***Searching for South America* Resource Guide**

**Brian Michalski, Vagabond-in-Chief**

brmicha@gmail.com [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAUUyDET7tUISieUSyMj47g) Search: Brian Michalski

[facebook.com/mindfulvagabond](https://www.facebook.com/mindfulvagabond/) [twitter.com/mindfulvagabond](https://twitter.com/mindfulvagabond)

[Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/mindfulvagabond/): @mindfulvagabond Blog: [mindfulvagabond.tumblr.com](https://mindfulvagabond.tumblr.com/)

**Health, Safety and Visas**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/index.htm)

Smart Traveler Enrollment Program – [step.state.gov](https://step.state.gov/)

U.S. Embassy – [usembassy.gov](https://www.usembassy.gov/)

U.S. Department of State – [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov/)

AIG Travel Guard travel insurance – [mvp.travelguard.com](https://www.travelguard.com/)

**Finances**

Charles Schwab Checking Account – [schwab.com/public/schwab/banking\_lending/checking\_account](http://www.schwab.com/public/schwab/banking_lending/checking_account)

**Free Travel Apps**

**Communication and Language Learning**

WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, Zoom, Google Hangouts – keep in touch easily

Google Translate – translate languages with typing, speaking and photo capabilities

Duolingo – structured visual and auditory language lessons

**Getting Around**

Google Maps – online/offline maps, navigation and public transportation

Uber – request budget-friendly rides safely

Tripadvisor – restaurant, tour and sightseeing reviews from fellow travelers

**Accommodation**

Hostelworld – hostels reviewed by other backpackers

Airbnb – vacation rentals and experiences

**Money and Budgeting**

Cash, Venmo, PayPal – send and receive money securely

XE Currency – live exchange rates and charts

TrabeePocket – travel expenses tracker, budgeting tool

**Other**

Google Photos – backs up thousands of photos (up to 15GB)

Spotify – offline music and podcasts on the go

Been – track the countries you have been to with a list and interactive globe

**Teaching English**

VIPKid Referral Link –

<https://www.vipkidteachers.com/mkt/landing/personal?referralToken=2816acdc19044d4f1d91c8ac2d936ed2&refereeId=25267653>

International TEFL Academy Referral Link – <https://www.internationalteflacademy.com/lp-referral-program?grsf=xk6p62>

**Learning Spanish**

Mundo Antiguo Spanish School: Cusco, Peru – [learnspanishinperu.net](https://learnspanishinperu.net/)

**Volunteering**

Primed Community: Medellín, Colombia – [primed.community](https://primed.community/)

Workaway – [workaway.info](https://www.workaway.info/), Worldwide Opportunities on Organic Farms – [WWOOF.net](http://wwoof.net/)

**Recommended Tours and Tour Companies**

Inca Trail Tour with SAM Travel Peru: Cusco, Peru – [samtravelperu.com](https://www.samtravelperu.com/)

Amazon Experience: Iquitos, Peru – [amazonexperience.net](https://www.amazonexperience.net/)

Peru Hop – [peruhop.com](https://www.peruhop.com/), Bolivia Hop – [boliviahop.com](https://www.boliviahop.com/), Ecuador Hop – [ecuadorhop.com](https://www.ecuadorhop.com/)

**Recipes**

Ceviche – [thespruceeats.com/classic-peruvian-ceviche-1300693](https://www.thespruceeats.com/classic-peruvian-ceviche-1300693)

Pisco sour – [thespruceeats.com/clasico-pisco-sour-cocktail-recipe-3029217](https://www.thespruceeats.com/clasico-pisco-sour-cocktail-recipe-3029217)

Caipirinha – [thespruceeats.com/caipirinha-recipe-759290](https://www.thespruceeats.com/caipirinha-recipe-759290)

**Recommended Restaurants**

La Cantina Fueguina de Freddy (seafood): Ushuaia, Argentina – [facebook.com/CantinaDeFreddy](https://www.facebook.com/CantinaDeFreddy/)

Niño Gordo (Southeast Asian): Buenos Aires, Argentina –[xn--niogordo-e3a.com.ar](https://xn--niogordo-e3a.com.ar/)

La Cevichería (seafood): Cartagena, Colombia – [lacevicheriacartagena.com](http://lacevicheriacartagena.com/)

**Sustainable Travel**

Will it ever be possible? – [lonelyplanet.com/articles/sustainable-air-travel?utm\_source=instagram&utm\_medium=social&utm\_campaign=article](https://www.lonelyplanet.com/articles/sustainable-air-travel)

**Interactive Maps**

PBS – [pbslearningmedia.org/resource/rttt12.soc.ush.samap/south-america-interactive-map](https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/rttt12.soc.ush.samap/south-america-interactive-map/)

**Video Contributors**

[Teaching English Abroad](https://youtu.be/4GCx0lHjpyo): Sarah Charlton – sarahvc1992@gmail.com, Instagram: @sarahvcharlton

[Travel Advice for Women](https://youtu.be/d5SoAbJ6UYA): Chelsea Lopes – chelseaclopes@gmail.com

[Travel Hacking](https://youtu.be/LhxXMtc2QI8): Rachel Dennis – [rachelelizabethdennis.com/travelhacking](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azoK42JTj5U), iamracheldennis@gmail.com

[COVID-19 Update from Argentina](https://youtu.be/LhxXMtc2QI8): Dr. Nicolás del Azar – nicolasdelazar@gmail.com