

Travel Tips: Backpacking in Beautiful Vacation Spots



By

[Katie Sotack](#)

Need a mental health break? Backpacking through the wilderness, Europe, or even a campsite nearby is an affordable way to explore outside of your usual day hiking. *Greenbelly* suggests it's best to decrease your pack's weight before [traveling](#). If you've decided to hike out with your living space, food, drink, and survival gear on your back, (check [GearWeAre](#) for more), make it ultralight.

Reward your thirst for adventure and your wallet by backpacking at

the next beautiful vacation spot with our [travel tips](#) for lightweight, low stakes gear carting.

As far as low-cost ways to travel go, backpacking is brilliant and versatile. The packer can commit to a quest by themselves, take arms with a group of travelers, or go off on a [romantic getaway](#) with their lover, a tent, and the stars above to a beautiful vacation spot. Whatever way the packer decides to travel the number one rule is pack light.

1. Weigh out your gear: By weighing each item before it goes in the pack you'll be able to see if said item is worth its weight. Some things will naturally be heavier, but don't throw them away for that reason alone. Your jug of water? That'll take a toll on your shoulders, but you'd be worse off dehydrating out on the trail.

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2. Sharing is caring: After weighing and packing each item, weight all the trip's backpacks. If yours is too heavy, for example, but someone else is willing to carry more, give it to them. Another tip for sharing essentials is that there doesn't need to be two of everything. Coordinate with your team to know who's bringing what. This will save the group from carrying more pocket knives than necessary. It may sound like a small, nearly weightless decision, but when you're walking all day with a ton on your back, you'll be grateful for the lessened weight.

3. Synthetic materials: When backpacking, both cotton and denim are a no go. Not only do they weigh more than synthetic

materials, but they also retain water. Cotton absorbs water from the environment and your skin so those white socks will be soaking wet for a while once you accidentally step into the trail's puddle. Alternatively, synthetic materials that can be found in certain workout brands keep away sweat to keep you cool and dry.

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4. Say goodbye to technology: It might be hard to step away from the internet, but disconnecting from the world wide web too many benefits to count. While the phone detox might take a day or two, the weight you'll save is worth it. Phones, GPS-s, iPods, and tablets require chargers and cases, all of which will add up. Putting down the tech, for now, will help you build your relationship with your travel companions, too!

5. Factor in the weight of your bag: We're talking about what you'll be carry *in* the bag, but the actual pack is just as important. This is the area to splurge. Buy a bag that's lightweight and has hip and shoulder straps. Speak to the workers at your local camping store, but be aware that backpacking bares weight on your hips. To alleviate pressure your pack should fit securely around your hips and arms with and without the weight in.

Where would you backpack? Share in the comments below!

Travel Tips: 5 Easy Ways to Book Your Vacation Stress-

Free



By

[Bonnie Griffin](#)

In recent [travel trends](#), the days of having hotels as your only option for a vacation away from home are over. Thanks to websites like *Airbnb.com*, you can really find a “home away from home” and often at a lower cost than those charged by drab hotels. Next time you’re looking for a place to stay and relax for vacation, check out these [travel tips](#) for booking your stress-free vacation rental.

Find your home away from home and relax on your next vacation with these travel tips!

These days most of us have heard of Airbnb, but did you know there are more options available to you for your next vacation

rental? If you are searching for something more comfortable and luxurious than the same old drab hotel room, there are a lot of options available to you. Cupid has some travel tips for finding your next vacation rental:

1. Tripping.com: *Tripping.com* offers a wide variety of accommodations with over eight million properties to choose from for your next [vacation destination](#). Thanks to the many companies they are teamed up with, such as *Booking.com*, this site is perfect for those who want to browse by price range, rating, locations, and amenities.

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2. Hometogo.com: If you are trying to find a lot of options or searching for places to stay around the world, then *Hometogo.com* is a great place to find your next rental home for vacation. They have the largest search engine for vacation rentals and offer rentals in more than 200 countries. They are teamed with more than three hundred providers like *Booking.com* and *Expedia.com* and are very popular with travelers thanks to their easy, user-friendly interface.

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3. Flipkey.com: *Flipkey.com* is one of *Airbnb's* biggest competitors. They have domestic and international offerings and every property listing shares every detail you could imagine like the number of rooms and bathrooms, and the amenities provided. You can easily browse through the available listings that meet your specific needs after you set the parameters for an effortless search.

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4. VRBO: *Vacation Rental By Owner*, *VRBO*, offers worldwide accommodations. Like *Airbnb*, it offers vacations rentals made

available by people around the world willing to rent out their space. Profiles share every detail you need about the property including pictures and previous renters' reviews. They have been one of the leading vacation rental market spaces since 1995.

5. Luxury Retreats: If you are looking for the epitome of extravagance then Luxury Retreats is the site you want to use to book your next vacation rental. They offer over four thousand luxury properties globally including beachfront villas, city homes, and larger lavish homes. You can even get your own concierge service; talk about a stress-free vacation.

What are some of your go-to vacation rental sites? Let us know in the comments below.

Travel Destinations: 5 Secret Spots to Visit in Paris





By

[Ivana Jarmon](#)

Paris is full of beautiful mainstream attractions and destinations you see in many itineraries and blog posts, but that shouldn't be the only part of Paris you see. Paris is full of hidden secrets hidden in plain sight known to the locals and the bravest and most inquisitive foreigners. Cupid has five secret spots to consider making part of your [travel destination](#) in Paris!

Here are five secret spots to include on your travel destination in visit in Paris:

1. Rue Cremieux: This is one of the happiest streets in Paris. Rue Cremieux is a small pedestrian street lined on both sides with beautiful rainbow colored houses. Come here on a sunny day, and capture the beautifully lit houses. It's definitely one of the best kept secrets in Paris.

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2. The Balcony of the Musée D'orsay: The Musée d'Orsay is one of the best museums in all of Paris, covering the Impressionist and Post-Impressionist eras. Come here on an early morning or evening and take a step outside onto the terrace to catch an amazing view of the Seine and of Montmartre.

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3. Rue Mouffetard: This is one of the best market streets in Paris, which gives off a medieval look and feel with its cobblestone lane that winds its way up Place de la Contrescarpe. You'll find a few farmers markets, fruit and vegetable shops and a few restaurants.

4. The Terrace at the Printemps department store: Le Printemps is one of the most iconic Parisian department stores since 1865, which is no secret. But, only a few shippers know that the store has a terrace that gives you a panoramic view of Paris. Go to the top floor via elevator or escalator to Café Déli-Cieux, and step outside. Make sure you have your camera.

5. Parc Des Buttes-Chaumont- Northeastern Paris: If you fancy a walk or picnic with your family, Parc Des Buttes is one of the best parks in Paris. The park is located in Northeastern Paris, and the main feature is their towering rock rising from a central lake.

Where are some secret spots to visit in Paris? Share your thoughts below.