

## Why We Left the USA for Spain

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jNGBPGqJ-BQ>  
Transcript: <https://dontveter.com/ec/spain1.pdf>

What's up expats and shoppers alike?

I'm Josh with Expats Everywhere and I'm Kaylee.

And in this video today, if you guys are new to the channel, we're gonna talk about why we moved from the U.S. to Spain.

We have four reasons.

I'm gonna talk about my two, Kaylee's gonna talk about her two.

Let's go. My first reason for wanting to go to Spain was because one, it ~~was kind of this~~ [seemed like a kind of] magical place to me and when I was in college I was looking into doing a study abroad.

But I didn't want to go by myself, so when Josh and I met, he was talking about Europe.

I was thinking Spain would be great if he wants to go with me.

Right, yeah, I don't know if I've been like, the thing that spurred you on in life, or your crutch.

Well, yeah, because I didn't want to go by myself.

In my junior year I was looking into Spain but I couldn't find anyone to go with me.

I had a lot of friends who were interested but because of their majors they weren't able to.

So, then, when Josh and I met my senior year and he was talking about Europe, I was like, hmm, would Spain work, even though it kind of took us a while to get around to Spain.

We were looking at other European places, yeah, that's right, but it was always this magical place to me, I guess.

And I was, funny enough, looking into moving to Europe my junior year.

And then when I met Josh my senior year, it kind of made it happen.

Which, the other good thing about it for me was, I really didn't want to go to graduate school at the time, I was burnt out from school.

So I was, like, how can I evade graduate school and he kind of maybe, that's where the crutch part comes in, he kind of you know, put these ideas in my head that this could actually happen.

We could actually move to Europe, yeah, and funny enough, I was the one that ended up going back to school.

Yeah, thankfully I did not.

What's your first reason?

I had ~~done~~ [gone on] a missions trip to Slovakia with my church and I realized that I could, yeah, I could teach during the missions trip.

We were basically teaching at an English camp and I realized, one, this is really fun and two, I am not so bad at it.

Like I had never thought about teaching and an opportunity presented itself for me to go on this missions trip and teach and [that was] when I realized that I could teach.

Then I was, like, okay, so [the] path of least resistance to getting abroad is to be able to teach abroad.

And that's when I started to look around at different courses and ways of getting into teaching.

Long story short, there was a master's program in Madrid and I was able to get into that and that was kind of my gateway.

So, I definitely think that one of the reasons I left the U.S. for Spain is because it was easy to get in as a teacher with this master's program.

And teaching sounded awful to me, so when he was talking about teaching, I was like, that's not an option for me, what else can we find?

And, so, that's when we found the au pair job for me and we [I] started looking into being an au pair, a nanny.

So I really liked, um, taking care of kids and Josh was going to go into the teaching area and we found that for Spain it wasn't that hard.

A lot of people think that it's so hard to move abroad, but it's really not that hard.

Yeah, and at the time there wasn't actually a visa for au pairs.

Now there's a visa for au pairs, so there's a bit of a better or clearer more legal pathway to do that.

As far as teaching English, you guys might know this, I don't know, but a lot of people get their, their first taste of living abroad by teaching English.

I don't know, based on percentages, what it is, but there are a lot of people especially younger people that get their start abroad teaching English.

Nowadays it's not so much that expats are ones being sent by big corporations, but it's a lot of individuals just making individual decisions to go move abroad and become an expat.

So, if you're thinking that it's going to be really hard to move abroad, and you look at other people and you say, I wish I could do what they're doing, you can.

It's definitely doable and teaching is an option to check into.

Or if you are single or living by yourself or anything like that then maybe you can look into being an au pair or a nanny.

Yeah, for sure, teaching is not for everybody but you know you might want to give it a go.

So that wraps up point number two.

Let's talk about point number three.

So, specifically, why Spain?

Because we're talking about moving from the US to Spain.

Well, when I started looking for jobs, I was looking in all over Europe because it's, like, well let's go somewhere in Europe, let's just make this happen.

But then I connected with this family on this website that [and] I actually ended up becoming an au pair for [them].

I really felt this connection with them, and they were in Madrid and I didn't really know much about Madrid.

I guess you [many people] know a lot about Barcelona, right?

A lot of people know about Barcelona [because] they go [there] on cruises.

It seems to be more of a touristy destination and it really is.

Yeah, but Madrid is a great place to live and we'll talk about that in other videos.

I felt this connection with the family that I would eventually live with and I think that's something that's really important.

If you're going to be a live-in nanny, you want to feel comfortable with the people that you're going to be living with.

~~So that kind of helped Spain become more solidified was that family connection that I had.~~ [So that comfortable feeling I had about that family made me think that Spain was a good choice.]

~~that I had~~ [That was a] nice [feeling because it would be like] so a home away from home, a family away from family.

~~right~~ Yeah, because if you think about it, I was just graduating college, I was ready for the adventure but, you know, it's still something new and you want to feel safe.

And, yeah, I guess [it] felt like home.

So that family really right up front made me feel like that.

So I guess that would be kind of a recommendation too.

If you're looking to be an au pair or a nanny, try to see if you have a connection with the family because you will be living with these people, so you want to make sure that it's not weird, right?

Yeah, okay, so let's move on to point number four, my last point and then after that we'll actually talk about some of the the ~~hidden~~ [unexpected] things that we found about why we should have wanted to move to Spain. [unexpected reasons why Spain was a good place to move to for us]

Um, and why they weren't really at the forefront of our minds.

We'll talk about that after point number four.

Point number four is, I really wanted to learn Spanish and uh, it is a good place [to learn Spanish because] apparently they speak it there. :-)

Um, so when we were in the states I was in a part of the country where I wasn't really exposed to a lot of foreign languages. Shocker!

I was born in, like, Northeast Tennessee, Southwest Virginia, um, yeah, small, quite small.

I did have a lot of teammates, soccer teammates, that were Spanish speakers or Portuguese speakers from Brazil.

But I was really interested in Spanish and I was just fascinated with languages in general.

And Spanish is quite helpful in the US as you guys know.

I'm assuming most people watching this are Americans and it's a language that many people use.

Now, little did I know that the Spanish in Spain was so different than the Spanish in Latin America.

It's a big difference, it's like, almost like, equating the difference between ~~maybe~~ British English and American English, but I don't know.

Do you think it,

I mean you, have different accents of course, you have different words that you use, so we do get [find those differences] ~~that~~ in American English and British English.

Um, there are different forms of grammar as well so that can trip you up.

So it is quite different to what we learned in school or what is widely spoken in different parts of the US because of the Latin American cultures and influences.

Okay, ~~so some of the bonuses we're gonna move on from me wanting to learn Spanish as a reason why we left~~ [to] some of the bonuses.

I had no idea that Spain would offer such [an] incredibly different lifestyle than the US.

Now we weren't in a big city in the US, so we weren't caught up in the rat race.

But I think anywhere you are in the US, bar somewhere that's just like super laid back and chill, there's a bit of a rat race.

There's a bit of like a grind that you go through, just like, earn money, pay bills, you know, earn money, pay bills, earn money, pay bills, that type of thing.

I'm assuming you guys know what we're talking about, but in Spain it was just so different.

Um, the lifestyle there was so laid back.

People would, you know, take a pause in their day, a long pause, but a pause in their day.

Or let's say, after work, five o'clock, six o'clock whatever it may be, [they] go hit up a cafe or you know, sit outside and have, have a beer and some tapas before they head home.

I love that.

I didn't realize how awesome that was [so I am] super grateful to experience that in Spain.

Yeah and the cost of living was also a huge perk.

## **perquisite**

pûr'kwĩ-zīt

### **noun**

1. A payment, profit, or benefit received in addition to a regular wage or salary, especially when due or expected.
2. Something regarded or claimed as an exclusive right by virtue of one's social position or rank:  
synonym: right.
3. A gratuity; a tip.

Um, so you know we talk about the rat race and stuff in the US where you're making money and then you have all these bills and of course you will have bills in Spain but the cost of living is still so much lower.

And I guess, like, I wasn't making much with the family that I was working for, but I was definitely able to live and to travel.

And that's another great thing about Spain is [that] even though it's not a very big country, the different regions are so different and they have their own little subcultures.

That it's, I mean we didn't know this when we moved to Spain, but when we got there we found ourselves traveling so much within Spain because it's just so different within the country.

And it's just amazing to see these different little subcultures ~~going on~~ [that are there].

Yeah, and to your point there, I find that, you know, you guys in the states, you know, that [when] you move around to different parts of the US or travel to different parts of the US you can pick out some of the little subcultural things.

However I didn't realize that in Spain, like, things would be so different and so interesting.

Now maybe [if a Spaniard went] ~~a Spaniard going~~ to the US they would they would think that too.

You know, they'll go to a [place like] Charlotte, North Carolina and find that [it is] different than ~~in~~ Atlanta, Georgia, and different from ~~or then a~~ Savannah, Georgia or ~~than a~~ Hilton Head, South Carolina.

But I think as Americans we kind of look at most of America as America whereas when you go to Spain and you spend some time in, uh, Galicia, for example, and then you hit up Andalucia or you head up to Barcelona or you're in the Navarro, ~~wherever it is like they're they're~~ [everywhere it is] different, they're really different.

Yeah, and I really like that and I like exploring and it's not too hard to explore.

That's another cool thing: train travel or bus [travel] is totally doable.

So the different regions around Spain are awesome.

If you guys want to learn a little more about moving, living and working in Madrid, [click here](#).

And if you want to know the same information about Valencia, [click here](#).

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Now let's get moving. Bye. Bye.