

KiLROY

Free e-book

WORKING HOLIDAY





SHAKE UP THE ORDINARY

Are you stuck in your boring day-to-day, and you truly want to get away from your daily grind and routines, but don't have the budget to travel for many months around the globe? Or are you feeling like you want to experience working in a different country, and with coworkers from all over the world? Planning a working holiday might be something that suits your wishes. There's a grand adventure waiting if you think you're up for it! Let us take you through why a working holiday is a fantastic experience that you will remember for the rest of your life.

If you're reading this magazine, you are probably interested in gaining work experience abroad, and looking to turn your plans into reality. Whether you've started your gap year, or want to switch things up after you've finished your studies. The most popular destinations for a Working Holiday are Australia, Canada and New Zealand. In this magazine we'll zoom in on each of them, so you can choose which one fits you best. But first, let us take you through some general Working Holiday info, so you know what to expect and how it works!

AND START A BIG ADVENTURE

INDEX

What is a working holiday?



Canada



Australia



Working holiday destinations



New Zealand



Finding work abroad



FAQs



Are you ready to go?



WHAT IS A WORKING HOLIDAY?

A working holiday is an incredible opportunity to travel abroad, explore new cultures, and earn money while doing it. It's a unique blend of work and adventure, allowing you to live in a different country for an extended period. Whether you're looking to fund your travels, gain international work experience, or simply take a break from your usual routine, a working holiday offers a flexible and enriching way to achieve your goals. With options in countries like Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, you can enjoy diverse experiences, from stunning natural landscapes to vibrant city life while moving around and working different jobs.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

As always, there are some drawbacks to consider too. You need to be sure about your destination since you'll be spending several months there. Unlike regular travel where you can just hop on a flight whenever you please, a working holiday usually keeps you in one country, though you can still explore different areas. There's also the paperwork for visas, bank accounts, and taxes, but when booking through KILROY, we'll help with that to make things smoother. Adapting to a new job and culture can be mentally exhausting at first, but it's highly rewarding and helps you grow yourself. Overall, we believe the benefits far outweigh the drawbacks, but it's essential to decide if this type of travel is right for you.

WHY AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, AND CANADA ARE TOP DESTINATIONS

It may seem strange to pay to volunteer, but there is a logical explanation. The most important thing to remember is that you are not paying to work; you are paying for the expenses incurred during your stay. Costs usually cover accommodation, food, transportation to and from the project, orientation, and a donation for the project. Your contribution as a volunteer is incredibly valuable, and in return, you gain worthwhile new experiences and lessons that will be of great benefit in your life.

GAIN INTERNATIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

A working holiday allows you to gain valuable international work experience, which can significantly enhance your career prospects. Working in a different country exposes you to new work environments, practices, and cultures. It demonstrates your ability to adapt, communicate effectively with diverse groups, and handle unfamiliar situations. These skills are highly regarded by employers and can give you a competitive edge in the job market. Plus, it's a fantastic way to build your professional network globally.

ABSORB YOURSELF IN NEW CULTURES

Immersing yourself in a new culture is one of the most rewarding aspects of a working holiday. You'll have the chance to live like a local, learn new customs, and experience daily life from a different perspective. This cultural exchange will boost your understanding of the world and make your appreciation for diversity even stronger. Whether you're celebrating local festivals, trying new foods, or trying new sports, these experiences will stay with you for a lifetime.

MEET NEW PEOPLE AND MAKE LIFELONG FRIENDS

A working holiday is one of the best ways to meet new people and make lifelong friendships. You'll connect with fellow travellers, locals, and colleagues, all of whom will leave their mark on your experience, making memories together you won't soon forget. The friendships you make while living and working abroad often become some of the strongest, as you bond over shared adventures and challenges, ultimately having an epic time together.

TRAVEL AND EXPLORE ICONIC DESTINATIONS

One of the main draws of a working holiday is the chance to travel and explore iconic destinations. Whether you're hiking through New Zealand's stunning national parks, diving in Australia's Great Barrier Reef, or exploring Canada's vibrant cities and majestic landscapes, each day brings a new adventure. Working holidays allow you to travel more extensively and at a slower pace, giving you time to truly appreciate and really get to know your surroundings.

PERSONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

A working holiday is a journey of personal growth and development. Living and working in a foreign country pushes you out of your comfort zone, helping you develop resilience, problem-solving skills, and self-reliance. You'll learn to navigate new environments, handle unexpected situations, and grow more confident in your abilities. This experience not only shapes you personally but also prepares you for future challenges, making you more adaptable and open-minded.



CANADA

This gem of a country has so much to offer, you won't know what hit you. Nature-wise, Canada is the gift that keeps on giving, and it's one of those countries where all the seasons distinctively differ from each other.

In winter, there are snowy peaks all around, and travellers from all over the world flock to Canada to enjoy winter sports like skiing, snowboarding and even ice climbing. This last one is not for the faint-hearted, but still is a seriously cool way to experience the many frozen waterfalls and gigantic ice formations up close. There are more icy activities though, sporty and recreational. The Canadians are pretty serious about ice hockey games, so definitely try to catch a match or two and join the party afterwards. You should also try it out on one of the many frozen lakes or ponds: there will always be people wanting to play.

In summer the scene is completely different. Temperatures can easily rise into the high 20s, and everything comes to bloom and the outdoor fun continues. Hiking, mountain biking, climbing, and kayaking are a few of the many activities in the warmer months. You might not believe us, but there are even a lot of beaches and a surfing culture as well, specifically around Vancouver Island. Camping by a lake is a Canadian experience you don't want to miss out on. There's simply something magical about spending a night in nature after swimming, barbecuing and watching the stars before zipping the tent for the night.





FESTIVE IN EVERY SEASON

Canadians are big on events, year-round, as they try to make the most out of every season. During winter the light festivals in Montreal and Niagara are a highlight in leading up to the Holidays. If you love cosy winter events there's also Winterlude in Ottawa, a festival focused around celebrating all kinds of winter activities and culture like ice skating on the canals and tubing down snowy slopes.

When summer hits, all of Canada is looking forward to July 1st: Canada Day! This day is what the 4th of July is to the USA: there's live music, parades and shiny happy people all around. During summer there are also plenty of music festivals around, allowing you and your working holiday friends to let loose and party together.

TOP SPOTS FOR YOUR WORKING HOLIDAY IN CANADA

By this, we're not talking about jobs. Let's be honest, the work you'll be doing is fun, but ultimately just the means to an end. The location and adventure Canada offers is the main reason we're here. There are plenty of possibilities, but here are a few good suggestions.



WHISTLER

Located just north of Vancouver, the town of Whistler is home to one of the largest ski resorts in North America, and houses heaps of tourists every winter season. Whistler was one of the venues for the Vancouver Winter Olympics, which pretty much guarantees one of the best possible winter sports experiences you can get. It's also pretty nice to look at, snowy white peaks as far as the eye can see make it a view to die for. There are lots of spots for snowshoeing too, which is a nice change from skiing and snowboarding. We recommend the Whistler Interpretive forest. It's pretty clear then, when getting a Working Holiday gig in Whistler during the winter, you are pretty much guaranteed to try a lot of winter sports!



BANFF NATIONAL PARK

This national park is home to many of the stunning pics you'll see when Googling Canadian nature, with the famous Lake Louise being one of the main sights. But there are more pretty lakes. Try lake Minnewanka: It's beautiful, but there's also a hidden side to explore. All the way back in the nineteenth century, there used to be a pretty popular resort town here drawing tons of tourists. In 1941, a new dam was constructed, which raised the water level and completely submerged the town. The cool thing is that nowadays, you can scuba dive to the underwater ghost town, which is still fairly well preserved. For something more relaxing, try the Banff Upper Hot Springs. This geothermically heated spring contains purely natural mineral water and is nice and warm all year round. There are lots of stunning hikes, but there's also no shame in taking the cable car to the top of Sulfur mountain for what is arguably one of the best views in Western Canada.



JASPER NATIONAL PARK

One of Canada's most famous national parks, together with Banff. The scenery is simply stunning around here, and you can hike and climb for weeks. It's also a great place to spot wapiti deer (confusingly called Elk in American English), as Jasper is home to a fairly big population of these majestic animals. There's more wildlife though. You might spot black bears around Medicine Lake and there are moose, wolves and coyotes present in the valleys. Always be careful and follow the national park guidelines, as these are of course wild animals. Even if you won't spot any wildlife, there's plenty to like here about the landscape here. Our favourite hikes include the trek to Whistler's summit and hiking through Maligne canyon. Close to the latter, you'll also find Maligne lake, one of the prettiest lakes in the Rockies and perfect for an afternoon of canoeing.



LAKE LOUISE

While it's part of Banff national park, it deserves its own mention. Lake Louise is the absolute pinnacle of pretty blue lakes, and with a backdrop of ginormous mountains and Victoria Glacier, we understand why. It looks perfect for a swim, but the water rarely gets above 4 degrees, so even Wim Hof wouldn't recommend staying in the water for long. Staying ON the water is an entirely different story. You'll find plenty of kayak and canoe opportunities here, taking it slow while enjoying the sights. In winter you can ice climb near the lake, or enjoy some ice skating on the frozen lake.



AUSTRALIA

Australia is a treasure trove of experiences that will leave you buzzing with excitement. This enormous country offers something for everyone, from sun-soaked beaches to vibrant cities and awe-inspiring natural wonders. Let's dive into what makes Australia an unbeatable destination for your working holiday.

Summer in Australia, from December to February, is all about embracing the outdoors. Head to the coastlines where you can surf some of the world's best waves, snorkel or dive the Great Barrier Reef, or simply relax on golden beaches. Australia's summer is also festival season, with events like Sydney's New Year's Eve fireworks, the Australian Open in Melbourne, and the Adelaide Fringe Festival showcasing the country's vibrant arts and culture scene.

From June to August, winter in Australia brings a different kind of charm. While the northern regions like Queensland remain warm, the southern parts offer cooler weather perfect for exploring cities and the outback. You can even hit the slopes in places like Thredbo and Perisher in New South Wales or Mount Buller in Victoria for some skiing and snowboarding. No matter the season, there are endless activities to enjoy.



WORKING HOLIDAY STARTER PACKS IN AUSTRALIA



In order to make your Working Holiday a success, we've teamed up with the best of the best in Australia to make this happen. Among others, our packages include job search support and advice, unlimited access to the job portal and even help with getting specific pre-job training if necessary. Basically everything you need to secure a great job in Australia is part of the deal, as well as a lot of fun excursions.



SYDNEY

Our intro package in Sydney is designed to give you the best possible welcome to Australia and the city, while giving you the support you need to find your dream job down under. As soon as you land in Sydney, you'll be welcomed into a community of like-minded travellers who are just as excited as you are to explore all that Australia has to offer.

Our catamaran tour of Sydney Harbour will give you a chance to take in the city's iconic landmarks and views, and you'll feel like you're on top of the world as you leave the city behind for a day of hiking and sightseeing in the breathtaking Blue Mountains. Of course, no intro week in Australia is complete without some time at the beach. We'll take you on beach walks and surfing lessons with MOJO surf, giving you the chance to catch some waves and soak up the sun before returning to the hostel to get ready for a group dinner.



MELBOURNE

In case you rather start your working holiday season in Melbourne we've created a package just as good, with the same job support, just in a different city with different activities. Among others, there's a trip to Grampians National Park - the perfect spot for some kangaroo spotting. A drive along the Great Ocean Road, one of the world's most scenic coastal drives, is also part of the deal. Marvel at the Twelve Apostles and other breathtaking coastal sights - the sunsets are impressive.

You'll have plenty of time for socializing and bonding at the Peninsula Hot Springs while dipping in the natural hot pools. During the evenings you'll meet up with the group over dinner, bonding over shared experiences and past adventures.

TOP SPOTS FOR YOUR WORKING HOLIDAY IN AUSTRALIA

While Australia is brimming with incredible destinations, here are a few standouts for your adventure.



SYDNEY

As Australia's most iconic city, Sydney offers a mix of urban excitement and natural beauty. Work in the bustling hospitality sector, then spend your days off exploring landmarks like the Sydney Opera House, Bondi Beach, and the Royal Botanic Garden. The city's vibrant nightlife and cultural scene ensure there's never a dull moment.



MELBOURNE

Known for its artsy vibe, Melbourne is a haven for foodies, artists, and sports fans. Jobs in cafés, bars, and events are plentiful. Enjoy exploring laneways filled with street art, attending world-class sports events, and discovering hidden bars and live music venues.



CAIRNS

If you're drawn to the tropics, Cairns is your gateway to the Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree Rainforest. Tourism jobs are pretty easy to find around here, and on your days off, you can dive into some of the world's most spectacular underwater scenery or hike your way around the North Queensland region.



BYRON BAY

Famous for its laid-back atmosphere, Byron Bay is perfect for those seeking a beachy, bohemian lifestyle. Work in the surf shops, cafés, or wellness retreats, and spend your free time surfing, practicing yoga, or enjoying the town's vibrant music scene.



ALICE SPRINGS

For a taste of Australia's rugged outback, Alice Springs offers a unique experience. Work opportunities range from tourism to agriculture. Explore the red desert landscapes, visit the stunning MacDonnell Ranges, and learn about Indigenous culture and history.



NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand is a dream destination for many, and it's easy to see why. With its breathtaking landscapes, friendly locals, and endless opportunities for adventure, it's the perfect place for your working holiday. Here's what you can look forward to in this stunning corner of the world.

From December to February, New Zealand's summer is all about sunshine and outdoor fun. Hit the beaches in the Bay of Islands, the Coromandel Peninsula, or Abel Tasman National Park for some swimming, sunbathing, and kayaking. If you're into hiking, tackle the Tongariro Alpine Crossing or explore the trails of Fiordland National Park.

June to August is winter in New Zealand, and it transforms the South Island into a winter sports paradise. Queenstown and Wanaka are your go-to spots for skiing and snowboarding, with world-class slopes and stunning alpine scenery. For a unique experience, try heli-skiing or take a scenic flight over the Southern Alps. No matter when you visit, there's always something exciting to do. Visit Rotorua for its geothermal wonders and Maori culture, explore the cities of Auckland and Wellington, or take a wintery road trip through the stunning landscapes of the South Island.



WORKING HOLIDAY STARTER PACKS IN NEW ZEALAND

Our intro package in Auckland is designed to give you the best possible welcome to New Zealand and the city, while providing the support you need to find your dream job in this incredible country.

As soon as you land in Auckland, you'll be welcomed into a community of like-minded travellers who are just as excited as you are to explore all that New Zealand has to offer. Throughout your intro tour, you'll form new friendships and share unforgettable experiences together. We've included a lot of activities so you'll have a fantastic time right from the start.

Our package includes a private tour of Auckland's stunning harbour, the best way to take in the city's iconic skyline and beautiful waterfront. You'll also get to experience the Waitakere Ranges, with a day of hiking and sightseeing in this pretty scenic area. Of course, no intro week in New Zealand would be complete without some time by the water. We'll take you on a day trip to Piha Beach, where you can relax on the black sand beaches and take in the stunning coastal views before returning to the hostel for a group dinner.

ALL THE SUPPORT YOU NEED

But we're not just here to show you a good time. Our Auckland starter pack is designed to provide you with the support you need to make the most of your working holiday. We'll help you find your feet in your new home and offer assistance in finding your dream job in New Zealand.

Our support doesn't end with sightseeing. We're dedicated to helping you settle into your new life in New Zealand. From setting up a local bank account to getting your tax number sorted, we've got you covered. Our team is also on hand to provide recruitment support, helping you connect with employers and find the job that's perfect for you.

TOP SPOTS FOR YOUR WORKING HOLIDAY IN NEW ZEALAND

While our starter pack focuses on Auckland, New Zealand has so much more to offer. We encourage you to explore beyond the city and discover the country's stunning natural beauty and culture. Whether you're interested in visiting the geothermal wonders of Rotorua, hiking the trails of the South Island, or experiencing the adventure activities in Queenstown, New Zealand has something for you.



QUEENSTOWN

Known as the adventure capital of the world, Queenstown is a must-visit. Work in the bustling tourism sector and spend your days off bungee jumping, jet boating, or hiking in the surrounding mountains. The town's lively nightlife and stunning lakefront setting make it a favourite stop for travellers.



AUCKLAND

As New Zealand's largest city, Auckland offers plenty of job opportunities in hospitality, retail, and more. Enjoy the city's cultural scene, beautiful harbour, and nearby beaches and islands. Hike up Rangitoto Island, explore the Waitakere Ranges, or take a ferry to Waiheke Island for a day of wine tasting.



WELLINGTON

The capital city, Wellington, is known for its artsy vibe and strong coffee culture. Work in one of the many cafés, bars, or arts venues, and explore the city's cool neighbourhoods, museums, and waterfront. Don't miss the chance to visit the iconic Te Papa Museum or take a ride on the Wellington Cable Car.



ROTORUA

For a unique cultural experience, Rotorua is the place to be. Work in the tourism industry and learn about Maori culture, explore geothermal parks, and relax in natural hot springs. The Whakarewarewa Forest offers fantastic mountain biking trails and the Redwoods Tree walk for a serene canopy adventure.



CHRISTCHURCH

Known as the Garden City, Christchurch is a great base for exploring the South Island. There are lots of jobs in hospitality and tourism. Discover the city's beautiful parks and gardens, visit the Canterbury Museum, or take a day trip to the nearby Banks Peninsula for hiking and wildlife spotting.



PRE-TRIP PLANNING

Surprisingly, the longer you travel, the less you prepare! A Working Holiday might seem like a big step, but once you got the visa and the job, it's pretty easy and you just go with the flow and the awesome people you meet. Some might even call it a lifestyle!

RESEARCHING WHERE YOU WANT TO GO

As Australia's most iconic city, Sydney offers a mix of urban excitement and natural beauty. Work in the bustling hospitality sector, then spend your days off exploring landmarks like the Sydney Opera House, Bondi Beach, and the Royal Botanic Garden. The city's vibrant nightlife and cultural scene ensure there's never a dull moment.

HEALTH AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

Staying healthy and protected while abroad is crucial. We assist you in finding the best health and travel insurance options tailored to your working holiday. We explain the importance of coverage and help you understand the different plans available, so you can choose the one that best suits your needs. Our goal is to make sure you're covered for any unexpected situations, giving you peace of mind to fully enjoy your adventure.

APPLYING FOR A WORKING HOLIDAY VISA

Applying for a working holiday visa can seem complicated, but we're here to make it easy. In some destinations, we even offer support with the visa application itself, making the process as smooth as possible.

FINDING WORK ABROAD

Finding work abroad might sound like a big deal, but we'll happily assure you it's mostly smooth sailing. We work with reputable local companies who have years of experience facilitating Working Holidays, so you won't have to stress about anything. In short, this is what you can expect from the job process.

TYPES OF JOBS AVAILABLE

Finding work abroad is a key part of your working holiday, and we help you explore the various job opportunities available. From hospitality and retail to farm work and office jobs, there's something for everyone. In Canada, our program sets you up with a job before you even leave home, arranging interviews and securing a position for you. During the winter season the Canada Working Holiday is extra popular, as you can get all kinds of jobs in the well-known ski resorts.

In Australia and New Zealand, we offer recruitment support to help you land those awesome jobs once you arrive, either on farms or working in hostels or at events. Whatever your skills and interests, we help you find a job that fits your needs.

HOW TO SEARCH FOR JOBS

Job hunting in a new country can be challenging, but our resources and support make it manageable. We provide access to job boards, recruitment agencies, and networking events to connect you with potential employers. In Australia and New Zealand, our starter packs include job search assistance, helping you navigate the local job market and find openings that match your skills. Our goal is to make your job search as smooth and successful as possible. In Australia and New Zealand you can have multiple jobs after one another as well, since you've got access to the recruitment support and job board for an entire year.

As we mentioned, in Canada there's a limited number of Working Holiday visa available, so you're always guaranteed a job with a 4-6 month contract if you get approved for the working holiday visa – if not you get your money back! Initially the placement is for one season, but you are guaranteed a spot if you want to extend to a full year of Working Holiday fun in Canada.

FAQS COMMON QUESTIONS AND EASY ANSWERS

We know you have a lot of questions about your working holiday, and we're here to provide all the answers. Here are some of the most frequently asked questions to help you feel prepared and confident.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR A WORKING HOLIDAY VISA?

Eligibility requirements vary by country, but generally, you need to be between 18 and 30 (or 35 in some cases) years old, have a valid passport, and sufficient funds to support yourself initially. You may also need to provide proof of health and travel insurance.

HOW LONG CAN I STAY ON A WORKING HOLIDAY VISA?

The length of stay depends on the country. In Australia, you can stay for up to 12 months, with the possibility of extending for another year if you meet certain conditions. In New Zealand and Canada, the visa is typically valid for 12 months depending on your nationality.

WHAT TYPES OF JOBS CAN I GET ON A WORKING HOLIDAY?

You can work in a variety of industries, including hospitality, retail, agriculture, and office jobs. Many travellers find work in cafes, bars, hostels, farms, or even corporate environments, depending on their skills and interests.

HOW DO I FIND ACCOMMODATION?

Our starter packs include initial accommodation, and we provide guidance on finding long-term housing. Options include hostels, shared apartments, and homestays. We also connect you with resources and local networks to help you secure a place to live, in Canada the job usually comes with a guaranteed affordable place to live.

CAN I TRAVEL WITHIN THE COUNTRY DURING MY WORKING HOLIDAY?

Absolutely! Traveling within the country is one of the highlights of a working holiday. Whether it's exploring the Outback in Australia, hiking in New Zealand's national parks, or visiting Canada's national landmarks, there's plenty to see and do during your time off work.

WHAT SUPPORT WILL I RECEIVE WHILE I'M ABROAD?

We offer extensive support, from visa application assistance to job placement services. In Australia and New Zealand, our starter packs include orientation activities, while in Canada, we set you up with a job before you arrive. Our team is always available to help with any issues or questions you might have.

ARE YOU READY TO GO?



Embarking on a working holiday is a bold and exciting step, and we're here to support you every step of the way. This journey offers more than just a chance to travel and work abroad; it's an opportunity to grow, learn, and experience life in a whole new way. We encourage you to take the leap and embrace the adventure that awaits. With the right preparation and our dedicated support, you'll be ready to make the most of this incredible opportunity.

ARE YOU READY TO START PLANNING YOUR JOURNEY?



Visit our website to explore projects that interest you. Alternatively, you can contact our travel experts directly, and we'll clarify any questions and provide suggestions for projects that may suit you. Advice at KILROY is always free and can be booked at our travel shops or via an online meeting.

Your adventure starts here!

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