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Life around the world

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Travelling with friends

by: EmilyW



Travelling with someone you know is a very easy way to test your friendship. Whether you hardly know someone or think you'll be best friends for life, travelling disasters mean you will quickly find out a lot about another person through the way they react. Even the boring everyday parts of travelling will reveal a new side to their personality.

I personally believe that travelling with your friends is the best way to travel! Whether this means backpacking round the world for a year, or just taking a weekend trip to a different city, I highly recommend the experience. However, there are both advantages and disadvantages.

The advantages, or upsides, of travelling with friends are quite obvious. You are guaranteed good company with someone you know you get along well with. If things go wrong, you know someone else will be there with you to help you get through it. Most people come back from travelling much closer to each other than they were before. It's also fun to create special and unique memories with someone close to you – it's a shame to spend some of the best moments of your life with complete strangers! One of the major advantages is that if you know the person you plan a trip with, you know what to expect from them – you know if they're a morning person or like to sleep late, whether they enjoy sightseeing or relaxing, and what their expectations are for the journey!

However, there can be disadvantages. Often, travelling puts you in a lot of stressful situations. For example, when I went to Morocco with my friends last year, lots of things went wrong. My bank card was swallowed by the ATM, both of my friends were very ill, we all ran out of money and we were once stuck on a bus for eleven hours! By the end of the trip we had fought quite a few times because we were all very upset and frustrated and didn't feel well. It was a shame that for a while we were so angry at each other, because it wasn't anyone's fault, but of course we ended up taking it out on each other. Another disadvantage is that if you always travel with a group of close friends, you never meet anyone else! One of the best parts of travelling is broadening your horizons by meeting different people, but if you're with people you already know you can become too comfortable and never expand your circle. Finally, fights over money can be very difficult for a friendship – it's best to know in advance what your budgets are!

Overall, I certainly think that travelling with friends is a great idea. I plan to go away on holiday this summer with my best friends from university, and I'm sure it will be a great trip. But if anything goes wrong, I will remember to relax, not get angry at anyone and not let it ruin our friendship!

Language level:

Advanced/C1 (/level/c1-cefr/term)

Topics:

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Discussion

Have you ever travelled with friends? How was your experience?

Comments