

Title: Travel the World from your Living Room

Topic: Lifestyle

Author: Faith Matson

Cover Photo:



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The world came to a halt with the onset of COVID-19; suddenly, everyone was tasked with implementing lifestyle changes and canceling plans. These measures were absolutely logical and warranted (staying home during a pandemic is definitely safer), but for those who had travel plans, canceling a flight to your dream destination might've stung a bit. Even though the pandemic has certainly caused undue hardship, staying home does not have to feel like a punishment. There are plenty of ways to stay entertained without leaving your living room!

For people who were forced to put travel plans on the back burner, it might seem impossible to replicate those experiences right now. This is understandable - exploring a new place and immersing yourself in a different culture is an incredibly valuable and unparalleled experience. In the meantime, however, there are some great ways to pass the time and satisfy your wanderlust until travel is safe again - all from the comfort of your own home.



Image Courtesy: [Fodor's Travel](#)

Europe is home to some of the most incredible, comprehensive museums on the planet, but there are tons of other notable art collections across the globe. Although traveling to these museums isn't feasible right now, some of the world's most reputable institutions have created virtual tours. You can still wander through the British Museum in London, drool over the pieces at the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam, and stare, mouth agape, at the Mona Lisa in the Louvre. Take a look at the full list of museums offering virtual tours below:

- [The British Museum \(London\)](#)
- [The Guggenheim \(New York\)](#)
- [The J. Paul Getty Museum \(Los Angeles\)](#)
- [The Louvre \(Paris\)](#)
- [MASP \(São Paulo\)](#)
- [Musée d'Orsay \(Paris\)](#)
- [National Gallery of Art \(Washington D.C.\)](#)
- [National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art \(Seoul\)](#)
- [Rijksmuseum \(Amsterdam\)](#)
- [Tokyo National Museum \(Tokyo\)](#)
- [Uffizi Gallery \(Florence\)](#)
- [Van Gogh Museum \(Amsterdam\)](#)



Image Courtesy: [Smithsonian Magazine](#)

The sights on your bucket list are also still within reach! Whether it's hiking Machu Picchu or visiting the Pyramids of Giza, you can now virtually explore many famous landmarks and discover what makes them so remarkable. You didn't want to strap on that oxygen tank to climb Mount Everest anyway, right? Check out these landmarks below:

- [The Acropolis \(Athens\)](#)
- [Angkor Wat \(Cambodia\)](#)
- [Colosseum \(Rome\)](#)
- [Eiffel Tower \(Paris\)](#)
- [Giant's Causeway \(Northern Ireland\)](#)
- [Great Wall of China](#)
- [Hang Sơn Đoòng \(Vietnam\)](#)
- [Machu Picchu \(Cuzco\)](#)
- [Mount Everest \(Nepal\)](#)
- [Namid Desert Dunes \(Namibia\)](#)
- [Perito Moreno Glacier \(Argentina\)](#)
- [Petra - The Rose Red City](#)
- [Pyramids of Giza \(Egypt\)](#)
- [Taj Mahal \(India\)](#)

- [The Vatican \(Italy\)](#)
- [Zhāngjiājìè National Forest Park \(China\)](#)



Image Courtesy: [Bon Appétit](#)

One of the most enjoyable parts of traveling is sampling the cuisine of another country. Pasta never tastes as good as it does in Italy! Although nothing beats sitting in a plaza in Spain and eating paella, the list of recipes below will hopefully let you travel with your tastebuds. Plus, you'll get to learn some new cooking skills!

- India
For a taste of Indian cuisine, try some of Priya Krishna's twists on traditional Indian dishes. Her best recipes include [kadhi \(turmeric yogurt soup\)](#), [saag paneer \(but with feta\)](#), and [aloo gobi \(potatoes and cauliflower\)](#).
- Iran
Persian-American chef Andy Baraghani often incorporates pieces of his favorite childhood meals into his flavorful recipes. Check out his [kateh gojeh farangi \(a cinnamon-tomato rice dish\)](#), [sabzi polo \(rice with herbs\)](#), and [salted chocolate halva](#).
- Italy
Carla Lalli Music draws inspiration from classic Italian dishes. Her [carbonara](#), [mushroom risotto](#), and [pasta e fagioli](#) never disappoint.

- Mexico
If Mexico is your dream destination, Rick Martinez's recipes will make you feel like you are in the heart of Mazatlán! Try his [gorditas con camarones](#), [pork volcanes al pastor](#), [chicken tinga tostadas](#), and [conchas de vainilla](#) for dessert!
- Somalia
Hawa Hassan shares traditional recipes from Somalia, which are often eaten with a banana. Check out her delicious [digaag qumbe](#) (yogurt-coconut chicken), [lahoh](#) (fermented pancakes), and [suugo suqaar](#) (Somali pasta).

There are plenty of ways to try new things while you're staying safe at home; taking virtual tours and making new recipes can help replicate the adventure of diving into history and exploring a new culture. The sights will be there waiting - some of them have been around for hundreds or thousands of years, so they aren't going away anytime soon. The wait can seem endless, but patience and mask-wearing will let you get there sooner. In the meantime, these ideas will hopefully help you to connect cross-culturally and expand your worldview. There's a lot to see in this world, so go explore some new places!

Strike Out,
Faith Matson
Florida State University

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