

SOUVENIRS

Souvenirs is a collection of travel and multicultural experiences from undergraduates at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Created and run entirely by students, *Souvenirs* publishes a biannual print magazine and maintains a website year-round. Students abroad contribute to online blog posts, while staff members write regular pieces about stories or advice from their times abroad. *Souvenirs* strives to provide a platform for students to share their experience, lessons and memories from their travels and inspire wanderlust in readers.



SPRING 2018 MEDIA KIT

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A PEEK INSIDE

Fall 2017 issue

View complete issues online at www.souvenirsmadison.com/in-print

BECOMING FAMILIAR

ALLISON STRECHENBACH

Waking up at 7 a.m. is never easy for me, but I do it anyway. I rub my eyes, get out of bed and...

After shouting a few miniature bananas in our backpacks, we head out onto the already bustling streets of the fresh mango and papaya that I know will never taste the same back home...

Once we are in Pacifico District, the neighborhood museum, we have our first walk. We have a walk sign, we handle some just in case the army of tanks have different ideas about traffic laws that morning...

Being scared is good because you learn and grow from it. I learned that studying abroad really is the most rewarding thing you can do in life...

of the very first. The sun is already warming up my face and I pack, and I pull on my sunglasses as I touch the heavy of Balambrun...

As we continue our walk, I can see the trees up ahead that signal my favorite part of every morning. I strain to pick out the little chair chatter amongst the other sounds of the city...

We continue on past the primary school, giggling through parents who run into the courtyard to play a quick game of soccer with their friends before class starts...

When you first arrive, everything is so, well, foreign

ME ACROSS

ELLA SUO THE BEGINNING OF EVERYTHING

Guangzhou, an ancient city with a history of thousands of years, is one of my most favorite cities. Although I was raised in this city...

When I told Aunt Judy about my childhood in Guangzhou with my beloved grandparents, she was instantly hooked by the notes of her uncle (my grandpa) whom she had never met...

I have to know more about my father and his long lost family in China. The subject is not just a photograph, it is a story...

ly after a long separation. During the Spring Festival in 2013 when I went back to Guangzhou, I told Grandpa my mission. Quite surprisingly, this seemingly restrained man agreed to be the star in my camera work without hesitation...

how Judy's father was forever separated from his family at the age of 18. I became intrigued about the misadventure so much happier and more reunion and separation. It became flesh and blood.

IT'S OK TO BE SCARED

SOPHIA DRAMM

The night before I left to study abroad, I doubted all my decisions. I was certain I was doing the wrong thing. What was I thinking, going to a foreign country, 4,000 miles away from home...

a totally new place. But I never got a friend before I left, so I remained terrified. After some time in my new city, I finally accepted my fear. In that time, I learned that being scared is okay.

My fear evaporated because I became more comfortable with myself and my decisions. I began to trust myself. I regretted regretting going abroad, because at ease not because I made friends, but because I became at ease through myself.

Students abroad get scared for a lot of reasons, and my reason was because I didn't know anyone in my program. I've always been surrounded by great, supportive friends and this was my first time on my own without them.

Here's how it happens: Fear tears you down and then builds you back up. It breaks you down to expose who you truly are. Who am I without my pride, when all my guards are down?

Being scared is good because you learn and grow from it. I learned that studying abroad really is the most rewarding thing you can do in life, in more ways than one: for from I grew into a better person. My decision to go abroad was the best decision of my life; I certainly did the right thing.



TOP REASONS TO TRAVEL ALONE

MEGAN OTTO

While traveling abroad in a group has its advantages - safety, someone to take photos of you and it helps your parents to relax a bit - going solo can be one of the best decisions you make while traveling.

1. Only one spot left? No problem! Whether it's the last bed in a hotel, the last spot on the excursion you wanted to go on or the last seat on a train, bus or plane, you can say yes and take it.

2. Quality photography, of you! Traveling alone does not mean that all your photos will consist of landscapes and architecture. Instead, you're forced to talk to strangers and ask if they can take a photo of you.

1. You can do what you want to do! When traveling alone, it's completely up to you to make your agenda for the day. Wake up early to head out and explore or take a morning to sleep in. Eat whatever you want. Whether you prefer to play it safe and stick to pizza and pasta or if you are all about trying the most out-there local cuisine that you can find, it's completely up to you.

2. You can wonder endlessly! In a new city and walk, taking in the sights with no set destination in mind or traveling buddies to restrict you. Traveling alone allows you to truly connect with the city and take your time while doing so.

3. You will meet so many new people! It's a misconception that if you travel alone you will always be on your own. When traveling with a big group, it's unusual to go off on your own and meet new people.

4. Independence is the best! If you've been looking for independence and autonomy, traveling alone is the single-best way to feel free and independent. There's literally nothing more freeing than the feeling of hopping off a train or plane ready to conquer a city on your own.

5. You learn about yourself! After spending the whole trip following your own set of rules, you are guaranteed to learn more about yourself. You discover what you excel at doing alone, and figure out what you could use some work on.

6. Quality photography, of you! Traveling alone does not mean that all your photos will consist of landscapes and architecture. Instead, you're forced to talk to strangers and ask if they can take a photo of you.

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THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

ANANSHA URADHYAYA

Being an undergraduate student at a prestigious institution like the University of Wisconsin-Madison can be a very surreal experience. I know it is for me at least. Sometimes, when I am not dreaming to work - or even when I am - I think of going home.

I don't enjoy a laugh every time that fleeting thought crosses my mind because for me, going home is neither easy logistically nor emotionally.

of this is set against the backdrop of time ticking away until graduation. However, I am strangely always thinking of home.

My clearest pitch about where I am from packs the essence of differences between Madison and Bhopal. I say, "I am from a small town in central India called Bhopal with a population of 1.6 million people."

hand, and I know all the best restaurants. But most importantly, Bhopal is my home. It's not just the home I was born in; it's the home I belong to.

My mother always says that the whole of a vehicle seat mount I fall asleep instantly. As a freshman, I was coming back from spring break. It was around 9:30 p.m. and I was asleep in a Coach USA bus, heading to Longwood Street from O'Hare Airport.

There's something about the feeling of being in the town with all of the top universities in India. I walk up State Street, and I am overwhelmed with familiarity. Bhopal is a peaceful city where religious coexist and there is talk of art and humanism. In Madison, I am shocked to find a global environment where people from all walks of life are included.

Despite every difference, there are inevitable similarities that bring me closer to Madison. Life in Bhopal fluctuates between the Upper Lake and the Lower Lake, which connects different because Monora and Mandakda do the same. Bhopal is the state capital of Madhya Pradesh and is famous for being the town with some of the top universities in India.

Madison is a part of the familiarity. I know the streets like the back of my hand, and I know all the best restaurants. But most importantly, Bhopal is my home. It's not just the home I was born in; it's the home I belong to.



WHO READS SOUVENIRS?

Souvenirs' circulation provides access to approximately 42,000 students at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In addition to the student population, UW faculty and staff, Wisconsin Union members and the Madison community have access to the print publication, while the online publication and website is public to all internet users.

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top daily
views



top referral

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