

18 UNFORGETTABLE COUNTRIES WHERE YOU CAN ROLL BIG ON LESS THAN \$50 A DAY

By THRILLIST TRAVEL

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When you ask Americans why they don't travel abroad, the top reason they cite is cost. But once you get on that plane to a cheaper part of the world -- Southeast Asia, say, or Central America, or even, yes, Northern Europe -- man do the prices drop. You won't realize how rich you are until you land in one of these countries where the pint you pay \$6 or \$8 for at home is now less than a buck, or the bottle of wine at a fine restaurant runs all of \$4.

How you get to these countries near and far is up to you (though you can **score cheap airfares** and **save money on flights** in all sorts of ways). Once you get to your destination, though, you'll find yourself having adventures, exploring beaches and jungles, and *still* living cheaper than you do at home. What's the most underrated reason to travel abroad? Turns out, it's also cost.



LAKE COATEPEQUE, EL SALVADOR | [BRYAN ORTIZ/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM](https://www.shutterstock.com/author/bryan-ortiz)

El Salvador

A Central American budget destination bereft of tourists

How to roll big on the cheap: Think of the tiniest country in Central America, forgotten by tourists, as a land without selfie sticks. Its long civil war now over, El Salvador still has a reputation as a rough place. But basic common sense will keep you out of trouble, and anyone ballsy enough to make the trip will be glad they did.

For a country the size of Massachusetts, it has loads of what can only be described as splendor. Start your day trekking through rainforests or hiking through epic volcano formations. By noon you could be on the other side of the country, jet skiing across a volcanic crater lake or learning how to surf on the Pacific coastline for \$10 a lesson.

Curious about Mayan sacrificial ceremonies? El Salvador is home to intricately preserved archaeological sites. Getting into national parks and archaeological sites will cost about \$3. Hotel rooms can be had for \$15 per night; hostels go for as low as \$6. Dinner won't set you back more than \$7, if you haven't already filled up on \$1 pupusas. And at \$1 per bottle, you can reasonably crush multiple cervezas with every meal.

If you get a chance to splurge: Diving in Los Cobanos, alongside sperm whales, while exploring the wrecks of sea vessels sunk over 100 years ago (\$65 to \$400). -- *Chelsea Davis*