

## INTRODUCTION

### Get ready to travel!

Greetings from Bangkok! I'm here to help you live the type of life I've been enjoying now for several years: one where you have the money and freedom to travel. Over the years there are a number of tricks I've learned to save money and cut corners on travel expenses. That's what this guide is about.

This guide is also here because I'm sure some of you reading this, and thinking about planning a trip abroad, are completely overwhelmed. Maybe you're stuck in a minimum wage job, have lots of obligations, or are a generally busy person. You have no idea where to start planning or how to save money, so you just do nothing. The trick is to take everything one step at a time. Start with one small step, take another, keep doing it, and eventually you'll get there.

This guide includes tips to help you focus on that next step, assist with your planning, and give you practical methods to save and make money.

### Who this guide is for...

If you're planning on traveling to SE Asia or Australia and you're from the US, this guide will be invaluable for you. My tips are based off my travel experience, and since I'm from the US and traveled mostly through Australia and SE Asia, then everything in this guide will be applicable for you.

If you are not from the US or are traveling somewhere else, this guide can still be helpful for you. Some of the tips, especially my priority chapter (the most important chapter of the book), can be applied to anyone anywhere.

### 5 tips to make your dream trip a reality

I've chosen to focus on five tips I believe can make the biggest difference in making your travel dreams a reality.

I have done two extended overseas excursions since September 2010, totaling 20 months and counting, outside my home country. The first was an 11-month trip in 2010 and 2011 through Asia and Australia. The second was a more permanent move to Bangkok, Thailand where I currently reside as of May 2014.

During this time abroad, I've visited 8 different countries, two different continents, held three jobs making over \$20,000 (Note: every time I use a \$ sign I'm referring to US dollars) in the process, and been a tax paying citizen in both Thailand and Australia.

If I could go back in time and give myself five tips to make my travel planning easier when I first started, this is what I would have told myself. This is what I've learned that I wish I knew when I started.

The tips are broken up into chapters, and are as follows.

### ***1. Frequent Flyer Miles (Free airfare)***

Shows you how to use FF miles to get free flights anywhere in the world.

### ***2. Travel Vaccinations***

Tips on how to get Travel Vaccinations for a much lower price than in the US.

### ***3. Visas***

How to prepare for Visas when traveling abroad.

### ***4. Priorities***

The most important chapter in the book. Tips on how to make your trip a priority so that you get out of the country and get abroad!

### ***5. Australia***

How to make a small fortune (I made \$16,000 in five months in an unskilled job) while working and traveling in Australia.

This guide is intentionally short. The material is hyperfocused on practical tips to help make your dream trip a reality. I may eventually do a longer e-book with more detailed stories about my experience. But in this version, I want to get right to the good stuff and to the point.

Now, let's get started!