

There is a time to stay and a time to go

I know it's hard to believe, but traveling is not for everyone. Permanent staffing does have its advantages too. Most travelers have a hard time imagining the concept of being a permanent staff member again. However, sometimes travelers discover that permanent staffing is helpful at certain times in their life. In this article, I will present a few examples, travelers have shared with me, of situations where being a permanent staff employee may not be such a bad thing after all.

Going back to school

Cindy stopped traveling when she decided to go back to school to get her Masters Degree in Nursing. "I always knew I wanted to get my master. I decided that if I was ever going to do it, I better stop traveling, buckle down and just get it done. I can always go back to traveling if I want to," she says. "From what I understand, some schools offer degree programs online, but that takes a lot of discipline and I enjoy the personal interaction with other students. I do know travelers who are successful with online schooling and I have a lot of respect for them."

Getting back on track

Maggie decided she needed to stop traveling and get back on track. "It wasn't easy for me to give up traveling," she says. "I battled with overeating for years, my bills were out of control, I was a mess." On top of being out of control, I was changing jobs every three months and living in a different city and adapting to new surroundings all the time. In order to be more grounded, I decided I needed to stop traveling and start focusing on myself and developing a good support network. Traveling wasn't the problem, but it helped me avoid facing my problems. Perhaps some day I can take an assignment here and there. I loved all the excitement."

Having a baby

Brenda is a natural born traveler. However, "being barefoot and pregnant, I decided to stop traveling for awhile," she says. "I never dreamed I would be a mother. Suddenly I had to stop thinking about myself and decide what would be good for my baby. I decided that I needed to see a consistent doctor for my pregnancy visits and create a home for my child. I still have hopes for traveling with my little girl when she gets older. I do miss it."

Traveling is one of those things you can return to time and time again. Sometimes, life calls for us to stop and take time out and sometimes it wants us to go and go. The challenge is to know when those times are and to honor them.