

Preparing for the Holidays

This is the calm before the storm when all the holidays begin. As a traveler, it's a good time to assess where you want to be for the holidays. Do you want to spend time close to family? Is your family spread out all over the United States and you want to spend the holidays with a different part of the family this year? Perhaps you wish to be as far away from family as possible, but you have a few close friends that would be nice to see during the festive season.

Once you have an idea where you want to be. You can create the assignment you want. You may just want to take an assignment near where you want to be. If you timed it right, three months would cover most of the major holidays for the year. If you can't seem to find an assignment where you want to be or you still aren't sure of your desired location, you could also pick a time to be away.

You can create time in your travel schedule to do the things you want. You can commit to an assignment that will allow you the time off that you need.

For example, if you want to visit your friends and family from December 20th to 27th, then preset these conditions when you negotiate for an assignment. Then have that time off written into the contract. Of course, try to be somewhat flexible and compromise when needed in the negotiations.

You can take an assignment and see family for the holidays too. Traveling doesn't have to be "either . . . , or." You can structure and create whatever situations you want as long as you have the idea formed in your head. Holidays and traveling can go together just fine.