



8

WAYS FAMILIES
AFFORD TO TRAVEL
AROUND THE WORLD
FOR A YEAR

(OR LONGER)

- EVEN IF THEY ARE IN DEBT OR SAVING FOR A HOUSE -

By Adelaide Olguin

To wake up with a view of the Alps towering over a deep green field or waves coming in over quiet, white sand beaches doesn't have to be a magnificent dream or even a vacation; it can seriously be your life.

My husband and I diversified our income to utilize five of the eight main ways families afford to take advantage of extended travel.

None of these ways include racking up credit card debt; in fact, many families pay off more credit card debt while traveling than by staying put.

It's all about how you play the game. So let's get started.

METHOD ONE: DIGITAL FREELANCING

Digital freelancing is one of the most known ways to fund the digital nomad lifestyle. (We don't do a lot of freelancing. We are more into pitching ideas, which I talk about next.)

Digital freelancing is for people who are really good at doing a specific task that can be put into a process and replicated for many different companies.

This task can be as specific as building landing pages to as big as building websites; it can be graphic design, coding, or managing social media for a company.

The way to success in this is creating the process you can use again and again to complete each project.

For example, you will have a checklist you go through to make a landing page or for managing social media. You will have a process for communicating with your client as well. Everything needs to fit into the same process.

By following the same process, you will complete assignments faster and thus make money faster, leaving more time to travel and enjoy yourself.

To start, you need to get really good at doing a certain task. If you're already there, get going by charging a fair amount for your work and knocking out project after project for company after company.

To get clients, you can setup an account on Upwork.com or ELance.com. Penelope Trunk offers a

class on how to successfully get a steady flow of clients.

I want to warn you that you will absolutely hate this if you are not someone who likes to execute projects. If you are more of an idea person, and get tired of doing tasks and don't finish projects, number two is more for you.

<http://www.quistic.com/on-demand-courses>

METHOD TWO: PITCH IDEAS

This one, I did not understand was different than freelancing until I took Penelope Trunk's class about how to sell your ideas, which I recommend.

The idea here is to come up with a way a company can increase their revenue, and pitch that idea to that company via email, and as many other companies as you can find.

If the companies like you and your idea, they will hire you to execute the project. Hopefully you have pitched to a lot of companies, so even if a few bite, you can still make money off of this idea.

But you don't actually execute the idea. You pay the digital freelancers to help you get the project done while you manage it and pitch more ideas. Then you keep the money you didn't spend on their work.

For example, I have successfully pitched Instagram strategies to companies to help them attract customers and build their accounts successfully; downloadable content ideas and strategies to build newsletter lists; and video ideas and strategies.

I am not really into pitching ideas right now. I will pitch an idea though if I want a little extra cash to do something. Some ideas are small, and I will charge \$150 to \$300. Some ideas will take more time, so I will charge \$2,000. Penelope Trunk has sold ideas for \$60,000+.

If I were serious about pitching ideas, I'd find a \$30,000 idea, and try to get 8 people to buy it that year. I have seen people do this and fund their entire lifestyle like this.

However, please note, pitching ideas can be kind of scary because you don't know when money will come

in or not. Get good at it before you base your whole life on it. And even then, take caution. You have to really love coming up with ideas to love doing it.

To see how Penelope Trunk pitches ideas (she has a great process), check out her class on how to sell ideas.

<http://www.quistic.com/on-demand-courses>

METHOD THREE: MAKE A PROFITABLE ONLINE COMPANY

I am seeing more and more of digital nomads doing this. Mostly in Facebook Ads where they promise to teach you how to create an online business, and you signing up for their class pays for their online business.

I'm a little leery of those. However, there are a lot of worthwhile ways to make a profitable online company that will bless other people's lives, which will bless your life in return.

One way is to take the company you already own and get it online. This would include hiring people to do

some of your work in the office and doing the rest online. Or even, outsourcing all of the work to make your company digital.

We did this. We co-owned a blog called The Slanted Lens with Jay P Morgan with over 130,000+ subscribers, did the marketing for the popular YouTube Channel and other mediums, and taught the Business Coaching Classes.

Our business partner Jay P Morgan worked in Los Angeles photographing and filming while we worked remotely. We taught the business classes while we were in Brazil and did the marketing in South America and Europe.

If you have an online company, hopefully you can set things up, so you don't need to physically be there.

The money we made from the Slanted Lens didn't completely pay for our lifestyle though. It was a great supplement. However, if your company is rocking, you won't even need to supplement your income. You just need to make sure you have the right processes and people working with you, so you can be away.

If you do not have an online company and would like to start one, I highly recommend checking out Derek Halpern's free training on "How to Make Money Selling Online Courses," or Penelope Trunk's class on starting a company or blog that makes money. Derek's strategy is smart because it allows you to launch a class this week (not kidding) and see if it will make money.

I could go on and on about how brilliant it is.

Also, the book Nail it and Scale It is great. It's the same thought Derek Halpern is using.

www.SocialTriggers.com

METHOD FOUR:
WORK REMOTELY FOR A COMPANY
OR FOR YOUR CURRENT COMPANY

It didn't occur to us as first and maybe it hasn't occurred to you, but you might actually be able to keep your current job and start working remotely.

This is how we fund most of our lifestyle.

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Let's see if this works for you.

Can you do all of your work through digital meetings and email?

Yes? Then there you go. If not,

Which projects bring in the most amount of money for your employer?

Would your employer like you to focus more on these tasks and less on the others?

Can these projects be done remotely through video meetings and email?

Can your job be redefined, so you do that work only?

Your employer wants you to be effective, so if only focusing on digital tasks actually helps you increase the bottom line, they might be really happy to redefine your job and let you work remotely.

My husband had such a meeting with his company; and I kid you not, five to ten minutes later, they gave

him the okay to work remotely 9 to 10 months a year, and our lives changed.

We were worried though that he might get fired in the meeting. You never know, right?

For some people, they can't do their job from anywhere. If this is you, you might be able to negotiate a month of working remotely each year when it's not as busy at the office. Better some than none, right?

If this is just not possible, you might want to look for a new job that allows you to work remotely. If that is not going to work either, I recommend the next strategy.

METHOD FIVE: BE A SAVVY SAVER

Some families save up, so they can travel for a whole year and not work. Incredible.

We just ran into a family who saved up for four years and now is taking the next year to travel down

through Central and South America with their two kids.

What lucky kids to be given what they need and want the most: their parents' attention.

This makes me think of the Faint's song Agenda Suicide (below) because instead of living to work, they work to LIVE.

Excerpt from Agenda Suicide by the Faint
(I love this.)

"As I lay to die, the things I think:
Did I waste my time? I think I did.
I worked for life.

All we want are just pretty little homes.
Our work makes pretty little homes.

Like a cast shadow.
Like a father's dream:
have a cut out son.
What's a worse disease?
To get that pretty little home."

Maybe life isn't about working for 30 years to pay for a home. But I'll be honest; I love pretty little (actually big) homes. Drives my husband nuts.

If you have a home already, don't sweat it. You can rent it out on AirBnB or sell it to travel if that makes sense to you.

If you are going to save up to travel, you need to know where you are going to go because some countries you could live for 5 years on a year of your salary and others for 6 months.

You will need to figure out the cost of housing, food, transportation, insurance, activities, and so forth. Once you know your goal amount, save a little bit more just in case.

METHOD SIX: EXTREME CREDIT CARD POINTING

Like extreme couponing, this isn't for the faint of heart but will make travel free or at least most of it.

First, you will need to have good credit.

Your goal isn't to rack up points by spending a lot of money, which you can do if you use your credit card for your company or your boss gives you the okay to use it for his (and they regularly reimburse people).

Your goal is to find awesome sign up bonuses for new cards and apply to a couple of those the same week. Then wait one more quarter, and do it again.

These signups are for 50,000 to 100,000+ points.

We have flown almost 150 times with our four year old, and I can count on one hand how many times we have paid for flights.

My husband is the brain behind our operation. He is really into this. He went to a conference called "Frequent Travelers University" the other year. Yeah, that's a thing.

I guess if he's going to have an intense hobby, it's good that it lets me fly for free and stay in five star hotels in Paris.

Some people live off their points for months, flying first class and staying at amazing hotels.

One couple we follow makes like \$20,000 from their blog a year, which is all the money they need because they live off of their points in nice hotels and fly for free. Amazing.

Here are some blogs we recommend:

www.TravelisFree.com

www.TheFrequentMiler.com

METHOD SEVEN: HOUSE SITTING

This sounds like the worst to me, but maybe you would love it. People will pay you to watch their three dogs, two cats, seven ducks, and twenty-three chickens in the countryside of France for a month while they are on vacation.

Travelers go from house sitting job to house sitting job to cover their cost of housing. This won't cover all of your expenses, but it can cover some.

To find a job, google house sitting and the country or city where you want to stay. It will definitely be an interesting experience.

METHOD EIGHT:

BE FILTHY STINKING RICH

If you have a trust fund, won the lottery, or made a lot of money selling your company, and no longer need to work, what are you waiting for?

Of course, get your finances straight and do some estate planning with an accountant, like Milam, Knecht and Warner, LLP, so your money is protected and you know how many days you should be outside and inside the US in the year, so you don't have to pay certain taxes.

(No one should pay more taxes than the law requires.)

You could also setup a captive insurance with Premium, LLC. You'll keep most of your money that way.

www.weaddvalue.com

FOR THOSE IN-DEBT OR SAVING FOR A HOUSE

If you are in debt, there are three main ways to get out of debt.

1. Stop spending so much.
2. Lower the cost of living.
3. Make more money.

Most people need to do all three to get out of debt. These three things will also help you save up for a house.

If you want to stop spending so much money, start living out of one suitcase. When we did this to travel, I was shocked at how much extra time we had because we weren't shopping for things for our house.

We also started spending our money on experiences, which studies show make you happier than things.

If you want to lower the cost of your living, you can live some places in South America and Asia for under \$1,000 a month for everything. Just make sure it is safe.

If you are in debt or are saving, you might not want to travel from country to country as much but rather stay in one place. This will help you spend less in travel.

You will also be able to setup your home base, so you can work more consistently. Moving still takes up a lot of time even when you have one suitcase.

We're saving up for a house that I want, but my husband isn't interested in at all. Such is being married.

I would love to rent it out half of the year while we travel the other half. I think he likes that compromise.

We currently have our rent capped at \$1,200 a month, so we can continue to save. Our friends are living really nice in Southern Brazil near a gorgeous beach for \$600 a month though.

If we joined them, this would alone save us \$7,200 over a year. The cost of food and other expenses would also go down.

If we got our monthly expenses down to \$1,500 while living comfortably, we'd only be spending \$18,000 for the whole year. Then we'd be saving a lot more.

However, there is only so much money you can save. You have to start making more money. If you find yourself exhausted by working at an hourly rate, I recommend Method 4 and the resources there.

BEST OF LUCK

I hope these ideas get your wheels turning.

Please consult a professional in planning your finances and making big changes, so you can play it smart, and sue them instead of me for whatever trouble this may bring you.

Just like any endeavor, traveling for a year does carry risks. Make sure you are ready to accept those risks as well as ready to accept the joy and unforgettable memories it will bring you.

Join me on my personal Instagram where I post about our travels and language experiences.

www.Instagram.com/laide_e

I'll definitely follow you if you're into living abroad with your family and leave a comment letting me know who you are. I love meeting people with similar interests.

My husband's account is awesome too. He is also a lot nicer than I am.

www.Instagram.com/o_hekator.

To amazing moments with your children,

Hector and Adelaide

P.S. See you on the road soon!

About Adelaide Olguin



Adelaide helps parents confidently
+ quickly start speaking new
languages with their kids and live
abroad with their little ones too.

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