



Traveling, Without A Trace

Sustainable Earth Adventures

Public transportation is more romantic than it sounds: Although there is some hesitation on the part of some travelers to utilize public transportation,



we don't often associate the same stigma with hopping on a fuel guzzling airplane to publically-jet around the world. Well, consider these facts about "public transportation" that can be utilized to transform your thinking about alternatives to flying as you trek around the world. For example, a round-trip Madrid-Paris flight on Lan Airlines (although the most efficient, compared to other possible airlines on this route) produces approximately 300 pounds (136 kilograms) of CO₂ directly into the atmosphere, increasing the amount of [greenhouse gasses](#) worldwide. Train travel is approximately twice as efficient, which would reduce the amount of CO₂ by approximately (depending upon weather conditions, for example) 150 pounds (68 kilograms). So, what does that mean to you and me, and the Earth? Well, think of the 68 kilograms of CO₂ this way - a healthy mature tree on average stores about 10

kilograms of CO₂ per year, so your reduced round-trip (in this example) has the same positive impact of adding 6 tree-years of CO₂ removal from the atmosphere, somewhere on Earth. Besides the CO₂ differential, train travel versus air travel has one other major advantage...it's so much more romantic - make sure that you take advantage of that additional benefit! (<http://thelazyenvironmentalist.blogspot.com/2007/02/romance-of-rail-travel.html>). Find out more about how much CO₂ you and your family are responsible for producing at <http://mitrafoundation.org/calculator.php>, and how you can customize your activities to reduce your carbon footprint - and remember, join up to discuss other facets of this topic and more, along with the Sustainable Earth Adventures movement at <http://twitter.com/#!/SustEarth>:



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sus.tain'a.bil'i.ty n. the ability to meet the needs of the present while living within the carrying capacity of supporting ecosystems and without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs



Local is “Where It’s At”: No matter where you are in the world, you can find everything you need within a short physical distance, and there is a definite upside to

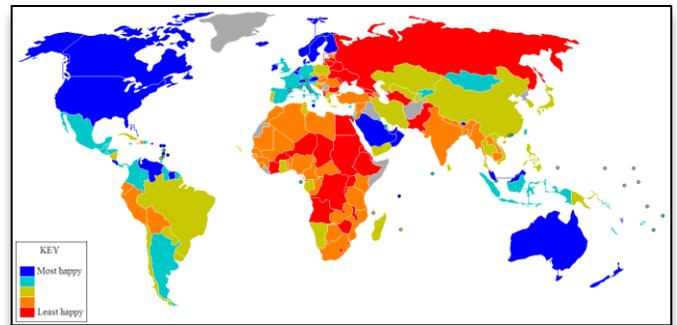


transforming your thinking this way. Among multiple areas worldwide, research demonstrates how relatively locally produce food is cheaper, healthier, and much more supportive of the businesses, cultural traditions, and the values of residents of the area, which you may be



visiting. Additionally, while you are supporting a local community and its residents by dining, shopping, and staying locally, you are also simultaneously experiencing the local (and in some cases indigenous) cultural values

and traditions more experientially, and sharing your culture and traditions with locals in a very positive (and lasting) way. So, saving money while you build communities - what could be more important? Well, what is likely even more important than building and supporting those sustainable communities you may visit is the affect that building and support of those communities has on world happiness. In fact, there’s an entire body of research that suggests that world ecological goods and services (or natural resources that humans directly and indirectly benefit from for water, food, and other important daily necessities) are the critical determiners of worldwide human happiness (<http://www.greenfacts.org/en/ecosystems/toolboxes/box3-1-4-security.htm>).



The associated ‘happiness factor’ (click linked image above for a larger view) is a critical link to the likelihood that nations are, or will be, economically and socially stable or unstable. So, this is how your sustainable travel practices can make (or break) the stability of the world around you.

Happy, Healthy, and Sustainable! Our business model is designed to make sure your travel needs are met, while increasing world happiness. Please join us in this very worthwhile approach.

We would enjoy hearing from you!

Our Base Homepage: Sustainable-Earth-Adventures.com

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Parting Shot:

What is this, why are the colors so unusual, and where is it on Earth?



Please send us your answer (see inset contact information, above) and if you are correct on all three parts of the question, we'll feature you and/or your organization in the next issue of the Sustainable Earth Adventures Newsletter.

Wanted: "Global Perspectives"

Please send us your personal and original sustainable travel stories and/or images. We'll feature them on our website in our [Worldwide Gallery](#), [World Storytellers](#), or [World Poets](#) section. The Global Perspectives of our clients and colleagues link all of us who are interested in supporting and disseminating 'the movement' of sustainability, worldwide.

