



How to become a digital nomad

and travel the world freely !!



Index

- A quick intro
- What is a digital nomad
- Terms used in the community
- What to know before you go
- Visa's
- Most sought-after digital skills
- How to find your digital nomad job
- Top destinations for digital nomads
- Websites & resources
- A quick outro



A quick intro

Hi friend,

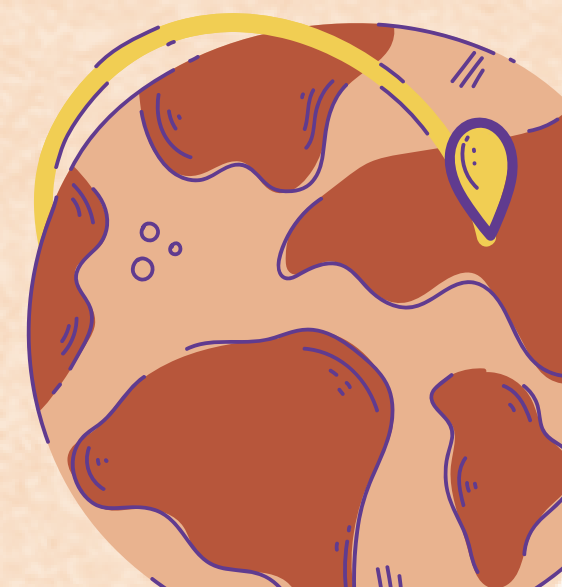
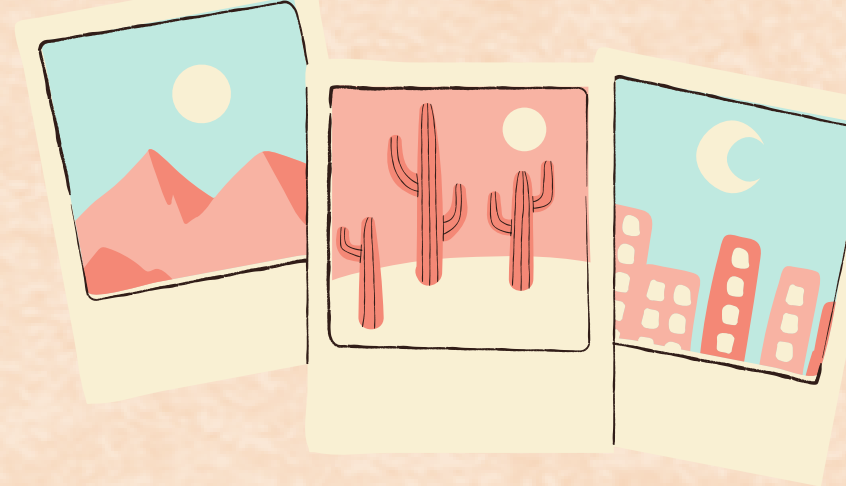
Thank you so much for trusting me with the question I get asked the most: how to become a digital nomad? First of all, I want to share that I started just like anybody else: lost, scared, and confused. I was hoping I could find a guide to navigate through all the questions I was having on how to get started, so I made this guide with that lost soul in mind.

When I started, I knew **NOTHING** about being a nomad, so I will try my best to give you as much information as I can, but if you already know the answer to a question, you can skip to the next chapter.

I also post free content on my all my social media channels so make sure to follow me there and reach out to me if you have any more questions.

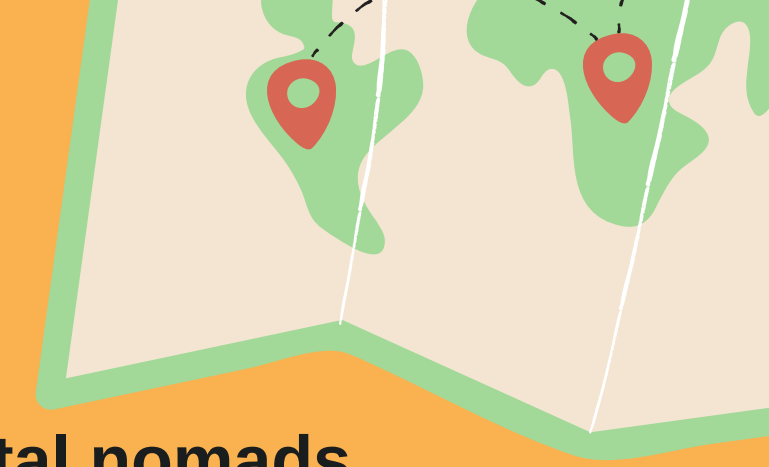
I can't wait for your adventure to begin.

With love, always, Eb xo





What is a digital nomad



The first distinctions to make are between backpackers, travelers, nomads and digital nomads.

Backpackers

Typically, a backpacker is someone who carries their belongings in their backpack when traveling. They usually choose this style as they have a low travel budget. Backpackers are known for being frugal with their expenses so they try and cut off as much as possible by staying in hostels or exchanging work for free accommodation for example.

Hostels are usually a lot cheaper than hotels and have many communal areas to facilitate meeting new people. They also typically have a kitchen where every guest can cook and store their own food to avoid eating out every day.

Other experiences for backpacking travels include :

Couch surfing: where you can stay temporarily in a series of other people's homes, typically by sleeping on their sofas for free.

<https://www.couchsurfing.com/>



What is a digital nomad



Backpackers part.2

Work away: This is a way to do cultural exchanges, go on a working holiday or volunteer in other countries.

<https://www.workaway.info/>

House or pet sitting: You can house sit or pet sit in exchange for free accommodation, and even sometimes get paid.

<https://www.trustedhousesitters.com/>

Hosting: there are many travel Facebook groups where you can be hosted or host a guest at your house for free. This is a great way to make friends and connections around the world and travels on a lower budget.

My favorite Facebook group for women only as it is safer is Host a sister:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/hostasister/>

House swap: you could easily swap your house, condo or apartment with someone else at the destination you want to visit. There are plenty of Facebook group you can join for these kinds of experiences, but my favorite is Homeswap: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1665492130373295>



What is a digital nomad



Traveler

A traveler is typically someone who is taking some time off work to travel. That could mean someone who is taking a sabbatical year or just a couple of months/weeks of traveling.

Modern nomad

A nomad is a person who has no permanent address, someone who travels from place to place without ever taking root anywhere. However, in today's world, a modern nomad can mean someone who spends the majority of their time flitting from destination to destination but they could still have a place to call home. Nomads typically are not people who won the lottery and can afford to roam around the world freely, they usually have to work and pay normal expenses wherever they are such as rent, groceries, cell phone bills, travel insurance, etc.

A modern nomad could be someone who is using a visa to find work at their chosen destination or a nomadic nurse for example. Growing more and more in popularity, nurses are needed everywhere around the world so they can easily choose a destination and find work there in their field.





What is a digital nomad



Digital nomad

A digital nomad is everything explained above but they work remotely using technology and the internet. This is the biggest difference between a nomad and a digital nomad.

For example, if you were to move to Whistler, BC to work as a receptionist in a hotel, you could be considered a nomad if you were doing this time and time again in different destinations. However, this kind of job demands you to be there in person and does not rely solely on technology and the internet for the job to be done, thus not qualifying as a digital nomad job.

In order to be a digital nomad, you have to be able to work with being there physically at all. Meaning it does not matter if you are in the Philippines or in Mexico to do the job, as long as you have your technology (usually a laptop) and a reliable wifi connexion, you are good to go.

Obviously, working from home doesn't qualify as being a nomad since there is no traveling involved.



Terms used in the community

I genuinely think there are no stupid questions in life and it's impossible to know everything. If you are unsure of a word or term, don't be afraid to ask, but it's also cool to be kinda aware of the most frequent terms you can hear amongst nomads and digital nomads

Slowmad

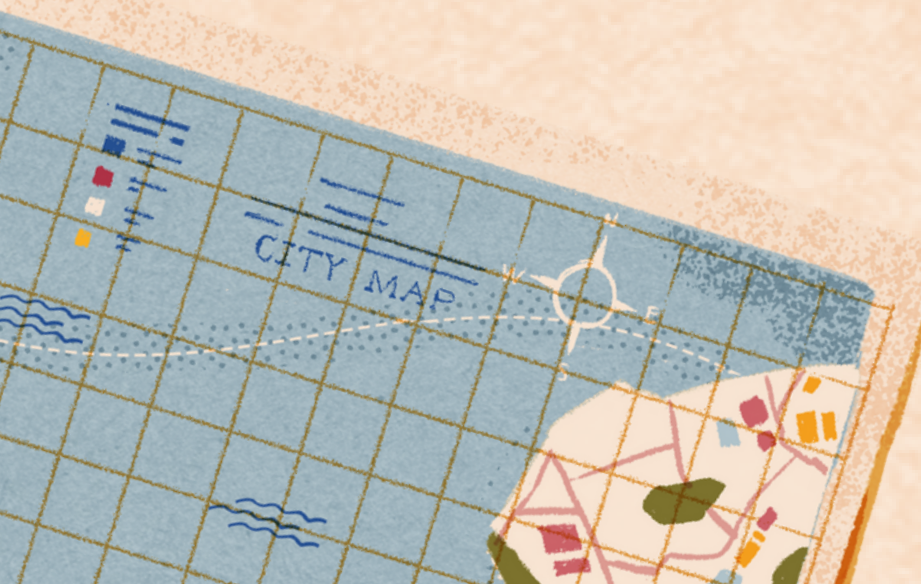
A nomad that travels very slowly from one destination to another, spending multiple months at the same place.

Coworking / Coliving space

Refers to a working space with multiple desks and chairs to be shared with other working professionals. Idem for coliving but sharing communal living areas and sometimes bedrooms rooms (dorms type)

Distributed teams

It's a fancy way of saying remote teams that embrace remote work and let their employees work from anywhere in the world.



Terms used in the community

Hotdesking

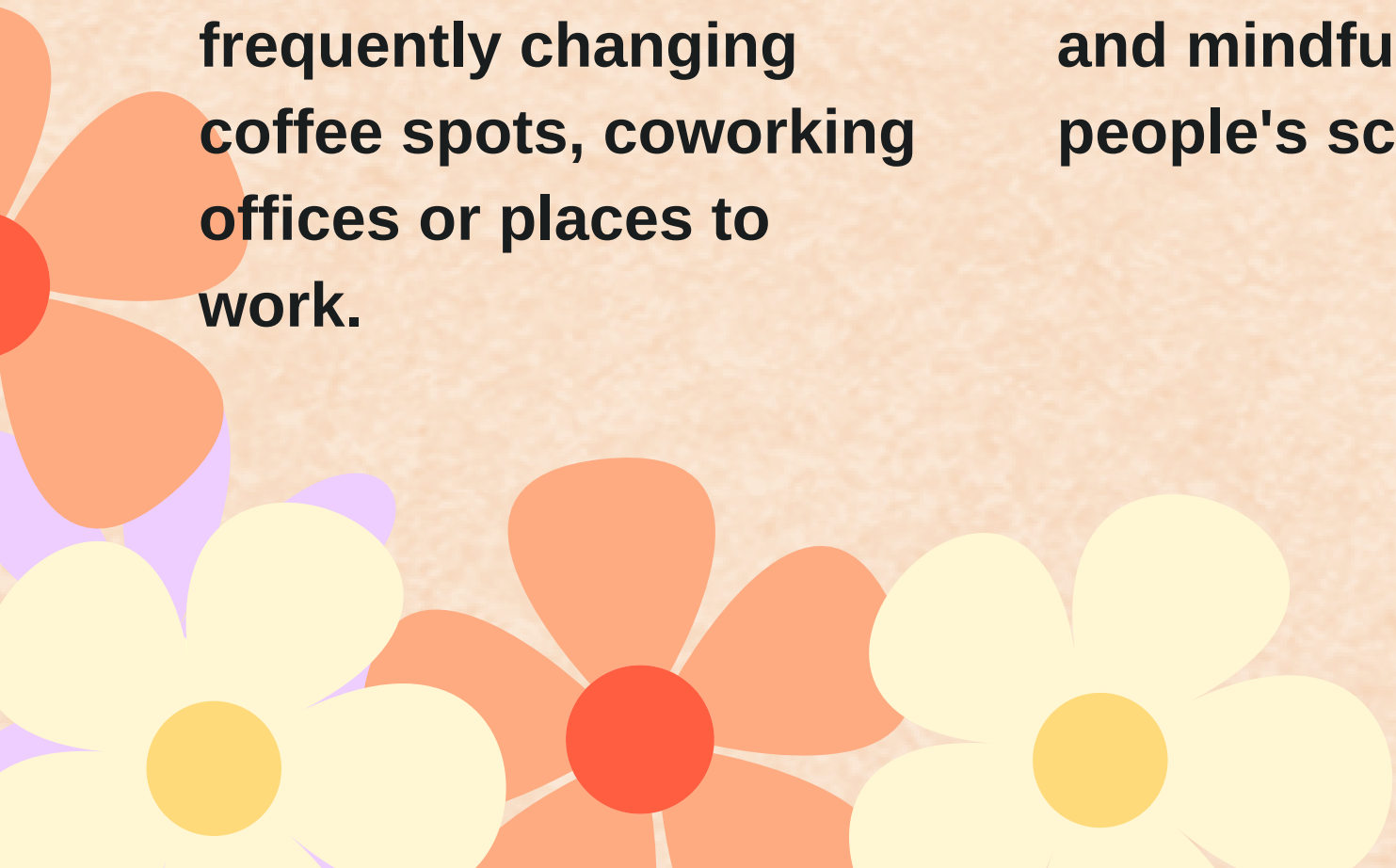
In a modern office setting, this would mean that employees have no permanent desks and frequently change spots. As a nomad, it means frequently changing coffee spots, coworking offices or places to work.

Flex time

This stands for flexible time and it's a structure used in a remote team to ensure everyone can work in their own respective time zones, therefore, being flexible and mindful of other people's schedules.

Expatriate

This stands for "expatriate" and refers to someone who lives outside of their home country. It's often used to describe digital nomads who settle in another country.



What to know before you go

This is another comprehensive guide all in itself, so if you are serious about traveling long term, I suggest you take a look at my guide: *Everything you need to know before you become a nomad* and learn from the most common mistakes, how to be extra prepared, type of visa, credit card and how to make the most of your travels.

Here are some ground rules :

Make an itinerary with destinations you definitely want to visit, but understand that not everything will go according to your plan. That's just the way it is when traveling. Changes of plan are a big part of the adventure so be prepared for the unexpected.

You will need good travel insurance. Don't just look at the price, make sure you are covered for illness, injuries, emergency situations, Covid, canceled flights, damaged electronics, lost luggage, death of a family member back home, etc. This is worth doing some digging and comparing. I go more in-depth about different nomad travel insurance companies in my *Everything you need to know before you become a digital nomad*.





What to know before you go

Make sure you have all the vaccination you need (check the country you want to visit to make sure), Visa's and return tickets booked as some destinations will not let you enter if you don't have a return ticket. You don't have to book all your tickets in advance, but for those particular countries for example, just make sure you have a return ticket before hand and you can always buy your ticket flexible in case you want to change your return dates.

Start creating online accounts for everything! Cancel any paper bills as they come in the mail over the next year. Banking, utilities, revenue agency, retirement accounts, school details, healthcare, insurance, credit cards, etc. Regardless of how long you are going to be traveling this will help ongoing for having a mobile life and one of the best things to do before leaving.

Always have scanned copies of your important documents with you such as your passport, drivers license, travel insurance, medical prescription, etc.

Get an international driver's license

Tell friends, family and the Gouvernement about your travel plans for your own safety and in case of emergencies.



Visas

Tourist visas allow you to enter the country for leisure and tourism.

Business visas are usually used to engage in business meetings and negotiations, attend conferences and fairs, and draw up contracts in another country. However, they do not permit work paid by a company based in that region.

Work visas allow you to enter another country and take a job there. It is necessary to do paid work (and sometimes unpaid work) overseas.

A transit visa is for stopping over in a country briefly on the way to another destination. This visa is usually needed to leave the airport between flights. However, in some countries, it is required even if the passenger stays in the airport.

A student visa allows you to study at a university or other educational institution in another country.

This is, again, another guide in itself. Visas can be overwhelming and quickly become a pain in your butt if you don't know how to deal with them. I am no Visa expert, so I recommend you do your own research as every country has different rules and regulations about them. One common thing however, is that you can't travel the world as a nomad/digital nomad for long periods of time without ever having to file a Visa, so it's best you get comfortable understanding these before leaving.

The rule of thumbs is that if you stay 90 days or less in a country, you don't need a specific visa (but this is not true for every country so make sure you check for every country in your itinerary)

As a digital nomad, you can usually tick the leisure and tourism box and leave before 90 days (but again, this varies so please read specific guidelines for each country you plan to visit)

Most sought-after digital skills

I believe that any job can allow you to travel, but for the purpose of this guide, we will focus solely on digital skills.

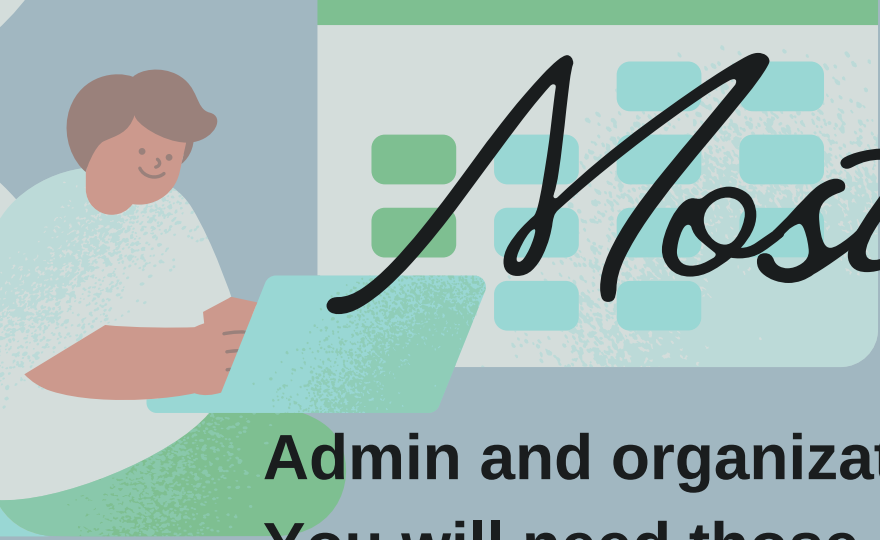
If you are starting fresh or want to invest in skills that are in very high demand, these are some of your best options to be a digital nomad. Please note that you can easily find online classes if you want to perfect your craft or feel more confident before going after your first clients in any of these fields.

In alphabetical order, they are :

Architecture-related skills

Because these skills are so niche, you shouldn't have any trouble finding a job as a remote interior designer, architect, landscape designer, floor plan designer, or expert in visualization. If you know how to use AutoCAD, ArchiCAD, SketchUp, Rhino 3D, and similar software, you'll be well on your way to finding a well-paid job online and maintaining/starting a nomad lifestyle.





Most sought-after digital skills

Admin and organizational skills

You will need those skills to be a digital nomad anyways so might as well monetize them. If you are naturally organized and resourceful, you can easily find a job a virtual assistant. This requires no to very little experience to get started and you can climb the ladder quickly in terms of salary.

Customer service skills

High in demand BUT if you work for a company, it's usually harder to work from anywhere. Most companies have timezones to respect their customers, locking you in these timezones for work. If you want to work as a customer service agent remotely, make sure you can work in any timezone or that they will match somehow where you are planning to travel to. Working remotely in customer service is definitely not impossible, but still requires a bit more coordination with the company or your customers

Data analysis skills

If you are good with numbers, charts, and graphics and have strong analytics skills, then data analysis skills are growing in popularity. Generally speaking, the world now has a ton of data on almost everything you can think about. What we need now is more people to process and understand that data. This is what makes it such a valuable digital nomad skill to have.



Most sought-after digital skills

Digital marketing skills

If you would like to help companies create a powerful brand identity, design engaging ad campaigns, or are good at strategic thinking, then working as a digital marketer is another safe, yet highly rewarding career path.

Graphic design skills

Graphic design is another great niche for digital nomads. If you use Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign like a pro and are familiar with HTML, you can find your first graphic design job with ease. If you also know the basics of UI/UX design, that will be a plus.

Legal Skills

If you know how to write patent applications and trademark reviews, or know how to get a formal manufacturing agreement, then there are more remote options out there than you might think.

Companies are always looking for legal services so there are no boundaries to how much you could make if you possess strong legal skills.



Most sought-after digital skills



Media buyer skills


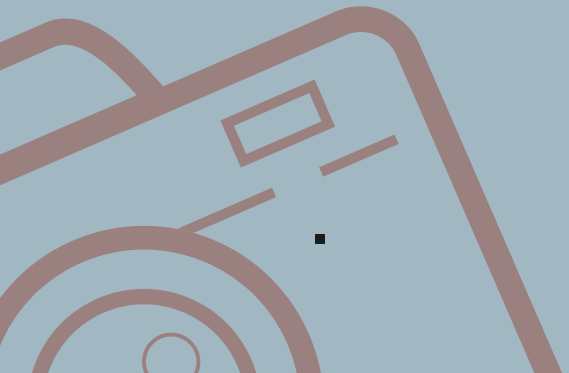
A media buyer is someone who runs paid ads on social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok, and LinkedIn. This skillset falls under digital marketing skills, but it's super specific and most people specialize in it. If you can provide your customers with results, you will be in high demand and also make a really good salary. Once mastered, this skill is also low maintenance. You don't really have to trade time for money but rather charge by packages or results based.

Photography skills

With good photography skills, the possibilities are kinda endless. You can create content for brands, sell stock photos, make UGC content, and even trade your work for free stays or experiences with many companies. Photography skills are 100% worth the investment because they can quickly become your full-time gig but also, be great as a side hustle.

Programming skills

If you want a safe bet that is in very high demand and generates a high income then learning popular programming languages like HTML/CSS, JavaScript, and jQuery is a good investment of your time.



Most sought-after digital skills

Proofreading and editing skills

If you take pride in your grammar skills, then becoming a freelance editor and proofreader could be a great option. You can then get paid to edit blog posts, books, reports, and other writing. Many talented authors look for proofreading assistance online, so it will be easy for you to find the first job once you can prove your skills.

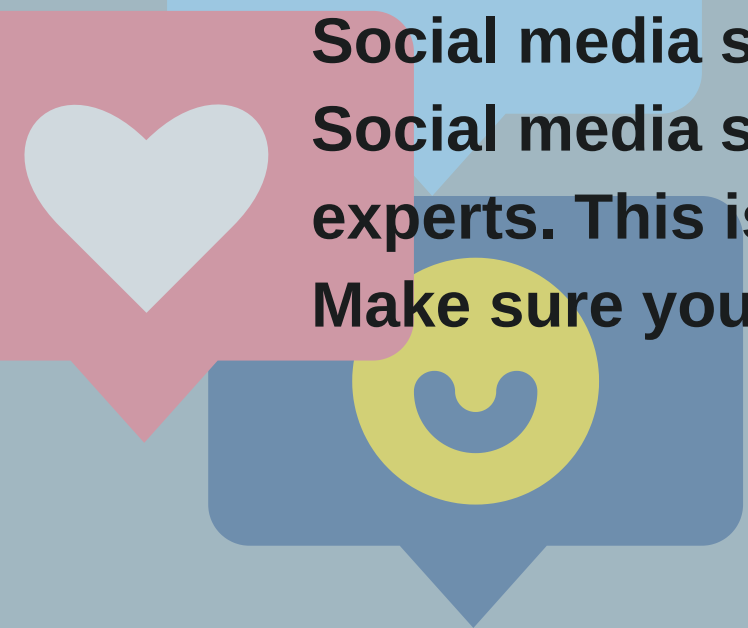
SEO skills

SEO can be considered a digital marketing skill, but it's so complex and niche, that you could also specialize and only do SEO. SEO stands for search engine optimization. It's the process of optimizing web pages to appear higher in search engines like Google.

If you have good SEO skills, you will be in demand as almost every company in the world wants more traffic to their website.

Social media skills

Social media skills are in high demand, but there is also a lot of people pretending to be social media experts. This is an industry where your results and experiences will speak louder than your resume. Make sure you keep up with trends and have a strong portfolio to land jobs as a social media manager.



Most sought-after digital skills

Teaching skills

If you can explain difficult subjects with ease, are patient and love teaching, you could easily find work as an English teacher or as a virtual teacher for many types of industries

Translation skills

If you speak 2 or more languages fluently, then look no more, you can easily find translation jobs remotely. With the power of technology, you can now offer translation services to businesses and individuals from anywhere in the world. You can also use this digital nomad skill for freelance writing gigs. You can translate articles and blog posts from one language to another. Lots of translators even help translate formal documents like government grants and contracts.

Web development skills

Many companies and entrepreneurs are looking for people to build their websites, software, video games, or apps. The most popular website builder in the world is WordPress, so it's a great place to start.

Writing skills

With good writing skills, you can work as a copywriter, academic writer, freelance blogger, content creator, UX writer, or even a ghostwriter.

How to find your digital nomad job



This section will be divided into 2 categories

- 1- Transform your job**
- 2- Finding a job**

- 1- Transform your job**

If you already have a job that you love doing, have studied for, or are highly qualified to do, you would be surprised to see how easily that job can become location independent. Other than client-based manual jobs, I still have a hard find finding a job that cannot be converted into a remote job in some ways. You just have to be a bit creative sometimes.

90% of the time, all you have to do is add the word: digital, remote, online, or traveling before or after your work title to find multiple opportunities in your field of expertise.

In case it's not obvious, the first case scenario would be to ask your current employer if they would be open to the idea of you becoming location independent. You'd be surprised to find that some bosses are more open-minded than others, but you will never know unless you ask.

How to find your digital nomad job

If asking your current employer is out of the question, then let's see how you can transform your job.

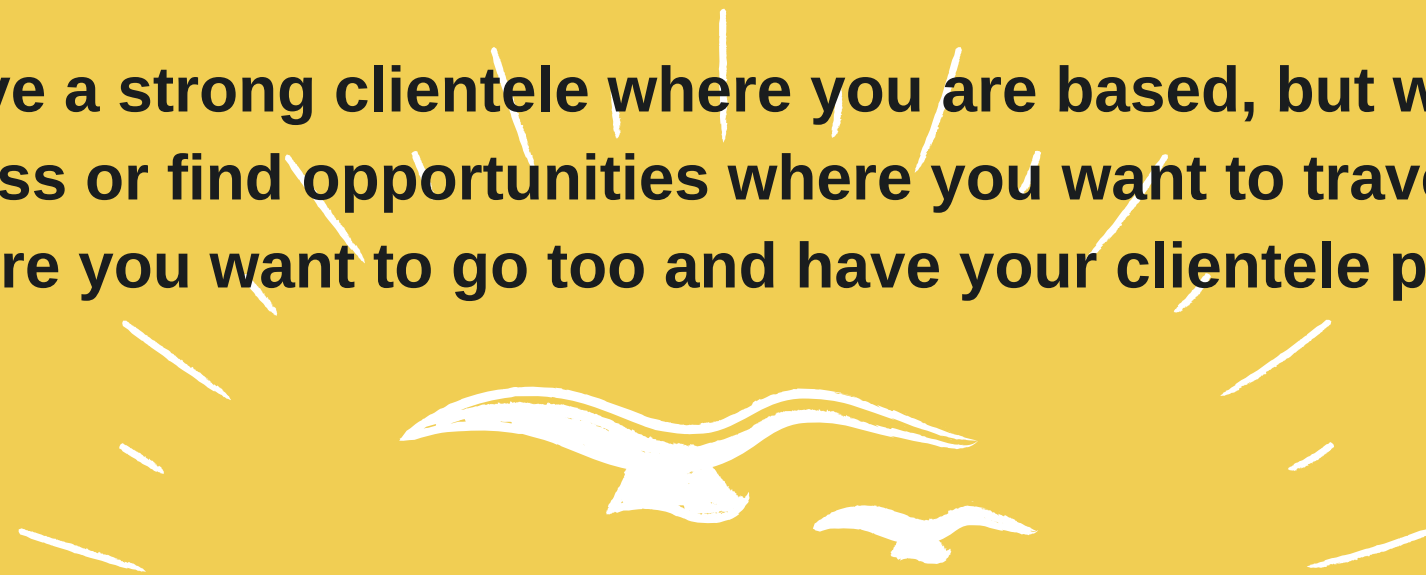
For example, if you are a nurse, did you know that there is a whole other parallel world of traveling nurses ?

Just google traveling nurse job to find agencies that will help you, job opportunities, and many websites offering well-paid jobs as a traveling nurse.

If you are an HR manager, you will now become a digital HR manager or remote HR manager. Google the title, apply, apply, and find your dream job.

You are the VP of sales at your company. Perfect, you can now become a virtual sales consultant, a digital VP of sales or you could even just google remote VP sales job and find plenty of opportunities.

You are a fitness coach and have a strong clientele where you are based, but want to travel more. You could start an online coaching business or find opportunities where you want to travel too. You could start fitness retreats to the destinations where you want to go too and have your clientele pay to travel with you.



How to find your digital nomad job

Let's say that you are an optometrist and you want to travel more.

Option 1- You could either become a slowmad, get a working visa for your country of choice and find a job as an optometrist almost anywhere in the world. You would then get the chance to travel slowly, 6 months to 1 year, to different destinations depending on the visa approvals you get.

Option 2- You can transform your job to online services. For example, online basic eye tests, selling ebooks or downloadable resources about optometrists or even starting an online class to become a better optometrist for example, and pitching it to optometry school programs.

Is transforming your job going to require some changes in your lifestyle, income, and typical day-to-day... YES of course, but the reward will also be great! Giving you more freedom and flexibility to bring your job anywhere and not having to rely so much on your office or location.

You have to start thinking outside de box and being open to new opportunities.



How to find your digital nomad job

2 -Finding a job

Finding a job as a digital nomad will require a bit of work, perseverance, and time, but you will certainly find the right job for you.

Step 1- To determine what job you want (see most sought-after skills for reference) and matches your experience the most

Step 2- Have an up-to-date resume, LinkedIn page, and cover letter

Step 3- Google that job title and apply to jobs that interest you

Step 4- Also search that job title on LinkedIn, Indeed, Flexjobs, Remote.co, Just Remote, Digital Nomad World, Remote OK, Working Nomads, and JOBPRESSO just to name a few.



How to find your digital nomad job

Step 5 - You can also find jobs in Facebook groups such as :

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CADreaming>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/DigitalNomadsAroundTheWorld>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/remoteworkfordigitalnomads>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/DigitalNomadJobs>

and many more if you simply search digital nomad or remote work groups on Facebook

Step 5- If you want to work as a freelancer, you can also post your work on websites such as FIVER, Upwork and freelancer.com





Top destinations

As a digital nomad, the world becomes your playground and there should be no limits to where you can go. As long as you have good reliable wifi, any place is a good place.

That being said, there are destinations that are a bit more renowned or popular than others. It really depends on your budget, the kinda lifestyle that you are looking for, the activities you want to be able to do, and if you want to travel to crowded, popular destinations or the more remote quiet ones.

This list is far from exhaustive and should only be used as guidance, but should not influence you to only travel to these destinations. Most of the fun in traveling is the unknown and going to places that were not planned.

Mexico City

Mexico City has a well-earned reputation amongst digital nomads for its vibrant cultural scene, it's excellent food, great cafes, and easy transport links across the rest of Mexico. Other cities like Tulum, Sayulita, and Puerto Vallarta are also equally amazing, safe, and fun options.

Lisbon, Portugal

Lisbon has become one of Europe's most loved Digital Nomad haunts. While many travelers will stay away from the western side of the continent, as they generally look for lower prices, Lisbon is still an incredibly affordable city, with cheap rent and food and drink.



Top destinations



Madeira, Portugal

Madeira's digital nomad villages is a utopia for remote workers. The Regional Government of Madeira launched a pilot project called Digital Nomads Madeira Islands in 2021, to attract digital nomads to the island, and due to its success, it's now one of the best places to work and live remotely in the world.

Canggu, Bali

The Island of the Gods has long drawn in travelers and tourists, but Canggu, with its collection of beachside bars, coworking spaces, chic cafes, and affordable villas and accommodations has really taken the nomad world by storm. You can work by day, then enjoy glorious sunsets over the ocean whilst meeting with other bloggers, YouTubers, content creators, and freelancers from around the world.

Budapest, Hungary

Budapest has a bit of everything, with excellent nightlife, world-famous thermal baths, and an incredible array of historic sights to explore. Throw in great transport, low-cost flights across Europe, and cheap commodities – rent aside – and you've got one of Europe's best spots for digital nomads, especially in tech, web development, and saas and app.



Top destinations

Chiang Mai, Thailand

Chiang Mai is Southeast Asia's most popular digital nomad hub, and for years it's been the primary destination for online workers in the region, with a huge, supportive community of entrepreneurs and bloggers looking to connect and help each other out.

Tbilisi, Georgia

The city has a rapidly growing community of digital nomads, and the cost of living is very reasonable. Internet speeds are fast and reliable, and there are plenty of coworking spaces and cafes to work from.

Medellin, Colombia

Rising from the shadows, and embracing even, the legacies of Pablo Escobar, Medellin has fast become an established digital nomad location, and perhaps the most popular long-term base in South America. With a colorful cultural vibe and great food – not to mention the mad nightlife – Medellin is a great choice for those looking to live the laid-back Colombian lifestyle while enjoying the opportunity to travel through South America.





Top destinations

Nosara, Costa Rica

Nosara is considered one of Costa Rica's top locations for digital nomads and remote workers in Latin America. It's a nomad paradise, with a very chill laid back vibe. The saying over there is PURA VIDA, which means pure life and you will quickly understand why living there. The sunsets are breathtaking, the beaches are amazing, the wildlife and nature are luxuriant and it's easy to find a work-life balance as a digital nomad.

Cape Town, South Africa

Enchanted by its natural beauty, endless coastline, and vibrant culture, it's easy to see why Cape Town has become a mecca for digital nomads from all over the world. You can easily find a one-bedroom apartment in the city center for under \$1,000 per month. And your US dollar, Pound, or Euro will take you far over there as the cost of living is extra affordable.

Again, any destination with good reliable wifi can be your best destination ! Sometimes, it's not even about the destination, but also the people you meet there that make all the difference.



Websites & resources

Being/becoming a nomad is a lifelong adventure in an ever-changing world. There will always be something new to learn or a better way to do things. Make sure to surround yourself with other nomads and travelers and that you join nomad communities that resonate with you. Here are a few very helpful resources :

<https://nomadlist.com/>

If there is only one website to keep in mind, it's this one. This website is my absolute go to to know about top destinations, cost of living, internet reliability, safety, and basically just about anything about destinations I want to visit. It's full of useful tips and trusted reviews as well.

<https://digitalnomads.world>

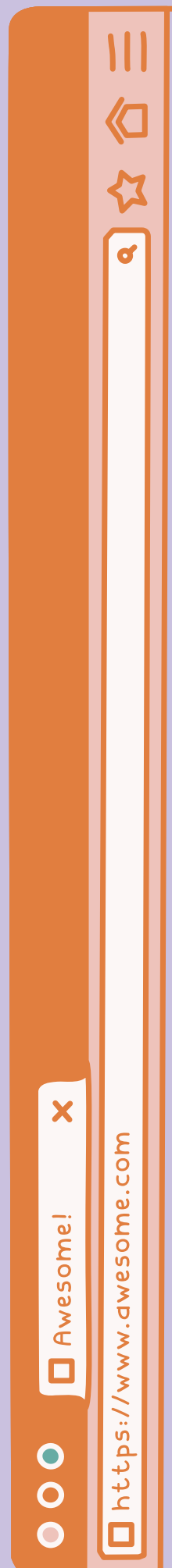
It's a community connecting remote workers from all over the world first, but you will also find many resources that come in handy when traveling the world while working.

<https://www.joinmytrip.com/en/>

You can join CoWorking Trips on the website and meet other digital nomads in unique locations worldwide.

Google flight

To is my go-to site for comparing flights and dates. If you are flexible, you will usually always find a good deal.



Websites & resources

Useful apps

Maps. me

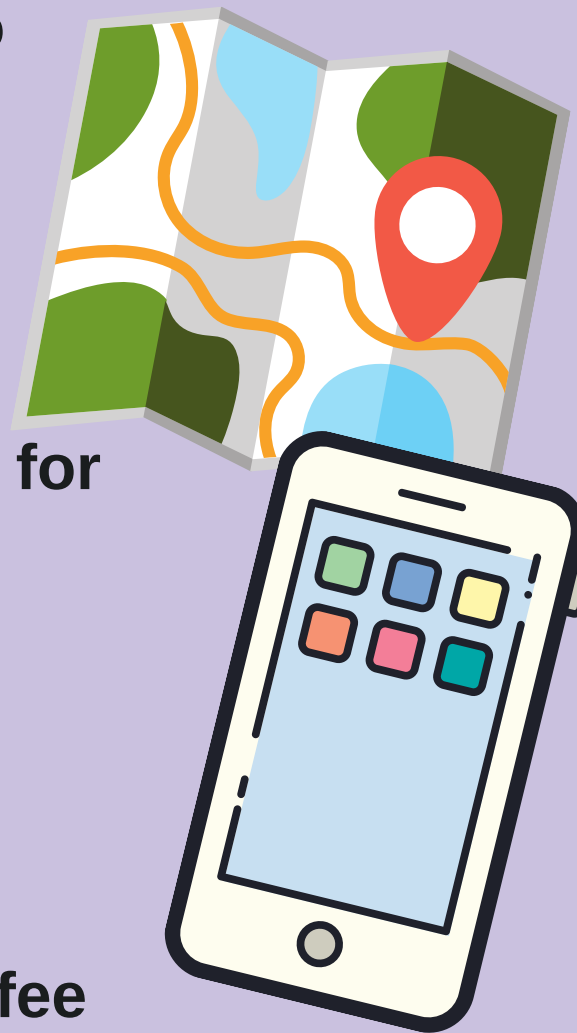
With roaming fees being ever so expensive, I've found Maps.me to be the perfect tool to get directions during my trip when I don't have internet data. You can easily search for directions, and see what is around you in terms of supermarkets, coffee shops, hospitals, and even WiFi spots. Safety aside, the app also offers city guides and shows you the ratings of the sightseeing places near you so you can make a decision on what is worth visiting or not.

Citizen remote

From help with visas to a simple place to remember your Journey, the Citizen Remote app is designed for the digital nomad lifestyle by those living it themselves. The app also uses connectivity technology to make it even easier for you to find other remote workers, whether you need collaborators for work or companions for your next journey.

Work from

WorkFrom is your personal cafe recommendation app, which will suggest remote workers-friendly coffee shops in your area.





A quick outro

There you have it, my best advice for your next big adventure. I hope this helps and that you found the answers you were looking for. Don't forget to check out my other guides and resources for more help & advice and to follow me on all socials as I post travel-related content every day. I also LOVE hearing about your journey, so don't be shy to come to say hi!

The hardest step is always the first one, but I promise it gets easier after that.

In my opinion, traveling is the school of life and I am grateful to be a student forever as it keeps my mind & perspective young and fresh.

Don't be afraid to think outside the box. Just because a path seems lonely, it doesn't mean that it's not the right path, maybe you are just opening the way for others.

The right people will find you. Trust the process and focus on YOU! Your dreams and what makes your heart sing.

Much love! Eb xo

