

## **The advantages and disadvantages of foreign travel (p. 21)**

Many people say that travel broadens the mind because you can learn about the people and cultures of other parts of the world. But I would say that this depends on the person who is travelling. Some people just go to another country to lie on a beach and don't even want to try the local food. If the person who travels abroad is interested in learning about the place they are visiting, then foreign travel can be educational.

It's fair to say that in the past it was very difficult for ordinary people to travel abroad and that nowadays there are many more opportunities for foreign travel. Mass tourism and package holidays are quite cheap these days so travelling abroad is no longer something that only wealthy people can do. I think it's great that most people can have the chance to visit other countries if they want to.

One thing that should be mentioned, though, is that mass tourism can cause many environmental problems. Many beautiful places in the world have been ruined because lots of hotels and restaurants have been built in them. This is the real disadvantage of foreign travel these days.

Many people forget that it can be enjoyable to travel in your own country. Every country has beautiful countryside and interesting historical sites. Even your own! When you travel in your own country you learn more about your own culture and history. Also, it is good for the local economy because you are spending your money in your own country. I believe more people should consider taking holidays in their own country.

So, tourism plays a vital role in economic development, cultural exchange, and global understanding.