Crazzzy Travel

By Anastasia Vlasenko All countries, Collaborative Post June 23, 2014

Romantic Budget Getaways. Part I

As a traveling couple we are always looking for romantic budget getaways to add to our list. Thus, we asked fellow bloggers to recommend their favourite cheap beautiful spots around the world. Please, enjoy the first part of our joint list!

Ko Samet, Thailand

Ko Samet, located only a few hours from Bangkok, is a fabulous place for a budget, romantic getaway. The island is just gorgeous. There is only one road on the island, and it is a world away from the hustle and bustle in Bangkok. The best part for a budget traveler is all the budget accommodation lining the beach. There are also many cheap eateries with options of cocktails and massages on the beach for great prices. I recommend visiting the island on weekdays as it is much busier on weekends when many people come down from Bangkok.



Read more of Sharon's awesome adventures at Where's Sharon

Lake Apoyo, Nicaragua

For budget combined with romance I think of specific locations in South East Asia or Central America. It has to be a place that has an element of natural inspiration. One such location that comes to mind is the gorgeous Lake Apoyo in Nicaragua, a very deep crater lake in an old volcano. The Monkey Hut hostel is located on the waters edge, a 30 minute ride by bus from either Granada or Managua. Great swimming and kayaking. The water is very clear and always warm. And there is plenty of secluded shoreline to walk along with your romantic partner.



Track Dave's unending

travels at Dave's Travel Corner

Gdańsk, Poland

Poland may not be the first county that comes to mind when you think of backpacking or romance, but Poland has one real romantic gem for backpackers: Gdańsk. Gdańsk is a city in northern Poland, which sits on the Baltic Coast not far from the golden sand beaches that stretch from Sopot to Gdynia. The city itself has a certain charm. The historic cobbled streets in the main square are lit by little street lights in the evening, whilst violinists play in the archways down to the river. Arty wine bars and quirky cafés are hidden in the tall stone buildings for travellers wanting to take the weight off their feet together in a red velvet armchair. Best of all, romance in the streets doesn't cost a penny. Like the rest of Poland, accommodation in local hostels, the cost of food and the odd drink are entirely suited to a backpacker budget.



unbelievable adventures at Charlie on Travel

Temecula, California

Lesser known, but just as spectacular, Temecula Valley, California is the little sister to Napa Valley. Wine, cozy hotels, quaint restaurants and fun tours all scream romance. You know that saying "Good things come in small packages?" It describes Temecula well. There are still over forty wineries and even more restaurants. This means shorter waits, less traffic, fewer tourists and even fewer distractions. It's just you, your love and lots (and lots!) of good wine!



Read more about romantic getaways with Diane and Michael at Wife with Baggage

Isla Mujeres, Mexico

Just off the coast of Cancun, tiny and romantic Isla Mujeres (island of women) is short ferry ride away. Flights to Mexico can be bargains, and a holiday on the island offers a chance for a low-cost, quiet romantic vacation. The pace of life slows and you're welcomed to a uniquely authentic Mexican experience. You'll never forget the sunsets! I recommend a stay at the south end, where it is most remote. Garrafon De Castilla is a gem, with a small beach, wonderful restaurant serving tasty food and delicious drinks, good prices and great snorkeling. Tip: The best way to get around the island is to rent a golf cart and just take off. The island is about five miles long and a half-mile wide. You won't get lost. Circumnavigate on the lone main road and pull off to explore a new beach, or stop in to one of the many welcoming cantinas to savor refreshing beers and homemade guacamole.



Learn more about romantic islands with John Roberts at In The Loop Travel

Tossa de Mar, Costa Brava

Tossa de Mar is one of our favorite romantic destinations in Costa Brava. The tiny seaside town is home to a medieval castle that once served as a fortress to protect the coast. Take in a cozy, romantic meal at Chesery, a Swiss-run bar with fondue and live music. Explore the coastline to discover hidden beaches. Head there during the shoulder season (late Sept.-Nov., Mar.-Apr.) to avoid crowds, enjoy a tranquil experience and find cheap hostels/hotels.



Read more about Costa Brava at Barcelona Experience

Little Corn Island, Nicaragua

Little Corn Island, off the east coast of Nicaragua, is not only one of our favorite places; it's also one of the most romantic. This postcard perfect Caribbean island is an ideal location to enjoy with a loved one. Crystal clear water fades off into a turquoise horizon, while coconut trees line the beach and provide shade along the soft white sand. And although getting out there is a bit of a mission, it's simple and cheap living once you arrive. Fresh fish, homemade bread and local fruits keep you going, and hanging out in a hammock on a secluded beach with your partner makes up your days.



Read about unstoppable adventures of Jules and Christine at **Don't Forget To Move**

Mission Beach in San Diego, California

Whether your idea of romance is a friendly competition serving up volleyballs in the sand, hanging on tight while riding a 1925 wood roller coaster named Giant Dipper, pedaling beach cruisers down the boardwalk or strolling hand-in-hand gazing upon a world-famous sunset, Mission Beach in San Diego, California is a quintessential beach town offering no shortage of romance for travelers on a budget. Vacation rentals, inns and inexpensive hotels are plentiful and the coffee shops, bars and low-cost eateries offering up local flavor are sure to delight you. You'll be so thrilled with Mission Beach; you'll forget you're being thrifty!



Read more about Heather's travels at Life of a Traveling Navy Wife

Island of Siquijor, the Philippines

What can be more romantic than your own private beach? We loved our time on the island of Siquijor located in the Central Visayas region of the Philippines. Our beachfront cottage provided easy access to an amazing beach full of heart shaped rocks and crystal clear waters. The location is so secluded and relaxing you can't help but fall in love. The beach at sunset was the perfect place for us to get engaged – so we did.



Read the romantic story of Maynard & Glinda at Travelationship

Palolem Beach in Goa, India

At Backpack ME we're firm believers that amazing travel experiences don't have to cost a bomb. Some of the most amazing places we've been to can easily be enjoyed on a budget. This applies to romantic spots as well, such as Palolem Beach in Goa, India. This beach is happening enough to be entertaining but not too crowded to take away the blissful feeling paradise is supposed to be all about. It is romantic, with a young vibe. At night, restaurants line up tables on the beach with candle light, so you can dine with your feet in the sand. Not expensive, yet very romantic!



Read more about amazing travels of Ashray and Zara at Backpack Me

What other romantic budget destinations do you know? Share with us in the comments!