

Digital Nomads: Working while travelling the world

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In recent years, a new lifestyle has emerged, where people work while constantly travelling. These individuals are called digital nomads. They perform their jobs online, which means they can work from anywhere with a stable internet connection, be it a beach in Bali, a café in Lisbon, or a cabin in the Alps.

This trend grew significantly during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, when many people began working remotely. Once office walls disappeared, some employees realised they could do their work from anywhere. For many, this freedom led to a desire for exploration and flexibility.

Digital nomads are often freelancers, remote employees, or entrepreneurs. They typically choose affordable locations with good infrastructure and strong internet. Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe, and South America are popular destinations. Some countries now even offer **digital nomad visas**, allowing people to stay longer while working remotely.

However, the lifestyle is not without its challenges. Time zone differences can make scheduling difficult, and working in unfamiliar environments may reduce productivity. Social isolation is also a concern, as constant travel can make it harder to build long-term relationships.

Despite these downsides, many digital nomads say the rewards outweigh the risks. They enjoy cultural exchange, personal growth, and the freedom to design their own routines. As technology improves and more companies embrace remote work, the number of digital nomads is expected to grow.





Vocabulary Practice:

Word/Phrase	Definition
Digital nomad	A person who works online while travelling from place to place
Freelancer	Someone who works independently and is not committed to one employer
Remote employee	A worker who performs their job from a location outside the traditional office
Infrastructure	The basic systems and services needed for a place to function (e.g. roads, internet)
Isolation	The feeling of being alone or separated from others
Visa	A document that allows someone to enter or stay in a country for a period
Flexibility	The ability to change or adapt easily
Cultural exchange	Sharing ideas, traditions, and customs between cultures
Productivity	The amount of work done in a certain amount of time
Entrepreneur	A person who starts and runs a business

Comprehension Questions

1. What is a digital nomad?
2. How did the COVID-19 pandemic influence remote work?
3. What kinds of people usually become digital nomads?
4. Why are certain countries more popular among digital nomads?
5. What are digital nomad visas?
6. What are two main challenges of this lifestyle?
7. Why do some people still choose this lifestyle despite the difficulties?

Discussion Questions

1. Would you like to live as a digital nomad? Why or why not?
2. What are the biggest advantages of working remotely while travelling?
3. Do you think it's hard to stay productive in new places? Why?
4. Have you worked or studied in a different city or country? What was it like?
5. What kind of jobs do you think are most suitable for digital nomads?
6. How can digital nomads avoid feeling lonely while travelling?
7. Do you think companies should allow more flexible work arrangements?
8. What would be your dream destination to work from?
9. How does working while travelling affect work-life balance?
10. What impact might digital nomads have on local communities?