

## JOURNEYS AS A STEP TO THE UNCERTAINTY

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The idea of free and spontaneous journeys, well introduced in the works of such writers as Jack Kerouac and some others, became a road map for a great amount of travelers, starting with the Beat Generation and extending to today's adventure seekers.

The reason of such travels can be absolutely different: soul searching, an effort to escape own problems, dissent from somebody's opinion, for some people it is a way of self-development, for others – just a bit of fun. But nearly always free travel is a fight with own fears, overcoming the hang-ups and leaving the comfort zone. For many persons this can be a method of initiation, growing-up and developing of self-consistency.

One of the most widespread kinds of free travelling is hitchhiking which is among others can give travelers that experience of freedom and indefiniteness. To the advantages of hitchhiking we can place an opportunity to see new cities and countries, without spending money on transport, make new friends, communicate with interesting people, enjoy magnificent landscapes, broaden own's horizons and get rid of many hang-ups.

Hitchhikers are usually meant to be optimists – in most cases drivers pick up fellow travelers in order to have an active talker to know something about his or her life and to tell something about themselves. Therefore person who is introvert get a great chance to change his or her mind and to get some extrovert skills.

Anyway, the reasons of such adventures can be different:

– Financial. Having high cost of travel, hitchhiking is the best way to get to the right place for students and young people, who are on a low budget.

– Sociocultural. Prosperous people of different ages can use hitchhiking for getting real adventures and providing themselves with informal communication to local people in order to get acquainted with their culture more closely.

– Psychological. To solve inner problems through traveling.

Therefore, hitchhiking and other types of free travels can be the perfect way to do soul-searching, improve communicational skills, get new emotions and impressions and to learn new people and countries. Nevertheless, it is important to remember about possible risks during traveling.