



IndieTravelPodcast.com

Sweet travel advice for independent travellers

## A simple budget

*Transcript 021*

*July 2007*

Craig: Hi, I'm Craig.

Linda: And I'm Linda.

Craig: And this is the Indie Travel Podcast, episode 21. This week's show is being recorded in a hostel in Warsaw, Poland.

Linda: Before we start though, we'd like to apologise for not getting a show up last week. We spent the previous weekend in Innsbruck before heading west for our work contract, and we managed to leave the power cable for our laptop in our hostel room. And of course we didn't realise until we were completely out of battery on our laptop.

Craig: We did get the cable back a week later, although I almost missed the train, but it was too late to get a show up. I guess we'll have to make up for it this week.

Linda: So, we're back on the road on a one-month indie trip through Poland and the Baltics, after spending six months living in three-star hotels. This should be a good trip for us to come up with some good indie travel tips, since we are on a serious budget.

Craig: And that's what this week's show is about, the budget. Unfortunately, you need money for any trip, and unfortunately, we never have enough. It's really hard to guess how much you're going to be spending in advance.

Linda: A good place to start is your accommodation. Unless you're using couchsurfers or have a lot of friends all over the place, you'll probably be hostelling if you're an indie traveller like us. So before you go, check out [hostelbookers.com](http://hostelbookers.com) or [hostelworld.com](http://hostelworld.com) and find out how much a bed is in some of the places you'll be going to, in the time of year you're going.

Craig: Take one of the low-to-mid range hostels as an indication - don't just assume

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that the cheapest bed is the one you'll get. And, quite often, the cheaper beds are for larger dorms. For example, when looking at beds in Warsaw, which is where we are now, there are dorm beds from 7 to 16 euros, quite a lot at around 10 to 11 euros. We're making 10 euros our approximation. But if we were to travel in a month or two however, it goes up to an average of thirteen or fourteen euros.

Linda: This number - the price of your bed, is a good key to how much to budget. If your transport is already sorted, a fair budget is about double your accommodation cost. So in our example, you should be able to get by on twenty euros. If you don't have a railpass or bus pass, then triple your accommodation cost for a fair budget - in this case, thirty euros.

Craig: We're living on pretty much this budget, and we did last summer on our Western Europe trip as well. Last summer, our average bed cost was twenty euros, and we had a Eurail pass each, which sorted out our transport for the most part. So, our daily budget was forty euros - double the accommodation cost.

Linda: We're heading up to the Baltics now, where things are a lot cheaper, and we're hoping to find beds for ten euros. So far we've managed ... and we're paying for transport as we go, so our budget is roughly triple our accommodation cost - thirty euros each. Or less if possible!

Craig: And we're eating lots of kebabs.

Linda: Delicious and nutritious. Ish.

Craig: Yeah, they have vegetable content.

Linda: Some.

Craig: So our budget tip, in brief: Work out the cost of a bed. Double it if you've got transport, and triple it if you don't. That's it.

Linda: We hope it works for you!

Craig: That's us for this week, simple budget tips. Hopefully we'll find good wifi as we

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go, and won't leave our power cables behind us again.

Linda: So until next week, travel well.

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