

How I Fired My Boss and Traveled For 12+ Years



By Dan of VagabondBuddha.com

How I Fired My Boss and Traveled For 12+ Years

Updated Feb. 27, 2019, by Dan of Vagabond Buddha. This contains affiliate links. If you use them, you pay nothing extra, but we make a small commission.

I fired my boss and left the USA in 2007. I have lived in, or visited, 65 countries during my life. Here is what you need to know to fire your boss and live internationally. It took me 10 years to perfect this advice. If you are able to take action consistently and get yourself out of the way, you might be permanently free from geographical bondage within 2-3 years.

1. [How to Live All Over the World for Less than it Costs at Home](#)
2. [How to Make Money No Matter Where You are in the World](#)
3. [How to Simplify Your Life Down to One Checked Bag and One Carry On](#)
4. [How to Keep Your Apartment, Condo, or Home, No Matter Where You are in the World](#)
5. [How to Answer Your Old Phone # and Receive Mail Wherever You are in the World](#)
6. [How to Stay Safe No Matter Where You Are in the World](#)
7. [How to Handle Banking and Money No Matter Where You Are in the World](#)
8. [How to Get Fit and Remain Healthy No Matter Where You are in the World](#)
9. [How to Communicate with Locals No Matter Where You are in the World](#)
10. [How to Be Happy No Matter Where You are in the World](#)

Before you read my ideas, you should know that my old boss is still one of my favorite people in the world. I didn't really fire him. I graciously thanked him for everything he taught me, and tried to make my exit as painless as possible. We even get together for a week or two, every few years. I just didn't want to wait 20 years while I tried to save and invest my way to freedom. I didn't want a normal life. I have never been normal. But that story is for another day.

You see, you don't have to push back against anything to find your path in life. You can look forward with excitement and delight. You do not have to let fear, responsibility, or a normal life, define you. If you are lucky, you have about 80 years on this planet. No matter your age, you should find out what excites you and pursue that as if this is your final 3 years. Nothing can stand in your way if you really imagine an exciting future, with you living in it, and you take the right actions.

The future I see isn't strapped with obligations, things, or external accolades. The future I see is rich with world exploration, culture, food, conversations, learning, discovery, passion, music, sounds, smells, freedom, and love. Fame is not on my list. I believe that if I live fearlessly, there is a good chance that my life will continue to be full of joy, freedom, love, *and abundance*. That seems less risky to me than saving and investing for 80 years while the clock runs out on my health and passions.

You see, I don't believe you need to get rich before you start living. All you need to do is get enough cash flowing in so you can live in paradise. Paradise might be much cheaper than you think. To break free, you only need enough to walk away from a normal life. You see, it doesn't cost as much money to live in some of the most beautiful places in the world. You just need to find a path that breaks you free from the rat race. Once you are living free, you'll have a little more time to think about how to widen that path and increase your choices. But it all starts with breaking free.

Are you ready to start blazing your path to freedom? Everything starts with that decision.

How to Live All Over the World for Less than it Costs at Home

How to Maintain the Lowest Annual Transportation Costs: Exploring by Region: When you only have 2-3 weeks holiday per year, it makes sense to buy a roundtrip ticket to fly halfway around the World to see one or two countries. But when you are living the travel life, you just buy a one way ticket to get to the region, and then just keep moving forward from country to country once you get there. For example, if you fly to South America (today I am in Ecuador), you visit or live in all the countries of interest while you are there. So even if a one way ticket costs you \$500, if you visit 7 countries while you are in that region, your flight costs per country are less than \$100. So if you spend a year in South America, your annual flight costs are only \$500. When you are living a travel life, you start to think differently, and enjoy the journey.

Ground and Boat Transportation: When you are flying over a country 6 miles high, you don't get to experience the country. But when you are traveling by region, some of the most beautiful things you will see are out on the open road. The land between Southern Colombia and Northern Ecuador, just might be the most beautiful land in the World. But you won't get to see it if you fly from Colombia to Ecuador. Plus, the bus to cross that region is less than \$15. Whereas, to fly, it costs \$375, one way. I am not kidding. If you stay out of airplanes, during your regional exploration, you will also get to ride on boats and ferries. The view on the ferry going from Split to Dubrovnik, Croatia is amazing, and cost less than \$50.00. To fly would be over \$100 and that doesn't include the \$20 to and from the airports at both cities. When there isn't a rush to arrive and leave, travel is less frantic. Wikitravel.org is a great resource for finding the cheapest land and ferry routes when you are moving within a region. Just insert the departing city name in the search window and it will tell you where to catch a bus to your next regional stop, and how much it costs, roughly.

Skyscanner: When it is time to move from one region of the world to another, I [suggest using Skyscanner to find the best ticket price](#). There is also a major benefit to regional travel when it comes to airlines ticket prices anyway, it doesn't really matter where in the region you first land. So check Skyscanner for every

international airport in the region. For example, you may find that you save hundreds of dollars by landing in Budapest rather than Vienna. You can also check which city to fly out of in your present region. Finally, Skyscanner has a feature where you give it a wide range of time you are willing to fly. If you put a range of +/- 2 weeks in which you are willing to fly, Skyscanner will provide you with flight costs for every day during that 30 day period. You can easily save another few hundred dollars that way. Once you have the lowest possible ticket price using Skyscanner, try going to the airline direct and see if the price is even lower. Once and a while going direct to the airline will be cheaper, but mostly [Skyscanner](#) is a better deal.

How to Pay the Least for the Best Accommodations: I love to cook. I also like to work 20 to 30 hours a week to keep my mind active and [make money while I travel](#). Plus, I like the privacy of my own space, and I like having a bedroom separate from where I work. I wake really early in the morning, and I like to get up and work without disturbing others still sleeping. I also like to have my own Internet router in my living space in case I have a call during the day. I even carry a cable to plug direct from my laptop to my router. So my preference is a furnished one bedroom apartment or condo, with 1) its own internet router inside the apartment and not shared with the neighbors, 2) a fully equipped kitchen, 3) in a walkable fun area of town. With so many requirements, how do I get good deals?

Make offers: I send emails to 5-8 properties on [Airbnb](#) asking for about a 20 to 25% discount if I stay for a week. In my email, I explain that I review properties positively in great detail, I treat the apartment great, I am very clean, and I don't smoke or party. Then I ask them to look at my reviews from previous places I have stayed. My reviews confirm everything I say. Usually one of the people I email will accept my offer. Then, if I really like the place, I usually offer to stay another week or two, and offer to pay in cash. This saves on booking and cleaning fees.

New Listings: Look for new listings on [Airbnb](#) that don't have reviews yet, or have only a few reviews. They are more likely to accept an even lower price offer once they see that you do have a tendency to review positively. I have rented new listings for 50% off before. I have also gotten 30-50% off for offering to stay a month more, after I have verified the place fits my needs.

Be Clean, Be Nice, Be Helpful: Make sure to leave the place clean so they also give you great reviews. Also, don't be negative, pushy, or arrogant. If something is not working, be polite when you ask for help. Don't play the "customer is always right game." These apartments are being rented by individuals with feelings. They will remember how you treated them and it will be reflected in your reviews. You will end up with bad reviews and you won't get good deals,

possibly for months! Don't be rude or condescending, it could cost you thousands over time if it shows up in your reviews.

Where do I find Good Deals: The best deals on apartments can be found at [Booking.com](https://www.booking.com), [HomeAway.com](https://www.homeaway.com), and [Airbnb.com](https://www.airbnb.com). For short term stays or when I am somewhere that I won't be cooking I will also stay in hotels and hostels. If I stay in a hostel, I will get a private room as opposed to a dorm. The best hotel deals in Asia are often at Agoda.com. [Booking.com](https://www.booking.com) often has great deals all over the world. But it is also worth checking [HotelsCombined.com](https://www.hotelscombined.com) because it checks prices on multiple sites to find the best deals. When I first arrive in an area, I plan to stay in for a month or so, I will sometimes stay in a hostel so I can speak to other travelers who know the area well. Hostels are on [Booking.com](https://www.booking.com) now along with Apartments, Hotels, and Bed and Breakfasts.

How to Make Money No Matter Where You are in the World: Here are the best ways to make money no matter where you are in the world. You have a particular skill set that I am not aware of that will help you earn money, without restricting you to any particular geographical region of the world. So my main goal here is just to get you thinking in a new way. You need to give up the idea that you have to wait until you retire to see the world.

Working Remotely: When I first left the USA in 2007, I moved to India. I was recruited by the largest software company in the world, to train their team of patent engineers. While in India, I read "The Four Hour Work Week," by Tim Ferris. Not long after reading his book, I left India and began working remotely. I left India and began training the same team remotely, using Moodle Remote Training Software. It is like a classroom in the cloud. Most years, I still continue to make more money than I need by training and overseeing patent research services. Not all, but many skills can be done remotely these days. Start researching your industry to see if there is a company that you can work for remotely, with your skill set. If you earn USD or Euros and live in parts of the World with a low cost of living, you can even work fewer hours and still pay your bills and save money.

Other Remote Working Jobs: I have met many people in my travels who earn money by teaching English. I have met other people that translate documents from one language to another. I have met software programmers, travel videographers, travel bloggers, travel writers, internet marketing gurus, and affiliate marketers. There are literally hundreds of ways to make money no matter where you are in the world. Just start researching and you will be amazed. But be careful, not everyone you follow online knows what they are doing. It is best if you discover and follow their online presence for a few months before you spend any money on their ideas. For example, people typically spend months getting to know the "real me" on VagabondBuddha.com or my Youtube channel for months before they start trusting my online advice. That is just a good practice to follow.

Be Your Own Boss: Once you are able to work remotely for someone else, with your current skill set, I recommend figuring out how to be your own boss. Having your own business just feels better. Also, if you do start your own business, it is safer to have multiple smaller customers, instead of one big customer. That way, if one customer goes out of business, or finds another supplier, you still maintain at least some of your income. But working remotely for many customers, still has certain limitations. If your pay is limited to how much time you work, whether by projects, or by time spent, your day is still not completely your own. Your earnings is limited by the time you spend each day. Even if you hire other people to increase your income potential, now you have people management problems. Instead, of time problems or people problems, consider starting a business that has more personal freedom. I researched this topic for several years and have tried a number of different ways to make money online. If you start creating passive income streams, those are likely to provide you with the most personal freedom.

Passive Income Streams: If you decide to start your own business, I suggest starting a business that creates an automated passive income stream. An automated passive income stream, is an income stream that you build once and it continues running 24 hours a day, for many years, throwing money at you. No matter where you are in the world, whether you are sleeping or awake, your business is up and running, making you money. Here are several examples of automated passive income streams.

Physical Products: You can sell products online. Once you set it up and get it running properly, you can be sleeping or on the beach in Bali, and people can purchase products you are marketing online. You buy them in China and ship them to Amazon in the USA or Europe. You advertise your products on Amazon and when people buy them, Amazon ships them to your customer. You get an email notification that a product sold, and money is on the way. Amazon wires your money to you a few times per month. This a money machine. You just ship stuff to Amazon, and they wire money back to you. Amazon sends you an email when your supply is getting low. Then, you order more from China. When you are getting started, I suggest that you take a training course to save time and money. Otherwise your could lose years to time and money figuring it all out yourself. There is much to learn and if you are going to invest in inventory and import products from China, you should learn from the best. [Here are a few videos explaining what they do](#). These are the people who taught me how to sell physical products on Amazon. It was the most money I have ever spent on a training course. But unlike many courses I have taken online, everything they taught me worked just like they said it would.

Affiliate Marketing: Vagabond Buddha has affiliate links on most pages. When people buy products and services using our affiliate links, they pay the same price, but we receive a commission. Almost everything on the internet today has the potential to earn

money by using affiliate links. I love travel. I talk about what I love most, and I put links to the best places to go, and what to do. I was sharing this information long before I learned about affiliate links. But now when I share, I create the potential for passive income streams from my affiliate links. This business is nice for international living, because you have no inventory. Plus, all of the customer service is handled by the affiliate who delivers the product or service to the customer. You just get paid for referring the customer. There are thousands of different products and services that you can promote as an affiliate. You can review products and services on YouTube, and when people click the link and buy, you get a commission. You can compare different kinds of products and services, and whichever product your reader picks, they pay nothing extra, and you get a commission. If there is anything in the world that you know something about, there is likely an affiliate marketing model that will pay you to share your knowledge. You can move about the world freely, and get paid to share your knowledge. [Just enter your name and email here](#) and it will give you immediate access to a webinar that discusses how to use a funnel for affiliate marketing.

Start Your Own Online Business: There are thousands of businesses you could start online to make money as your own boss. Wordpress used to be the go to platform where you would drive traffic to make sales. But now most of the big money makers have switched to funnels. The amount of time, energy, and money you can save building your business using funnels is hard to overstate. Just grab a [14 day free trial](#) of the best funnel system. If you work really hard, and have a little luck, it is possible that you could make your first sale before your free trial ends. If you decide to start your free trial, let me know and I'll send you a link to a video that will help you hit the ground running. Just add your name to my email list, and when you receive my first email, reply with "I am on the 14 day free trial" and I'll send you the video link.

Your Simple First Business: This is just an idea for your first business. You can create a simple webinar on the 5 or 10 steps it takes to do something you know about. You will be surprised what people are willing to pay to learn. In fact, you probably think what you know is obvious and not worth any money. But there is something you know that 95% of the world doesn't know. And it is likely something that you feel passionate about that could save people hundreds of dollars weeks of time. But now I am going to show you by example. First I will talk about how you can make money building a list and then I will tell you a way to drive traffic to your funnel for free.

Build A List: No matter what kind of business you start online, you will be building a list of customers that you will email offers from time to time. Then, anytime you learn something really cool that helps the people on your list, you will send them an email. If they like it as much as you, they can buy it and you will make money. Do you notice that I am telling you how I make money at the same time I teach you how to make money? That is the level of honesty and transparency you have to maintain to remain relevant today. Trust is the most important thing to maintain your relationships in the online

environment where we have not met in person. So how do I get you on my list you ask? I have to bribe you by giving you something free that you perceive to be valuable. But that only gets you on my list. It doesn't mean you will stay on my list. You can click unsubscribe at the bottom of any email and I have lost you for life. So I have to continue to provide more value in each email you read, so you remain a loyal interested subscriber. Does that make sense? Okay, so here is my ethical bribe.

Ethical Bribe: Click this link and enter your email and I will give you my Ebook for free. As a bonus, in my 6th email to you, I will send you a free link to a video I make about how to drive free traffic to the new online business you will be creating. Look what just happened. You perceived value and you jumped on my email list. This will help you understand what motivates yourself and other people to join your email list for your new online business.

How to Simplify Your Life Down to One Checked Bag and One Carry On: It is time to simplify your life. You will feel freedom with less clutter in your life. I am a minimalist. I have two rules I follow. First, if I don't use something for 30 consecutive days, I give (throw) it away. There are only a few exceptions. Second, before I buy something new, I identify two things to give (throw) away. There is something very peaceful about living as a minimalist. When you are living all over the world, the less you stuff you have, the easier it is to pack up and go to the next destination. Plus, airlines are getting more tricky at trying to charge you more money for your luggage, at check in. They are constantly changing the baggage handling fees. It almost seems as if they are doing it to extract more money from you when you arrive at the airport. So your best bet is to travel with one carry on and one checked bag. The size and weight allowed varies on airlines, so check. If you follow my below tricks, you are unlikely to be charge extra for baggage as you travel the world.

On my Person: Some items are so important they should be in your pockets.

Passport, Credit Cards, Cash, Cell Phone: I keep these in my pockets for safety but transfer them to my carry on (backpack) when I am going through airport security scanners. I keep my boarding pass folded in my passport. I transfer them back to my pockets as soon as I clear security.

Suit Coat: I don't break laws, so I am not worried about going through customs or immigration. But I also don't want to be bothered by government officials when I arrive in a new country. There is at least some corruption in government officials in every country in the world. I avoid government officials whenever possible. So, I take advantage of government profiling. I wear a suit coat, jeans, black dress shoes, and a plain unmarked dress shirt or t-shirt. I try to be invisible to immigration and customs officials. Immigration officials usually focus on the people behind me wearing baggy shorts, a Bob Marley t-shirt, tattoos, and

Birkenstocks. I am also extremely polite, I smile, but I am not chatty with immigration officials. Don't draw unnecessary attention to yourself.

Extra Weight: I have [a small gadget to weigh my luggage](#). If I am overweight when I pack, I stuff my pockets full of heavy stuff during check-in. If they weigh my luggage during check-in, I am meet all requirements. (Check the airline's website before going to the airport for free luggage restrictions). After I get my boarding pass, I transfer the heavy stuff from my pockets back into my carry-on backpack. If I notice they are weighing carry-ons at the gate, I transfer it back into my pockets until I clear the gate. The airlines keep trying new ways to create revenue. You can actually buy clothing now designed to carry items that would normally be in your luggage.

Carry On: Most airlines allow 10 kg for carry on luggage. A few others only allow 7 kg for carry on. Check before booking. A flight that seems to be \$10 cheaper could easily cost you \$50 more if they charge you extra at check-in. I was once charged more for a checked bag than my flight cost. I use [a high quality medium sized backpack that always seems to meet the carry on size requirements](#). Airlines lose checked luggage sometimes. So keep your most important valuables in your carry on. I include the following in my carry on backpack:

Laptop Computer and Power Cord: Your computer's data should already be backed up in the cloud on Google Drive or Microsoft One-Drive. [I use an ASUS low weight laptop](#).

World Electrical Adapter and Extension Cord: Keep an electrical power adapter and extension cord in your carry on, so you can plug your computer into any power supply in the world and sit in a chair that is not right next to the power supply.

Snacks: I travel with dried fruits, nuts, or granola. I am vegetarian so airplane food is rarely satisfying. Request food restrictions when you book your flights.

Clothing: I may carry an extra shirt, pants, shorts, or gloves in my backpack if a drastic change in weather is a factor at my destination.

USB Battery Charger: for my cell phone.

Medicine and toothbrush: Keep your medicine near you. If they lose your checked baggage, it is easy to buy a few clothing items, but it may not be as easy to refill your medicine. After a long flight, it is nice to brush your teeth before landing.

Camera: Many people just use their cell phone. I still carry [a small high quality camera](#), plus 1 extra rechargeable battery.

Three Ring Binder, Loose leaf paper, pens: Planning and projects

Small Therapeutic Pillow: I bring [my favorite pillow with me for neck support](#). If you end up in a bed with a pillow that hurts your neck, this will make a big difference. Chiropractors are not so easy to find in many countries.

Extras: I move whatever I need to move, to and from my checked luggage, my backpack, and my pockets until I meet whatever the weight requirements are for my present flight.

Checked Baggage: Most airlines allow 20kgs checked baggage. [Here is the checked luggage I travel with](#). Here is what I pack in my checked luggage:

Clothing: I only pack enough to last one week. I have never been anywhere that I didn't find a laundry within a week. Sometimes there is even a washer and dryer right in my apartment. I have even washed clothing by hand in my room and hung them to dry in the bathroom. So 1 week of clothing is more than enough: 7 pairs of socks and underwear, 6 colored short sleeve shirts, 1 long sleeve t-shirt, 3 button up long sleeve shirts, 1 pair of jeans, 1 belt, 1 khaki shorts, 1 swimsuit, runners shorts, 1 black suit coat. Place your clothing in [transparent cloth mesh bags](#) so you can quickly locate what you want to wear.

Shoes: Black dress shoes, running shoes, and flip flops. I wrap my shoes in plastic shopping bags before placing in my luggage.

Toiletries: Shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, hair gel, bar of soap, razors, shave cream, floss, toothpaste, sunblock, mosquito repellent, mouthwash (toothbrush in carry on). I double bag liquids in ziplock bags so they don't leak into my clothing or electronics during travel. Bring extra 1 liter ziplock bags.

Assorted: Baseball cap, light gloves, vitamins, finger nail clippers, nail file, swiss army knife, tweezers, needle and thread.

Spices: I love to cook so I carry 6-8 of my favorite spices, can opener, food scissors, garlic press, and a sharp cutting knife. I hate when I show up somewhere to cook and there are no sharp knives (put in checked luggage). I am also a coffee snob. I won't drink instant coffee. So I bring finely ground coffee with me in a ziplock bag. I also travel with single cup coffee filters. I received mine as a gift in Malaysia, [but here is something similar you can buy in the USA](#).

Waterproof Bag: To hold my camera, phone, and money when I am at the beach, snorkeling, cave swimming, or kayaking, [I carry a waterproof bag](#).

My Portable Gym: I carry a small yoga mat, cut in half so it fits flat in my luggage. I also carry [muscle resistance training bands](#). See Health below.

Second Computer Monitor: [22 Inch Acer Monitor, Power Cord, HDMI cord](#): I use two screens when I unpack, this Acer Monitor and the screen on my laptop. I can have multiple documents open when I work. I protect the monitor screen with plywood in transit. I strap the plywood to the front of the monitor with larger rubber bands.

All of the above fits in my checked luggage at about 20 kg.

How to Keep Your Apartment, Condo, or Home, No Matter Where You are in the World: Don't leave an empty bed at home. [Rent it out](#). When I left the USA in 2007, I hired a local property manager to watch my property. If something breaks, he is on the same time zone as my tenants. A local property manager can have a local plumber out within a few hours. It doesn't make sense to leave a property vacant even if you will only be gone for a few months. Some insurance policies won't even cover your property if you leave it vacant for too long. Even if you plan on returning to spend half of the year in your home or condo, you can rent it out as a furnished home for the other 6 months. You can usually get about 30% more rent for a furnished home or apartment. The property manager can help you screen the temporary tenant so you don't end up with a bad credit risk or someone who trashes your property. You can also [list it on Airbnb.com](#) and have a local competent Airbnb professional host-manage the turnover, such as cleaning and repairs, while you are gone.

Income and Depreciation: In most larger cities around the world, you can rent your home or apartment out for around \$80-250 per night. Check online to see what your house will rent for. There will be homes in your neighborhood that you can compare. After mortgage and expenses, you may even make a positive cash flow. If there is a positive cash flow, you could use that to help pay for your accommodations wherever you are in the world. I have spent the last 3 week staying in a beautiful condo in Quito Ecuador that costs \$20.00 a night. You don't need much positive cash flow to pay for some countries. Additionally, you may be able to depreciate your home and deduct that from your taxes. Check with your accountant.

Rent When You Go Home: I have two small apartment buildings I bought well before leaving the USA in 2007. They have both doubled in value since I bought them. When I want to return home for a visit, I just ask my property manager if anything will be open in one of my buildings. If so, I just stay in a vacant unit. I sold off almost all my personal property before leaving the USA. But I keep minimal furnishings in the basement of one

of my apartment buildings. One couch, one coffee table, one lamp, one bed, one pot, one pan, silverware, cooking utensils, a french press, and a juicer. My units already come with refrigerators and ovens, so if one is vacant, I can move into one for a few weeks or a month, if I decide to go home for a visit. If nothing is vacant when I want to visit home, I just rent a furnished apartment from someone else. That is even better. I avoid moving furnishings up from the basement and I can start having fun right away.

How to Answer Your Old Phone # and Receive Mail Wherever You are in the World: You need to maintain stable contact information in your home country. When someone calls your old phone you should be able to answer the call, or call them back within 24 hours. When you receive important communications by snail mail, you should have a system in place that allows you to respond within a week or two.

Phone: You should keep your old phone number. You need a way for family, friends, and business associates to call you. Plus, your credit rating in your home country is affected by the stability of your business or employment, the stability of your mailing or residence address, the stability of your banking information, the stability of your telephone number, and your payment history on accounts. If there is no visible change in these from the credit reporting agencies perspective, your credit rating is likely to fluctuate less. If you look stable on paper, you are less likely to suffer from a reduced credit rating, which means you will be able to finance and refinance real estate if you decide to diversify your investment portfolio.

Keeping Your Same Phone Number: Solution 1 (US Citizens): This one is almost free: ***Do all of this before you leave the USA.*** Make sure your present cell phone is [GSM compatible](#). Otherwise, it won't integrate with cell phone networks outside the USA. Then, contact your carrier and make sure to [get your present cell phone unlocked](#). You need your USA phone unlocked so you can use foreign SIM cards when you travel. Roaming with your US cell phone number and US SIM card is not workable. I know a guy who spent \$300 on one phone call when he roamed in Mexico with his USA cell phone number. You can make and receive telephone calls with USA phone numbers with a foreign SIM card in your phone. Here is how. Download and install Skype on your computer and cell phone (before you leave the USA). Then add a "Skype-In number" to your Skype account. A Skype-In number is a US Phone number. When people call your Skype-In number, you receive that call on your Skype applications, on both your smartphone and your computer. Skype will let you pick the area code for your Skype-In number. The Skype-In number you choose should have the same area code as your present USA cell phone number. *Once all of the above is complete*, then port your present USA cell phone number to [Google Voice](#) (GV). Porting can take a few days, so complete all of these steps, and make sure it all works, a week or more before you leave the USA. To complete the port, GV will

need to verify that you have a local number to forward calls to. Give GV your local Skype-In number for local verification. Once the GV porting is complete, your present USA cell phone number will be answered by GV when people call. Add a voicemail message to your GV account to receive caller voicemail messages. Whenever someone calls your old cell phone number, GV will record their message, and notify you, by email. To friends and credit reporting agencies, it will seem like you never left. Make sure to keep the Skype-In number active. GV may call your Skype-In number to verify your local number periodically. Now you are free to move about the planet with your same old phone number.

Here is how it all works when you land in a new country. Whenever you enter a new country, get a local (now foreign) SIM card with Internet data plan. If you want, you can also add minutes to your foreign SIM card to make direct calls in that foreign country. Typically, you can buy a SIM card for cheap at the airport when you land in a foreign country (\$5 to \$25). The data plan in each country will allow you to access the Internet. Once your phone has Internet access, your GV and Skype applications can send and receive texts and telephone calls from the USA (and anywhere in the World). Plus, the GV and Skype Applications on your phone and your computer's Chrome browser, will alert you when someone calls and/or leaves a voicemail. You can also forward your ported GV number to your Skype-In number, which allows you to answer your calls on Skype, no matter where you are in the world, from both your android phone and your laptop computer. I don't use Apple, so I don't know if all of this works with Apple or not. You will have to test it. However, GV doesn't presently make outgoing calls to telephone phone numbers, so when people leave messages, just call them back using Skype. Using Skype, it will cost only a few cents per minute to call telephone numbers all over the World. Of course, if someone you want to call also has Skype, you can Skype them for free. When you come back to the USA to visit, just get an Internet data SIM card at the airport. Once on the Internet, you can use GV and Skype on your cell phone just like you do when you are in a foreign country. You can answer your old local phone number no matter where you are in the World.

Keeping Your Old Phone Number: Solution 2 (US and Non-US Countries): Do all of this before leaving your home country. Make sure your phone is GSM compatible and unlocked your phone so you can insert SIM cards from other cell phone carriers, foreign and domestic. See Solution 1 above. (Locking cell phones to a single carrier is done only in the USA, as far as I know.) At the time of writing, the above (mostly free) Google Voice (GV) solution is not available outside the USA. So, find the cheapest annual cell phone only service you can find, that has call forwarding. You don't need to pay for Internet data while you are gone from your home country, that is why this method is so cheap. So just

find the cheapest annual contract for cell phone calls only (with call forwarding). Then port your existing cell phone number to that cheapest cell phone only carrier. Next, install Skype on your cell phone and laptop computer. Then add a Skype-In telephone number to your Skype account. Pick a Skype-In number that is free for you to call forward to from your cell phone (Your Skype-In number should be in your home country). Then, put your cell phone on forward to your Skype-In telephone number **before you leave your home country**. Now call your local cell phone number (from a friend's phone) and make sure it correctly forwards to your Skype-In number before you leave your home country. Once you verify that Skype rings when you call your old cell phone, you can leave your home country. When someone calls your cell phone, it is forwarded to your Skype-In number, and you can answer the call on Skype, no matter where you are in the world. But, before you leave the country, **turn off your cell phone and remove your local SIM card from your phone**. If you leave your local SIM card in your phone, and then turn your phone on when you land in a foreign country, your home carrier may not continue to forward your calls to your Skype-In number. So don't turn on your phone in a foreign country with your home SIM card in the phone.

Here is how it all works (Solution 2) when you enter a foreign country. When you arrive in a foreign country, just get an Internet data only SIM card for your cell phone. If you want, you can also add minutes to your foreign SIM card to make direct calls in that foreign country. You can usually get a foreign SIM card at the airport when you land (\$5 to \$25). Once installed, if someone calls the phone number in your home country, it will be forwarded to your Skype-In number, and you can use the Skype application on your phone and computer, to receive and make calls (and texts) all over the world. When you come back to your home country, now you already have the SIM card for your home country, that you have maintained by paying the annual fee (online) while you were gone. You can answer your old local phone number no matter where you are in the World.

Mail Correspondence: If it is possible, keep your same mailing address when you leave the country. The same address shows stability to credit reporting agencies. For me, that was possible because I have always used a PO Box to receive my mail. So I just pay a friend to check my PO Box every few weeks. She throws away all the junk mail and emails me PDFs or pictures of anything she thinks I should read, like bills or notices from the government. My sister, who left the USA for London about a decade ago, uses our mother's mailing address in the USA. My mother Skypes her if anything important arrives by mail. You can also use a mail forwarding service. Just Google "mail forwarding." They will receive your mail at their address and PDF you anything that looks important. If you are like me, there will be at least one company or government entity, that still insists on sending you snail mail. All other entities will be willing use your email

address for all correspondence. Contact every company online and see if they would be willing to email you everything instead of sending it by mail. They often call this “going paperless” on their web pages. Make sure to browse your junk mail once every month or so. I have had spam filters block important emails from senders I did not previously mark as spam.

How to Handle Banking and Money No Matter Where You Are in the World:

Online Bill Pay: Keep your same bank account if your bank offers online bill pay. You can access your bank account, pay bills, and send or receive wire transfers from your laptop, wherever you are in the world. Verify that your bank offers all of these services and start using them before you leave the country. I use Bank of America and they have all of these features.

Visa ATMs: Visa ATMs are all over the world. Only use ATMs that are labeled with actual bank names. In some countries, non-banks can buy and install ATM machines that are not owned or operated by an actual bank. That means, that they need to make their money on the exchange rate or on larger fees, since the ATMs are not a convenience to their customers. Additionally, undetected ATM scams are more prevalent on these non-bank ATM machines because their employees are not as well trained in spotting the newest cameras and other card reader devices that criminals attach to ATM machines. For best results, use only bank owned ATM machines inside the bank. Second best, use bank-owned ATM machines inside indoor shopping malls. Third, use only machines that are affiliated with one of the networks your home bank is a part of, like Cirrus, Plus, etc. These networks consistently seem to provide lower fees and better exchange rates.

Visa Credit Card: Visa credit cards are accepted all over the world.

In-Person Visa Purchases: You should only hand your credit card to a person in emergencies. If someone (waiter/waitress) walks away with your card and copies down your credit card information, they could use it to make fraudulent purchases. So pay with cash you have taken from an ATM machine. Make sure your bank is emailing you for each purchase. When you see fraudulent purchase on your card, you will contact the bank and they will cancel your old card and issue a new one. Most banks will overnight your new card to you, but now you need an address for mailing that you can trust. You can ask the apartment owner or hotel for an address. This has already happened to me twice. Avoid the hassle and pay with cash. I still risk using a card at high-end establishments or large ticket items.

Online Visa Purchases: Most banks now have a “shop safe” online feature, that allows you to assign a random new credit card number to each internet website you join and make purchases. Since each site has a random new credit card number, only that company can use that card number. So if an employee or hacker gets the number, it is almost useless to them. With “shop safe” nobody ever has your real credit card number. This feature is offered by Bank of America. Also, you get to set the amount that each merchant’s shop safe number is allowed to charge. So when you are on a web page, and want to buy something for \$200, you just set the new card to a maximum of \$200. If someone gets that new credit card number after your purchase, there is no balance left to charge. You can also set a new random card number to pay for recurring charges, like monthly payments to a given vendor.

Travel Notices: I am usually outside the USA for almost the entire year. Luckily my bank has an online feature that lets me notify them where I will be over the next few months. When I start using an ATM in a new country, they already expect me to be there. This feature reduces the chances that I will be refused when I try to withdraw cash from an ATM in a new country. Their security algorithms already expect me to show up there, so things go smoothly.

American Express: I always have my American Express card with me. It is an amazing card in emergencies. There have been times when the only card that works for me was my American Express card. It saves me from trouble at least once a year. My regular Visa card will be shut off without warning because the bank believes there is a fraudulent charge. It may take me a day or two to contact and convince my bank that there is no fraudulent activity on my Visa. My American Express always works online and in-person. It has never once been refused.

VPN: Use a virtual private network (VPN) for all banking and internet transactions. This protects all financial transactions. Plus, you can bounce your signal through any country you like. That means that it looks like you are in whatever country you want. This can help you look local when you access web pages in your home country. Whatever services you are able to get at home, you can still get with a VPN, no matter where you are. This helps you get onto Google and Facebook when you are in countries where they are banned, like China.

Paypal: I still have PayPal and I use it from time to time. Originally it was how I kept criminals from getting my real credit card number by hacking an online transaction. But with “shop safe” for my Visa card, and my VPN, I tend to use PayPal less and less. But I keep it to receive money from time to time.

Cash: Keep some emergency cash in your possession. In a foreign country, if you travel long enough, eventually you will experience a few days when you can’t get any

money out of an ATM in a foreign country. This can happen because the Internet goes down or is too slow for a few days. It can also happen when your bank shuts off your ATM card and Visa card because they believe your information was hacked or stolen from a website. See my safety tips on how to protect your safety cash.

How to Stay Safe No Matter Where You Are in the World

Research: Everywhere in the world has slight variations to the same old tricks. So I will share some ideas with you about general safety, but you need to read specifically about each place you visit. For example, in New York City, it is perfectly safe (99.9% of the time) to flag down a taxi and jump in. Whereas, in Bogotá Colombia, the best practice is to call a taxi company and have them send a taxi to your location. The travel blogs discussing safety issues in Colombia explain why. If you don't do your research, you won't know the tricks in each destination.

Don't Be a Mark: Don't display wealth when you go to a new country. Don't wear expensive jewelry, expensive designer brands, or carry \$1500 smartphones. Criminals want to make the most money when they pick a victim. They never know how much cash anyone has in their pockets, but if you have overt displays of wealth, there is a good chance you have some money in your pockets. I don't wear a watch, I carry a \$300 smartphone, and I don't wear designer logos.

Peripheral Awareness: When you are walking along, maintain an awareness of people around you. Are they concentrating on the normal activities they are conducting in their life or are they keeping one eye on you? Change directions or cross the street when someone seems to be watching or following you. Move towards more light or walk into a busy establishment if someone is following you.

Don't stop: In some countries, people will try to stop you as you drive down the road. Steer around them and hit the gas pedal. Keep the doors locked. If you have to stop to avoid killing them, put it in reverse and step on the gas.

Drugs, Prostitution, Gambling: If you do drugs, you will be very vulnerable to many different types of tricks. Often the drug dealer will call the police. The police will arrest you and charge you thousands of dollars in a bribe to let you out of a horrible foreign jail. They will split the bribe with the drug dealer. When you get involved in any type of illegal activity in a foreign country, you are opening the largest door possible for criminals and the police to take extreme advantage of you. Stay away from prostitution. Your relationships should be real. There are literally hundreds of stories online, where a prostitute drugs the customer's drink. The prostitute then steals all the valuables from your luggage. There are even stories where the prostitute calls their pimp, and they drive you around from ATM to ATM for a few days, draining all of your money from your accounts. Some countries even have the death penalty for the possession of drugs.

The police are so corrupt in some places, you may be purchasing the right to continue your life if you get involved with drugs. If gambling is illegal in a foreign country, you are opening yourself up to all the same risks if you participate. Finally, never bring drugs with you to an airport. They have x-ray machines and dogs trained to sniff out drugs.

Street Tours: In some countries, criminals will approach you on the street to give you a “good deal” on a private tour. Don’t jump in a van or boat for a private tour. You need to stick to tour companies that have social proof that they are legitimate. Social proof could be an [online company](#) that has many [legitimate reviews](#), or a tour company arranged by a hostel or a retail space that you can visit. Private tours that sound like a great deal, might be a technique a criminal is using to isolate you.

Isolation: Don’t get into situations where you are isolated. For example, don’t walk down a street where no people are located. Don’t join any private tours that are not arranged from a verifiable source. When the locals start clearing out of an area, it is time for you to go home too. If you meet a local out drinking or whatever, don’t bring them back to your room alone. Have fun chatting, but get their phone number and arrange to meet them another night. Friend them on Facebook and make sure they are a real person with comments going back years.

Nightlife: Order your drink and keep it in your hand until it is finished. Don’t put it down on the counter. People are drugged all the time. It is easier to isolate you once you are drugged. Move most of your cash, all of your credit cards, and your passport to the hotel safe before you go out into the dark. Don’t walk down isolated streets or into isolated areas. Take a taxi, Uber or Lift.

Pick Pockets: Keep your smartphone, wallet and money in your front pockets. There should be nothing valuable in your back packets. If your pre-visit research indicates you are in a high risk area of the world for pickpockets, your front pockets are at risk also. In that case, follow the [pickpocket advice here](#).

Charity: If you are tempted to give money to poor people, good for you. You have a great heart. Instead, buy some packaged food and give that to poor people instead. In many parts of the world, gangsters put young children and old people on the streets to beg for money. They even injure or dismember the young and old to increase the daily intake from begging. Call the police or ambulance if someone is injured. If you give beggars cash, you are making it profitable for gangsters to put more injured people on the streets. If you give the beggars food, you are actually helping poor people without encouraging gangsters.

Negativity: Don’t buy into the bullshit hype that the US or Europe is safer than anywhere else in the world. The US has one of the highest murder rates, drug addiction, and suicide rates in the developed world. All over the world, 98% of the people are great.

These safety tips should not prohibit you from traveling. They are just increasing the chances that your travels will remain magical. This same advice applies to the USA and Europe as well as anywhere else. When the hair on the back of your neck stands up, trust your intuition, and get yourself out of that situation.

How to Get Fit and Remain Healthy No Matter Where You are in the World:

Exercise: Living on the road presents certain challenges. If you are a gym rat, you could easily waste a few days in each location you visit looking for a well equipped, fairly priced gym. If the apartment or condo building I am staying in has a gym, then I use that. You can even include that as a required feature when you are searching for accommodations. But experience has taught me that in many parts of the world, those kinds of apartment or condo buildings, are in newer gated communities that have little of the unique charm of whatever country you are trying to experience. Instead, I look for places to stay that are walkable from the most interesting areas of town. When I take a few hours break from working on my online business, I like to walk right out my door and be in the middle of the character and culture, I have traveled to see. So I have figured out a way to exercise that I can do consistently and that doesn't require a gym.

Running and Resistance: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: I walk out my door and just run around my neighborhood for 20-30 minutes. Daily, I run in a different direction. This is how I get to know the places I want to visit in my new neighborhood. I may see an interesting park, restaurant, view, church, temple, museum, etc. I usually go first thing in the morning, like 7:00 AM, so there is also less traffic. And I bring my camera so if I see the perfect picture, because fewer cars are in the way, I just pause for 2 seconds and take a picture. When I get home, I train my muscles with resistance bands. Resistance bands are perfect for international travel. They weigh almost nothing, they take up almost no space in my luggage, and I don't have to go anywhere to train my muscles. Most resistance band sets come with directions how to use them to train your various muscle groups. Here is where to get your resistance bands.

Yoga: Tuesday and Thursday: I find that just running and training your muscles reduces flexibility. Reduced flexibility will eventually lead to injuries. I suffered from rotator cuff injuries on both arms during a 6 month period. I learned about the above suggested resistance bands from the physical therapist who helped me rehabilitate without surgery. Once I had full mobility back, I started doing yoga twice a week to extend my core strength and flexibility. I started following [Adriene's \(Free\) 30 Day Yoga Revolution](#). The Revolution lasted 4 months, since I was only do yoga 2 days per week. Once I completed that, I started following a more strenuous series, [Fightmaster Yoga, 90 Day Fix](#).

Health Care: I have given up on the health care system in the USA. I presently pay for healthcare insurance in the USA, but I am considering dropping it. My personal

experience is that US doctor's recommendations are no longer controlled by common sense. Insurance companies and malpractice insurers have defined what they can recommend. And since insurance companies and malpractice insurers have bought and paid for the US politicians (both parties), things are not going to change anytime soon. So I don't get healthcare in the USA. I get my annual check up at an [international hospital](#) in Bangkok. My annual check up, which includes all the blood work and body imaging, costs about \$1000.00. That is less than my deductible in the USA. That includes seeing multiple different specialists, all the lab work, MRIs, sonograms, everything. Plus, the doctors sit down with you and discuss the results and answer questions as long as you keep asking. In the USA, I find I am lucky to get 10 minutes with the doctor to discuss the results and treatments. I was once in the finest hospital in New Delhi India, for 6 days. There were three specialists assigned to my case. They did blood work, several IV treatments, several consultations, MRIs, and Sonograms. They properly diagnosed me, and then cured me. Everything including food, healthcare, and a private room for 6 nights, was \$1600 USD. You can't even get a decent hotel room in major US cities for that price. I asked my father what the bill would have been in the USA (he is a doctor). He estimated \$40 to \$60 thousand US dollars, depending if it was a local or regional hospital. My father said that the MRI alone in the USA, may have cost as much as the entire bill in India. The MRI equipment they used in India was the same brand they used in the USA. Also, the hospital itself was as clean and beautiful as any in the USA. A USA veterinarian doctor I know just had major abdominal surgery in Mexico and the total bill was \$8000. She said nothing about the care was sub-par and she knows what she is talking about. She paid for it with her credit card. So I just pay as I go now.

Dental Care: I also get all my dental work done at an [international dental clinic](#) in Bangkok. The dental surgeon there was able to successfully complete a root surgery that two different dental surgeons in the USA failed. Plus, the two hour root surgery in Bangkok was 80% less than what it would cost in the USA.

Prescription Drugs: Have you ever had to go to the doctor in the USA to get a prescription for a condition that you have had many times before? Have you ever had to go to the doctor to get a prescription renewed, that both you and your doctor knew would be renewed before you booked your appointment? Did you know that in many countries around the world, you can just go to the pharmacy without a note from your doctor? Yes, you don't have to waste your money and time getting a prescription from your doctor any more. In many countries around the world, you just walk into a pharmacy and buy it. Also, you will get a discount of 50% to 90% off when you are outside the USA. But be careful. A family friend once emailed me while I was in India, and asked what a certain drug costs there. When I emailed her back, she said it was 90% cheaper in India to buy a drug her doctor had been prescribing her for years. Then she said, "Can you buy me a 6 month supply and I will reimburse you when I see you?" I bought it for her. Then I thought, "What is this drug, and can I get in trouble for bringing a 6 month supply

into the USA?” I looked it up online, and although she takes the drug daily on doctors orders, it is a felony for me to transport it into the USA. Possession of this drug without a prescription was a felony because it was on the controlled narcotic list in the USA. Only her doctors prescription saves her from going to jail. I would have spent 6 years in jail trying to help my friend on a fixed budget, save hundreds of dollars on a drug her doctor says she needs to take daily. I gave them back to the pharmacist. So be careful before you bring any drugs home to help a friend. Is there something fishy going on in US health care? Yes. I call bullshit on the US healthcare system.

Food: When you first start your international life, you will have a tendency to eat out for many meals. Restaurants are cheap in many parts of the world as related to US prices. But eventually, you will miss home cooked meals. It is fun for sure to experience the flavors of the world, but after a time, you will want to prepare some foods that taste like home. Plus, you will know what the ingredients are if you start cooking some of your meals at home. There are parts of the world, (Asia, South America) where the street food is so cheap, you will be unable to save much money by cooking at home. But as you learn to cook, the difference in quality in a great home cooked meal, even compared to fine dining, can be better. I have about 10 meals that I cook at home, that are so good, and so easy to make, I can have a healthy cheap meal on the table in 20 minutes. Keep an eye on the [“Life”](#) category at Vagabond Budda.com, and I will eventually start sharing my 20 minute recipes on there. Cooking, photography, and travel are my favorite subjects to talk about.

How to Communicate with Locals No Matter Where You are in the World:

7000 Languages: Did you know that there are 7000 different languages that people speak actively daily somewhere in the world? Do you want to limit your travels to only places where you speak all of their languages fluently? I don't. In the 64 countries I have visited already, there are people speaking hundreds of languages. I think it is a good idea to improve your ability to communicate as you travel, but it is unrealistic to wait until you are comfortable with a new language before you travel somewhere. So what do I recommend after 10 years of being illiterate in almost every country?

Finding Places: You will learn about places you want to visit during your natural research before going to a new area. Translate those places into the local language using Google Translate. Then if you show the local words to someone, they can point you in that direction. You can also search for those places using the foreign names using the local language version of Google Maps (they block Google in China, so use Baidu). The places tourists want to see are often well known by taxi and bus drivers but you have to show them the place name in the local language. Google Maps has a bus, walking, vehicle, and subway feature. So you can ride a taxis, buses, subways, or you can rent a car or walk. This might freak you out a little when you are a new traveler. If that is the case, then see if Uber, Lyft, or Grab are active wherever you are. Those are

nice, because their smartphone applications tell the driver where to go in the local language. Plus, the applications set the price so you don't have to negotiate in a foreign language. But once you have been in a new place for a week or so, you might be comfortable hopping on a bus for 25 cents instead of paying an Uber driver \$3.00. Plus, you will get more of a feel for how the locals experience life on a local bus. You might even sit next to a chicken or a monkey on a local bus.

Common Phrases: You should probably learn how to ask where a toilet is in the local language. The problem is the pronunciation. Even if you are saying technically the correct words, the way you say them will be wrong. So use Google translate and listen to how they are pronounced. Even play the sound for the translation to someone if they don't understand you. Google translate can get you a long way.

Google Translate: This application is great because you can literally just say something in English into your smartphone, and it will speak the translation in whatever language you select. The person can speak their answer back to you in the foreign language, and it will translate their words and speak them back to you in English. The translations are never perfectly correct, so you will be laughing when you hear Google's translation. Even though it is never perfectly correct, it is often good enough to understand what they meant. This is another reason you need a local Internet SIM card when you travel. So you are not paying international roaming for language translations.

Table of Phrases: The other thing you can do, is just translate the 20 or 30 phrases you keep using. Make a spreadsheet in Google Documents. On the left columns, type in the English phrase you want to ask. On the right column, paste in the Google translation. Then print out the table and carry it with you. Start by reading the phrase to them in the foreign language, and when they get a puzzled look on their face because they don't understand your pronunciation, just point to the phrase in their language you are trying to say. This will make them laugh, and then they will be more helpful. You are doing your best and trying to accommodate them.

Learn The Top 50 Nouns: Bathroom == Banos, Beer == Cerveza, Cheese == Queso, etc. Just put them on cue cards, and memorize. You will sound like "me Tarzan, you Jane." But you'll be amazed how far the nouns get you. People often understand what you mean if you just know the noun.

English Speakers: Until you have the basics down in a new language, the most important phrase you need to learn to say in the foreign language is, do you speak English? If you just start speaking English in another country, people tend to find that rude. But if you try to speak their local language first, you will be surprised how often people start speaking English to you. The fact is, English is getting pretty common now, in tourist areas all over the world. The Brits, the Aussies, the Kiwis, and the Canadians, travel all over the world and love to spend money. You won't meet as many Americans

out in the world, they seem allergic to world travel. But these other travelers have caused a cottage industry in tourist areas where people learn English. Just stay on the beaten path for your first few months, until you get the hang of communicating with others.

Pantomime: I have gotten pretty far in places by using pantomime. If I am Myanmar and I want cream in my coffee, I just make the motion like I am putting cream in my coffee. They laugh and run off and get me cream, every time. Get creative. Necessity is the mother of invention.

How to Be Happy No Matter Where You are in the World

Happy Status Symbols: People tend to believe they are not as happy as they could be because they have not achieved certain milestones in their life. People tend to look for external proof in their life that justifies happiness. Don't purchase the idea that you will finally be happy once you have more money, more possessions, more toys, more stamps in your passport, or more pictures of beautiful places on social media. If you are hoping that quitting your job and living internationally, will be the move that finally makes you happy, you have purchased the big lie. I am not selling that lie here. That is the hidden message in almost all advertising--*there is something wrong with you that makes you unhappy or undesirable*. Or, this message is everywhere online now--*if you buy into my ideas, I can repair your failed life by introducing external conditions not present in your life right now*. I promise never sell you that lie. There is nothing outside of yourself that will ever make you happy for long. Once you give up that hope, you can really begin to discover who you are.

People With More: My experience is that the people who have achieved some externally verifiable proof of success, are not necessarily any more happy. In fact, they are often less happy than the average person. I could not see this clearly in my own country. It wasn't until I moved to India that I first noticed that there was often an inverse relationship between happiness and wealth. But once I saw it in India, I was able to spot it more easily in other countries, including the USA. How could that be? I am not sure why, honestly. It could be because they keep expecting that money will make everything around them to be perfect, and life is never perfect. It could be because they have more to lose, and they live in fear. If they fall from grace, it will be more visible. It could be because the more you accumulate, the more complicated your life becomes maintaining everything. It could be because they are always comparing themselves to everyone around them. Once you begin identifying with things, there is always someone around that has more things than you. It could be because they are lonely. They don't really know who their friends are anymore. They think everyone wants something from them. It could be because they believed wealth would bring them happiness, and now they know the truth.

Empty Success: The idea that anything external from you will make you happy, is a lonely empty pursuit that the world is trying to sell you. Modern society is built on the idea that somebody in a flashy YouTube video, driving a Ferrari, or jumping off the top of a waterfall with a GoPro, deserves to be happy, but you don't. There is nothing outside yourself, the achievement of which, will ever translate into permanent happiness for you. Your personal success should never be measured against some external standards, set by society or anyone else. If you buy the idea that you will be happy upon the arrival of *more*, you will eventually find out that 'more' is never enough.

Success can be next, but happiness can only be now. I invite you to read my book "I am (Happy)." It is about becoming an awareness that the real you, in which your mind plays only a restricted veiled portion, is already happy. Send me an email and I will reply with a free copy of "I am (Happy)." This free offer is for a limited time and we reserve the right to withdraw this offer at any time without notice.

Thank you for reading this book!!!

Dan of Vagabondbuddha.com

dan@vagabondbuddha.com

About Me:

I was born and raised in the USA. I have started many businesses in my life, but most failed. Luckily, a few have succeeded well enough along the way to provide me with an enviable lifestyle. That is good news for you!! Why? I am basically lazy. I will outwork anyone in the world for a few years, but after that I want to sit back and relax a little. I value an enjoyable life over extreme riches. If lifestyle is more important to you than extreme wealth, my ideas will fit you nicely.

Why is this good news for you?

1. I will direct you to what I think is the easiest way for you to get a business up and running online. Because I work really hard to get freedom, but I want to relax after a while, and only work part time, as I monitor the business. I also like to take breaks and enjoy wherever I am in the world. [Here is my old travel blog that dates back over 10 years!!!!](#) I only recently started vagabondbudda.com in 2016!
2. I will direct you to a business that you will be the boss of. Nobody can fire you. Once you build it, it is yours.
3. I will show you how to live cheaply internationally. That means you will need to earn less while you are developing the business. Plus, once the business is up and running, you won't need it to make as much to sustain your freedom. I will

also show you how to find and use cheap but effective automated systems so once you have it up and running, you can scale the size, in case you want to upgrade your lifestyle or where you live internationally.

4. You need to focus on freedom first. Geographical freedom comes when you have enough to live internationally. That comes from reduced expenses and an online income that doesn't care where in the world you go to sleep each night. That is true freedom. This is your ticket to world citizenship.
5. I don't believe in get rich quick schemes. If I send you to a link, it means you will have to work hard there. But there is a strong potential for a lazy man to earn a daily wage and or a passive income. But I won't recommend anything that is a way for me to make money, but only wastes your time. Everything I do is long term thinking. I will not do anything that risks keeping you as a customer for life. I worked hard to find you, and I will not treat you poorly.

I am not really all that lazy. I just get bored with things and need to be learning new things all the time, so I feel engaged in life. For example, I have a college degree in computer science. That was not lazy, trust me. After that I went straight to law school. That was not lazy either. Then I worked at a US law firm for over 6 years. None of that was lazy.

So maybe I should just say, I like to work on things that have long range potential. Things that can provide income for years after I create them. So maybe I am just getting smarter as I age. Only those ideas excite me now. If you are of similar mind, then stay tuned!!

Dan of Vagabond Buddha.com, Copyright (c) 2016, All rights reserved.