

how to work abroad



www.gap360.com

an e-book from



A cartoon character with a round face, black hair, and a friendly expression, wearing an orange long-sleeved shirt and black pants. The character is standing and waving with its right hand.

why work abroad?

getting a job in the UK is tough right now

The UK job market is difficult in 2012. There are fewer jobs available, and at entry level they are scarcer than hens teeth! Even if you are well qualified you will find yourself up against fierce competition for every job you go for.

If you are a recent graduate with little job experience, then it will be even tougher to secure good employment. The problem is that employers are spoilt for choice and often have hundreds of applicants. You need to stand out from the crowd, and one way to do this is to get yourself job experience overseas.

it is especially hard in the long cold winter

Something about the long winter months is that most employers have their heads down, getting on with the job, and are not thinking creatively about hiring new people. Springtime tends to make people more positive and by the summer, many employers are thinking more about their future hirings. So if winter is a bad time to find a job...why not go off travelling and get yourself work overseas...?

even if you have a job you could be laid off

We don't want to depress you, but it's true...your job could be gone soon. If you think that's a possibility, maybe your firm is not doing so well, why not jump the gun, leave the sinking ship and head off to a new life working abroad.

many jobs are not paying well

Every day we seem to hear more about people being asked to take pay cuts, or to have their pay frozen. Well, if that's you, and you are not being paid what you think you are worth, then go abroad and work, you might as well be underpaid and be warm and happy!

Ok enough of the doom and gloom!

Let's be **positive!**

working abroad looks great on your cv

We talked about standing out from the crowd above...well having worked abroad will create attention for you and give you something special to talk about at an interview. Working abroad shows employers that you have initiative, and are not afraid to move away from home to work. Employers know that it is not easy to leave home and work overseas, and they will think of you as a confident, interesting person.

the weather is likely to be way better than the UK

Unless you are going to work in the Arctic, the weather is very likely to be better than in the UK. While this is not the best reason to seek a job abroad, it certainly is a bonus!

you'll have fun and meet new people

You will meet new people for sure, and are very likely to work with locals and travellers from all over the world (depending on the type of work).

you will gain confidence and experience

Having to go to work, find your way, and live in a foreign country will give you a great sense of satisfaction. Simply knowing that you can fend for yourself abroad and make your way in the world will build your confidence.

you'll be able to earn money and extend your travel time

When you work and live abroad, you should be able to break even while you are getting paid and so will not need to touch your travel savings, thus extending the amount of time you are away.

This is especially true in Australia, where although the cost of living has risen recently, provided you don't go out spending every night you should be able to live off what you earn.

you will be better positioned to find a job when you return to the UK

When your trip is over and you find yourself back in the UK looking for a job, with the new skills that you have learned and the confidence that you have gained, you are much more likely to be successful in your job search.

where can i work abroad?



Nearly all countries require you to have a special visa in order to work legally. Often there are quotas to meet and massive forms to complete. However a few enlightened countries have established working holiday visas and other easy-to-obtain visas based on the participants coming to their country for a limited time doing casual or teaching work

The easiest places, other than Europe, for a UK citizen to get legal paid casual work are:

- Australia
- USA
- Thailand
- New Zealand
- Canada
- China



get the right visa

the key to finding legal work abroad is about getting the right visa, and age is important

a. if you are 18 – 26 and full time student enrolled in college or uni

Work the summer in the USA

- You can spend the summer in America working as a camp counselor or in hospitality jobs such as being a waiter, or other typically summer casual jobs
- After the job is over, usually 10-12 weeks, you can travel around the USA for a further 4 weeks
- You won't earn a fortune, but you should earn enough to cover your expenses while working and pay for your travels.

b. if you are 18 – 26, like children, and have some baby sitting experience

Work for a year in America as an au pair.

- This pays \$10,000 a year
- Plus you get a room of your own in the family house and all your meals covered
- You also get a free flight from London to New York
- 5 days training in New York City
- Free health Insurance in America
- Up to \$500 worth of courses at a local college (your choice of course)
- 2 weeks holiday
- Up to 30 days travelling around the USA when the job's over

c. if you are 18 – 30 you can get a working holiday visa

Work in Australia

Anyone with a British (and other countries too) passport age 18 – 30 can qualify for a working holiday visa to Australia. This visa allows you to supplement your travelling with short term employment.

- You do not need any formal qualifications
- You must not have held a working holiday visa to the country before
- There are some circumstances where you can get a second whv if you have spent at least 90 days doing agricultural work in your first whv
- You must not be accompanied by any dependent children
- The visa costs A\$270
- You must apply for the visa and be granted the visa outside of Australia
- You can only work for up to 6 months with any one employer

Once you have the visa, you can travel to Australia and obtain work. There are organizations in the UK who can help plan your trip with flights, insurance, accommodation packages and travel planning services, and who can obtain the working holiday visa for you.

Visit www.gap360.com/australia for more details

Work in New Zealand

Anyone with a British (and other countries too) passport age 18 – 30 can qualify for a working holiday visa to New Zealand. This visa allows you to supplement your travelling with short term employment. It has the same requirements as the Australia scheme, with these additional points.

- You must be able to show a minimum of NZ\$350 per month of stay in available costs to meet your living costs while in NZ
- The visa can be granted for up to 23 months
- You have to meet certain health and character requirements, such as providing a medical certificate and chest xray if you plan to stay 23 months (but not for 12 months)
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d. if you are over 30

Teach Abroad

The best way to work and travel abroad for over 30's is to teach abroad. You can easily obtain a TEFL (Teach English as a Foreign Language) qualification which will help you find a job.

More information on TEFL: www.gap360/tel

You can choose to teach English in schools or to teach adults in evening classes or day courses.

thailand

Spend a year in Thailand teaching in schools. Included in the trip is a TEFL course and qualification and a year's paid teaching work which will earn you enough to live comfortably.

More details on paid teaching jobs in Thailand on www.gap360.com/thailand.

china

Paid teaching positions are available for teaching in schools across China. Included is the 4 week TEFL training, an introduction to China and how to teach in Chinese schools, the chance to learn Mandarin, and organized excursions.

More details on paid teaching in China on www.gap360.com/china.

career training in the USA

If you are a qualified professional such as an accountant or engineer you can qualify for a J-1 career training J-1 visa for the USA, but you have to be able to find the position yourself.

While this is often difficult, it is not impossible, and if you have set your heart on getting a job in America and are prepared to make loads of calls answering job ads in America, you can qualify for the visa and spend from 6 – 18 months living and working in America. If you can succeed in this, you will be rewarded by being paid the same as an American doing the same job (one of the visa terms). For more help on this email david.stitt@gap360.com

how to find a job?



australia

On a working holiday visa you cannot have a job pre-arranged before you arrive in-country. This is no problem though because there are jobs available in most parts of Australia.

Book a comprehensive package before you leave the UK, which will include an airport pickup, sightseeing, accommodation, some fun tours, and important working information and details such as a bank account set-up, tax file number and other stuff.

When you arrive in Sydney for example, you can enjoy a week of introductions, work preparation and sightseeing before getting a job. You can work for up to 6 months for any one employer, or you can choose to work here and there with plenty of time off in-between.

If you like the idea of working on a ranch, you can be sure of plenty of employment. Book a ranch training week which often come with job guarantees.

new zealand

New Zealand consistently ranks at or near the top of best countries in the world to live in. The relaxed lifestyle and beautiful countryside make this a great place to spend time.

There are jobs in Auckland, but not as many as Sydney. However the NZ working holiday visa is good for 23 months, so you have plenty of time to find work!

Agricultural casual jobs are the easiest to find and providers like Gap 360 and others can help you, as in Australia, with the legal niceties needed to start employment.

If you prefer to work in a city, the visa allows you to find your own job or use an agency. As with Australia, packages are available which include job searches, accommodation, airport transfers and tours.

thailand and china

Countries like Thailand and China are more difficult and do not have casual visas like the whv. However, both need lots of English teachers, and the best way to access the jobs is to work through an agency in the UK.

Gap 360 and others arrange paid teaching work and training in both Thailand and China, and can help arrange everything you need to get started.

USA

British au pairs are especially sought after in the USA. The benefits are tremendous and you can have a wonderful year being paid and enjoying the American lifestyle.

It is very easy to find a job, because you have to use an au pair agency in order to be granted a visa, and the au pair agency will have families in the USA which you can speak to. You can choose where you want to work

career training

This is much more difficult than au pair and requires you to find a job that you are qualified to do, in which case you can apply for a visa.

Finding a job in this economic climate is difficult, and the only way to succeed is to answer advertisements online for hundreds of jobs for which you are qualified. You can tell the employer that you will qualify for a J-1 career training visa.



preparing a cv for use overseas

You need to ensure that your cv is suitable for the country in which you plan to work.

In the USA a cv is called a resume (pronounced resumay). One page resume's are normal, so try to fit all your information onto one sheet. Put US spelling in your resume or employers may assume you cannot spell properly!

- Start at the top with a Personal Section with your name, address and contact details
- Then list a one sentence Objective, which outlines the sort of job you are seeking
- Then put your school and uni qualifications under Education
- Finally list your work experience with the last employer listed at the top and previous employers in order underneath. Simply put the time spent (month/year to month/year), the job title and a very brief job description listing your achievements while there.

In Australia and New Zealand, like in the USA, cv's are also called resume's, but most employers will know what a cv is. Again, a one pager is best, but you do not need to worry about American spellings. Follow the same format as the USA above...

In other countries use the same formula as the UK.

top jobs 10 paid abroad

1. ranch jobs in australia

Enjoy a week of training, including skills you will need on the ranch, then head out to spend up to 6 months working on a real ranch or farm.

Jobs available in many areas of Australia.

2. au pair jobs in america

Like kids? Had experience baby sitting? Can't get a good job in the UK right now? Age 18 – 26? Go west young person!

Earn \$10,000, with free room and meals, free travel insurance and even a free flight!

3. paid teaching in thailand

Included in this package is 120 hours of Tefl training, including how to teach in Thai schools. After your training travel to an idyllic location to teach at a Thai school for a year. Earn enough to enjoy the Thai lifestyle.

4. a year working in australia on the working holiday visa

18 – 30? Enjoy a great year downunder being warm all year long and getting paid to work and live the Australian Way. Barbie on the beach? Lots of jobs available leaving loads of time for travelling too.

5. new zealand working holiday

Spend up to 23 months in New Zealand working living and travelling around. Go south for the ski season and spend the summer enjoying Auckland and the Bay of Islands.

6. get paid to teach in china

Teach English in a rural or city school in China! You will take 4 weeks of training classes in Beijing before joining a school for a 6 month semester. An incredible experience!

7. professional internship in india

Spend up to 6 months on a unique paid internship where you will gain experience in the field of your qualifications. This is a tailor made internship based around your experience and qualifications.

8. sailing jobs in the whitsunday islands

Take international yachtmaster qualifications and learn to sail in this 3- week course in the fabulous Whitsunday Islands off the Queensland Coast

Become a skilled and uniformed member of the crew, then get a job with your new skills.

9. round the world working year

Combine working in Australia on a working holiday visa with a year travelling round the world.

You can tailor make this year according to what you want to experience and achieve.

10. video diving work in thailand

Take a 2 month course in underwater video camera work, then earn money shooting video of people on diving trips.



other options for working abroad

work in europe

As a British citizen you can work in any job legally in the EU countries. All you have to do is register with the equivalent of the Jobs Centre (i.e. the department of labour and employment) in the city in which you wish to work.

You can employ the services of a recruitment agency, answer jobs advertisements or simply travel to where you want to be and look for work locally.

The great thing is that it is all in your hands, you can find the jobs and handle the simple paperwork without any need for official help.

company transfers

If you work for a big company and you have transferable skills, you could think about transferring to an overseas office. Depending on the local employment conditions in that country this may be easy or difficult, but most countries have an allocation of working visas available to qualified inter company transferees because it is usually reciprocal with the UK. Talk to your company's HR department for advice.

apply for a job with a company that contracts work abroad

There are lots of UK and international companies based in the UK who contract work abroad, such as in the construction, oil and leisure industries. If you are successful, these companies will handle visas and re-location with you.

work on a cruise ship or as a holiday rep

Sounds great doesn't it.... A life working abroad in the travel industry, but it can be hard work. Apply to holiday companies and cruise lines.

finally...

if you are really fed up, consider emigration!

Get advice from a country's embassy or consulate and speak to emigration advisors in the UK.

contact us:



121-123 Mount Pleasant Rd
Tunbridge Wells
Kent. TN1 1QR
United Kingdom

email. info@gap360.com
tel. +44 (0)1892 527 392
fax. +44 (0)1892 520 127
www.gap360.com

