

So you want to travel.
Now what?



The
NAV•IT
Financial Guide

For women who run the world,
and want to see it.

CONTENT

3

Travel 101: 5 Money Management Rules

6

Finance 101: Set Up Your Budget in 5 Easy Steps {In the Nav.it App}

7

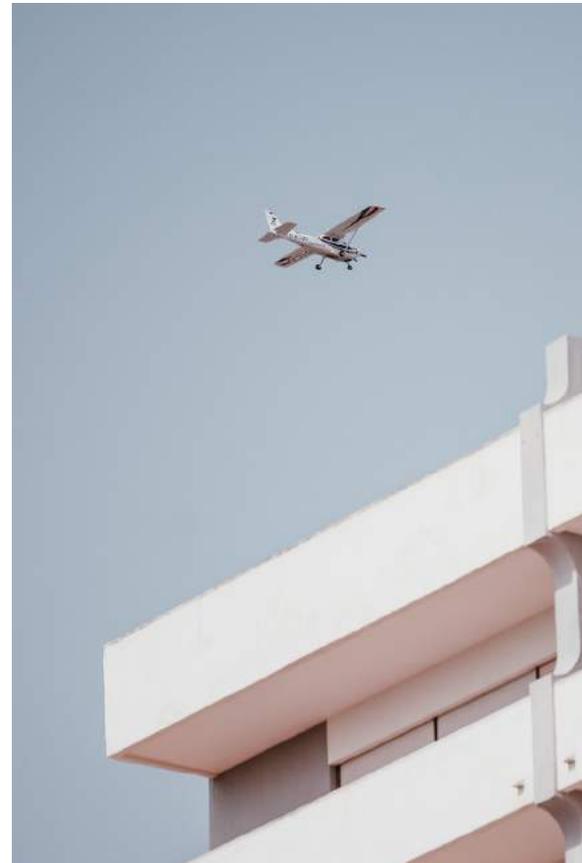
Travel 101: Travel Around the World for Free

9

Travel 101: Digital Traveling Toolbox

11

Best Resources for Travel



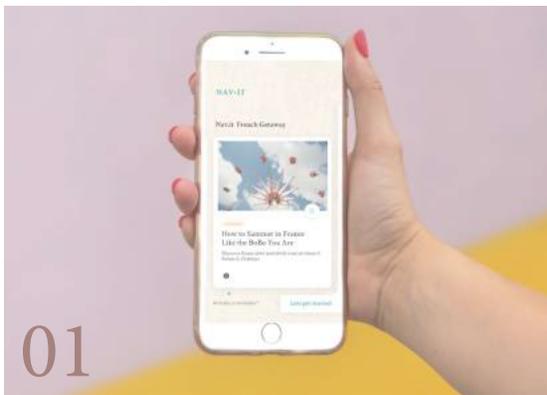


Travel 101: 5 Money Management Rules

by Nav.it

The words “money management” don’t really scream sexy to any of us. Love them or hate them—they are words all avid travelers need to get in touch with. While you might laugh at those all-too-relatable memes about not checking your bank account after a night out, the truth is that the social acceptability of being financially illiterate has an expiration date.

Whether you like it or not, sometimes you just have to adult, so why not be good at it? Here are the basics for getting your finances together, so you can plan your next dream getaway without anxiety.



Don’t spend more than you make.

Sounds obvious, but we all know how easy it is to overspend—especially if you rely on credit cards. But one key to a prosperous life is to keep your spending under the amount you earn each month.

Conquer the credit card beast by creating a spending plan (budget). If you’re old school, you can make a spreadsheet, but for all of us millennials, this means finding your perfect

Facilitator Questions

1. Where is your money going every month? Does keeping track of your spending scare you or empower you? Share why.
2. How does travel factor in your spending and saving every month?
3. What is your credit card etiquette? Do you pay off your bill in full every month?
4. What are some of your saving strategies in everyday life and while traveling? Do you know what you like to splurge on (flights) versus save on (food) when you travel?
5. Do you use rewards from credit cards and loyalty programs when you travel? Any tips for others on how to do that easily?

budgeting app. The Nav.it app lets you see all your accounts in one place, check out your spending history, and set alerts on categories you want to track.

You can also set up savings goals that tell you how much you need to save daily, weekly or monthly to achieve them. Good to know that if you want to get to Bali by September, all you need to do is stash \$10/day until then, right?



Budget for travel.

As avid travelers, we need to factor travel into our monthly spending. When it's integrated in our total monthly spend, we don't have to think about it so painfully when it's time to travel since we have a nice pot of money saved. This is a better move than using credit cards for travel, as digging your way out of credit is a painful process we try to avoid (see more below).

Once you pay off your credit card and bills every month, whatever you have left over is allocated to a) travel b) investments c) emergencies /anything else that comes up.



Pay off credit card balances in full every month (and collect the travel rewards).

Credit cards aren't all bad. In fact, they're flat out required to build a healthy credit rating. And bonus: they offer some pretty amazing perks like airline miles, comfy airport lounges and free checked bags. But no amount of cash-back rewards is worth paying a late fee, accruing interest on a growing balance, or taking a hit to your credit score.

Pro-tip #1: Decide what airline you want to fly on in the next 12 months and apply for their rewards travel credit card. Read the fine print to see what you have to do to get the sign-up bonus miles and then plan your spending to make it happen (and pay it off monthly). Then set up automatic monthly payments to ensure you never miss a due date.

Pro-tip #2: We love those calendar reminders the credit cards give you for when autopay day is approaching so you're not surprised by the sudden disappearing act of your paycheck.





Pay off the big debt.

Debt costs you a lot of money over time—money you could be putting towards travel now. If you have a lot of student loans, credit card debt or car loans, the interest they charge you grows over time and can cost you a lot of money. We're all about investing in your dreams, so putting some money toward a lifestyle goal, and allocating some savings toward paying down debt will help you find financial health over time. (The Nav.it app can do this for you!).

If you find yourself juggling multiple loans, consider the debt snowball method or the debt avalanche method to pay it down as soon as possible



Invest. It's a long-term investment in travel.

There is a lot of power in investing even small amounts from an early age. If you have employee benefits, make sure you're taking advantage of any 401K matches that your employer offers and make sure you roll your old 401Ks into an IRA or Roth IRA. We recommend Vanguard because they have low fees and can walk you through the process.

Money stashed for 30 years compounds and grows so that you have an extra pot of money in your golden years that you can use to travel with all your extra free time! Learn more about compound interest and why we suggest investing over time by listening to The Nav.it Podcast.



Finance 101: Set Up Your Budget in 5 Easy Steps [In the Nav.it App]

as told by Founder Erin Papworth

Step 1: Track your spending.

The first thing I did was connect all my savings, checking and credit card accounts so I can see all my transactions on my credit cards and bank accounts in one place and get an overview of my overall spending. We built this so that users don't have to sign into every account individually to track how much they are spending each month. This gives you the full spending picture. It helps me see how much I really spent on food, or travel, or utilities, and estimate my costs for the next month!

Step 2: Decide how you'll allocate your money.

Nav.it pulls my transactions in the past month from all of my accounts and then automates my monthly budget based on these to give me a picture of what my real life costs. I can include (or exclude) whichever accounts I want from this calculation. Then I can adjust my budget goals (an increase in the travel line item, for example!) from there.

Step 3: Set reminders.

If there is a category on my overall monthly spending that I want to reduce (it's always food), I can change the budget line total for the month, and then set up alerts to ping me when I've spent 50 percent or 90 percent of that line item. We're excited to build out more features around these nudges soon!

Step 4: Make savings goals.

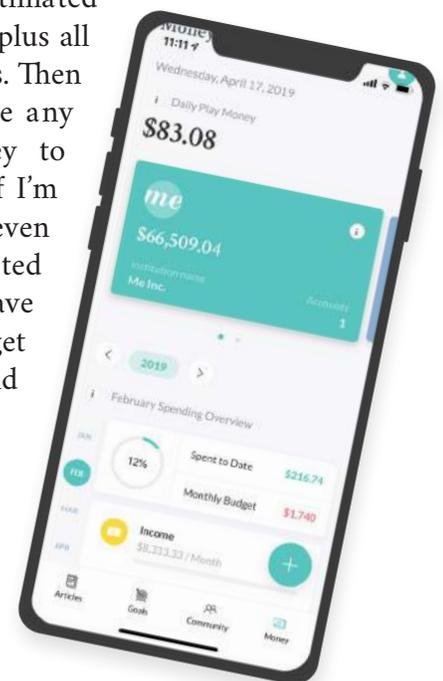
When you download the app, Nav.it asks you some key financial health questions to help you set up some financial savings goals. Financial basics include an emergency fund (3-6 months of your monthly spending budget) and high-interest debt.

But we also believe we should prioritize our travel goals at the same time! So on the Goals tab, I can also set up travel/lifestyle goals (I'm heading to Guatemala in October!) and it will show me how much I need to save per day (or week, or month) to achieve these goals.

This is factored into my monthly spend on the Money tab and helps me calculate my Daily Play Money (more on that below). I also invest a minimum of \$100 per month into my Vanguard investment account, so that's tracked on my finance goals.

Step 5: Don't forget to play.

One of my other favorite things about setting up my budget in the app is the "Daily Play Money" feature. It calculates my income and then deducts my total estimated monthly spending plus all of my savings goals. Then it tells me if I have any extra "fun" money to use. I like seeing if I'm on track to save even more than I estimated or seeing if I do have some room to get that decaf almond milk coffee.





Travel 101: Travel Around the World for Free

Rewards travel myths busted.

By Lisette Austin

If you have a credit card that you're already using, and it's not getting you some travel reward points, you're missing a big opportunity to do some free traveling. As a longtime travel hacker, I've heard many misconceptions from people about opening multiple travel reward credit cards to earn miles and points. Let's bust some of these myths now, and make your next trip free.

It's unethical.

Let's start off with the word hack. I know it sounds a little strange, but we're not hacking into a database or something like that. In this case, hacking just means you're finding a shortcut. You're finding a way to take advantage of the system.

The whole frequent flier mile and point system is there for a reason. It actually makes the airlines a lot of money. It gains them loyalty. And credit card companies make plenty of money through interest rates. Take advantage of those bonuses and points.

You do it with one travel reward credit card.

Another misconception I've heard: "Well, I'm already doing that. I've got this credit card with Alaska Airlines. I put everything on my card, and I get all these miles and points." Well, okay.

You're getting miles and points. But you're not doing all that you can.

In one year, you put \$20,000 worth of spending on the card, and get 20,000 miles. I, however, can get hundreds of thousands of miles for that \$20,000 spent, because I'm opening new credit

cards and getting sign-up bonuses. For the same 20,000 I could get maybe half a million miles.

Miles and points are useless.

Another myth is that you can't use your miles and points. I have traveled a ton recently, during high season and around Christmas time—times where it should be really hard to get award travel. One of the secrets to successfully booking award travel is planning ahead. You can typically book flights 331 days before travel, and that's the perfect time to look for award seats. And having multiple mileage plans helps since you can look for availability on

different airlines.

It's going to take time.

It does take some time. It does take some effort. But it gets easier the more you do it, and you don't have to start big. I keep talking about a

Facilitator questions:

1.
Do you pay your credit card bills down to zero?
2.
What is more important to you: luxury travel, frequent budget travel or spontaneous travel?
3.
What would be the most useful for you to earn: airline miles, hotel points or flexible travel reward points?

million miles. You could start with 200,000. You could start with one or two credit card sign-up bonuses and add more later (do this responsibly). So, you can hack to the level that you like.

I'll go into debt.

You should be using these cards like you would a debit card or cash. The idea is that you need to know your monthly budget, and if you know that, you just spend what you have. So, I'm only spending what I normally would spend. I am not going out there and buying a boat. I'm just buying my groceries, paying my utility bills, and spending within my monthly budget every month.

It costs more than I can afford.

It will only would cost a lot if you're paying interest, which we're not going to do (see above).. I have not paid interest once in the last seven years on any of my cards. There are annual fees. But the thing is we're gaining travel tickets. If you do the math, it's definitely worth the small amount you do pay.

It's only helpful if you travel a lot.

Another thing that people say: "Well, I don't really travel that much. I travel maybe once a year." Wouldn't you like to go business class that one time? Would you like to stay in an incredibly beautiful hotel that you could never afford?

Even if you travel once a year, even if you travel once every two or three years, you could take friends with you. You could bring the

whole family, and stay in an amazing location somewhere really far away that you've always wanted to go. Don't let the fact that you can't travel at the drop of a hat every month stop you from travel hacking.

It will destroy my credit score.

Finally, the big one: "But won't my credit score be damaged?" The good news is your credit score can stay completely healthy. My credit score is right now right at about 800, and when I started this, I was at 700. And I've opened and closed around 80 or more cards in the last seven years...

How is this possible? I've paid on time. Another factor for a good credit score is keeping credit cards open for quite a while. The thing is there are always some cards (those without annual fees) you can keep open. There are some cards that are so good you want to keep them open, and you want to pay the annual fee. All

you need is a few cards that you keep open a long period of time.

I think the most important thing is that you show that you can be responsible with multiple cards over a long period of time. This is why credit card companies like me, despite the fact that I've done all this hacking. I've shown that, yeah, I have a lot of cards, but I can handle it.



Travel 101: Digital Traveling Toolbox

By Vanessa Charlot

Gone are the days of travel agents, may their souls and file cabinets with endless stock photo brochures, may they rest in peace. They've been replaced by sassy Siri (or whomever you Android users talk to). Here are a few free apps that could come in handy the next time you travel.



Maps and Navigation

Google Maps - It's quite simple--if you want to do cool things, you have to know how to get there. Whether walking, driving, taking the bus or the metro, I have yet to go to any city or country where Google Maps has failed me. Pro-tip for international travel: If you won't have consistent access to data, it's worth noting that you can download the map for any given city and use it seamlessly while offline. Just be sure to avoid looking like the lost tourist in an unknown city trying to figure out which way the arrow is pointing--not only does it make you more susceptible to petty crime, it's not a good look.

Other helpful apps: Citymapper, Maps.Me, Waze

Language

Google Translate - We are living in the age of technology where it is possible to flirt with a random guy in a bar, even if you don't speak the same language. That's why they made Google Translate, right? Similar to Google Maps, you can also download an entire language within Google Translate, and use it offline. In your lowest and weakest moment, this can app can basically save lives and keep you from a frustrated emotional breakdown at the most inconvenient time.

Other helpful apps: Linguee, DuoLingo, TripLingo

Accommodations

HotelTonight - Live frugal and be bougie at the same time with HotelTonight. I've been in some of the nicest boutique and luxury hotels for about 70 percent off by booking it same day on Hotel Tonight.

Other helpful apps: Airbnb, Booking.com, Hostelworld





Transportation

Uber - As the most popular worldwide car service app, you can get picked up from your location of choice and dropped to the doorstep of your destination without the hassle of scrummaging around for change.

Other helpful apps: Cabify, Le Taxi, Easy Taxi

Keeping in Touch

WhatsApp - It kind of still blows my mind that in a matter of seconds we can communicate across oceans and continents. WhatsApp boasts a global community of over one billion people, and lets you initiate audio calls, video calls, voice notes, instant messages, and picture/file sharing as long as you're connected to wifi.

Other helpful apps: Viber, GroupMe, Skype, magicJack



Currency Conversions

XE Currency - I passionately hate dealing with money conversions. You either get too much and have to sell it back at a terrible rate or you didn't get enough and you're struggling to make ends meet those last few days. Either way XE Currency is a great app that offers live rates for every currency in the world. Do your currency homework before you travel--it'll save you stress on the back end. Pro-tip: Always travel with some cash, even if it's minimal. It almost always comes in handy.

Other helpful apps: Units, CalConvert, GlobeConvert

Medical and Travel Security

International SOS - This app is a product of the world's largest medical and travel security services firm. Whether you need safety advisories on what precautions to take when traveling to certain destinations, notifications of the latest protest or road blockages, information on the closest doctor, or even need to be airlifted out of a city--this is your app. While the app is free, there is a paid membership associated with its services. If you'll be traveling for a long time, or living abroad, I highly recommend it.

Other helpful apps: FoneTrac, Cigna Global, Globalsecur



Reviews

TripAdvisor - This is a one-stop shop for making informed decisions while planning your trip. I seldom book a hotel, hostel, restaurant reservation, massage, mani-pedi, or secure tickets for popular attractions without consulting TripAdvisor. This app can be your traveling fairy godmother if you let it--go ahead and get your Cinderella on, girl!

Other helpful apps: Yelp, TripExpert, Localeur

Best Resources for *Travel*

Facilitator Questions:

1.

What are your favorite travel apps that make your life easier?

2.

Where do you love to save time when planning a trip? Flights, hotels?

3.

Do you know about the Mobile Pass, and its magic?



Flights

- Hopper
- Scotts Cheap Flights
- Airfarewatchdog
- Skyscanner



Earning Travel Reward

- Award Wallet
- The Points Guy
- Million Miles Secrets
- Pocket
- 331 Days from Today



Language

- Google Translate – camera translation
- DuoLingo (learn phrases before your trip)
- iTranslate



Customs

- Mobile Passport (skip all the lines in certain airports!)
 - Global Entry/Nexus
- Tip: Add FF# and TSA pre-check to airline profile



Navigation

- Google Maps offline
- Waze
- Sygic
- Komoot



Currency Abroad (tips)

- ATMs = best exchange rate
- Debit cards with minimal ATM fees
- Credit cards with no foreign transaction fees



Working on the Go

- PDF Photos (iOS) / Easy Scanner
- Planoly (social media scheduling)
- Google Hangouts
- Google Voice
- WhatsApp



In-Flight Entertainment

- Gogo Entertainment
- TED Conferences App
- Castbox or Apple Podcast
- Kindle Fire --you can download movies from Prime
- Day One (journaling app)



Lodging

- HotelTonight
- Airbnb
- Hotwire
- Booking.com
- TripAdvisor