

# 10 Things We Only Do on Holidays | Skyscanner Australia

Humans, we're simple creatures. Once the essentials of shelter, food, water & air are met (plus the warm fuzziness we crave from being loved), we're mostly content with our lot. Until we go on holidays that is. Then the gloves come off and we find ourselves doing things that we don't do at home... admittedly, an over-indulgence in fancy cocktails might be to blame. [Skyscanner Australia](#) shares ten things that we (mostly) only do when on holidays.



## 1. Questionable fashion choices



We're talking loud floral Fijian shirts that clash with everything except cocktails served in coconuts. Yes, we get that Bula shirts are fun and scream 'I'm on a tropical holiday!!' Budgie smuggler's on the other hand are more 'look away now' and should never venture beyond poolside sun lounges. There is no plausible excuse for a pair of budgie smugglers to sidle in beside you at a market stall or beachside bar. Just no. Unless you're Liam Hemsworth, then you're forgiven.

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## 2. Obsession with getting a sun tan



While we're talking near-naked bodies, what's the ongoing obsession with getting a suntan all about? We hear the frightening statistics on skin cancer, we slap on sunscreen when we go for a run and we wear a hat while walking the dog. Then we go on holidays and shed our good intentions along with our clothes to catch some rays.

We know that an essential element of any self-respecting holiday includes at least one selfie of sun-kissed toes in the foreground of a beach or pool or boat scene.

But, go easy on the sun tanning. Your aged self will love you for it.

### **3. Consuming enough breakfast for three people**



For 360 days a bowl of muesli, cornflakes or a slice of toast provides sufficient sustenance between the overnight fast and the lunchtime feast. Until we go on holidays that is. Then the hotel buffet dominates our plans. Every. Single. Day. Especially if you've done your research and checked into a hotel that includes champagne amongst the buffet spoils (yes Hayman Island we're looking at you). We'll pretend we didn't see you secreting that croissant and chocolate muffin in your handbag...

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### **4. Photographing everything**

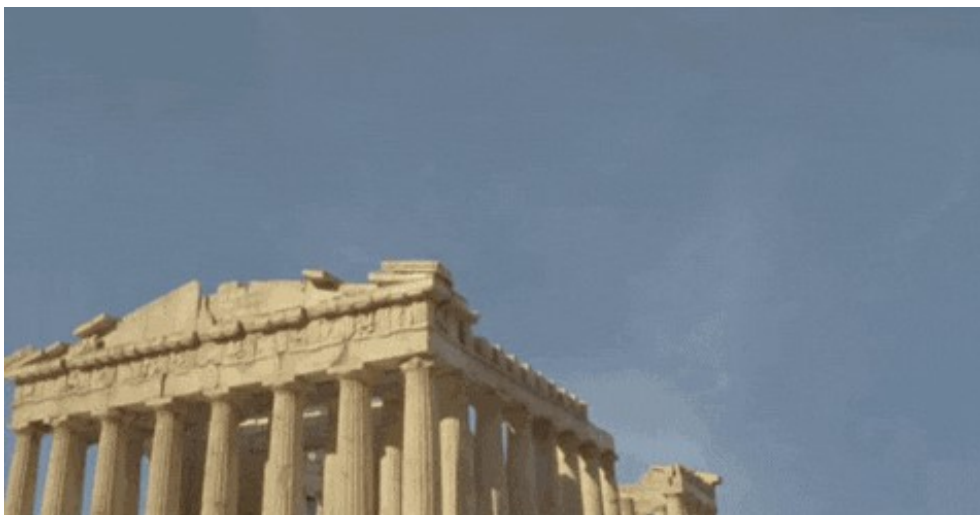


Look around at any popular tourist attraction and you'll notice that taking photographs has taken over the way we view things. It's become instinctual to pull out the camera and photograph absolutely everything.

Think about it though. Why are we taking photos? To share online? To bore those back home? To print out (eek!) and put in a photo album (remember those)? Or do we take so many photos that it becomes such an overwhelming task to sort through them that we never look at them again.

Here's a challenge. Put your camera or phone down and try watching a sunset and NOT taking a photograph. Rather, just be in the moment and forget about which filter would improve the view.

## 5. Adopting a stray dog or cat



We've all done it. We're in this crazy kick-butt foreign country, deliriously excited from all the new sites, sounds and people we've encountered. We're on a massive high. Then a stray dog or cat sets its sad eyes upon us. It's no coincidence, don't be fooled. As the tourist interloper, we've been strategically chosen by said callous, calculating beast as the most likely source of sympathy. We throw him some scraps from our lunch, then go out of our way to find him over the next few days, silently plotting how we can 'save' him.

Guilty. That adorable *Brown Dog* in the Cook Islands didn't know how close he was to becoming a beloved Aussie canine migrant.

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## 6. Taking risks



Clearly our personal fear radar also checks out and goes on holidays at the first sign of an Airport Arrivals gate. According to a Smart Traveller survey, 50% of insured travelers engage in risky behavior. It's probably no surprise to learn that guys took more risks than girls and that those who took the most risks were aged between 18 – 29.

We're talking diving with sharks or crocodiles (like in the Northern Territory), riding motorbikes (Bali, you're a serial offender) or trying snowboarding, skiing or mountain biking (New Zealand take a bow).

## 7. Eating weird food



Where do we start? Foreign food goes with travel like Kanye goes with Kim. Sure, it's a bit of a love/hate relationship with no promise of a happy ending, but it's unthinkable to consider one without the other. Fried scorpions in China, odorous durian flesh in Thailand, deep fried Mars Bars in Scotland, Fugu fish in Japan (warning: this delicacy can be fatal if not prepared correctly!) or BBQ'd grasshoppers in Laos. They're all part of the great travel adventure.

Just a word of advice: don't leave home without a pack Gastro Stop or similar. No one wants their holiday plans dictated by a desperate need to remain within proximity of a toilet.

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## **8. Buying useless souvenirs**



It was only a matter of time until we mentioned that conspicuous snow dome sitting on your sideboard along with that unattractive mask hanging on your living room wall. Carved dolphins, turtles and elephants are perennially popular purchases, though we're not sure they're quite so at home once ensconced in suburbia. And let's not mention the tribal sleeve tattoo concealed beneath your business shirt. Who's tribe is it anyway?

## **9. Crazy traffic trips**



No self-respecting overseas adventure is complete without at least one hair-raising bus, tuktuk, donkey, camel, bicycle, motorbike or taxi ride through crazy traffic. You'd probably give that dodgy, badly dressed one-eyed driver a wide berth at home. But in Bangkok? Hey, hello! He's your new trusted BFF!

Hang on to your hat, make a mental note to save your Travel Insurance emergency number to speed dial on your phone and enjoy the ride (eyes shut if necessary – some things just can't be unseen).

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## 10. Holiday romances



Love makes the world go round, right? And what better way to make a holiday imminently memorable than to fall in love. Whether you fall head over heels, Casablanca or Dr Zhivago style, or dabble in a Sleepless in Seattle long distance



romance, there's little doubt that an exotic background makes fine fodder for developing your own love story. Then there's always the bragging rights that come with, 'oh have you met my partner? We met in [insert exotic location here]'

## **How many of these are you guilty of? It's ok, this is a safe space. We won't judge you.**

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### **About the author**

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Fiona Harper is an Australian travel writer who likes to get offroad and offshore. Follow her at [Travel Boating Lifestyle](#). Widely travelled, highly acclaimed and much published, Fiona's articles & images are published across the globe. When not writing she's probably running a marathon or exploring the world by foot, bike, kayak, camel or boat: whatever mode of transport she can get her hands on!