.

Borovets is ideal for families, beginners, and intermediate skiers, with 58 km of pistes and various runs and ski schools. The resort also offers activities beyond skiing, such as snowmobile rentals, horse riding, and visits to nearby attractions like the Rila Monastery.

reasonably priced | w rozsądnej cenie
equipment rental | wynajem sprzętu; wypożyczalnia sprzętu
lively | pełen życia, tętniący życiem
skier | narciarz
piste | stok narciarski, trasa narciarska
snowmobile rental | wynajem skutera śnieżnego; wypożyczalnia skuterów śnieżnych
monastery | klasztor

Expensive Adventure Holiday: Galápagos Islands, Ecuador



The Galápagos Islands are a dream destination for adventure travellers, but they come with a hefty price tag. The high cost is due to the remote location and the need to preserve the ecosystem. Accommodation can be expensive, with luxury eco-lodges and cruises starting at \$500 per night, and high-end options

like the Pikaia Lodge costing several thousand dollars for a week. Activities such as guided tours, snorkelling, and diving are often included in packages but can add to the cost if booked separately. Dining is also pricey, in large part due to the extra cost in importing many of the finer ingredients. Additionally, flights

from mainland Ecuador to the Galápagos range from \$400 to \$600 for a round trip. Despite the high costs, the unique wildlife and pristine landscapes make the Galápagos Islands a once-in-a-lifetime adventure worth the investment.

to come with sth | iść w parze z czymś, wiązać się z czymś, mieć coś w zestawie/cenie

hefty price tag | wysoka cena, spory rachunek

due to sth | z powodu czegoś

remote | odległy

eco-lodge | ekologiczny domek turystyczny, ekologiczny ośrodek/schronisko (często w zgodzie z naturą, minimalizujący wpływ na środowisko)

cruise | rejs

in large part | w dużej mierze, w znacznej części

flight | lot

round trip | podróż w obie strony, przejazd w obie strony

despite sth | pomimo czegoś

once-in-a-lifetime | raz w życiu

worth sth | wart czegoś

Affordable Adventure Holiday: Cambodia



Cambodia offers an affordable adventure holiday, with ancient Khmer temples and fascinating wetlands. Accommodation is budget-friendly, with guest houses starting at \$10 per night, mid-range hotels at \$30, and luxury hotels from \$100.

Activities like exploring Angkor Wat, trekking the Cardamom Mountains, and visiting Tonle Sap Lake's floating villages are either free or low-cost. Guided tours and adventure activities such as zip-lining and kayaking start at around \$20. Dining is also inexpensive,

with local meals costing \$2-5. Overall, Cambodia delivers a rich and diverse adventure experience at a fraction of the cost of pricier destinations.

temple | świątynia

wetlands | mokradła, tereny podmokłe

to trek | wędrować, podróżować pieszo

zip-lining | tyrolka, zjazd na linie

diverse | różnorodny, zróżnicowany

at a fraction of sth | za ułamek (wartości) czegoś

Where to?

So, no matter your budget, there are options to suit all preferences. And remember, the true value of a holiday lies in the joy and memories of new discoveries. Happy travels!

to suit sth | odpowiadać czemuś

Join the Festivities



by Paul Martin from www.go-native.pl

When combined with travel, the experience of taking part in a festival can be truly transformative. Paul Martin takes us on a tour of some of the world's most interesting celebrations, with advice on how to participate yourself.

Revelry

Festivals have always been powerful experiences that unite communities. From the nearly 3,000-year-old Akitu festival of Mesopotamia, still celebrated by some Assyrian peoples each spring, to modern music and arts festivals like Coachella in California, they all encapsulate the essence of shared human experiences.

The sheer number of festivals held worldwide each year is staggering. In Japan alone, there are approximately 300,000 cultural festivals annually, with millions of people witnessing or taking part in these celebrations as part of their travels. In this article, we'll explore five of the world's most fascinating festivals,

o **combined with sth** | połączony z czymś, w połączeniu z czymś

to **take part in sth** | brać udział, uczestniczyć w czymś

advice on sth | rada/porada na temat czegoś

1 **revelry** | zabawa, hulanka, uczęszczanie

to **unite sth** | jednoczyć, łączyć coś

to **encapsulate sth** | zawierać coś w pigułce, ujmować/odzwierciedlać istotę czegoś

the **sheer number of X** | sama liczba X

staggering | oszałamiający, wstrząsający, zdumiewający

approximately | około, w przybliżeniu

annually | rocznie, co roku

each crucial for preserving and promoting cultural heritage, language and traditions.

Hair Freezing Contest, Canada

The Hair Freezing Contest, held annually at Eclipse Nordic Hot Springs in Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada, is a quirky winter festival where participants create frozen hairstyles by dipping their heads in the hot springs and letting the frigid air freeze their wet hair into sculptural masterpieces. The contest, originating in 2011 as part of the Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous festival, went viral in 2015.

to **witness sth** | być świadkiem czegoś

2 **crucial** | kluczowy, istotny, decydujący

to **preserve sth** | zachować, chronić coś

heritage | dziedzictwo, spuścizna

hair freezing | zamrażanie włosów

contest | konkurs, zawody

quirky | dziwaczny, ekscentryczny, osobliwy

to **dip sth in sth** | zanurzyć coś w czymś

hot springs | gorące źródła

frigid | lodowaty, przenikliwie zimny

sculptural | tu: przypominający rzeźbę

masterpiece | arcydzieło

to **go viral** | rozprzestrzenić się w internecie, stać się viralowym



POBIERZ NAGRANIA MP3

KOD DOSTĘPU: s38
LUB ODSŁUCHAJ NA STRONIE englishmatters.pl

POBIERZ CZYTNIK KODÓW: COLORFULMEDIA.PL/CZYTNIK

WARTO
ZAPAMIĘTAĆ!bonfire
ognisko

Running from late December to early March, when temperatures can drop to -20°C or lower, participants first soak their hair in the hot springs, then style it into rigid shapes in the freezing air, with cash prizes to be won for the most impressive results across various categories.

Drive about 28 kilometres from Erik Nielsen Whitehorse International Airport to reach the festival location, and choose to either stay on-site at the hot springs, or in hotels in nearby Whitehorse. Bring a bathing suit, warm clothing and hair styling props if you plan to participate.

Holi, India

Holi, the Festival of Colours, is one of India's most vivid celebrations, marking the arrival of spring and the triumph of good over evil. People play with colours, dance, sing and enjoy festive foods. In 2024, Holi was celebrated on March 25th.

The festival's highlight is the throwing of coloured powders (gulal) and water, which transform the streets into a kaleidoscope of hues. Water balloons and guns add to the festive chaos, while traditional music and dance fill the air. The night before Holi, bonfires are lit for Holika Dahan, symbolising the burning of evil.

- 3 to soak sth in sth | moczyć coś w czymś
 cash prize | nagroda pieniężna
 either... or... | albo... albo...
 to stay on-site at the hot springs
 | zatrzymać się na miejscu (na terenie)
 gorących źródeł
 hair styling props | akcesoria do stylizacji
 włosów, rekwizyty fryzjerskie
 vivid | żywy; jaskrawy, intensywny
 (o kolorze)
 arrival of spring | nadejście wiosny
 triumph of good over evil | triumf dobra nad
 złem, zwycięstwo dobra nad złem
 highlight | główny punkt, najważniejszy
 moment, atrakcja
 throwing of sth | rzucanie czymś
 coloured powders | kolorowe proszki
 kaleidoscope of hues | kalejdoskop odcieni,
 feeria barw
 bonfire | ognisko
 to be lit for sb/sth | być zapalonym dla
 kogoś/czegoś
 the burning of evil | palenie zła
 4 engaging | angażujący, wciągający,
 zajmujący

To reach Delhi, Mumbai, or Jaipur, where the festival is at its most engaging, fly into international airports. Internally, use India's extensive railway network, but be sure to book train tickets early, especially during festivals. For Holi, wear old, preferably white clothes, and apply oil to your hair and skin to ease colour removal. Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water before and after playing with colours. Be cautious in crowds, especially solo female travellers, by joining groups or attending organised events.

Hogueras de San Juan (Bonfires of Saint John), Alicante, Spain

The Hogueras de San Juan, or Bonfires of Saint John, is a fiery annual festival in Alicante, Spain, celebrating the arrival of summer and honouring Saint John the Baptist. From June 19 to June 24, the city comes alive with parades, fireworks, and the construction and burning of elaborate bonfires, known as hogueras, which are intricate structures made of wood, cardboard and papier-mâché, often depicting satirical scenes.

The highlight of the festival is La Cremà on June 24, where ninots (caricature effigies)

- internally | wewnątrz
 extensive | rozległy
 railway network | sieć kolejowa
 to book sth | zarezerwować coś
 to apply sth to sth | nałożyć olej na coś
 to ease sth | *tu*: ułatwić coś
 colour removal | usuwanie koloru, zmywanie farby
 stay hydrated | pozostać nawodnionym, pić dużo płynów
 cautious | ostrożny, rozważny
 crowd | tłum
 female traveller | turystka
 to join sb/sth | dołączyć do kogoś/czegoś
 to attend sth | *tu*: uczestniczyć w czymś
 fiery | *tu*: ognisty
 to honour sb | oddawać komuś hołd
 to come alive with sth | ożywać czymś, tętnić życiem dzięki czemuś
 intricate | zawiły, misterny
 cardboard | tektura, karton
 to depict sth | przedstawiać, ukazywać coś
 caricature effigies | karykaturalne kukły, karykaturalne podobizny

are set ablaze in a symbolic act of purification and renewal. The festivities transform Alicante, with major events taking place in central city locations like Plaza de Luceros and Postiguet Beach.

Alicante is easily accessible via Alicante-Elche Airport, with transport options readily available to reach hotels in the city centre, the best place to stay for easy access to events and attractions. For a scenic stay, consider beachfront hotels. Pack comfortable clothing and footwear, a light jacket for cooler evenings, and sun protection like sunglasses and hats. Wear older clothes if you plan to get close to the bonfires.

Night of the Radishes, Mexico

The Noche de Rábanos, or Night of the Radishes, is an offbeat festival held annually on December 23rd in Oaxaca City, Mexico. Celebrated since 1897, this event features intricate radish carvings by local artisans.

Originating from a Christmas market tradition where merchants carved radishes to attract customers, it has evolved into a formal competition with significant cash prizes. Artists carve oversized radishes into elaborate scenes depicting the nativity, local wildlife, mythical creatures and everyday Oaxacan life. The wider festival includes fireworks, parades, craft booths and food stalls selling traditional treats

like buñuelos (doughnuts) and esquites (corn salad).

The specially grown radishes weigh up to 10 pounds, measure two feet long, and are not meant for consumption. Participants compete in various categories, including traditional and contemporary themes, with the grand prize for best traditional sculpture being MXD 15,000 (USD 900).

Combine a visit to the Noche de Rábanos with a wider Mexican tour of Mexico City, Puebla or Veracruz. Stay at a city centre boutique hotel with traditional Oaxacan decor. The festival is best enjoyed in the late afternoon and evening when the radish sculptures are illuminated, but arrive early to avoid long queues. As ever, be cautious in crowds.

Cooper's Hill Cheese-Rolling Festival, England

The Cooper's Hill Cheese-Rolling Festival, held annually on the Spring Bank Holiday in Gloucestershire, England, since 1826, is a thrilling, eccentric event. Participants chase a wheel of Double Gloucester cheese down a steep 200-yard hill, resulting in dramatic tumbles.

Despite the inherent risks, the festival attracts thousands of spectators and competitors from around the world, all eager to partake in or witness this chaotic spectacle. The festival includes multiple races for men, women and children, with



to be set ablaze | zostać podpalonym, stanąć w płomieniach

purification | oczyszczenie, puryfikacja

renewal | odnowa, odnowienie

accessible | dostępny

via X | poprzez X, za pośrednictwem X

to consider sth | rozważyć coś, wziąć coś pod uwagę

footwear | obuwie

to get close to sth | zbliżyć się do czegoś, podejść blisko czegoś

radish | rzodkiewka

offbeat | niekonwencjonalny, oryginalny, nietypowy

carving | rzeźba, rzeźbienie

to attract sb | przyciągać kogoś

to evolve into sth | ewoluować, przekształcić się w coś

competition | konkurs, zawody, rywalizacja

significant | znaczący, istotny, ważny

oversized | ponadwymiarowy, przerośnięty

nativity | szopka bożonarodzeniowa

to include sth | zawierać, obejmować,

włączać coś

craft booth | stoisko z rękodziełem, stragan

rzemieślniczy

food stall | stoisko z jedzeniem, stragan

z żywnością

doughnut | pączek

corn salad | sałatka kukurydziana

to measure X | mierzyć X

to be not meant for consumption | nie być przeznaczonym do spożycia

to compete | rywalizować, konkurować

including sth | włączając coś, w tym coś

contemporary | współczesny

boutique hotel | hotel butikowy (mały, luksusowy hotel o unikalnym wystroju i spersonalizowanej obsłudze)

illuminated | oświetlony, rozświetlony

to avoid sth | unikać czegoś, omijać coś

queue | kolejka

thrilling | porywający, ekscytujący

to chase sth down sth | gonić coś w dół czegoś (np. zbocza)

a wheel of Double Gloucester cheese | krąg sera Double Gloucester

steep | stromy

to result in sth | skutkować czymś, prowadzić do czegoś

tumbles | upadki, przewroty, koziołki

despite sth | po/mimo czegoś

inherent | *tu*: nieodłączny

to partake in sth | brać udział w czymś, uczestniczyć w czymś

to witness sth | być świadkiem czegoś, oglądać coś



the children's race taking place **uphill** for safety. The first race starts at noon, but **it's advisable** to arrive earlier than that if you want to **secure** a good viewing spot.

Stay nearby in Gloucester or Cheltenham, with options **ranging from**

7 uphill | pod górę, na wzniesieniu
it's advisable | jest wskazane, jest zalecane
to secure sth | zabezpieczyć coś, zapewnić sobie coś

to range from X to Y | wahać się od X do Y, mieścić się w przedziale od X do Y

8 holiday cottage | domek letniskowy, domek wakacyjny

to ensure sth | zapewnić sobie coś

sturdy | wytrzymały, solidny

budget hotels **to** luxurious stays. **Holiday cottages** in the Cotswolds offer a charming alternative. To **ensure** a comfortable visit, wear **sturdy** shoes and bring **waterproof** clothing and **sunscreen**. Participants should seriously

waterproof | wodoodporny, nieprzemakalny
sunscreen | krem przeciwsłoneczny

9 knee and elbow pads | ochraniacze na kolana i łokcie

by no means | *tu:* w żadnym wypadku, bynajmniej

exhaustive | *tu:* wyczerpujący, kompletny

to experience sth | doświadczyć czegoś, przeżyć coś

to forge connections with sb | nawiązywać relacje z kimś, tworzyć więzi z kimś

consider wearing protective gear like **knee and elbow pads**.

Where Else?

Of course, this list is **by no means exhaustive**. Perhaps you'd rather visit Germany for Oktoberfest, join the water fights during Songkran, Thai New Year, in April, or **experience** the pulsating energy of Rio's famous Carnival. Wherever you go, festivals offer a truly unique window into the heart of a culture, providing unforgettable experiences and helping **forge connections with** people from around the world.



Hospitality Exchange



by Paul Martin from www.go-native.pl

So-called hospitality exchange services (HospEx), whereby travellers connect online with locals and stay in their homes for free, or at very low cost, have emerged in recent decades as a popular alternative to traditional accommodation options like hotels or B&Bs. But are they safe? Paul Martin investigates.

hospitality exchange | wymiana gościnności (system, w którym oferuje się nocleg w zamian za gościnę)

so-called | tak zwany

whereby | przez co, w wyniku czego, formalnie: zgodnie z którym
for free | za darmo, bezpłatnie

at very low cost | przy bardzo niskim koszcie, bardzo tanio

to emerge | wyłaniać się, pojawiać się

accommodation | zakwaterowanie, nocleg

B&B = bed and breakfast | pensjonat oferujący zakwaterowanie ze śniadaniem

WARTO
ZAPAMIĘTAĆ!

bed and breakfast

pensjonat oferujący zakwaterowanie
ze śniadaniemNAGRAŃIA
MP3KOD DOSTĘPU:
s38LUB ODŚLECHAJ
NA STRONIE
englishmatters.plPOBIERZ CZYTNIK KODÓW:
COLORFULMEDIA.PL/CZYTNIK

- 1 **stranger** | nieznajomy, obcy
increasingly | coraz bardziej, w coraz większym stopniu
dual | podwójny
quest for sth | pogoń za czymś, dążenie do czegoś, poszukiwanie czegoś
affordability | przystępność cenowa
to get more accustomed to sth | coraz bardziej przyzwyczajając się do czegoś, oswajając się z czymś
unfamiliar | nieznajomy, obcy, nieznan
indeed | w rzeczy samej
to embark on sth | wyruszyć w coś
to facilitate sth | ułatwiać, umożliwiać coś
immersive | angażujący, pochłaniający, zapewniający pełne zanurzenie w dane doświadczenie
distant | tu: z daleka
wanderer | wędrowiec, tułacz
ancient | starożytny, prastary
roots | korzenie, źródła

Hosting the World

When you were young, your parents probably told you not to talk to **strangers**. In general, this remains good advice. But **increasingly**, in our **dual** quests for **affordability** and for more authentic experiences, we're **getting more accustomed to** inviting **unfamiliar** people into our spaces, or **indeed**, being welcomed into theirs, especially during our travels.

Hospitality exchange services are just one way in which some of us are looking to **embark on** more personal journeys. Services like BeWelcome, Hospitality Club, and Pasporta Servo all **facilitate** direct interactions between hosts and guests, foster cultural exchange and create opportunities for uniquely **immersive** travel experiences.

In the Beginning

The concept of hosting **distant wanderers** has **ancient roots**, **exemplified by** Greek 'xenia' and Roman hospitality customs. In ancient Greece, xenia, **overseen by** Zeus, was a **sacred duty**, ensuring strangers were treated with respect and generosity. Similarly, Roman 'hospitium' **emphasised a reciprocal relationship**, making hospitality a **binding social obligation**.

exemplified by sth | uwidoczny przez coś, którego przykładem jest coś

overseen by sb | nadzorowany, sprawowany przez kogoś

sacred | święty, uświęcony

duty | obowiązek, powinność

to ensure sth | zapewnić, zagwarantować coś

generosity | hojność, szczerłość

to emphasise sth | podkreślać coś, kłaść nacisk na coś

reciprocal | wzajemny, obopólny

binding | wiążący, zobowiązujący

2 **conscientious** | sumienny, skrupulatny

objector | odmawiający, sprzeciwiający się

to found sth | założyć coś

to aim to do sth | dążyć do zrobienia czegoś, mieć na celu zrobienie czegoś

to bridge cultural divides | budować pomosty między kulturami, łączyć kultury

to encourage sb to do sth | zachęcać kogoś do zrobienia czegoś

host details | dane gospodarza, szczegóły dotyczące gospodarza

After World War II, American **conscientious objector** Bob Luitweiler and his friends **founded** Servas International, one of the earliest formal hospitality exchange networks. Servas **aimed to bridge cultural divides** and promote global peace by **encouraging** people to open their homes to travellers.

Servas operated by mail catalogue, where **host details** were published and members wrote letters of introduction to verify their **identities** and intentions. Today, Servas continues in over 100 countries, offering travellers short **stays** with hosts, shared meals and activities.

Going Online

The internet age has dramatically **amplified** the potential of hospitality exchange services. The first internet-based service, Hospexp.org, **launched** in Poland in 1992, **allowed** members to **search a host database** and **arrange stays via email**. This evolved into Hospitality Club, founded in 2000 by Veit Kühne, which aimed for a more **robust** and user-friendly platform with **enhanced security features**.

Hospitality Club grew rapidly, reaching 100,000 members by 2006 and 400,000 by 2008. **However**, its **growth** **slowed due to** criticism over its legal

identity | tożsamość

stay | pobyt

to amplify sth | wzmacniać, potęgować, nagłaśniać coś

to launch sth | wprowadzać coś na rynek, uruchamiać, rozpoczynać coś

to allow sb to do sth | pozwalać komuś coś zrobić, umożliwiać komuś zrobienie czegoś

to search a host database | przeszukiwać bazę danych gospodarzy

to arrange stays via email | organizować pobyty za pośrednictwem poczty elektronicznej

robust | solidny (np. o systemie)

enhanced | ulepszony

security features | funkcje bezpieczeństwa, zabezpieczenia

however | jednakże, niemniej jednak

growth | wzrost

to slow | zwalniać, spowalniać

due to sth | z powodu czegoś, na skutek czegoś



status and management, leading to a long decline into unusability.

BeWelcome, established in 2007 by former Hospitality Club members, is a non-profit, open-source HospEx service focused on real social connections. Managed by BeVolunteer, a French non-profit, and run by volunteers, BeWelcome emphasises transparency, democracy and privacy. Its 200,000+ members can host, stay, provide local information, or meet up for coffee without any expectation of reciprocity.

La Lingvo Internacia

Ĉu vi parolas Esperanton? (Or, in English, do you speak Esperanto)? You'll need to if you want to use Pasporta Servo, an exchange aimed exclusively at

speakers of Esperanto, the constructed language created by L. L. Zamenhof, a Polish-Jewish ophthalmologist, in 1887. Zamenhof designed Esperanto to be an easy-to-learn, politically neutral language that could foster international communication and understanding, and today it's spoken as a second language by around 2 mln people.

In 1966, Argentine Rubén Feldman González founded Pasporta Servo, which was initially available via a printed directory and was designed to propagate the language of Esperanto, and offer speakers real opportunities to practise speaking it in combination with authentic travel experiences. The service transitioned online in 2008, and continues to this day despite challenges from social media platforms and online language learning applications.

Commercialisation

Couchsurfing, founded in 2004 by Casey Fenton, is a major player in the hospitality exchange space. Initially a non-profit 'gift economy' site where hosts did not charge for lodging, Couchsurfing emphasised altruism and quickly gained popularity. The term 'to couchsurf' even entered popular use and some dictionaries, much like how 'Google' has become a byword for 'online search.'

In 2011, Couchsurfing transitioned to a for-profit model, causing significant dissatisfaction among members when it accepted USD 7.6 mln in venture capital funding. The controversy deepened when Couchsurfing raised a further USD 15 mln a year later, and introduced paid verification and advertisements. The new business-focused administration clashed with the original vision, leading to founder Casey Fenton's departure in 2015.

3 to lead to sth | prowadzić do czegoś, skutkować czymś

decline into sth | spadek/degradacja do czegoś, stacanie się w coś

unusability | nieużyteczność, niezdatność do użytku

former | były, poprzedni

run by sb | prowadzony przez kogoś

volunteer | wolontariusz

without any expectation of reciprocity | nie oczekując niczego w zamian

4 Polish-Jewish | polsko-żydowski
ophthalmologist | okulista

to foster sth | wspierać, pielegnować coś
initially | początkowo

printed directory | drukowany katalog

in combination with sth | w połączeniu z czymś

to transition online | przejść do internetu, przenieść się do sieci

despite sth | po/mimo czegoś

5 major | główny, duży, poważny

to charge for sth | pobierać opłatę za coś

lodging | zakwaterowanie

to gain popularity | zdobywać, zyskiwać popularność

to become a byword for sth | stawać się synonimem czegoś

to cause sth | powodować, wywoływać coś

venture capital funding | finansowanie typu venture capital, finansowanie kapitałem wysokiego ryzyka

to deepen sth | pogłębiać, nasilać coś

to raise sth | *tu*: zbierać coś (np. fundusze)

further | *tu*: kolejne

advertisement | reklama, ogłoszenie

to clash with sth | kolidować z czymś

departure | odejście

Explicitly commercial entities have capitalised on the free-spirited nature of hospitality exchange and turned it into a profitable business model. Most notably, Airbnb, founded in 2008, allows users to rent out their homes or rooms for a fee and has become a major competitor in the hospitality industry. Vrbo, another significant player, offers vacation rentals and is part of the Expedia Group. These platforms have significantly impacted traditional hospitality businesses and led to calls for greater regulation due to their effects on housing markets in tourist towns and local economies.

Safety Concerns and Tips

While hospitality exchange services offer unique and enriching travel experiences, they also come with inherent safety risks. Inviting strangers into one's home or staying in theirs can certainly open you up to uncomfortable, or even dangerous situations. There have been reports of hosts making inappropriate advances, placing hidden cameras in intimate spaces, or even threatening and carrying out physical violence.

6 explicitly | wyraźnie

entity | jednostka, podmiot

free-spirited | o wolnym duchu, nieskrępowany, niezależny

to turn sth into sth | przekształcić coś w coś

most notably | zwłaszcza, w szczególności, przede wszystkim

fee | opłata

competitor | konkurent, rywal

to impact sth | wpływać, oddziaływać na coś

housing market | rynek mieszkaniowy

safety concerns | obawy dotyczące bezpieczeństwa, kwestie bezpieczeństwa

enriching | wzbogacający, ubogacający

inherent | nieodłączny

to make inappropriate advances | składać nieodpowiednie propozycje, narzucać się

hidden | ukryty, schowany

to threaten sb | grozić, zagrażać komuś

to carry out physical violence | dopuścić się przemocy fizycznej, stosować przemoc fizyczną

7 to address sth | zająć się czymś, rozwiązywać coś (problem)

to implement sth | wdrażać coś, wprowadzać coś w życie

measures | środki (np. bezpieczeństwa)

To address these safety concerns, many HospEx platforms have implemented various measures to enhance user security. Couchsurfing's previously mentioned verification system where users can pay a fee to verify their identity, added a layer of accountability, and BeWelcome has dedicated safety teams that investigate complaints and can ban members who display unsafe behaviour.

Ultimately, you should be aware that you are responsible for your own safety when using these services. To best ensure your well-being, follow these steps:

- First, always read any reviews left by previous guests or hosts to gauge trustworthiness.
- Second, trust your instincts; if something feels off, it's better to cancel a stay or leave early than to remain in an uncomfortable or unsafe situation.
- Third, have a backup plan, such as a nearby hostel or hotel, in case the situation with your host does not work out.
- Finally, let a friend or family member know where you are staying, share the host's contact information and address, and regularly check in with them to update your status.

previously mentioned | wcześniej

wspomniany, uprzednio wymieniony

layer of accountability | dodatkowy mechanizm dotyczący odpowiedzialności

complaint | skarga, zażalenie

to ban sb | wykluczyć kogoś

to display sth | tu: prezentować, wykazywać coś

ultimately | ostatecznie, w końcu

aware | świadomy

to gauge sth | ocenić coś (np. czyjąś wiarygodność)

trustworthiness | wiarygodność

to feel off | czuć się dziwnie/nieswojo, mieć złe przeczucia, czuć, że coś jest nie tak

to cancel sth | odwołać, anulować coś

backup plan | plan awaryjny, plan zapasowy

to work out | udać się, powieść się, zadziałać

to update one's status | aktualizować swój status

8 provided by sth | dostarczony, zapewniony przez coś

to wander in the footsteps of sb | wędrować śladami kogoś, iść w czyjeś ślady

when in Rome, do as the Romans do | Kiedy wejdiesz między wrony, musisz krakać jak i one. (dosł.: Kiedy jesteś w Rzymie, rób jak Rzymianie.)

By following these tips and making full use of any safety features provided by your chosen platform, you can experience a rich, highly personal and highly local adventure. Wander in the footsteps of ancient Roman travellers and their hosts, wherever you go, to truly live by the mantra: when in Rome, do as the Romans do!

Esperanto

Esperanto, the international auxiliary language created by L. L. Zamenhof,



a Polish-Jewish ophthalmologist, in 1887, was designed to be an easy-to-learn, apolitical language that helps connect people. It was intended to serve as a universal second language, not to replace native languages but to act as a bridge between different linguistic communities. It features a straightforward grammatical structure, including 16 basic rules, and a vocabulary that can be expanded through the use of prefixes and suffixes.

Here are some words you need to know:

- Saluton – Hello
- Jes – Yes
- Ne – No
- Dankon – Thank You
- Bonvolu – Please

auxiliary language | język pomocniczy

to replace sth | zastąpić coś

community | społeczność, wspólnota

to feature sth | charakteryzować się czymś

straightforward | prosty, nieskomplikowany

to be expanded through sth | być rozwijanym/poszerzanym przez coś, być rozbudowywanym za pomocą czegoś

prefixes | przedrostki

suffixes | przyrostki

Foreign Affairs Department (Dział Zagraniczny) – Maciej Okraszewski tells us what it's all about

by Hanna Danielczak-Ziadi, with thanks to Adam, who inspired this interview.

In this edition of *English Matters*, we present journalist Maciej Okraszewski, the creator of the Foreign Affairs Department (dzialzagraniczny.pl) – a place where you can learn about everything that isn't mentioned in mainstream media. Information from the Foreign Affairs Department is usually available in several formats – podcast, video, and article. Thanks to the Foreign Affairs Department, you can find out, for example, why Germans are arguing about heating, how family returns are changing Thailand, how the “owner” of Georgia is paralysing it with massive trees, why thousands of sighthounds are abandoned in Spain, and who rules the seas and oceans. Let's get started!



mentioned | wspomniany
available | dostępny
to find out | dowiedzieć się
to argue about sth | kłócić się, spierać się o coś
heating | ogrzewanie
owner | właściciel
Georgia | Gruzja
sighthound | chart
to rule sth | rządzić czymś



Hello. I'm delighted that you could find the time for this interview.

Hello! No problem at all.

I learned about the Foreign Affairs Department from my 17-year-old son, and I must say I was impressed that he was the one to tell me about it, as well as discovering the existence of a source of information containing such original and inspiring content. Could you tell our readers a bit about yourself?

Sure. First of all, I still see myself as a simple guy from Łódź. Łódź is the most important city in my life in every way, also because it was the centre of my life for the first dozen or so years. I spent a lot of my childhood alone, as I'm an only child, and my parents worked very hard. My father would get up at 5 am, go to work, stop at a newsstand, buy Gazeta Wyborcza, come back with bread rolls and the newspaper, and when I woke up in the morning before school to make my breakfast, I would immediately open that Gazeta Wyborcza to the World section and read what Wojciech Jagielski was writing about Afghanistan, Chechnya, or the Democratic Republic of Congo. So, when the time came later to think about what to do after high school, I knew I wanted to leave Łódź, which was also a place that most of us were trying to escape from at that time. I think that well over half of the people from my year in high school left the city, and later the country too, because it was 2003, a year before Poland joined the EU. I knew I just wanted to see the world, and I wanted to tell stories from that world to other ordinary guys from Łódź, like me, who are also sitting in their kitchens, eating bread rolls, and reading about what's happening in Congo, for example.

Were your parents involved in travel or teaching in any way?

No, my parents weren't involved in those fields. They are doctors. They never

travelled very much, but when they did, it was to visit our family in Brazil.

Given that our main mission is teaching foreign languages, I would like to ask how many languages you speak and how you assess their usefulness in accessing accurate information. Would it be possible at all to run a foreign affairs section, for example, knowing only Polish?

No. Even knowing only English, in my opinion, it wouldn't be possible. I'm proficient in English because my parents sent me to English classes. They really wanted me to know a foreign language. That was still during the PRL [Polish People's Republic]. So I've been speaking English since I was young. Later, in elementary school, my mother also decided that it would be good for me to learn German, because it's a language worth knowing. I used to speak German fluently, but I stopped using it after high school.

Of course, I also speak Spanish, and it's my favourite language.

Why is it your favourite language? When I use Spanish, my mood automatically improves. I've also heard that when you know several foreign languages, you acquire mentalities associated with those languages. They coexist within us. How is it for you?

When we use or speak other languages, our personality changes, and I think that my Spanish personality is simply my best personality.

Beautiful words for those who are learning Spanish.

Yes, it's my favourite language, only I speak Spanish in a strange way because I didn't really learn it formally, like I did English and German. I actually taught myself Spanish on the spot – a bit in Spain, a bit in South America.

That's probably the best way, right?

Yes, although in my case it means I mix different dialects. I can use Andalusian, Rioplatense, or sometimes I slip into "seseo"* in a single sentence. Andalusians say a lot of "s" instead of "c," for example, "muszaszo," "muszo"* instead of "muchacho," "mucho."

So instead of "c," they say "s," right?

It depends on which ones. You know, eastern Andalusia, western Andalusia, they're not the same, and there are also urban dialects, and so on. But I actually do that too, both because of that and because I have this really strong Rioplatense accent from Buenos Aires at times, so sometimes my brain automatically switches a word to a Portuguese word from Brazil, because, for example, I have problems with Portuguese from Portugal, although I also speak it.

Portuguese is very similar to Spanish. More similar than Italian, right?

Oh, definitely.

Do you also speak Swahili?

I used to, but only in the present tense. I spent a few months in Tanzania. In Tanzania, everyone communicates in Swahili due to free and universal public education, which is quite unusual for a Sub-Saharan African country. All primary education is conducted in this language, which served as a unifying factor for the nation, as there are over 150 different ethnic groups there.

When I arrived there and lived in the countryside, I had to learn a bit of Swahili. And since it's a language that was created as a mixture of various other languages, primarily for trade, it's incredibly simple. Like an East African Esperanto. After a few months, it allowed me to explore Zanzibar for free – everyone was shocked that I could communicate fairly fluently.

How did you come to focus on Afro-Latinos and the Iberian Peninsula?

- 1 containing sth | zawierający coś
content | zawartość
first of all | po pierwsze
newsstand | kiosk
to join sth | dołączyć do czegoś
ordinary | zwyczajny
involved in sth | zaangażowany w coś
2 given that | zważywszy, że
to assess sth | ocenić coś
to run a foreign affairs section
| prowadzić dział zagraniczny

- worth sth | wart/y czegoś
fluently | biegle
to improve | polepszać się
to acquire sth | nabyć coś
on the spot | na miejscu
3 although | chociaż
to mix sth | mieszać coś
to slip into sth | tu: przerzucać się na coś
instead of sth | zamiast czegoś
to depend on sth | zależeć od czegoś

- urban | miejski
to switch sth into sth | przerzucać coś na coś
definitely | zdecydowanie
due to sth | z powodu czegoś
primary education | podstawowa edukacja
conducted | prowadzony
in the countryside | na wsi
primarily | głównie, przede wszystkim
to allow sb to do sth | pozwolić komuś na z/robienie czegoś

At first, I wanted to focus on Sub-Saharan Africa. That interested me more. My trip to Tanzania was my first big, independent trip. And that's when I realised that even with the language, I still felt like an outsider. I had a great ability to fit into different environments, and I still do, but despite that openness, I still felt like I didn't belong there. And there were a few situations that made me realise I would never truly be from there. Just my skin colour shows that I don't belong. And I could surprise someone by knowing the language, by knowing a local rapper, for example. But even so, it won't be a hundred percent like being one of the guys. And in my journalism, I wanted to convey to my readers, my potential readers out there, intimate information about the place where I am. I didn't want to write about politics, I wanted to tell stories about what people are going through. In Sub-Saharan Africa, there are so many languages and dialects, people spend years studying these languages and still don't fully master them. So at that stage, I decided it didn't make sense.

How did you deal with rejections when submitting your articles to various editorial offices, where you often heard, "Polish readers aren't interested in this"?

I continued working on things that didn't satisfy me, but every time I managed to tell a story about something that I thought was interesting, it actually gave me satisfaction. In the media, as a regular contributor, I persevered for many years, of course also doing various things on the side, because I couldn't survive financially. I was a copywriter in an advertising agency and did a few other things along the way, and in the afternoons I wrote my own texts – about what really interested me.

So, in short, you accepted the sad reality, the rejection, but you kept doing your own thing. And without a plan for whether it would work out or not, you just intuitively followed your own path.

Yes, I thought that if it interested me, it would probably interest some other people as well.

When did you start your blog?

In 2011.

So the podcast came a few years later, right?



Yes, the blog started in 2011 and gradually developed. I wanted to have a place where I could write something for

myself. At first, I only wrote for a handful of friends. But over time, to my surprise, many people started appearing there

4 to realise | zdać sobie sprawę

to fit into sth | dopasowywać się do czegoś

despite sth | po/mimo czegoś

a few | kilka

to convey sth to sb | przekazywać coś komuś

to master sth | opanować coś

rejection | odmowa

to submit sth to sb | dostarczać coś komuś

contributor | tu: współpracownik

to persevere | wytrwać

without sth | bez czegoś

whether | czy

5 gradually | stopniowo

6 handful of X | garstka X

– first a few dozen, then a few hundred, and towards the end even a few thousand. So after a few years, I started writing more articles than blog posts. I started the podcast in mid-2019, and in July, I published the first episode.

Was the podcast your idea?

I was burned out from commissioned journalism and writing. My partner told me then to start recording a podcast, and I kept arguing – I said that in Poland, nobody knows what a podcast is and nobody listens to podcasts. In the end, I decided okay, I'll do it for a change of pace, so I'll completely change the form of the content, while keeping the content itself, that is, my information to the world. An additional incentive for change was that I was constantly being invited to Tok FM, Polish Radio, TVN, Polsat, and so on, to comment on the events I specialise in, only that everywhere I got a maximum of about ten minutes. I was known, let's say, in the environment of people dealing with foreign affairs, because I did what I did well, so if someone else was also doing it, they knew my name and once, twice, three times I ended up in front of a microphone, it turned out that I was able to quite efficiently and quickly summarise the relevant information. I decided that I wanted to create a programme where we could sit down and talk about a topic for 40 minutes, for example, not for five. And that's how the podcast started, but it wasn't meant to be a professional job. It was supposed to be something I would do after hours, which is why I started Patreon, mainly at my partner's suggestion. I was initially against this idea, because I thought that since my work is pro bono, I can't be paid for it. But on the other hand, you have to live from something, right? I was still looking for work. I still held on to the idea

that I was going to work in a corporation, and after hours, in the afternoons, make the programme for myself.

You didn't consider it as a source of income at all?

No, not at all, there was no such idea. However, what happened was that I uploaded this podcast, which almost no one listened to at the beginning because no one listened to podcasts. So, when I published the first episode, I think about 100 people listened to it in the first week. When I published, say, the second, third, it was already about 200-300, but it was still a relatively small number. Then I also started on Patronite – when the first payments appeared, I was surprised.

The situation changed during the pandemic, suddenly the number of orders for all the things I was doing dropped. Everything was focused on the coronavirus, I could write about the coronavirus, but it could also be done with agency materials, so I was no longer so needed. Secondly, the rates in the media were also lowered. For example, at Gazeta Wyborcza, I suddenly received only a quarter of my salary. That's a big reduction. And at the same time, it was also the time when Spotify started literally forcing podcasts on users in Poland. Many people only then found out that something like a podcast even exists.

So a corporate job was definitely not for you.

Exactly. I figured, if that's the case, I'll go all in on it, and a few years later, thanks to that, I'm still the only person doing it full-time, but I actually collaborate with seven different people on a contract basis.

Listening to your interview with Maciej Orłoś, I came across an interesting part where you mentioned dividing your financial income into

different categories. You mentioned that one-third of the income goes towards living expenses, one-third goes to collaborators, and one-third is a savings fund – I thought then about travel – how did you get funds for that?

Travel was a big problem at every stage, and paradoxically, it still is now, only for completely different reasons. At the beginning, I could count on the support of my parents. Additionally, I worked – when I came to Warsaw, I quickly found a job and earned about 2,500 zloty a month, sometimes more, sometimes less, but on average I earned that 2,500, and that was 20 years ago, and 2,500 zloty for me was really a lot of money back then, which I mostly didn't spend because I have a rather frugal lifestyle. I wouldn't say minimalist, but, for example – I'm talking to you wearing pants that I've had for about 5 years, a T-shirt that's probably 10 years old, and on the chair hangs a sweatshirt that I've also had for about 10 years. I don't have big consumer needs, I only spent on things that I really needed.

So that's how you got money for travel?

Yes, but also an important element of those trips was that they were absolutely low-cost, I would just go somewhere, quickly meet someone, stay with those people, we would share food, I always ate very little, I just adapted flexibly to the situation. Someone had a piece of floor and I slept on that floor, but it's also important to note that it's completely different when you're 25 years old and completely different when you're 40, like I am now. I agree that around 40 you feel travel differently.

Do you still travel or is it no longer necessary now?

7 dozen | tuzin

burned out | wypalony

commissioned | na zlecenie

for a change of pace | dla odmiany

incentive | bodziec

to turn out that | okazać się, że

initially | początkowo

on the other hand | z drugiej strony

to look for sth | szukać czegoś

8 source of income | źródło dochodów

to upload sth | przesłać coś na

stronę

payment | tu: wpłata

order | zamówienie

to drop | tu: odpadać

focused on sth | skupiony na czymś, skoncentrowany wokół czegoś

rates | tu: stawki

lowered | obniżony, obcięty

quarter | jedna czwarta

literally | dosłownie

to force sth on sb | tu: wmuszać coś komuś

to figure | stwierdzić

on a contract basis | na umowę zlecenie

to come across sth | natknąć się na coś

to divide sth into sth | dzielić coś na coś

9 to count on sth | liczyć na coś

on average | przeciętnie

to earn | zarabiać

pants | spodnie

sweatshirt | bluza

low-cost | niskokosztowy

flexibly | elastycznie

Travel is still absolutely necessary. You have to be on the spot, talk to people, check for yourself how something looks and works, and so on. Nothing can replace that, no source of information. You need to have contacts, you need to travel. I'm abroad at least once a month. I just returned from Italy, I'm going to Budapest next week, next month I'll be in London, in June I'll be in Paris, and these are just the trips that are already booked.

Do you always go abroad with a specific idea in mind?

I go for specific purposes, but I divide trips into those that will yield material and those that won't, which is – and this is the problem I mentioned earlier – if I'm going to do a report, I have to be prepared for it and I have to have time allocated for it, now, in addition, I never travel alone anymore, I always travel with an operator who records video, because the report is created in three versions: in written form, in audio form and in video form.

You've lived in different countries – which place do you think is the best place to live?

Finland, Denmark, generally these Nordic countries with very developed systems of social care. However, the question arises whether we would really want to live there and whether these people are happy.

Empirical experience shows that Spaniards are much happier, even though objectively speaking it is not the best country to live in, because it has a multitude of different structural problems, starting with unemployment, social inequality, and so on, and of course corruption, which can even lead to something like the resignation of the king. On the one hand, we have objective factors, and on the other hand, a completely subjective, individual approach.

And personally, where was it best for you?

In Spain, without a doubt. I hope to return there permanently someday.

The world is obsessed with AI, chat-GPT, and so on. Do these tools help you in creating your foreign affairs section? And in general, do you rely on them?

No, not at all, these tools don't help me from a substantive point of view. From a substantive point of view, I actually discourage everyone from using AI, because it's a tool that can't be trusted in that regard. However, in my work, these tools greatly improve the speed of translations. Because, as we discussed about languages earlier, I know several languages and I use them on an ongoing basis, on my own, but I also draw a lot of information from parts of the world where my dominant languages are not popular. Previously, I used Google Translator, which was very imperfect. ChatGPT is better in that regard.

Is there anything else you would like to tell our readers?

One thing I would like to convey is that, in my opinion we are on the verge of a great revolution in artificial intelligence, especially with regard to language systems – the way we communicate with people speaking other languages is literally going to be transformed. For example, there are already smartphones on the market where I can speak Polish and the smartphone repeats what I said, for example, in Kyrgyz. And it's a very good translation – I checked based on other language versions. I don't know if this is already in Poland, but they definitely have it in the UK, because I saw it just recently when I was there.

You can trust this device, but despite that, I strongly recommend everyone to learn a foreign language on their own,

because translating the message literally is one thing – and this will certainly improve our communication to an absurdly good degree – but the machine will never translate the context. It will never translate a conceptual joke or subtext. And this can only be learned and understood by knowing a language very well. I'm not talking about language perfection, but about knowing certain tricks. For example, when I go to Andalusia, it's enough for me to say “no ni ná***” and every Andalusian knows what I mean, that you can talk to me differently. A machine will never translate that.

Thank you very much for your time. I wish you many successes. All the best. Until next time.

Greetings. Greetings to your son as well. Thank you very much.

* seseo – seseo is a phonetic phenomenon occurring in the Spanish language, which consists of pronouncing the letters “c” (before the letters “e” and “i”) and “z” as the letter “s”. In other words, people who use seseo do not distinguish between the sounds of these letters and always pronounce them as “s”.

** “muszaszo, muszo” is the phonetic transcription of the words “muchacho” (boy) and “mucho” (much) in a variety of Spanish that exhibits the phenomenon of seseo.

*** „no ni ná” – this is said only in Andalusia, commonly. It seems like a triple negation, but in reality, it is a lively affirmation of something. For example, person A says: “Did that really happen?”, person B replies: “No ni ná!” and in practice it means: “Oh yes, definitely!”

10 to replace sth | zastąpić coś

abroad | za granicą

at least | przynajmniej

booked | zarezerwowany

to yield sth | dostarczać czegoś, skutkować czymś

social care | opieka społeczna

however | jednak/że

to arise | tu: nasuwać się

Spaniard | Hiszpan

unemployment | bezrobocie

on the one hand | z jednej strony

objective | obiektywny

approach | podejście

11 without a doubt | bez wątplenia

to rely on sth | polegać na czymś

not at all | wcale nie, w ogóle nie

from a substantive point of view

| z merytorycznego punktu widzenia

to discourage sb | zniechęcać kogoś, odradzać komuś

in that regard | pod tym względem

on an ongoing basis | na bieżąco

to draw sth | tu: uzyskiwać coś

previously | wcześniej, uprzednio

to be on the verge of sth | być bliskim czegoś

device | urządzenie

12 certainly | na pewno

conceptual joke | żart sytuacyjny

greetings | pozdrowienia

Dialogues – Conversations on the Go

WARTO
ZAPAMIĘTAĆ!

travel insurance
ubezpieczenie podróżne



by Paul Martin from www.go-native.pl

Conversation Matters

There's something magical about travel. Whether you're squeezing your suitcase shut at 5 am, or watching the world blur past your train window, the journey itself is full of moments that test both your English and your patience! But with the right phrases (and a little charm), even stressful situations can become surprisingly smooth. In this edition of EM Travels, we follow a cast of travellers as they move through various real-life scenarios: at the airport, paying for parking, or seeking help in a medical emergency. We'll also catch them in some of those more spontaneous moments – meeting new people, swapping stories, or preparing for a climb. Think of it as your pocket-sized travel guide to English in motion.

to squeeze one's suitcase shut at 5 am | dociskać swoją walizkę,
by ją zamknąć o 5 rano

to blur | zamazywać się, rozmywać się (o kształtach, obrazie)

smooth | gładki, płynny

various | różny, rozmaity

to seek sth | szukać czegoś

to swap sth | *tu*: wymieniać się czymś

pocket-sized | kieszonkowy

in motion | w ruchu

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KOD DOSTĘPU:
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NA STRONIE
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AIRPORT SECURITY

Security Officer: Laptop out. Liquids in a clear bag, please.

Lucy: **Lucy:** Yep, just a moment.

(She opens her hand luggage and quickly moves things into trays: laptop, coat, toiletries. She hesitates, then adds her umbrella.)

Security Officer: Shoes off as well, please.

Lucy: Oh, okay, sure.

(She steps out of her trainers and places them in a separate tray. The line behind her shuffles forward. She walks through the scanner – no beep.)

Security Officer: Thank you. Just wait over there while we check your tray.

(Lucy watches as her belongings reach the end of the belt. One tray is pulled aside.)

Second Officer: Is this yours?

Lucy: Yes.

Second Officer: There is an object we need to take a quick look at. Do you mind?

Lucy: Oh, really. OK. Not at all.

(The officer carefully opens the front pocket of her bag and removes a small travel hair straightener.)

Second Officer: This is what flagged it. It's fine, just needed to be sure.

Lucy: I should've taken it out.

Second Officer: No problem.

(He gestures to a nearby table.)

Second Officer: I also need to swab your shoes.

Lucy: Of course.

(He swabs both shoes with a small cloth and feeds the swab into a handheld scanner. A few seconds pass. Nothing unusual.)

Second Officer: All good. You're free to go.

Lucy: Thanks.

(Lucy starts gathering her things, relieved to be moving on.)

hand luggage | bagaż podręczny

trays | pojemniki, tacki (do kontroli bagażu)



toiletries | przybory toaletowe, kosmetyki

to hesitate | wahać się

to shuffle forward | posuwać się do przodu

to be pulled aside | zostać wezwany na bok (do dodatkowej kontroli)

Do you mind? | Czy ma pan/pani coś przeciwko? / Czy to problem?

Not at all. | Absolutnie nie./W żadnym wypadku.

hair straightener | prostownica do włosów

to swab sth | pobierać wymaz z czegoś

to feed sth into sth | wkładać coś do czegoś, wsuwać coś do czegoś

to pass | mijać

to gather sth | zbierać coś

relieved | odczuwający ulgę, z ulgą

CASHLESS CAR PARK

Thomas: Excuse me – sorry to ask – but do you know how to pay here? The machine doesn't seem to be working.

Local Resident: **Local Resident:** Ah, yeah. That one's just for decoration now. You have to use the JustPark app.

Thomas: I thought maybe I was doing something wrong... but no. Just an app?

Local Resident: Afraid so. It used to take coins, but they switched it last year. Now it's app-only, or you can call the number on the sign.

Thomas: Hmm. We have these in Germany, too. They drive me mad. I never know if I have the right app, or the right code...

Local Resident (smiling): Same here. I miss just putting a pound in and sticking the ticket on the dash. Simple.

Thomas: Exactly! Not everything needs to be clever.

(They both glance at the sign for a moment.)

Thomas: I don't really like using apps for this sort of thing. But what can you do?

Local Resident: Yeah... not ideal. But if you don't pay, they're quick to fine you.

Thomas: That's what I've heard. I bet they take cash for that... I suppose I'll have to try the phone number.

(Pause.)

Thomas: I brought cash with me, but it's been pointless. Most places won't take it. I'm surprised.

Local Resident: Yeah, it's gone that way quickly since Covid. A lot of places around here are card-only now.

Thomas: Yeah, even at the fish and chips last night. Sign on the counter: "Contactless only."

Local Resident: Sign of the times, huh? Thomas (smiling): Ahh, I'm on holiday. I'll try not to complain too much.

Local Resident: You're allowed a little grumble. You've earned it trying to park here.

cashless | bezgotówkowy

to seem | wydawać się

app | *pot.* aplikacja

Afraid so. | Obawiam się, że tak.

to switch sth | *tu:* zmieniać coś

to drive sb mad | doprowadzać kogoś do szału, wkurzać kogoś



to stick the ticket on the dash | kłaść bilet na desce rozdzielczej

to glance at sth | zerknąć na coś, rzucić okiem na coś

to fine sb | ukarać kogoś grzywną, nałożyć na kogoś mandat

to bet | zakładać się, obstawiać

pointless | bezcelowy, bezsensowny

at the fish and chips | w barze/lokalu z rybą i frytkami

counter | lada, kontuar (w sklepie, barze)

to complain about sth | narzekać na coś, skarżyć się na coś

You're allowed a little grumble. | Wolno ci sobie trochę ponarzekać/pomarudzić.

to earn sth | *tu:* zasługiwać na coś

PAIN AT THE PUMP

Part 1 – At the Petrol Station, Málaga

Mike: Good morning. I think I've made a mistake. I filled the car with diesel, but it's meant to take petrol.

Cashier: Oh... did you start the engine?

Mike: No. I noticed the black nozzle and double-checked the key ring. That's when I panicked.

Cashier: Okay, that's good. If you haven't started it, it's not too serious.

Mike: It's a rental, I just picked it up this morning.

Cashier: Best to call the company. They'll have to send a mechanic or arrange a tow.

Mike: Right. Thanks for your help.

Part 2 – Calling the Rental Company

Rental Agent: Hello, Autosol Rental, how can I help you?

Mike: Hi there. I've just picked up a car from your Málaga branch this morning, and I've accidentally filled it with the wrong fuel, diesel instead of petrol. I haven't started the engine.

Rental Agent: One moment... Okay. That's considered user error, sir. It's not covered by our basic rental agreement.

Mike: Right... I understand. So what should I do now?

Rental Agent: You'll need to cover the cost of draining the tank and transporting the vehicle. We can send a technician, but there is a call-out fee and service charge.

Mike: I see. Could you give me a rough idea of the cost?

Rental Agent: Depending on location and technician availability, it's usually between 250 and 400 euros.

Mike: Wow. That's much more than I expected, but I suppose I don't have much choice.

Rental Agent: Unfortunately not, sir. Would you like me to arrange the technician?

Mike: I suppose so, yes, please.

Rental Agent: OK. Location please?

Mike: Erm... yes... I'm at the Repsol station just off the A-7 in east Málaga.

Rental Agent: I'll pass that on. Expect a call from the technician within 30 minutes.

Mike: OK – thanks.

Rental Agent: We'll be in touch shortly, sir.



to start the engine | uruchomić, odpalić silnik

to notice sth | zauważyć, spostrzec coś

nozzle | dysza, końcówka (np. pistoletu do tankowania)

to double-check sth | sprawdzić coś dwukrotnie, upewnić się co do czegoś

key ring | kółko na klucze, brelok

rental | wynajęty; wynajem

to pick sth up | odebrać coś

to arrange a tow | wezwać lawetę

accidentally | przypadkowo, nieumyślnie

X instead of Y | X zamiast Y

covered by sth | objęty czymś, pokryty przez coś

basic rental agreement | podstawowa umowa wy/najmu

to cover sth | pokryć coś (np. koszty), obejmować coś

the cost of draining the tank | koszt spuszczenia paliwa ze zbiornika

call-out fee | opłata za wezwanie (np. serwisu, technika)

service charge | opłata za usługę, koszt obsługi

depending on sth | w zależności od czegoś

technician availability | dostępność technika

unfortunately | niestety

I'll pass that on. | Przekazę to dalej. / Przekazę tę informację dalej.

AT A SKI RENTAL SHOP IN GSTAAD

Employee: Grüezi! Renting or returning today?

Alex: Renting. Very much so. First time on skis and I've been told I need... everything.

Employee: No problem, we'll get you sorted. Start with your shoe size?

Alex: UK 9. Also, fair warning: I've never walked in ski boots. Or looked cool in a helmet.

Employee (smiling): Neither has anyone else. That's half the fun. Try these boots – snug is good, pain is bad.

Alex (grimacing): Feels like I'm wearing bricks... with straps.



Employee: Not unusual. Try standing up – bend your knees a bit.

Alex (wobbling): Okay. Yep. I now move like an injured goat.

Employee (laughs): That means they fit. And hey, we've all been that goat. Helmet next?

Alex: Might as well complete the look.

Employee: Style comes later – survival first.

Alex: Spoken like someone who's seen things.

Employee: Mostly people skiing into fences. Let's keep you off that list.

ski rental shop | wypożyczalnia sprzętu narciarskiego

renting | wynajmowanie, wynajęcie

to get sb sorted | przygotować kogoś

helmet | *tu:* kask

neither | *tu:* ani

snug | ciasny, dopasowany, przylegający

brick | cegła

with straps | z paskami, z zapinkami

to bend one's knees | ugiąć kolana, zginać kolana

injured | ranny, kontuzjowany

Let's keep you off that list. | Zróbmy wszystko, żebyś na tę listę nie trafił/a.



AT THE HOSPITAL ON HOLIDAY



Reception Nurse: Hello. How can I help you?

David: Hi. My partner's feeling really unwell. We're visiting from the UK, she's had a high fever since last night and has been sick this morning. She's in the waiting area.

Reception Nurse: I'm sorry to hear that. Do you have her ID and health insurance details?

David: Yes, I've got her passport and her GHIC card. We also have travel insurance if you need it.

Reception Nurse: That's great. The GHIC will cover any medically necessary treatment. If we need anything beyond that, for example, private care or medication, we might need to note the insurance as well.

David: Of course. Whatever's needed.

Reception Nurse: Thank you. What's her full name and date of birth?

David: Lucy Hamilton. Fourteenth of March, 1990.

Reception Nurse: Got it. Is she able to come in, or do you need help bringing her through?

David: She can walk, just slowly.

Reception Nurse: That's fine. When we call her name, you'll go through the doors on the left. A triage nurse will see her first to check her vital signs.

David: Okay. Thanks. It's a bit overwhelming.

Reception Nurse: You did the right thing. And don't worry, most of our team speaks English, and we treat international visitors regularly.

David: That's a relief. Thank you.

Reception Nurse: You're welcome. We'll call her shortly. If you have any questions while you wait, just come back to the desk.

fever | gorączka

ID | dowód tożsamości, dokument tożsamości

health insurance details | szczegóły ubezpieczenia zdrowotnego

GHIC card | karta GHIC (Global Health Insurance Card, odpowiednik Europejskiej Karty Ubezpieczenia Zdrowotnego EKUZ w Wielkiej Brytanii)

travel insurance | ubezpieczenie podróże

treatment | leczenie, opieka medyczna

private care | opieka prywatna

medication | leki, medykamenty

triage nurse | pielęgniarka/pielęgniarz przydzielająca/y pacjentów do odpowiednich stref w zależności od stanu

to check one's vital signs | sprawdzić czyjeś parametry życiowe (np. tętno, ciśnienie, temperature)

overwhelming | przytłaczający

relief | ulga

AT A BEACH HOTEL IN THE ALGARVE, PORTUGAL

Anna: Hi – are these seats taken?

James: Not at all. Please, help yourselves.

Ben: Thanks. We've just come up from the beach for a bit of shade. The kids needed a break.

Fern: Ours, too. They've been in and out of the water all morning.

(Anna and Ben sit. There's a short pause as they all glance toward the beach.)

James: Is that your little one in the yellow sunhat?

Anna: Yes – that's Isla. And Leo's the one with the green spade.

Fern: I think they've found our two. That's Max with the football, and Clara's the one burying her sandals again.

Ben: Looks like they've already teamed up.

(They all smile as the children laugh in the distance.)

James: Are you here for long?

Anna: Ten days. We arrived on Monday. You?

Fern: Just a week for us. Got in on Sunday.



Ben: Where are you staying?

James: We're at the Praia Verde apartments – near the old bakery on the corner.

Anna: Oh, no way. We're just up the road from there – past the bike shop.

(A waiter brings over drinks. Everyone takes a moment to settle.)

Anna: First time in Portugal?

James: Yeah, we've always done Spain, but fancied a change this year.

Fern: It's been lovely so far.

Ben: Same for us. Nice and easy for the kids.

Anna: And good to just slow down a bit. (A short pause. Everyone watches the children playing.)

James: We're heading into town tomorrow morning – just to walk around, maybe get a coffee.

Ben: That sounds good.

Anna: If you fancy joining, we're around.

Fern: We'd like that.

help yourselves | częstujcie się

to glance toward sth | zerknąć w stronę czegoś, rzucać okiem na coś

spade | łopatką

to bury sth | zakopywać coś

to team up | połączyć siły, stworzyć zespół

bakery | piekarnia

on the corner | na rogu, na narożniku

to settle | *tu*: uregulować (np. rachunek)

to fancy sth | mieć na coś ochotę

to head into X | iść/jechać do X

If you fancy joining, we're around. | Jeśli macie ochotę dołączyć, będziemy w pobliżu/dajcie znać.

AT A CLIMBING BASE CAMP IN NEPAL

Guide: You two ready for the climb tomorrow?

Emma: As ready as I'll ever be. I didn't sleep much, nerves, I think.

Ravi: Same here. I keep going over my gear in my head, checking I haven't forgotten anything.

Guide: That's completely normal. It's a big challenge, but you're well prepared. Have either of you experienced altitude sickness before?

Emma: Not really. I've done some hikes, but nothing this high.

Ravi: I've trained, but this is different. The mountains here feel... serious.

Guide: They are. Just remember to listen to your body. Go slow, stay hydrated, and communicate with your group.



Emma: Honestly, I've never felt more out of my depth and more alive at the same time.

Ravi: Same. I was terrified during the final briefing, but now I just want to get going.

Guide: That feeling? It's part of the mountain. You respect it, it respects you.

And don't worry, your guide team is here every step of the way.

Emma: Thank you. That really helps.

Ravi: Yeah, knowing we're not doing this alone makes a big difference.

Guide: You're not. We climb as a team.

climbing base camp | baza wspinaczkowa

gear | sprzęt, wyposażenie

altitude sickness | choroba wysokościowa, choroba górska

to do a hike | iść na wędrowkę, odbyć pieszą wycieczkę

to stay hydrated | utrzymywać nawodnienie, dbać o nawodnienie

to felt out of one's depth | czuć się zagubionym, czuć się, jakby się kogoś przerosło

FINANCES

Set a Budget

To avoid maxing out your credit card while on vacation, set a budget in advance. Plan your trip by deciding how much you're willing to spend each day. If you're not relying on an all-inclusive package, do some research. For example, check the menus of local restaurants online to estimate your daily costs for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Don't forget to look up the prices of tourist attractions near your accommodation as well. In fact, pre-booking tickets to popular landmarks can save you time, stress and unexpected expenses once you arrive.

to **avoid sth** | unikać czegoś

to **set a budget in advance** | ustalić budżet z wyprzedzeniem

to **spend** | *tu*: wydawać pieniądze

to **rely on sth** | polegać na czymś

all-inclusive package | pakiet all-inclusive, pakiet wszystko w cenie

to **look sth up** | sprawdzić coś

accommodation | zakwaterowanie



Chargeback

If you pay with a credit or debit card and are dissatisfied with a service or product, you may be able to use the chargeback

to **pre-book sth** | zarezerwować coś z wyprzedzeniem

landmark | charakterystyczny punkt; zabytek
expenses | wydatki, koszty

chargeback | zwrot środków na kartę płatniczą zainicjowany przez bank wydający kartę na prośbę klienta

to **apply to sth** | dotyczyć czegoś, mieć zastosowanie do czegoś

function. This also applies to holiday packages. For instance, if your hotel turns out to be nothing like what was advertised on the tour operator's website, you have the right to dispute the payment. Contact your bank, explain the situation, and the bank will get in touch with the tour operator to try to resolve the issue. Depending on the circumstances, you may receive a full or partial refund through chargeback.

Chargeback is also useful if your holiday gets cancelled. Rather than waiting for the tour operator to refund your money, you may be able to get it back more quickly by asking your bank for a chargeback.

to **turn out** | okazać się

advertised | reklamowany

to **get in touch with sb/sth** | skontaktować się z kimś/czymś

to **resolve sth** | rozwiązać coś

depending on sth | w zależności od czegoś

circumstances | okoliczności

partial | częściowy

refund | zwrot pieniędzy

SAFETY

Safety Tips

Tourist-oriented places tend to be good hunting grounds for muggers, pickpockets and phone-snatchers. To avoid becoming a victim, don't make yourself an easy target. Keep your personal belongings (such as money, ID, phone) in a safe place, like a zipped pocket or a crossbody bag. Stay aware of your surroundings, and avoid taking too many selfies in crowded areas. The longer your phone is out, the higher the risk of a thief snatching it from

mugger | bandyta, rabuś (napastnik uliczny)

pickpocket | kieszonkowiec

phone-snatcher | złodziej telefonów

victim | ofiara

personal belongings | rzeczy osobiste

ID | dowód tożsamości, legitymacja

zipped pocket | kieszeń zapinana na zamek

crossbody bag | torba noszona przez ramię (na skos)



your hands and disappearing into the crowd. If you're travelling to a place with a reputation for being unsafe, avoid going out alone after dark. If necessary, carry

to **stay aware of sth** | być świadomym czegoś, uważać na coś

crowded | zatłoczony

to **snatch sth from one's hands** | wyrwać coś komuś z rąk

to **disappear into the crowd** | zniknąć w tłumie

to **go out alone** | wychodzić samemu

pepper spray | gaz pieprzowy

taser | paralizator

pepper spray, a taser (but only if it's legal in your destination), or another form of self-defence.

Additionally, there are often country-specific safety tips worth researching before you travel. It's always wise to gather information tailored to the place you're visiting.

Polish travellers may also want to register with the Odyseusz programme, which allows the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MSZ) to contact them in case of emergencies.

self-defence | samoobrona

worth sth | warty czegoś

to **research sth** | badać coś, wyszukiwać informacje na temat czegoś

to **gather sth** | zbierać, gromadzić coś

tailored to sth | dopasowany do czegoś, skrojony na miarę czegoś

to **allow sb to do sth** | pozwolić komuś coś zrobić

emergency | nagły wypadek, sytuacja awaryjna

HEALTH

Insurance

It's generally unwise to travel abroad without insurance. Most tour operators offer comprehensive insurance packages alongside holiday deals. Sometimes, you can purchase additional coverage to include incidents involving alcohol, theft or lost items.

Travel insurance is particularly important if you're travelling outside the European Union. For Polish travellers, the costs of transportation, medical care, and hospitalisation in non-EU countries can easily run into tens of thousands of zloty without insurance. If you're travelling within the EU, the situation is less dire – especially if you apply for the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC, Polish: EKUZ – Europejska Karta Ubezpieczenia Zdrowotnego). This card entitles you to access medically essential, state-provided healthcare during your stay in any of the 27 EU countries, as well as in Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, under the same conditions and costs as residents.

However, the European Commission stresses that EHIC is not a substitute for travel insurance. You could still face expenses in case of an accident or emergency, so having separate travel insurance remains important.

insurance | ubezpieczenie

to travel abroad | podróżować za granicę
without X | bez X

comprehensive | kompleksowy, pełny
to purchase sth | za/kupić coś
coverage | zakres ubezpieczenia, ochrona ubezpieczeniowa

to include sth | zawierać, obejmować coś
involving X | obejmujący, dotyczący X
theft | kradzież

medical care | opieka medyczna

to run into tens of thousands of zloty | sięgać dziesiątek tysięcy złotych, opiewać na dziesiątki tysięcy złotych

to travel within X | podróżować w obrębie X

to entitle sb to do sth | uprawniać kogoś do zrobienia czegoś

to access sth | uzyskać dostęp do czegoś, mieć dostęp do czegoś

state-provided | państwowy, zapewniany przez państwo

however | jednak/że



Food and Water

In most developed countries, tap water is safe to drink. However, in many developing countries, drinking tap water can pose health risks. In such places, it's best to avoid tap water completely and rely on bottled water instead.

Similarly, in some developing countries, it's better to avoid eating food from street vendors. These establishments often operate outside strict hygiene regulations, increasing the risk of food borne illnesses.

Vaccines

Some countries require proof of vaccination before allowing entry. For example, travellers heading to Barbados must be vaccinated against yellow fever. Before

to stress that | podkreślać, że

separate | oddzielný

tap water | woda z kranu

to pose health risks | stanowić zagrożenie dla zdrowia, nieść ryzyko dla zdrowia

bottled water | woda butelkowana

instead | zamiast tego, w zamian

street vendor | uliczny sprzedawca

establishment | *tu*: punkt gastronomiczny

to increase sth | zwiększać coś

foodborne illness | choroba przenoszona drogą pokarmową, zatrucie pokarmowe

vaccine | szczepionka

to require proof of sth | wymagać dowodu czegoś

vaccination | szczepienie

to allow entry | zezwolić na wjazd

to head to X | udać się do X, zmierzać do X

yellow fever | żółta febra

up-to-date | aktualny

pocket first aid kit | podręczna apteczka

to make room for sth | zrobić miejsce na coś

band aids | plastry (na rany)

you go abroad, always check the official government website (gov.pl) for up-to-date information on required and recommended vaccines for your destination.

Pocket First Aid Kit

When travelling, it's wise to make room in your luggage for some basic medicines. Band-aids, antiseptic wipes, painkillers, and antidiarrheals don't take up much space but can save you the hassle of searching for a pharmacy in case of a minor health issue. If you take any chronic medication, be sure to pack enough for the entire trip.

If you're heading to a sunny destination, don't forget sun protection. Getting a nasty sunburn on the first day can ruin the rest of your holiday. Pack a high-SPF sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat to protect yourself from too much of a dose of UV rays.

With these tips in mind, you're ready to set off on your adventure with less stress and more confidence. Remember – a little preparation goes a long way, so sort out your finances, consider your safety, get travel insurance, pack your meds, and, most importantly, have a good trip!

antiseptic wipes | chusteczki antyseptyczne, chusteczki odkażające

painkillers | leki przeciwbólowe

antidiarrheals | leki przeciwbiegunkowe

to take up space | zajmować miejsce

hassle | kłopot, fatyg, zmartwienie

to search for sth | szukać czegoś

minor health issue | drobny problem zdrowotny

entire | cały

sun protection | ochrona przeciwsłoneczna

to get a nasty sunburn | doznać poważnego/ nieprzyjemnego oparzenia słonecznego

high-SPF sunscreen | krem z filtrem o wysokim SPF

to set off on one's adventure | wyruszyć w swoją przygodę

confidence | pewność siebie

to sort sth out | *tu*: uporządkować coś

to consider sth | rozważyć coś, brać coś pod uwagę

meds | *pot.* leki, lekarstwa

Organised Holidays or Independent Travel?

by Hanna Danielczak-Ziadi

In this issue of EM, we take a look at the topic of organised tours, package holidays, and schedules jammed with activities set for strictly defined times. Is this a good way to spend our free time, leave, or vacation, or quite the opposite? What do our respondents think?

Hmm... free time and having to get up at 7 a.m., for example? No, I'm definitely against it. After all, a time of relaxation and leisure is precisely for not looking at your watch, not being guided by times, or deadlines. The old saying sums it up, "Time flies when you're having fun," doesn't it? And if I'm on holiday, I want to be having fun.

Marika

Organised holidays? Maybe they're not such a bad idea, but I don't think I could handle two or three weeks following a set schedule. I think that when you have free time, it's nice if it's varied, and made to suit what I feel like doing on a given day – if I have the energy and mood for it, I'll happily visit many places and

won't stop for a long rest. But then again, after two or three days, I might want to, say, sit on the beach or somewhere else, and just do nothing – just stare into the distance. So, thanks, but no thanks – organised holidays are not for me. I prefer travelling at my own speed.

Mark

Rushing breathlessly from point to point? From monument to monument? From one tourist attraction to another? Definitely not. I have often passed groups of hurried tourists led by guides, and I really don't like that style of sightseeing. Besides, I prefer to choose my own accommodation and eat in different places that I select on the fly while on vacation.

Wiktor

o **package holidays** | wakacje zorganizowane
schedule | harmonogram, rozkład (zajęć), plan

jammed with sth | wypełniony czymś po brzegi, przeładowany czymś

or quite the opposite? | czy wręcz przeciwnie?, a może zupełnie na odwrót?

1 **definitely** | zdecydowanie, na pewno

after all | przecież, w końcu

saying | powiedzenie, przysłowie

Time flies when you're having fun.

| Szczęśliwi czasu nie liczą. (dost.: Czas leci, kiedy dobrze się bawisz.)

to handle sth | tu: radzić sobie z czymś, wytrzymać coś

to suit | pasować, odpowiadać, być odpowiednim (dla kogoś/czegoś)

on a given day | danego dnia

2 **to stare into the distance** | gapić się w dal, wpatrywać się w przestrzeń

at one's own speed | w swoim własnym tempie

to rush | śpieszyć się, pędzić

breathlessly | bez tchu, z zapałym tchem

hurried | w pośpiechu, zagoniony

sightseeing | zwiedzanie

besides | poza tym, oprócz tego

accommodation | zakwaterowanie, nocleg

on the fly | na bieżąco



I think it's better not to entrust large sums of money to travel agencies. I've often heard stories about agencies that went bankrupt, and their clients never managed to recover their money. I prefer to manage my holiday budget myself.

Iza

I love having organised and structured time, so organised holidays are the perfect way for me to spend my vacation! I don't have to think about anything – I choose the destination, pay the amount for a specified holiday period, and yip-pee! – everything is sorted out for me – accommodation, meals, a plan of what and where to see, and when to see them! Great!

Caroline

Generally, in my daily life, I don't like that Prussian discipline and military order, and time often slips through my fingers. That's why I prefer to sign up for an organised holiday, because if

I didn't, I probably wouldn't go anywhere... I'm not very good at planning, so for me, this type of holiday is spot-on, despite the fact that their style is somewhat contrary to my daily lifestyle.

Darius

I am a fan of punctuality and precise daily planning, so organised holidays suit me very well. Generally, I



deal with planning every day myself, so in the case of a vacation, I am very happy that buying such a holiday takes the obligation of doing what I do every day off my mind. And I go away with a smile on my face, relying on the travel organiser.

Nina

Organised holidays seem to me to be a quite convenient option for exploring a chosen corner of the world. Usually, the organiser knows the area well, which makes you feel safer and more secure – at least that's my optimistic assumption.

Brad

As you can see, there are as many opinions as there are people. Their views can be helpful if you are considering setting off on a trip, but, of course, the best option is to consider what suits you best, and do that regardless of what others say. Which option would you choose?

3 to **entrust sth to sth** | powierzyć coś czemuś

to **go bankrupt** | zbankrutować, splajtować

to **recover sth** | odzyskać coś (np. pieniądze, zdrowie)

amount | *tu*: kwota, suma

to **be sorted out** | być ogarniętym, załatwionym

to **slip through one's fingers** | przeciekać przez palce (o czasie, okazji)

to **sign up for sth** | zapisać się na coś

spot-on | trafiony w dziesiątkę, idealny, w punkt

despite sth | po/mimo czegoś

contrary to sth | sprzeczny z czymś, w przeciwieństwie do czegoś

4 to **take sth off one's mind** | zdjąć coś z głowy

to **rely on sb** | polegać na kimś

to **seem** | wydawać się

convenient | wygodny, dogodny

at least | przynajmniej

assumption | założenie, przypuszczenie

to **set off on a trip** | wyruszyć w podróż, udać się w drogę

regardless of sth | bez względu na coś, niezależnie od czegoś

Travel Crossword

by Kamil Drożdżyk



ACROSS

- 4. a sandy area by the shore
- 5. a person from another country
- 7. a large private boat associated with luxury
- 9. an American word for 'holiday'
- 11. a personal document allowing people to travel abroad
- 15. a broad term for a place where you live or stay
- 16. reversal of a card payment after a dispute
- 18. a place to swim in (e.g. at a hotel)

DOWN

- 1. a low-cost lodging with shared rooms or dorms
- 2. a place in a hotel where guests check in and out
- 3. a big country located north of the United States
- 6. protection against financial loss in case of an injury, a health issue, theft, etc.
- 8. a country on the Iberian Peninsula, bordering France and Portugal
- 10. a permit to travel on a bus, train, or plane
- 12. a darkened shade of skin developed after exposure to sunlight
- 13. an organised trip visiting several places
- 14. a person visiting a place on holiday
- 17. a major mountain range spanning across central Europe

Answers: 1. hostel, 2. reception, 3. Canada, 4. beach, 5. foreigner, 6. insurance, 7. yacht, 8. Spain, 9. vacation, 10. ticket, 11. passport, 12. suntan, 13. tour, 14. tourist, 15. accommodation, 16. chargeback, 17. Alps, 18. pool

Rack Your Brain

by Kamil Drożdżyk

1. True or False

- Over 20 million tourists visit Canada every year.
- Hospitality exchange services allow tourists to find free or low-cost accommodation.
- There are more than 7,000 Greek islands.
- The Odyseusz programme allows the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MSZ) to contact Polish travellers in case of emergencies.
- The Forbidden City is located in Mongolia.

Answer Key: a. true; b. true; c. false; d. true; e. false

2. Fill in the correct word. For each pair of sentences, use the same word twice.

exchange, travel, experience, host, budget

- They ____ a lot – they've been to 90 countries.
The ____ agent said it was the best deal he could find.
- Getting acquainted with foreign cultures is an amazing ____.
If you ____ any trouble during your stay, contact your tour representative.
- Here, we ____ the Hair Freezing Contest.
The ____ of my Airbnb flat was kind and helpful.
- We're looking for ____-friendly packages.
I always struggle to manage my ____ on holiday.
- I'd like to ____ 200 Euros for Zlotys.
Hospitality ____ is often shortened to HospEx.

Answer Key: a. travel; b. experience; c. host; d. budget; e. exchange

3. Form adjectives from nouns.

- friend
- hospitality
- tradition
- eternity
- immersion

Answer Key: a. friendly; b. hospitable; c. traditional; d. eternal; e. immersive

4. Match the words with their synonyms.

exchange, iconic, foreign, reflect, personal

- swap
- prominent
- individual
- non-native
- mirror

Answer Key: a. exchange; b. iconic; c. personal; d. foreign; e. reflect

5. Which of these statements about Esperanto is not true?

- Esperanto is the sixth most-spoken language in the world.
- Esperanto was created in the 19th century.
- Esperanto features 16 basic rules.
- The creator of Esperanto was an ophthalmologist.

Answer: d

6. Which of these holiday destinations is known for its high-cost accommodation and diving?

- Goa, India
- The Maldives
- Borovets, Bulgaria
- Cambodia

Answer: b

7. Choose the adjectives and adverbs that best describe the climate of a desert.

- arid, dry, scorching
- moist, swampy, stuffy
- lush, chilly, stormy
- humid, muggy, harsh

Answer: a

8. What does the phrase to max out a credit card mean?

- to earn a lot of money in a short period
- to lose a credit card
- to reach the limit of what one can spend
- to own two or more credit cards

Answer: c

9. Which European country attracts the most tourists?

- Spain
- Italy
- The Netherlands
- France

Answer: d

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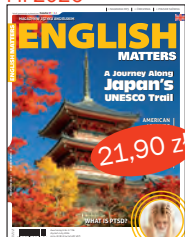
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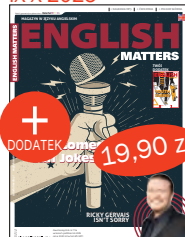
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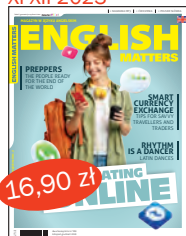
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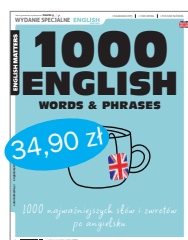
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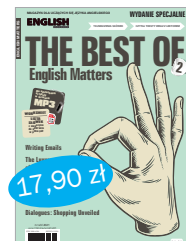
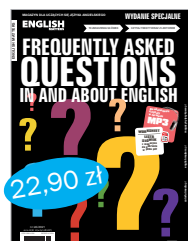
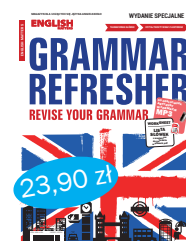
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