

# Sources of top travel information

Chris Bonnor

## 1. Overseas media sources

The media are valuable sources of travel info and overseas media is especially useful. Most people read the weekly travel sections in the Australian print media – but be wary of sponsored reports. Media travel sections often focus on niche activities, sometimes in obscure places. Searching your own preferred topics/destinations in newspaper online sites might be more useful. Some sites also have payment firewalls, e.g. News Corp publications.

Useful overseas websites include:

- [Daily Telegraph](#) (UK) has twelve travel sections, starting with a comprehensive store of destinations.
- [The Guardian](#) has nicely presented reports, including The Guardian app. Great if you want to know the ten best this or that.
- [The Times \(and Sunday Times\)](#) (UK) includes city guides for 56 cities.
- [New York Times](#) includes features such as 36 hours in ...., places to go etc
- [The Huffington Post](#) is good for travel tips, blogs, destinations etc but USA-centric

## 2. Other sources of information

Being a relatively independent traveller I have a few sources and sites which I've come to use many times. For family reasons Europe is our current main destination.

- **Travel guides:** For Europe it is hard to beat the [Rick Steve books](#). Great for planning and also to use at various destinations. I usually buy them in digital form through Amazon and put them on my iPhone. They often include local tours with audio narratives of various cities and sites. In fact, by the time you have that, plus the *map.me* app and *Google translate* what else do you need?
- **For planning and on the road:** [Wikitravel](#) is probably no better than any general travel book, but it is accessible. Good for destination information, including getting to and from airports. Also for getting around and what to see. Good for independent travel.
- **For flights etc:** [Kayak](#) is good for getting the info you need. You have the choice of booking through such sites, or maybe take flight and price information down to Flight Centre and let them do the bookings and paperwork. They are also usually competitive on car hire etc.
- **For accommodation:** People commonly use [hotels.com](#) or similar. Keep in mind that prices may be lower if you book direct. [Airbnb](#) is great for longer stays. Even youth hotels accept the aged!
- **Same applies to tours:** You can book through an agent such as [Viator](#), but often save by booking through the operator's site.
- **Same applies to trains:** Go to the operating company (e.g. [DB](#) for Germany) rather than third-party sites.

## Contributor information



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Chris was Principal of Asquith Boys High (1991-2000) and Davidson High (2002-2005), as well as NSWSPC Futures Principal (2001). He was President of the NSWSPC from 2002-2006. He is now a writer and advocate, in part for the Centre for Policy Development. Chris is a NSWSPC Life Member and was awarded his AM in 2007.