



KEEP THE PLATES SPINNING

For Mompreneurs on the Road

You CAN Take It All With You!

It's never too late to chase your expat dreams even after you've started a family.

In fact, adding worldschooling to your child's curriculum can only add to their understanding of the world, and the people who live in it. Your travels will ultimately lay the framework for your child to become a Global Citizen.

Step One: Get Organized

First, remember there is no one on earth more resourceful than a parent on the road. We always have what we need at our fingertips or we do what is necessary to find it quickly.

Let's say you've picked out your top one (or three!) country prospects, and you've figured out how to get there...or perhaps you're trying to assess whether your dream community is a good fit for working parent lifestyle. Here is a quick checklist to help ensure that you'll hit the ground running.

☐

Broadband and electricity – frequent interruptions and super slow Internet speeds will definitely dampen new arrival enthusiasm.

☐

Accessible, affordable, **low-hassle school transportation**.

☐

Reliable childcare options – fatigue is very real. It's also very easy to get overwhelmed at any stage of the process. If you don't feel comfortable with an individual babysitter, try to seek out play date companions, either in-person or virtually.

☐

Scope out the fast food/takeout situation – because the last thing you want to do is find yourself having to cook three square meals a day for a crowd while juggling everything else.

Step Two: Go Paperless

Years ago, I suddenly became a caregiver while starting my entrepreneur journey. I found myself deluged with medical bills, brochures, and other important papers.

Inspired by my more efficient friends, I implemented a paperless process to avoid becoming overwhelmed. That decision laid the foundation for an easy transition when it was time to hit the road.

There's no way to go totally paperless, but the closest you can get it, the better.



Banking and other financial institutions have made the process a breeze to receive statements in your email. Scanning and shredding paper documents that still come in the mail can then go into cloud storage.



The goal is to hit the road only needing to take hard copies of critical documents. The other important would still be available at your fingertips via the cloud, and you'll still be able to pack light.

Step Three: Go Digital

Of all of the things that COVID-19 lockdowns have taught us, virtual/homeschooling and working from home are a challenging mix.

A few hacks can make for smooth sailing, especially during those initial weeks while you're settling in to the new routine.

Our devices are programmed to do so much more than we ever have time to learn about or ask of them. **They become invaluable while traveling with the kids.**

First, Paperless is LIFE.

In addition to Brain Quest books that offer activities to do while in-transit, consider keeping an Education folder in the cloud.

Dropbox, Google Drive and Microsoft's One Drive are excellent tools for organizing educational materials.



They each have apps that allow us to access documents and other learning materials from any device.

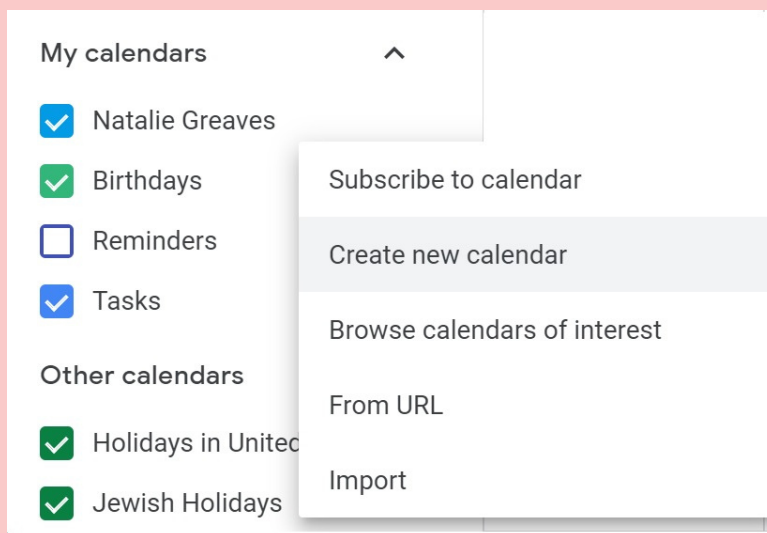
Education.com sells helpful study aids as well as full lesson plans. Teachers Pays Teachers also sends out a Sunday newsletter with free activities catering to every grade level.

I would also recommend checking out the education ministry for your prospective new country. Some provide full curricula for the entire school year by grade.

Step Four: Sync Calendars

One of the most helpful functions of Google Calendar is its ability to create multiple calendars within a single account.

As a caregiver, being able to color code and assign schedules to individual family members meant for better organization. I was able to manage my aging parents' medical appointments, plus my daughter's social calendar while also having a clear view of my own personal and business engagements.



Syncing that calendar to my phone meant few conflicts and it also made travel planning easy.

Finally, adding reminders to Alexa/Google/Apple Home is a game changer. The apps really show out when it comes to the 15- or 20-minute heads-up virtual school sessions or other appointments. It sometimes feels like having a digital nanny who helps to keep things when it's time to transition to something else.

The best benefit is not having to worry about holding all of that in your head. Set it and forget it.

Step Five:

Find Your Village

You are absolutely going to have days where you need to talk to someone. Friends and family may either be in a different time zone, or be unable to relate to your experience.

Here are some helpful, inclusive resources that are great for connecting with other mompreneurs during your journey.

The Expat Woman (of course!) - <https://www.facebook.com/TheExpatWoman>

Wandering Moms - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wanderingmoms>

Nomadness Travel Tribe - <https://www.facebook.com/nomadnesstribе>

Up in the Air Life - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/upintheairlife>

Regular A Homeschoolers** - <https://www.facebook.com/regularasshomeschoolers>

Lunch Club - <https://lunchclub.ai/>

You'll also need to improvise on finding resources on the group. Look for country-, gender-, and interest-specific expat groups on Facebook.

It's also great to map out local coffee shops.

Thank you for downloading my guide! I hope it was helpful.
Feel free to connect with me online:



-Natalie Greaves