

# LONG-TERM TOURISTS REDEFINE THE WAY OF TRAVELING AND WORKING



Since the Corona crisis, there are many who have to work in home offices. As travelling has become more difficult due to testing and quarantine requirements, many people decide to spend many months in a tourist country and work from there. These nomads, long-term tourists, have therefore become an attractive target group for many tourist destinations.

The Corona crisis continues to turn life upside down for many people due to the numerous changes, especially in the way they live and work, which is why many people have to adapt to this new form of everyday life, which now mostly takes place via zoom calls. **The economy is on the verge of recession and on top of that, the tourism industry, in particular, has to face the new challenges and fear for its existence at the same time.** In response to all these changes in the way of working, living and travelling, a new type of vacation has emerged, called 'half-tourists' or long-term tourists.

## Working on the Beach

This new phenomenon is getting popular as people who work abroad in a home office, not only to enjoy a relaxing working atmosphere on the sunny beach and pleasant temperatures, but also to get to know their target destination better in their free time. In most cases, these long-term tourists, therefore, stay abroad for at least two weeks and usually even for several months. This phenomenon can therefore be seen as a result of the current corona crisis, which has not only changed the way many people work, but has also forced the tourism industry to look for alternatives to save itself from economic collapse.

## Special Visas for Nomads

For example, Barbados, Georgia, the Canary Islands and Estonia offer special "Digital Nomads" visas for tourists, where the long-term tourists can live abroad for 12 months and work from there. The advantage of this is that on one hand, flight cancellations are avoided, which are rather common at present due to travel restrictions. On the other hand, a long stay helps one to get to know the culture and language of the destination more intensively. Of course, it is still important to observe the current Corona events in the respective destination country before you set off on your journey, especially if you want to travel back and forth throughout the time. The island state of Barbados is not only promoting fast internet, which is essential for home offices, but also a stable infrastructure and emphasizes its good sanitary facilities on the official government website.

However, the whole thing does not come without a drawback: Those who want to apply for a "Digital Nomads" visa in the mentioned countries have to present a very good salary to be eligible. Estonia, for example, requires proof of a monthly salary of 3504 euros; Barbados requires proof of an annual salary of 50,000 dollars.

**Many travel companies have also found a lucrative business in it, which is why there are many other companies besides Airbnb, such as NomadX or SpotAHome, which focus specifically on accommodation abroad for long-term tourists.** So if you have the opportunity to work in a home office and want to escape the stressful everyday life in this country and what is very

important - to relax mentally during work, you should perhaps consider this too.

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