

The Happier Abroad Guide to International and Global Dating

By Winston Wu



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Revised 2009

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Introduction

Dear Reader,

Welcome to my Guide to International and Global Dating.

By now you probably either have gone through my website or read my Happier Abroad Ebook enough to decide you are interested and serious about pursuing global dating, living and traveling abroad. And now you're ready to take it to the next level and start preparing step by step for the adventure and dating experience of a lifetime!

Well that's where this guide comes in, to help you prepare and plan your trip, make decisions, choose the right countries, ask yourself important questions, and what to consider. I'm not here to tell you what to do of course. No man can tell another what to do, as no one can know what's right or best for you. Such things are revealed in time. But what I can do is give you tools for self-reflection, general guidelines, and share with you what I've learned and experienced during my years of global dating, and what I've learned from my mentors as well. As long as you're open to it, I can share it.

Now, with 200+ countries in the world, it's difficult to provide info about each one. So what I am going to do is describe what I've heard and experienced about general areas on different continents.

Let me say first though, that in real life, there is no such thing as a formula or system that will guarantee your success in a particular field or venture. And that's because in events and environments involving people, there are always multiple factors that one cannot completely control, as well as intangible variables such as chance, luck, coincidence or whatever unseen forces rule the universe. That's why things often don't go as planned, in both good and bad ways, even with the best of planning. Plus what works for one person may not work for another, even if the other person follows the successful guy's formula to a T.

That being said, it is still wise to have a plan or strategy as a FOUNDATION for your venture. **The key to success is adaptability**, responding to different circumstances as they arise. As Darwin said:

“It is not the strongest or the most intelligent of the species to survive, it is the one most adaptive to change or most able to adapt to change.”

So, have backup plans arranged, prepared and researched, in case your original plans don't pan out as you expected or hoped.

One ingredient that will help you become more adaptive is opening up and broadening your mind. You see, minds that see the bigger picture are more likely to be open to change and adapting. They will recognize when the need for it arises, as well as the type of adaptation needed, and also will be less rigid about it. On the other hand, narrow and rigid minded folks tend to be stuck in their ways and have a harder time adapting to change and new circumstances. One way of broadening your mind is to read and learn about different cultures and/or religions that are very different from your own. Once you delve into them, understand them deeply, and appreciate their value and wisdom, your mind will be much more broadened than before, allowing you to see a much bigger picture.

Now one more thing. Sometimes, there are some decisions in life where logic cannot give a clear answer as to which decision is better. In such cases, you have to clear your mind and emotions, and let your intuition “feel” which path is right. One of them will feel more “natural”. Try swallowing both decisions, and you will find that one goes down smoother.

Anyhow, let's begin now. And if you have any questions, feel free to post them on my Forum at: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/index.php>

Motivational messages to you from my Expat Advisor Ladislav

Before we begin, here is an eloquent message to you about dating abroad from my cultural advisor Ladislav, a Global Dater who's been to over 30 countries and speaks 10 languages, whom I dub the "Socrates of International Culture." It will inspire and motivate you and show you what's really at stake.

An Army of a Million Bachelors

There is an army of one million single men in America now looking for girlfriends and wives while the women are having a ball.

About a decade ago, a Chinese government official warned that if the Chinese parents keep aborting female fetuses in favor of male ones, in one generation, there will be an army of one million bachelors roaming the countryside looking for wives.

While the Chinese authorities are rightfully concerned about the fact that one million Chinese young men won't be able to find life partners and create happy families in the future, virtually no one in America is talking about the already existing huge surplus of young men who have to compete for girlfriends and wives in the USA.

Numbers do not lie- have a look at statistics across the country and you will see that overall, young men outnumber young women by somewhere around 11:10. In some places it is 12:10 or more. Add to this the fact that Hollywood brainwashes young women that they deserve rich and handsome young husbands with big cars and great careers and houses, and the fact that 20% of sexy hunks with money and good looks get 80% of the women, and you have a recipe for a disaster for a simple young man who just wants a date. He can't get one because numbers and statistics are not in his favor. Social and demographic trends are not in his favor. The Puritanical culture of not talking to strangers is not in his favor. In other words, he is behind the eight ball when it comes to dating.

However, the above cold facts are not even an issue in today's America and are not known to the average Joe. He is told that he lacks social skills to pick up women, that he needs to get a better job and improve his appearance, lose weight and develop confidence, pump some iron, take a karate class, all the while American women who dress like janitors and have bad manners apparently have very little problem dating handsome young men. That is the result of the imbalanced demographics in the USA.

The solution to the problem is simple- the surplus men, many of whom are not in the most desirable category from the American woman's point of view, should go to places on Earth where there is a shortage of men and a surplus of women and where young women outnumber young men.

Try it and you will see what I mean. Go to two cities- Moscow and Manila. You will see more young women on the streets than young men. Always. And guess what else you will see- women try to look better, they behave in a sweeter manner, they try and be nice to guys because if they are not nice, another woman will whisk the guy away from her- guys are in demand.

You will see than instead of steely, supercilious looks that you get from women in the US, or no looks at all, your appearance as a man on the streets of Moscow or Manila will attract curious,

friendly and warm expression of interest from young ladies all over. They will be asking you questions, flirting with you, and saying yes to a dinner invitation.

So, why are they so nice? Because good men are hard to find there. The men can get a girlfriend any time they want, and at any age. They do not need to exercise, take classes in social skills, dress well or join clubs. And they are the ones who do the choosing.

In many countries where there is a shortage of men, women stay virginal before they get married because no decent guy would want to marry a "used" woman. Why get damaged goods if there is plenty of fresh, brand new stuff to go around? "You are not a virgin? Get away from me! I don't need you!" is the attitude of the men there.

Men walk proud and tall there, they do not sing whinie, sweet songs to women, women sing those to men and about men. It is a man's world out there and a man's market.

Do you want to be there? I bet you would.

Also, in their economies, women have small salaries and need men to help them survive and establish families. A guy with a good job or any guy who can afford a decent date is hard to find. In their country, there is an army of SEVERAL MILLION LONELY BACHELORETTEs who cannot find a good boyfriend. Is that where YOU would like to be now?

So, the choice is yours: do you want to be a private soldier in the horny army of a million angry and frustrated bachelors in the USA who are fighting over a perennially small number of arrogant, capricious and self absorbed women and be chasing the will-o'-the wisp that seems to always move away from you, or do you want to be surrounded by an army of a couple of million young bachelorettes? I bet that unless you are a glutton for punishment, you would choose the latter.

That is why you would be **Happier Abroad.**

Are we losers?

To those who consider us losers, here is our answer:

We have discovered that love and sex are commodities as any others and they both obey market trends and the laws of supply and demand. We treat male and female attractiveness only in marketing ways, as well.

In other words we export the attractiveness of the American male to global markets rather than depending on the domestic markets alone. If that is being a loser, than any export company that tries to find better markets for its products is a loser, too.

Global marketing is a respectable trend and international trade is a quadrillion dollar a year business. Can you imagine someone writing an email to a large global company with billions in sale around the world and saying something like this:

You loser, what's wrong with a good old American market? Why can't you find an American customer.

Worse yet: Hey what's wrong with American investors? Why sell out treasury bills to the Chinese and Saudis?

As it happens, an American Citizen man (of any race, age and looks) is in greater demand in many countries than he is at home where he is surplus merchandise. So, we are here to market ourselves on the global scale.

Happier Paths

So many of us spend decades of our lives climbing social ladders of societies where competition is high, the dog-eat-dog attitude is the norm, and true friendship and love are devilishly hard to find. We grow stronger in such an environment, wiser in an unhealthy way, and, at the same time, tougher and colder. We are true societal warriors, ready to crush the guy next to us for the benefit of taking his place in the social order.

In the meantime, there are places in the world where we are needed by many people who are actively searching for our help. Many would like to make friends with us and even share their lives with us. However, somehow most of us do not like to look “down” – we are trained to climb, climb all the way to the top. Be like the big players- the highly paid actors, millionaires, doctors, and other great people.

Then, many of us complain of loneliness and coldness among the skyscrapers of Hong Kong, New York or Tokyo not realizing that ultimately we have made the choice to be there, karmically or otherwise. If we really wanted, there are many places where people want us, and often, we can go there and live a life with much less competition and much more acceptance and respect, but many of us simply do not dare to. Or, we are just ashamed to. What will our friends think of us when they see us with those who are poorer than us? In countries that are poorer than ours? Nah!

One of the sources of my feeling inferior to my fellow (wo)men was that I would always compare myself to those above me socially, economically, ethnically and otherwise, while totally ignoring the so many people “below” me in so many places where I would be so much more welcome.

After I hit forty, had a divorce and a near bankruptcy, I finally woke up and began thinking of where I could contribute to the development of the world while at the same time not to become a pauper. It did turn out that one could do both- one really did not need to sacrifice one’s comfort for the sake of serving one’s fellow human being. I also started looking for social life in countries where I felt people would be seeking me out instead of me having to seek them out.

So far, such a balanced life has proven to be a very happy one. When I compare my personal state of mind, and, most important, my present level of happiness to the times when I was living in the concrete jungles of big 1st World cities, thinking only of myself and how I could please the people above me, I always note with satisfaction that, I have, in fact become happier.

So, the lessons that I have learned can be summarized as follows:

- 1) There are plenty of people in many countries that need you. Find out in which ones, where and go there.
- 2) Do not worry about not becoming one of the people at the top of the world. That may or may not make you happy. There are still many places where people would like to have you as a leader; and you can serve them and enjoy the same respect amongst them that billionaires have in large industrial world capitals.
- 3) There are jobs that pay well, but which are still located in places where people need you. You can kill two birds with one stone- make good money and contribute to humanity. There is no need to become a “hippy volunteer”.

Finding a situation like that is easier than one may think. And it may be the best path to follow if one wants to become happy.

If you are interested in reading Ladislav's ebook **Expatriate Observations**, which is the best treatise of comparative culture on the planet, you can receive it as a free bonus gift for ordering my Happier Abroad Grand Ebook (if you haven't already). To order: <http://www.happierabroad.com/ebooks.php>

Advice from a fellow Asian American

Here is some advice for expatriating from a fellow Asian American expat who calls himself DarkTalay. He gives pointers on how to overcome procrastination and fear.

"I teach English here in LOS (Land of Smiles), it doesn't pay much but the cost of living is much lower than the States.

I managed to buy a beachfront condo in Pattaya on the Eastern Seaboard.

The first thing a potential expatriate must do to make a successful escape is to commit and make a choice on actively exploring the notion of leaving one's homeland. He must commit to make as many field trips as he can to check out the country desired. He must cease merely dreaming about living abroad immediately as that encourages procrastination. He will instead visualize himself actually working, living and playing in the chosen country. He will read all books on how to successfully expatriate. He will research on the chosen country, learn something about the culture, history and some of the language.

Once he is there he will connect with the expatriates already living there via the many expat clubs. He will ask hard questions about the reality and ins and outs of living there and finding work. He will visit the local realty companies to check out condos and houses. After he does all of this if he still is motivated he will make a decision and stick to it.

Everything he does from now on will support his expatriating.

He will get rid of that fancy car with its expensive monthly payments. He will move out of that fancy apartment and into a trailer park to save money or convert his property into a source of income. He will cease useless hobbies that are a financial drain such as playing the horses or going to lap-dance clubs. So what if your family and friends raise their eyebrows, you are busy engineering your escape to a better life. He will make financial arrangements with his accountant for overseas communication and tax returns. He will start disposing of accumulated junk in his life that's served its purpose but is now a drag on his life. Junk such as comic book collections, old love letters for ex's, bowling trophies, etc. He should be down to a suitcase and a carry-on by the time he departs. He will set a firm date for moving out, if he doesn't he will find more excuses for inaction and never commit. He will be very discreet about his plans to casual acquaintances especially Western women especially if he plans to move to **Thailand**. He will find that doubters, mostly female will come out and try to discourage you.

They will cast doubt on your manhood ("What's wrong, are you threatened by strong American women?").

They will tell your half-truths about moving abroad ("it's dangerous, you'll be back in a month.").

Do not depend on mainstream travel guide for information relevant to expatriating. They are written for back-packers, wealthy couples, women, Gays and Lesbians.

"Lonely Planet" is very slanted against the single heterosexual male tourist and is not to be depended upon..

On-line forums such as www.pattayasecrets.com are better and have less disinformation.

Putting up pictures of the country's landmarks and post-it notes on bathroom mirrors with encouraging phrases is helpful.

I have strong doubts that any of this is going to be listened to much less act upon.

Few Americans even have passports.

Most men are used to being wage-slaves and will block out any information or advice from friends about becoming an expatriate.

Most will just read this, shake their heads, and declare that it's a hopeless dream and return to working at a soulless job with a miserable commute and a rancid nationwide dating environment.

Thousand of expats live abroad, why not you?

DarkTalay"

Also, here is how he put everything in perspective, so you can see the big picture of what you face long-term in the US vs. abroad.

"Let's see, climb the corporate ladder, work over-time doing things you hate for people who look down on you to pay for a house you can't afford and a fancy car that depreciates as soon as you drive it off the lot.

Getting a measly two weeks of vacation time while Euros get months.

Slave away at this job only to have the company down-size or get taken over and have your position made obsolete and find out that you are unemployable since you are middle-aged.

To bust your ass trying to please American women and get their attention.

Marrying your sweetheart only to see her turn into a nagging fat shrew.

Working at said job and finally retiring when you are too old to enjoy your freedom, consigned to watching "Oprah" at the senior center, playing canasta on Saturday nights and having "Senior's Night" at Denny's your weekly thrill.

No thank you!

Most men are indoctrinated from birth via the schools and the mass media into becoming enslaved for life to this treadmill.

Men become so preoccupied with covering up his ass at work (meeting quotas) and playing the political game while desperately trying to meet suitable women.

American society has changed radically over the past century before WWI most Americans worked at

agrarian jobs, born, raised, marrying and dying within a few miles of his birthplace. He probably went to a church which was a place where all the community met. He knew and was known by all of the females from childbirth having gone to school and to the same church as they attended. There were matchmakers, barn-dances, ice cream socials to allow singles to meet.

Finding a mate was easier as women were expected to find a decent husband and were raised to respect men.

The Industrial Age and WWI changed all that as farm-boys went to war and were suddenly exposed to fighting in a foreign country, growing up very fast and being exposed to an alien culture. The mass-marketing of the automobile and the creation of the Intercontinental Highway system made America a mobile society.

Now people can live in a neighborhood and scarcely know their neighbors.

Feminism has destroyed trust between genders and now men are seen as predators/criminals/fools.

Mass communication is cheaper and easier than ever with cell-phone, internet, VIOP and chat-rooms yet people are more isolated and out of touch than ever.

There is no real effective way for singles to meet nowadays as men are working overtime to make ends meet and have little time to socialize. But that is what they were told to believe in and it makes them great wage-slaves who can be easily manipulated.

Personally I tried singles groups, singles ads and partner-danced for years with little result.

I have friends who haven't had a date for years and are unlikely ever to meet a decent woman.

Those relationship "experts" are like the American Cancer Society, they are not interested in helping you but to rake in cash from desperate people dying to meet a partner.

A few men have found the courage to get off the treadmill and find their fortunes Overseas. It's not easy, some men have fallen on their faces but most have succeeded.

Dark"

Step 1: Preparation, Decisions and Planning

Self Evaluation – Basic factors

First you need to gauge yourself. Here are some general factors to take into consideration.

If you are an older man seeking younger women (typical of many expats) then you are best off going to countries where big age differences are tolerated. Generally, the poorer countries have the highest tolerances and acceptance for big age differences in couples. And the most open, relaxed and unstable countries do too. For example, the Philippines is very liberal about age differences. You will have to do some research on the countries you're going to first. Ask your traveling friends or post some questions in internet forums related to the countries you are going to. It's a good idea to get a variety of opinions though, so you can find commonalities in them.

If you are a younger guy in his 20's or early 30's, then you will have less of a problem with young women of course, unless they prefer men much older.

Gauge your attractiveness too. Ask yourself if you would be considered attractive in your chosen country by most women there. Look at the fashion magazines of the country you're going to and the male models of the ads in them, to get an idea of the ideal standards of beauty there. Or find mass pictures of couples there, to see what type of men the women that you like tend to choose. Use Google Images as a start, then find popular websites about fashion from that country. You can also write to girls in that country through free social networking sites and see how many responses you get. That will give you an idea of how well you would do there dating-wise. Dating sites are great too, but sometimes contain many scammers, so to get a purer picture, the free social networking sites are better.

Of course, different countries will have different standards of male attractiveness. For example, in Russia big bulky masculine men are considered attractive, or ken doll guys. But in France, slender artsy shorter intellectual guys are seen as attractive. And in the Philippines, any clean cut, clean shaven, man who is well groomed and has good hygiene will be considered handsome or good looking. In richer Asian countries, women tend to be far pickier about looks. And in some countries, attractiveness is more about personality and character than about appearance. It all depends.

Then comes the race factor of course. Some countries are more racist than others, and have stronger racial preferences in their dating culture than others. Look at your race and the race of the kind of women you want to date. I can only provide some general guidelines with this, as there are many variations and factors.

If you are a White man seeking white women, Russia/Ukraine is a hot spot and so is Europe. Some recommend Australia or even Canada, claiming that the women are more warm and friendly there, while others disagree. If you are a white man seeking Asian women, almost anywhere in Asia is doable, as there is always a segment of the female population that likes white males which outnumber the supply of white males there, even though it's only a minority of the overall population. There is one exception though, and that is Thailand. There, only the bar girls and prostitutes go for white males, while the mainstream local women shy away from them due to the negative social stigma of being seen with a white man. The variations between the countries in Asia are described below in the global dating markets section. And of course, if you seek Latin women, then South America is your ideal place, particularly Brazil.

If you an Asian male seeking white women, your best bet is either Europe or the Eastern part of Russia (Siberia). Australia is doable too, not the best, but easier to get dates than in America. If you seek Asian women, then you're in luck. There will be no racism against you in Asia, since you're Asian. But there will be ethnocentricity in countries that look down on other Asians as lower class, such as Japan or Korea. If you like Latinas, then South America is good as it's very open and nonracist.

If you are a Black male seeking white women, Europe is probably the best place. They seem to do well in Germany, the UK, and Holland. And also in Eastern Europe as well. Many Euro girls have fetishes for Black males. But if you're seeking Asian women, Asia will be highly discriminatory against you. Your best bet there would probably be the Philippines, which is the most racially tolerant country there, as well as the most open. South America is very open to Black people too.

If you seek Black women of course, Africa would be your best bet. But be careful there, as some regions can be pretty dangerous.

Dealing with psychological, social and practical obstacles

Here are the common obstacles to dating abroad, psychological, social and practical.

1. **Social taboo** - We are taught to seek friends and dates locally, that the best of everything is in America and that there is nothing good beyond its borders. There is a loser stigma associated with people who seek dates, girlfriends or wives overseas.
2. **Contempt from peers and family** - Going this route may also incite contempt from your peers and family. You also risk being viewed as bizarre and crazy by others, and may even be avoided. Things that go against established norms often do not make people comfortable.
3. **Comfort zone** - It is difficult to break out of an established comfort zone, even if you're miserable. It's easier to take the path of least resistance.
4. **Job and local responsibilities** - People who have a regular job will be tied down locally with only two weeks of vacation per year. Or they may have a house mortgage, debt or other local obligations.
5. **Lack of funds** - People with little or no money may not be able to afford to travel abroad.

Now the first two obstacles involve psychological and social issues that can be overcome by willpower, motivation and asking oneself - *Which is more important, pleasing others and remaining unhappy or making yourself happy and living without regrets?* To keep motivated, it is a good idea to read my Ebook as well as the personal messages to you from my cultural advisor Ladislav. The third one is a biggie because it's too easy to take the path of least resistance. Some would rather be comfortable in their misery than face change. The way to break this is to get mad and angry. You've got to get yourself fed up to the point where you can't tolerate your situation. That will give you the willpower to really break free.

But the last two are practical conditions that pose as real obstacles and not easily resolved. It takes proper planning, time, patience, dedication and hard work to deal with those. And it might even require consultation and help from a professional financial planner. But like they say, where there's a will, there's a way. If you want something badly enough, you'll find a way, even though it may take time and cause you to make sacrifices.

To deal with the fourth obstacle, you may have to change jobs or careers, sell your home, establish residual businesses, start a business abroad, live on credit, or make other drastic changes, etc. In the meantime, you may have to settle for going abroad only two weeks a year during your vacation time, until you restructure your life to spend more time abroad. There are books out there that help you plan to live overseas, many of them are listed in my [online bookstore](http://astore.amazon.com/happabro-20) (<http://astore.amazon.com/happabro-20>). So you've got to ask yourself, how much does it mean to you to find a partner or have a rich love life?

As to the fifth obstacle, you'll have to work and save up some money without recklessly spending it. It's best to work temporary or contract jobs though, so you're not tied down and expected to be there long term. Local employment agencies can help you find those. Just look in the yellow pages or local online listings for them. Even if you're only making minimum wage, you can still save up enough money, around a thousand dollars, for a plane ticket in one or two months, if you SAVE ALL of it after taxes. To maximize your savings, you may even have to live with your parents for a while. But hey, you do what you gotta do. If you are in debt, you may have to get help with debt management, or if it's too big and out of control, you have to file for bankruptcy.

You can also get certified in teaching English overseas and land a decent job that way. Some schools may even provide your airfare and accommodation expenses if you qualify. There are books about this in my [bookstore](http://astore.amazon.com/happabro-20) (<http://astore.amazon.com/happabro-20>) as well, or you can look up info on ESLCafe.com.

Whatever the situation, remember that where there's a will, there's a way. Just start acting on it soon, because you know, life is short and passes by, so you've got to live to the fullest without regrets.

Now, you may need some motivation, inspiration and guidance in all this. And that's where this website and my ebook comes in: www.happierabroad.com

My [Ebook](#) is like a Gospel or treatise on this subject, and will inspire and enlighten you with reasons, explanations and examples, giving you a global perspective on things. I offer it at a low price with three bonus gifts. In the future, I will also be offering a step by step guidebook to going overseas and dating women (to be announced). But for now, should you need specific advice, you may ask for it in my [Discussion Forum](#), where me and my advisors frequent. Or browse any books in my [Online Bookstore](#) that might help you.

Perhaps a quote from Ernie Zelinski, author of [The Joy of Not Working](#) is in order here:

“It’s not intelligent to take extremely high or uncertain risks. Wise people take calculated risks. The key is to take smart risks instead of stupid ones.

Contrary to popular wisdom, the risk of taking action can be less than the risk of inaction. Life is a perilous journey at best. Incredible romance, remarkable fame, and outstanding success are attained by those individuals who take substantial risks. On one hand, you can play it totally safe and wind up with what you already have to your name — you may even wind up with less. On the other hand, you can take a few risks and cash in on a few wonderful opportunities and wind up with a lot more of the things you would like out of life.

Traveling on a risk-free road, unfortunately, won’t get you to any important destination. Unfavorable odds shouldn’t keep you from pursuing what you know intuitively you were meant to do. Many people will criticize you for attempting those things that they wouldn’t dare attempt themselves. Cowards, who would like you to remain a coward, should be ignored. There is a time you have to be courageous and dive into the unknown with the intention of swimming with what fate brings your way. Happiness and satisfaction will be much more forthcoming when you have the courage to pursue your convictions.

When your inner voice is telling you to take a risk, it’s best to do so even though your rational mind may be telling you otherwise. Following the tried and proven path may appear the safest. In some ways it is. But blazing your own trail will bring you more adventure and satisfaction and leave tracks for others to see. Conversely, you won’t leave any tracks following a trail that’s heavily traveled by the masses.

If the path you have taken in life feels really safe, then likely it is not the right path. When you look back on your life, you’ll regret the things you didn’t attempt more than the ones you did and at which you failed. The virtue of risktaking is emphasized in this old adage: “Someone who tries to do something

and fails is a lot better off than the person who tries to do nothing and succeeds.”

Step 2: Selecting a country – Overview of global dating markets

Generally, the best place to live in a country is not the biggest city or capital, but in the smaller or mid-sized cities. The big capitals are usually more expensive to live in, have higher prices, and have more materialistic cultures. Life there is geared toward work and fast paced living, not socializing.

Also, women in the big cities are more Westernized, materialistic, and spoiled than in the smaller cities. And you won't be as much of a novelty to them since they have been more exposed to foreigners. In addition, the local women tend to be from a higher income level, so they will be more demanding and hold you to higher standards. On the other hand, in rural areas and villages, the women may be less spoiled, more humble and innocent, with stronger family values. However, people from such areas that are too primitive may be very simple or barbarian-like, which means you won't have anything in common with them, so it will not be a good match. The best solution is something in the middle, such as small to mid-size cities.

With that in mind, to help you select the location or region of your target market, here is my guide describing the general patterns and tendencies of each region, based on my own experiences, those of my advisors, seasoned travelers, experienced global daters, and many field reports. I've arranged them by continent and will note specific countries that are significant. This may be a bit overgeneralized but will still be highly accurate statistically. There will be individual variations of course within each population described, which is to be expected.

One you select your target area, it is a good idea to research some basic facts and info about the country you are going to. Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page), Lonely Planet (<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/destinations>) and the CIA World Factbook (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>) have entries on each country. TransitionsAbroad has the most comprehensive list of expat links I've ever seen: <http://www.transitionsabroad.com/listings/living/resources/expatriatewebsites.shtml>

To get an idea of the cost of living in a particular country, see this [International Cost of Living Calculator](http://www.salaryexpert.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=COLCalculator.intlcol&lang=en): <http://www.salaryexpert.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=COLCalculator.intlcol&lang=en>

Keep in mind though that these expat sites are only practical resource guides. None of them go into the kind of depth and truth that Happier Abroad does. Like most sites, they are mostly governed by political correctness.

You may also see my summary of all the countries I've been to, including the US at: http://www.happierabroad.com/Country_Summary.htm

But keep in mind that even if you make an informed decision about which countries to go to, the only way to know for sure is to go there and try it to see how it works for you personally. Usually, you will have a hunch or intuition or gut instinct about it. Somehow, one country or area just “feels right”. In important decisions, you will get a sense from your “higher self” or “sixth sense” (trust me, such things do exist) about the right decisions and choices. Sometimes you just have to try different places and see what happens. You will find that you have different chemistries with different places, cultures, and people. In my experience, when you are in a new place, if you vibe well with it and have some kind of synergy or chemistry with the place, or are meant to be there for a while, things will happen within the first few days (or hours) to affirm this. Coincidences will go your way, opportunities will fall into your lap, the right people will come into contact with you, etc.

Pay attention to any synchronicities that happen, for they may be trying to tell you something. The universe and your higher self sometimes gives you messages about important decisions in such ways. As a rule of thumb, they usually happen early on. Here is a video explaining how to watch for synchronicities that will lead to results: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUhVNo_URVs

Always be prepared and expect the unexpected. Things may not always go as expected, but don't let that get you down. Each failure or missed opportunity teaches you something. Things generally happen for a reason, but not always for reasons you can understand or comprehend.

With that, here are things to consider about each continental region in the world.

First though, here are some tips from my cultural advisor Ladislav about what to consider when selecting a country to date in:

You love the country but will it love you?

Some people who are interested in other cultures to the point of wanting to expatriate and go to another country to live, need to keep one thing in mind and ask themselves this question: "Will the country love you the way you love it?" Prejudice against certain groups is very strong in some parts of the world. Find out how you will be perceived in that particular nation or region, and whether you happen to be a member of a group that is not very popular in that country.

For example, an Israeli guy who likes Italian music and culture may not be making a wise choice when he contemplates moving to Italy long term. Prejudice against Jews in Italy is still quite strong. He may run into unpleasant incidents while there, and many people may not like him.

A Canadian guy who has always enjoyed Russian music and is fond of Russian culture and people, is contemplating a long trip to Russia. He is hoping to make new friends and, possibly, even to meet a great Russian woman and have a romance with her. The problem is, he is black. Now may not be a good time for black people to go to Russia. Skinheads are attacking people of color in many parts of the country. Black people have been beaten, stabbed and shot at. While he may love Russia, many people there may not like 'him'.

A Russian guy loves Cuban music. He is contemplating a trip to Cuba and a possible relocation there. He has always been fascinated by the sultry Cuban women, Havana cigars and, in his heart, he may even like Fidel. However, Cuba may not be a good place for a Russian to be. Anti-Russian propaganda is very strong there now. Since Russia became capitalist, many Cuban people feel that they have been betrayed by the Russians. He may feel resentment coming from a lot of people there. Therefore, planning to go to Cuba may not be a good choice for him.

The good news is that there may be a culture similar to the culture we like, but whose members are not nurturing a grudge against someone like us. An Israeli guy may want to go to Uruguay instead. It is a cosmopolitan society with not much prejudice towards the Jews. And the culture is very similar to the Italian culture.

A black Canadian may choose Croatia or even Slovenia- a similar culture to Russia but without much prejudice against blacks or black Canadians.

A Russian may do better if he goes to a place like Brazil or even Venezuela. People in those two countries have similar cultures to Cuba without much prejudice or grudge against the Russians.

So, choose wisely. Do not invest time, money and energy in preparing yourself to love a country that may not love you back. Unrequited love hurts. It hurts even more if it is accompanied by daily frowns, a beating or a gun shot.

If you want to expatriate, I can assure you that there is a country just for you where you will feel at home. So do your homework, research, ask around and you will soon find your true love which also returns your feelings.

European Region

Europe is one of my favorite regions, not just for dating, but for rich culture, history, museums and architecture. It's also very open minded and intellectual, which fits my personality and vibe very well. I am one of those who feel right at home in many European countries. As its reputation goes, Europe tends to be more open and less prudish about sex and nudity than America, hence the nude beaches in France. And if you like history, the Old Towns in each European city will take you back to the feel of the Renaissance period or Medieval era.

Based on my experience and what I've heard, here are the pros and cons about women and dating in Europe.

The women there are generally far more approachable and open than North America. Meeting them feels more comfortable, natural, and part of the flow. There is less of an ice barrier or defensive shield between strangers and people often talk to you like they already know you. The women tend to be tall, highly educated, and speak multiple languages. They are open minded, and great for socializing and having stimulating conversation with. Depending on the country, some are more reserved than others, but overall they are generally sociable and approachable as long as you do it in a civil manner and within the context of the situation.

Overall, compared to their American counterparts, they are far more broad minded, aware of the rest of the world, cultured and less racist toward interracial dating. Though they are independent-minded like American females, unlike them they do not live in fear or paranoia, and thus are far more comfortable traveling alone and talking to strangers. Also, they do not have an angry "man hating attitude" like many feminists in the US do.

Some regional variations: Western region of Europe is more Westernized (and more expensive) and Northern Europe tends to be more reserved (e.g. Scandinavia). In Eastern Europe, things are cheaper and people are more communal. There, women still cherish their femininity and take pride in dressing feminine, wearing skirts, panty hose, high heels, giggling, blushing, being flattered by compliments, etc. (traits which men love but are seen by American women as outdated and weak).

Field reports of dating in Europe vary. Some say European women are a thousand times more open, friendly and approachable than American women, while others say they are only a little better, and some say they are about the same. It also depends on the country of course, as well as the individual and their chemistry and standards. But overall, the majority of field reports from global daters claim a far richer and more fulfilling experience with European women than in the US.

As for minorities, Asian and Black men report that they experience far less racism in Europe than in America, and that there is less stigma against interracial dating, especially in liberal countries such as The Netherlands (Holland) which harbors an infamous red light district in Amsterdam. In fact, it is often said that Blacks in the UK seem more well adjusted and do not have an "inferiority complex" like they do in the US. That says a lot right there.

Colored men in Europe are seen as novel and interesting to the locals, who view differences as interesting and attractive, rather than as repulsive and an excuse to clique with their own race only. Asian men have a novelty appeal in France, for example, while Blacks have that in Germany. In such countries, there are many women who want to try out men of color, at least once.

The most positive reports come from Eastern Europe, where it's cheaper, less westernized, and more communal, inclusive and open. Though economically poorer, it is still rich in culture, architecture, museums, Old Towns, etc. And the women are friendly, festive and open. Meeting them is natural and comfortable, like part of the flow. The southern European countries are warmer and tend to be more active and lively as a result. They are good for beaches, cultural activities, and "fun in the sun" but not necessarily for dating.

Western Europe is more expensive of course, and many say the women are just as snobby and hard to get, though others disagree. Overall though, they are more open and cultured than females in the US and if you get to know them, you form "truer connections".

One problem for colored men is that in some European countries, such as Poland, the women prefer to date only White males. They may socialize platonically with colored men, or have language/culture exchanges with them, but will not consider them for serious relationships or even flings. They will claim that they are not racist of course, but by their actions, they will only date White males. For average Asian males who are short (5ft 7 and below), there is another obstacle in that most females in Europe are taller than them, and as you know, most women prefer men who are taller than them.

Also, Scandinavian countries such as Norway, Sweden and Finland, as well as Switzerland, tend to be more reserved and private, not for those seeking wild open women. Hungary has also been reported to not be particularly friendly to strangers.

Russia, Ukraine, Former Soviet Union

First, here is a great dissertation about Russian people, their life, culture and customs that will get you acquainted with their way of life.

<http://www.womenrussia.com/russians.htm>

Now, having spent a total of over a year in Russia, I can personally attest to the following firsthand.

Russia is a country of extremes, in every way imaginable. Wonderful things can happen there, exciting things, as well as horrible things and nightmares. Like India, the problems are so complex and nonsensical that no one seeks to try to understand them, including their own historians and sociologists. They merely accept the unexplainable. You could even say that the country and its population perhaps thrive in chaos, since things have always been unstable and in constant flux there. If you revel in chaos, you will love Russia. Though the mindset of the general Russian populace is pessimistic, amazingly their spirit is strong and insurmountable, and their ability to enjoy the moment in a festive mood is part of their lifeblood. Thus, they have learned to celebrate their misery and dire conditions, being as they say, "happy pessimists".

When you get to know the Russian people and peer into their psyche, you will come away with a sense of awe. They have survived the impossible, incurred the worst atrocities, yet they remain strong, spirited and jovial. What I've told you only scratches the surface of the complexities and mysteries of Russia. There are so many deep quotes and sayings about Russian character and life that volumes could be written about them.

The culture is rich and European-like, especially in St. Petersburg. There are many interesting museums and historical sites that will fascinate the history enthusiast, one in each town in fact. Russians are proud of their history and youngsters are usually well versed in it.

Anyhow, as you may well know, Russia has the largest market for marriage agencies (or the mail order bride industry, as critics call it). Websites for Russian brides and marriage agencies abound. Thus, the public has the perception that most women in Russia are desperate to leave their country. But in actuality, the women in the bride agencies constitute a very small fraction of the population, less than one percent in fact. In any country in fact, including the US, the majority of people do not have their pictures and names up on any website, whether it be dating or non-dating. The majority of Russian women aren't trying to escape their country, but they do love to visit different countries. Those that are looking to live or work overseas tend to look more at Europe first, because of its proximity to their home.

Nevertheless, the Russian bride industry flourishes mainly because of corruption. Most of the women in these agencies are there to either be showered with free gifts, obtain financial assistance, be wined and dined with no strings attached, or are looking for a visa abroad. Very few are really there to look for love. Thus, it is wise to be wary of them. Many of these agencies are out to exploit gullible men and part them from their money. If you wish to utilize them, at least use the most reputable ones like A Foreign Affair and Elenas Models. Avoid the ones on Jim's Agency Scams site.

That aside, Russian women are an interesting blend of characteristics. They are among the most beautiful in the world - tall, have very attractive features, dress top notch and highly educated. Ask anyone who's been to Moscow or St. Petersburg and they'll tell you how many fancily dressed gorgeous tall women they saw. And are very educated and knowledgeable in history and culture. Most tend to speak multiple languages, with German and English being the most popular foreign languages. Like European women, they love to travel, are curious about other cultures and have a lot of interests.

The great thing about them is that not only are there so many good looking women in Russia, but they are VERY approachable as well. The society there is very OPEN and DIRECT, and people are not paranoid of strangers, even if they're shy. We're not just talking about men and old people though (which would be the case in the US) but ATTRACTIVE WOMEN as well! In general, females in Russia are comfortable talking to strangers and meeting new people. It may not mean that they are interested in a romantic or sexual relationship with you, but they are often glad to talk to you, practice their English, and show you around their area. As in Europe, differences arouse curiosity in Russia and women aren't shy about it.

Hence, if you are a social butterfly, you will love Russia. People love to talk and socialize there. You will always find company, even if it's just platonic. Be very careful if you befriend males there though, as they can end up setting you up for rough scams (as I've found out the hard way) and can pose a great unnecessary risk for you. It's best you befriend Russian males through connections you trust, or ones that are obviously middle class and above. Don't befriend guys who are broke though, or else their desire to take advantage of you and swindle you will teach you a hard lesson.

A big benefit for men is that single women are everywhere in Russia, perhaps a surplus. Whereas in the US, almost every girl I chat up will say they're taken (whether they really are or not) in Russia most girls I've met say they're single (even if they aren't interested in me, so it's unlikely they are lying).

However, there are some serious downsides to dating women in Russia though. And there are many global daters who argue that the downsides outweigh the pluses.

Since the fall of communism, people have become more corrupt and lawless, cultivating an opportunist mentality. Economists describe it as reminiscent of the Chicago "grab and run" gangster days of Al Capone. It's a mercantile Darwinistic mentality that lacks any true conscience. For con artists, scams and swindles

are not wrong but a way of life. There is no shame in it. They see it as a game they play for kicks and profit. And they rationalize their behavior by telling themselves “If they are stupid enough to be swindled, then they deserve it.” And of course, they carry this into cyberspace, where they bedazzle gullible love-struck men with photos of hot sexy Russian women and trick them into sending them large amounts of cash. Both male and female con artists engage in this, as it’s become quite profitable.

This is why there are so many reports of scams from Russians on the internet. Where there’s smoke, there’s fire, and there is a lot of smoke indeed.

What this means is that there is a high rate of scams among Russian women, especially those from the lower class. Even if they aren’t professional scammers, often they will try to hustle you or pressure you into buying expensive gifts or giving them cash with no strings attached. They may make false promises, put pressure on you, use psychological manipulation or even demean you and shame you to get their way (e.g. “A real man is generous and will gladly buy a woman whatever they want, not stingy!”). This is especially likely if you are a multi-dater who games many women at once, for these leeching types will undoubtedly come your way. But those who build up a long distance relationship with one woman and go to Russia to only see her are less likely to run into such scammers.

Hence, there are many horror stories about Russian women, as many men have been swindled by them, or even gotten married to them just to have them leave when they get to their country and file false charges.

You may find it strange that this is true, in light of all the positives about Russian women described above, but like I said, Russia is very paradoxical, and you have to learn to accept that. They are like the paradoxes in quantum physics.

Therefore, if you’re going to go for Russian women, you’ve got to be very careful and prudent, and be willing to take some risks. But one thing for sure, you won’t be bored.

Some say that the only Russian women left with good values who are wife material are from the villages. They say the rest are all corrupted by greed and materialism. But others have found good girlfriends or wives in smaller cities and even in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Every person’s experience will be different depending on luck, timing, and chemistry.

For Asian men, they will face some racism in Russia, sometimes subtle, other times more overt. There is a lot of xenophobia in Russia and skinhead groups too. And unfortunately, most Russian women prefer “white looking” men for relationships. But many will be happy to befriend Asian men for language/culture exchange and show them around platonically. This can be fun but if they aren’t serious about you or won’t sleep with you, can get boring and wasteful after a while.

Asian men, if they are outgoing, will meet many women easily in Russia, but finding a real relationship may be difficult. Some girls just BS for fun too and pretend to be interested when they aren’t. They live for the moment and may go along for the ride. They would theoretically do better by going to Siberia and the Eastern part of Russia, which is closer to Asia and more “Asianized”. Their race would be more welcomed in Eastern Russia.

Black men and East Indian men will face the most discrimination in Russia, and even overt violence. They are not encouraged to go there, but instead Europe or South America.

Unfortunately for sex tourists, serious people will tell you that Russian women are not as “loose” or “easy” as per their reputation. They do not sleep with every foreigner but in fact are very picky about who they sleep with, even if they are very open socially. The misconception that they are wild and will sleep with everyone is mostly the result of exaggerations from bragging men, jokes, media hype and stories about

Russian women selling their bodies for a visa abroad. Of course, if they are in love with you, then they will sleep with you very soon.

But the truth is, even the gold diggers and visa whores will not just jump into bed right away with a foreign man (unless they find them physically attractive) just to get something they want. Such “users” will usually attempt to get what they want WITHOUT giving sex to the men they wish to “use” (unless they are attracted to them). They will make excuses such as “I am conservative and move slowly” or “give me time” etc. If that fails, they may hand over their body to you, but at a high price first. They will make sure they get what they want FIRST, so they have the upper hand. And even then, will still try to give you the least amount of sex possible. Users and greedy women tend to be extremely stingy and are always trying to get a lot in exchange for little or nothing. It’s their mentality and personality. They do this in a cold calculating manner. If you’re not willing to pay or buy them whatever they say, they will call you stingy and shame you, even though they themselves are stingy to the nth degree. It’s a huge double standard of course, and total hypocrisy. And it gives Russian women a bad reputation. But it’s the manipulation tactic of the whore.

Russia has many prostitutes and in fact it’s legal there. But they treat it as all business and give customers cold robotic sex in exchange for high prices. Plus it can be risky because some prostitutes rob men or even spike their drink, taking all their cash and valuables when they are unconscious. The best looking pros are in the big cities and in clubs like “Night Flight” in Moscow, but they cost a lot. Generally, the less attracted they are to you, the more they charge, and if they are attracted to you, they will charge you less. There are cheap whores in the smaller cities, but they tend to not be very attractive.

As to Ukraine, some of their culture and people are similar to Russia. But everyone has a different take on which is better and why. Tastes and experiences can be highly subjective too. But Ukraine definitely has more lax visa laws. Americans can easily get a long term visa there, which has drawn many sex tourists in the past few years.

My sources tell me that two undiscovered frontiers are the former Soviet Republics of Kazakstan and Kyrgyzstan. It is really easy to meet women there, and guys report the time of their lives. Uzbekistan though, is more conservative and prim/proper like.

If you’re going to Russia, be sure to get my Travel and Dating Guide to Russia in my ebook catalogue: <http://www.happierabroad.com/ebooks>

Also see my free guide to avoiding scams in Russia on their turf: http://www.happierabroad.com/Russian_Scams.htm

Asia

Asia is another big expat hotspot for living and dating. The cuisine in Asia has the most variety in the world. And the people tend to be gentle, soft-spoken and humble.

Since Asia is a big area with many variations, what I can do is give you some overall patterns that I’ve identified.

Though definitions of East Asia and Southeast Asia vary, for categorical purposes, we will define “East Asia” as China, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Korea and Vietnam, and “Southeast Asia” as Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Burma, Cambodia and Laos.

First, the good news for white males with “yellow fever” is that in each Asian country there is always a portion of the female population that have “white fever” as well. And in fact, the supply of Asian women

who seek white guys tends to be greater than the white males in their country, giving white males the advantage of choices.

The best countries and top spots for dating and meeting women in Asia tend to be **Philippines, Thailand, China, Cambodia, and Vietnam**. Of course, they are among the poorest as well, or at least they have large segments of the population who are in poverty. Remember that generally, poorer nations tend to have more open, warm and inclusive cultures, while richer nations tend to be more private, isolated and workaholic.

With American expats, Philippines tends to be the most popular because the population speaks at least basic English there, making the language barrier less of an issue. Both the Philippines and Thailand though, have the largest commercial sex industry, with a variety of go go bars, clubs, and variations of “sex for sale”. However, unlike the US, the sex workers do not treat it as purely business (unless they don’t like you) and often treat their “clients” as real dates and potential partners. Many of these bar girls are seeking real boyfriends and husbands too, not just cash. And they appreciate nice guys far more than their Western counterparts do. Plus, their soft nature and tender personalities make them much more feminine to men with Asian fetishes, or “yellow fever”. In addition, the Philippines is probably the most open, nonjudgmental and non-racist country in Asia, making it the ideal inclusive place for everyone, especially males who have been deprived of female company. The drawback to the Philippines is that most of the cities and towns there are dirty and polluted, and most of the food is considered the lowest quality in Asia, made with cheap ingredients of poor quality. Plus, in such poor countries, there are going to be frequent petty scams against foreigners, most of which are not dangerous, merely annoying. But many expats learn to deal with these drawbacks and live with them. To read a raving inspiring story in the Philippines, the one that inspired me to go there, see here: http://www.happierabroad.com/Love_Adventure_Philippines.htm

In the rest of Southeast Asia, such as Indonesia and Malaysia, there is also a warm and open society. Compared to the Philippines, they are more conservative and religious. But their cultures are still relaxed and people are very comfortable talking to strangers. (I have not heard much more about dating there, but if I do, I will update it here)

As to first/second world countries such as Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Vietnam, China and Korea, it is still possible for foreign males to date or marry women there. However, these countries tend to be more reserved socially. Their societies and cultures are not as open, relaxed, wild and “let loose” as South America, Italy or Spain is, but are more conservative, prim and proper. Their attitude toward life is also more serious and strict, not as laid back as in the poorer countries. The expats drawn to these countries tend to be quiet, reserved and conservative themselves, as these types fit in better there. What this means is that meeting women in such nations does not come “fast and easy”. The women there are more shy and reserved, and often fearful of talking to strangers. They take longer to warm up, and of course, are not as open to “cold approaches” as women in poorer Asian countries are. But once they do warm up and get to know you though, they can be very loyal, kind and dedicated to you, becoming a “keeper for life” so to speak. So, dating and meeting women in these countries takes patience. And patient men who are not in a rush tend to do better in this. For the impatient guys seeking fast action, fast women, and fast sex, the poorer nations such as Philippines and Thailand are much better options to fulfill their desires.

In first/second world Asian countries, since women are more shy and not as comfortable about meeting men in public, one has to use more conservative traditional methods of meeting women, such as 1) asking friends or acquaintances to introduce you to female prospects, 2) joining organizations, classes, or events that fit your interest, 3) work related environments (it is not taboo to date coworkers in Asia like it is in America, but common and normal), or 4) through the internet of course (social networking sites, dating sites, pen pal sites, special interest sites, etc.).

Some of my friends do meet women in public in these countries though, by using some innocent socially acceptable methods. For example, they will ask a girl for directions and then some open ended questions

about where to eat, what to see, etc. acting like a lost tourist. If the girl is interested, she will in turn ask you open ended questions back, such as where you're from, what you do, what you're doing there, etc. Then you find common interests to build upon, and as you do, you develop a sort of "comfortable shared energy" together that forms the basis of a "friendship" to grow. In conservative Asian countries, men and women are usually "friends first". Then you exchange emails, MSN usernames, or phone numbers and take it from there. Or you can ask them for the time or a question about something in the place where you are both in, and use the same strategy. But you've got to come on very politely, not strong. If the girl is interested, she will reciprocate and show positive body language. If not, she will brush you off or look away, and in that case, you move on to another.

To keep a conversation going though, you have to have something to talk about after the basic introductions. This takes some skill and practice. Basic conversation 101 teaches that you listen for "hot words" in their speech that allow you to focus on topics that they like and expand upon them into a more developed interaction. And then getting them to talk more about themselves. It also helps to be knowledgeable in a topic that Asian girls are interested in, such as cooking and food (a favorite topic in Asia), anime, music, or studying their language. The problem though is that most Asians do not have a wide array of hobbies and interests, but are mostly concerned with practical things (I guess food and cooking are practical).

Of course, your LOOKS are a big factor as well. In East Asia, women tend to be very picky about looks (whereas their Southeast Asia counterparts are far less picky about them). So if you are good looking (by their standards) you will do far better and they will be far more willing to meet you.

Another obstacle is that beside Hong Kong and Singapore, where English is a common language, most women in these first world Asian countries are not going to be able to speak or understand English, so you'd have to learn their language. Otherwise, you'll be limited to finding English speakers only.

Of these economically higher Asian countries, Taiwan seems to have the dimmest sex industry. And in that sense, you can say their society and culture are the most "prudish" in East Asia. Taiwanese officials and government have taken great care to nearly eliminate all venues of commercial sex industry in Taiwan. But the rest still have their fair of the commercial sex industry. Hong Kong has massage parlors, prostitutes, and sites like sex141.com with hundreds of model quality women that take "in calls" that you can sleep with at affordable prices. Singapore has a red light district called Geylang with extremely attractive streetwalkers and freelancers. And Japan has many hostess bars, massage parlors and saunas where you can purchase pleasure and sexual gratification, but at very high prices of course. Japan is not a place for those on a budget.

In East Asia, China and Vietnam are favorite spots for finding wives. There are many women in those countries seeking to go overseas or to marry foreign husbands. That's why males in other East Asian countries who are seeking foreign brides tend to select those countries as they have a bigger selection, especially for older males seeking women much younger.

Now for the pros and cons of Asian women in general.

Generally speaking, Asian women make very good wives, are loyal, dedicated, and have superb domestic skills. They are also very practical, responsible, and level headed. And they tend to have a strong conscience, high morals and solid ethics. Given the chance, they love to study and get degrees to educate themselves and raise their status. They worship education as a religion. You will rarely find laziness among them.

The downside of their traits is that they tend to be overly practical, lacking imagination and creativity as well as the ability to think outside the box or think for themselves. They also tend to be quiet, shy and have few opinions. Some men prefer that of course, but not others. They may make good wives, but not good for philosophical discussions or intellectualizing over ideas. If you're looking for a "Socrates" style discussion

in fact, you will rarely find it in Asia. People there are conditioned to only think about practical things, and by nature they are conformists and followers, not creators. So, not surprisingly, they are very materialistic as well.

The less educated ones, in the poorer countries especially, tend to be very simple minded, and incapable of providing intelligent stimulating conversation. However, in a fun loving laid back country like the Philippines, they will at least be playful, and enjoy joking around and flirting.

Another drawback is that they tend to be highly judgmental, closed/narrow minded, and picky about little things. Though these traits are good for quality control in things such as cleanliness, orderliness, food preparation/cooking, etc., they can be bad for human relations and can lead to frequent bickering and trivial arguments. If you are not familiar with Asian culture, you may not notice this at first, as East Asians like to put on a polite smiley face in front of strangers. But within their own families, frequent arguing and fussing over little things is very common and close friendships are even sometimes severed over personality conflicts. But in Southeast Asia though, this is not the case. Women there are more relaxed, laid back and not fussy over little things, nor judgmental, but in fact far more lenient and tolerant.

Also, East Asians are taught that life is VERY serious and thus they carry stern solemn facial expressions in public. So if you are a very open, laid back, wild, slapstick, fun type of guy, this may create a personality rift between you and them. The best solution is to seek a girl with the same attitude as you or who at least complements you well.

Another disadvantage is that the percentage of attractive women in Asia is small. Most of the girls there are kind of plain and nerdy looking. The few that are hot or attractive, are VERY stunning and surreal. But they are difficult to get. The super model kind that you see in Asian fashion magazines though, is attainable only by the super wealthy, powerful elite, CEO's, and the rich and famous. Generally though, it's easier to get a hotter girl in a poorer country vs. a richer one. But most guys are happy as long as the girl is "cute".

If you are an Asian global dater, you'd probably have the most choices in the poorer countries. The richer East Asian countries are possible too, but you'd have less choices and be held to higher standards. Wealth and a prestigious career determine your status and are what women primarily seek in East Asia. Plus countries like Japan and Korea are highly ethnocentric, looking down on other foreign Asians. But whites have the advantage in that there is always a female segment in Asia that have a fetish for white men.

Black and Hispanic men though, will face strong discrimination and racism in East Asia. They are seen as lower class and undesirable. An East Asian girl who dates a Black guy will face extreme opposition from her family. So their chances are much smaller, though not zero of course. Blacks and Hispanics will do best in the Philippines, where there is the least racism and where there are some girls who prefer Black guys.

None of this above is absolute of course, but are only general tendencies. As mentioned earlier, there are always individual variations and exceptions in every general group or pattern. Logically though, one should use patterns and tendencies to find the places with the highest probability of success. But of course, life is not always logical or formulaic.

For more info, see the second part of this page, which gives a comparison summary of dating women in each major country in Asia: http://www.happierabroad.com/Love_Adventure_Philippines.htm

South America

I do not have any personal experience with South America. But from what I have heard, the culture down there is very lively, festive, open and fun. They love to party and do not live to work. Socially, it is very

inclusive and warm, the kind of place where people will talk to you like they already know you. The girls are easy to meet, fun, sensual, passionate, and wild in bed. They got the “Latin dance beat and rhythm” as you might have heard, which is a vibe of its own.

Columbia and Costa Rica are considered the best countries in South America for love, girlfriends, and wives. They are also inexpensive places to live and buy property.

Brazil’s Rio de Janeiro is legendary as one of the wildest spots on Earth. But they only like men with lots of money and act very macho, so it’s not for everyone. Plus most Brazilian women only speak Portuguese, so it’ll be hard to communicate with them if you don’t speak their language.

Here is a trip report on my Forum summarizing the pros and cons of many countries in South America:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4180>

Africa

I also do not have experience in Africa. But I hear that if you like Black women it is definitely the place to be. Africans are very open, communal, inclusive, relaxed and they love differences, which means that foreign people interest and intrigue them.

One of my European friends reported that Senegal has plenty of wild women. And some have said that Ethiopian women are very sexy, feminine, and intelligent.

The Middle East

Not much needs to be said about The Middle East, except that no one goes there to get women. The Islamic laws forbid such things.

There you are only allowed to befriend other men. Foreigners tend to go there for work, as contractors, on military assignments, or for cultural reasons. Or of course, they are Muslims going on a pilgrimage to Mecca. Jobs there tend to pay well and be easy with great benefits though.

Your only chance is to get prostitutes in Dubai. But that’s a very expensive area.

Australia

I’ve never been here but heard mixed things about Australia. Some say the women are too Westernized and similar to American women. Others say they are friendlier. In such discrepancies, usually the truth is somewhere in between. However it can be hard to gauge the truth because a lot of reports you hear are muddled with political correctness and from those who are too polite or view the world through rose colored glasses. To them, everyone everywhere is nice and wonderful. They will be not be very discerning in their observations or they will only report positive things.

Aussies are westernized but they very open minded and love to travel. That’s why you see so many Aussie backpackers. Social racism there tends to be less than in the US.

Step 3: Budget and goals

Expenses

If you are wealthy, then you need little guidance in this area. Affluent people tend to value convenience over cost and tend to prefer to have reservations all prepared in advance. If that's your style, then simply use a travel website to book all your airfare and hotels, as well as airport pickup. There are many out there. If you have time, try to find a good deal by using flight and hotel comparison sites. Or just have a local travel agency arrange your details. Well off people tend to be good at money management and planning anyway, so not much from me needs to be said.

The thing about searching for hotels online though, is that you usually find only the expensive ones, as those are the ones that advertise online. They are not for the budget conscious.

Most young travelers though, unless they are professionals taking their two week vacation, are on a tight budget. There are many websites that teach you how to travel more cheaply. Here are links to some of them:

<http://www.transitionsabroad.com/navpages/links/bestbudgetwebsites.shtml>

<http://www.worldscheapestdestinations.com/id10.html>

<http://www.bootsnall.com>

<http://www.budgettravel.com/>

<http://www.hobotraveler.com/>

To get an idea of the cost of living in a particular country, see this [International Cost of Living Calculator](http://www.salaryexpert.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=COLCalculator.intlcol&lang=en): <http://www.salaryexpert.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=COLCalculator.intlcol&lang=en>

There are also budget travel guides such as *Europe on a Shoestring* and *Lonely Planet*, etc.

How much you spend also depends on how long you are planning to travel. Those on a two week vacation can obviously splurge a lot more than those going for several months. It's also best not to pack too much, but pack very lightly, or else you will regret it, unless you plan to be staying in fancy hotels most of the time.

Also, it depends on whether your habits are simple or whether you need comfortable conveniences. Those who are simple and can travel the commoners way will be fine taking buses, trains, and subways. Others prefer taxis, private cars and hate walking. People on a budget though, obviously need to live simply if they are traveling long term.

Food can be pricey or cheap, depending on your budget. Even in expensive countries, like Japan or the UK, food can be cheap if you know where to look. It's best to ask locals to help you find the best budget deals. In poorer countries like the Philippines, you can spend \$2 per meal and \$20 per night for hotel, for instance. So it's relatively cheap, except for the airfare there. The good news is that in countries with good food, even really cheap food is delicious and made with quality ingredients.

To find budget hotels, you can't always find them online. They are usually not advertised. You often have to ask locals or taxi drivers to find them. Lonely Planet has budget accommodations too, but their info tends to be outdated by the time the guides comes out.

Hostels are also great money savers and ways to meet other open minded travelers. Most of them cost between 15 and 20 dollars, and offer dormitory style accommodations. Each one is different and offers a unique experience and personality. You can find them at www.hostels.com or www.hostelworld.com or www.hihostels.com. To contact the hostels themselves, simply google their name to try to find their website, email and phone number.

So take what you can spend and divide it into the days you will be visiting overseas, and you will have your budgeted spending allowance per day. If you have credit cards, bring them along to use at places that take them. You may have to pay a 3 percent surcharge by using them, but then you can save your cash and not be forced to carry around too much cash (which is risky) or have to go to the ATM all the time and incur those expensive bank fees.

Another great money saver is to use free accommodation sites such as www.couchsurfing.com, www.hospitalityclub.org, and www.globalfreeloaders.com during your trips. However, these are not just free rooms, but culture exchanges as well. You must be willing to share your culture and knowledge with your host, not just use them as a hotel. This means you have to be a very open and warm person who is comfortable opening up to strangers, who in turn will reciprocate the same back to you. It's a new idea and unconventional, but very popular among travelers and backpackers. It's not for everyone, especially those who are closed and private types. But if you can fit the program, it can be a very rewarding experience where you will meet wonderful people and make new friends.

The drawback of being on a budget though, is that you may appear poor and stingy to the women you want to meet and date. So you will have to do this selectively. If you are going to meet a girl for instance, then stay in a nice hotel or apartment that you can bring her to. But when you are just passing through or visiting some cultural site, then use a cheaper hotel, hostel, or the free accommodation site. Mix it up so to speak. If you're out on a date, take her to a nice place one day, then another day to a more casual place. Most girls will appreciate that.

Travel vs. Relocate

This is a complicated and highly personal issue. Every person's situation is different. So all I can do is provide guidelines and a bit of practical advice.

If you have a regular job, you will be limited to traveling during your paid vacation weeks only, which in the US is around two weeks a year, sometimes three if you're lucky. If that's not enough for you, you can arrange with your boss for more time off providing that it is an unpaid leave. But of course, since corporate America idolizes workaholics, that may make you look bad in their eyes. You've got to decide how important your job is to you. Are you there cause you love it or just for the money? Is it easy for you to get another job if you lose it?

If all else fails, a two week vacation per year is better than nothing, and will at least give you an idea of the foreign world, though in reality, it's not enough at all. Corporate America definitely does not want you to get immersed in another culture.

But you've got to decide what's more important to you, conforming to society and being a wage slave, or dating the foreign women of your dreams. If it's the latter, there are many books out there that will help you live a more free life where you can travel more and live on less income. My bookstore has many such titles: <http://astore.amazon.com/happabro-20>

Now, if you're between jobs, a contract worker, a temp worker, or a freelance worker, then you are in the best position to travel longer. And if you are out of a job, or quit, then you are much more free, but may have to live under a tight budget of course.

If you have no cash and can't even afford a plane ticket, then go to the temp agencies in your town and get some temp work assignments. They are listed in the yellow pages under "employment agencies". Get a

temp job that you can tolerate. Then save up money for a few months while keeping your expenses low. Go live with your parents if you have to, to save on rent. There's no shame in it, at least not in most countries.

If you've never been abroad, it is a good idea to take some scouting trips to different countries first, to get a feel for them and see where you fit in best. Usually within a few days, you will get an idea of a culture's vibe and its characteristics. First impressions are usually accurate. To truly understand a culture takes months and to integrate it into your soul takes longer.

If you decide you wish to relocate overseas so you can live in a happier social or dating scene, then you will need to do some major planning. Of course, you can wing it too, and make it that way, but it's very risky and gutsy and not for everyone.

Ways to make a living overseas

If you have a pension or residual income from a business in the US, then you are in the best position to relocate without worrying about income. But if not, you will have to plan to do one of the following:

1) Teach English (one of the most common routes) – You can do this without a TEFL or CELTA degree but you will be paid less and accepted by smaller English schools, not the big name ones. But of course, it depends on the demand and supply and how badly they want you. If you can afford it though, it's best to get a TEFL or CELTA (CELTA is better) as it will lead to higher paying jobs and increase your market worth. Some schools

2) Work at a US company overseas – This is an ideal option, getting a US style salary while living in a cheaper country. But they are difficult to get. Jobs require certain skills and are usually for oil companies, defense contractors, and military. Many US corporations are international as well. You'll have to do a lot of job searching online. Type in your target country followed by the word "jobs" into Google. Most jobs though, are not advertised, so try to network with as many people as you can.

3) Work at a foreign company overseas – This is an option, but it's tricky, as you have to find one that's willing to employ a foreigner and incur the risks and costs and provide work permits. Often though, they will hire you underground or just bribe the law, depending on the country. But if you're working in a poor country, you may get low salaries, but as long as it's enough to get by...

4) Start a business overseas – This is another common endeavor, but it requires a lot of investments in startup capital as well as risk and almost all your free time and energy at the beginning. So it's not for everyone.

5) Start an internet business or get income from online work – This is the ideal situation as there is little or no investment cost in it. Many dream of this. But it is very very difficult to succeed in. Making money online is highly competitive and takes a lot of skill, knowledge, business sense, and luck. You've got to sell a steady product or service that people are willing to consistently pay for. Or if you have programming, web design or editing skills, you can be an online freelancer. Nowadays, you can also give English lessons and language practice online.

Here are some ideas and links:

Ways to make money online:

<http://www.doshdosh.com/ways-to-make-money-online/>

List of freelance job sites:

<http://myseoblog.net/2008/04/07/lists-of-freelance-sites/>

<http://www.freelancer.com>

<https://www.demandstudios.com>

Teach English online:

<http://www.verbalplanet.com/teach-english.asp>

6) Volunteer in the Peace Corps – The problem with this is that your heart has to be in this. Otherwise, there are a number of disadvantages. You do get your living expenses paid for, but you do not get to choose the country you go to. Plus it's a two year commitment and your daily schedule will be highly regulated. Most of your time will be spent working on projects. You will have little opportunity to date foreign women. Most of your social time will be spent with fellow volunteers in your assignment area. So I don't recommend this as a path to foreign dating. More info: www.peacecorps.gov

7) Working in US foreign services, Embassies and Consulates – A government job like this is definitely a great steady career with nice benefits. But you do not get to choose the country you go to. Plus it is a long term commitment once they assign you to an Embassy. So you are left with little control and freedom over where you go.

<http://careers.state.gov/officer/index.html>

For some guidebooks about working overseas or finding a job, see my Amazon Expatriate Bookstore at:

<http://astore.amazon.com/happabro-20>

Finally, some words of wisdom from my cultural advisor Ladislav about how to achieve a balanced lifestyle abroad:

“Those men who visit exotic foreign lands are often taken in by the beauty of the scenery and the women as well as by the friendliness of the local people. Their money which doubles or even quadruples elevates them to a higher status than what they had back home. Being suddenly rich, in a beautiful land, surrounded by gorgeous women who admire the man every step of the way, the charmed tourist sometimes says: " Wow! I am never going back home, I am staying here."

However, after being in the place for several months, the tourist discovers that not all is rosy here, either. Corruption abounds. People seem unreliable. He is overcharged when buying simple commodities. And, sooner or later, he starts running into people who do not like for a foreigner to be there. He needs to bribe people to get simple things done. Nothing seems to work. People do not speak English, or what he perceives as "correct" English and, after a while they expect him to speak in the local language.

In other situations, he learns the local language but the locals do not understand his accent and are not helpful. Some make fun of and look down on him. Some feel insulted that a foreigner is speaking their language. Some, particularly in the case of Asian societies, stare at him as if he were a block of wood, disbelieving that a person of another race can speak the local tongue and guffaw in ugly laughter when they realize that he is in fact speaking it.

The culture shock and the disappointment set in.

Now he begins to understand why the local people treated him with so much respect in the first place- he was perceived as a rich and successful visitor from America, an achiever, a new face from the land where everything is possible and opportunities abound. Now, that the locals see that the tourist

is not as rich as they thought and is complaining about this and that, their friendliness to him diminishes. They cannot do much about the corruption the disorganization and the poverty of the country and it irritates them even more to see a foreigner whining about the fact that the things are not the way they are back home. His girlfriend is also unable to help him. In many cases she does not have the money or the connections to set up a business for him or make him advance in his new society. Eventually, the tourist starts seeing that while there were not many beautiful women and/or friendly people back home, everything else worked well, he knew the social and cultural rules and did not feel out of place as much as he does here.

In addition to that, he discovers that as a foreigner, his legal rights in the new country are limited. He cannot own real estate, cannot have anything in his name and is dependent on visa authorities to grant him the permit to stay in the country.

Eventually, the embittered tourist ends up teaching English for a pittance, not being able to find a job in anything else and observing the local rich living the life of Riley while he is plugging along from one meager paycheck to another.

Then, he goes home, a broken man.

This is a very typical scenario which can be observed with many starry-eyed expats all who tried to find work in the so-called developing countries.

Now, what if you have money? Like, a lot of money.

Well, now we are talking about a whole different game. If you arrive from America with a few hundred thousands of dollars, the smiles will not diminish with time. If you become a foreign investor, and go through the local government authorities and hire local lawyers, then, your quality of life will be much much better. You will love the people forever and the people will love you, the cultural problems will not seem unsolvable, but rather, amusing. The woman will not be upset with you and she will serve you blindly forever.

Ah! The power of money!

If you are not rich yet but have a way of making money either in your country or in some oil-rich state in the Middle East, you should become a frequent, long-term visitor who comes and goes. This way, when the culture shock hits and the place seems unbearable, and the locals get tired of you- as in about three months, you can then leave, go back home, " regroup", recuperate, see things in their proper perspective and let people back there miss you. Distance lends enchantment and when you are back there with more money, well rested and confident again, you will thoroughly enjoy your stay and be attractive to the local women again.

The above are not the only scenarios, either. Here are some things one can do:

- 1) Work on the Internet for a company back home. You can be a translator, an online instructor or a programmer. This way, you can live in a country you like without having to deal with the misery of trying to eke out a livelihood from the local corrupt and inefficient economy.
- 2) Become an artist or a writer - you can work anywhere and email or, in case of paintings ship them back home to various galleries. This is hard even back home and takes time to establish oneself. With the Internet you now have a chance to speed up the process and make a worldwide living out of it. It is not easy but possible.

3) Become a buyer of goods. If you find a customer back home, you can offer your services in the way of buying merchandise in a foreign land at discount prices. But for that, you will need to have local contacts. These are not easy to find.

In all cases, one needs to do proper homework, learn about the culture and the laws and patiently work one's way into the new society without severing ties back home.

A smart expat is not an emotional but a cool-hearted and patient one. And he never relinquishes his ties to his home country- it has a lot to offer in the ways of organized business infrastructure, availability of information and the seriousness of the people.

The best way to expatriate has been to live not in one country but to use each country for what it is good for: the West for business ties and the "fun" countries for fun and romance. Be prepared to shuttle back and forth a lot."

Step 4: Meeting women abroad

One thing that American expats and perpetual travelers have in common is that the longer they spend abroad, the more they realize how much better the women abroad are in general. For example, Andy of Hobotraveler.com said in a FAQ:

<http://www.hobotraveler.com/faqs/index.shtml>

"I am not happy that American women like to act like men, they are difficult and obnoxious, they do not see the errors of their ways."

And that's the beauty of the overseas world. Women are so refreshingly different. They are so feminine and devoid of the attitude and male-hatred that you're used to in the West, and appreciate men a million times more than their US counterparts. The more you experience this, the more convinced you are of it, and realize how bad it is in America. It becomes crystal clear. That's why meeting and dating women is the sweetest pleasure of being abroad.

As an example, see my article about the 6 advantages of European and Russian women over American women: <http://www.happierabroad.com/ebook/Page52.htm>

And see how many people raved about the difference location has made in their experiences with women: <http://www.happierabroad.com/ebook/Page74b.htm>

Now for some basic guidelines to meeting and dating foreign women.

Meeting women online - Guidelines

If you're meeting women online first, here are a few guidelines.

First, make sure to use reputable sites or at least sites that are not blacklisted. If you're using a Russian marriage agency for example, check with Jim's AgencyScams.com site to make sure the site you're using isn't blacklisted. Also Google the name of the dating site to check other people's reviews about it. Avoid marriage or bride agencies that do not have a physical address or phone number. That is a red flag. And do not trust those agencies that send you fake letters from foreign women that have links to bride sites that ask you to join so you can respond to the letter. Those are all scams.

Here is a list of reputable dating sites and free social networking sites that you can meet foreign women on:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/dating.htm>

Avoid using international marriage agencies that don't have a physical address or phone number. That in itself is very shady and suspicious. Some marriage agencies or translation services that solicit you by email, may not even have a website in addition to not having an address or phone number. Those you should definitely avoid, because they are probably scams. If you get contacted by such posing agencies, offering translation services for letters with beautiful women they want to hook you up with, ask them for their website, physical address, and phone number. If they decline, that's a big red flag.

During correspondence, ask to speak with her by phone or webcam with her. A genuine sincere woman will be glad to speak with you, whether it be by phone, Skype, or Yahoo or MSN voice chat. Seeing them on the webcam confirms that they are who they claim to be. And speaking by phone or voice chat helps to gauge the chemistry between you two, making the conversation more real and lifelike, rather than just through email.

If you're corresponding with females who can't speak very good English, try using an online translator like Google Translator: <http://translate.google.com>. If you do, here are some hints to help minimize translation errors.

- 1) Keep sentence structures and grammar as simple as possible, as if you were writing to a child, being careful to be simple and clear.
- 2) Avoid words that have more than one possible meaning, because the translator will often translate a different meaning of it than the one you intended. For example, rather than saying "I am like a tiger", say "I am similar to a tiger". So when writing a letter to be computer translated, check every word to make sure it has only one meaning, and change the ones that don't or rephrase the sentence another way.

It's a good idea to correspond with several women at first and not obligate yourself to one too early, unless you are sure that she's the one. This way you don't put all your eggs into one basket. It's also not wise to commit to someone whom you've never met either, nor should you feel obligated to. But hey, love isn't logical and sometimes people who have never met are just sure that their online sweetheart is "the one" and it turned out that they are right. So like I said earlier, people and relationships do not fit into formulas. Each case is different and unique. There is no one system or rule that applies to all.

If you're one of those guys who is strongly a "one woman at a time" type, then you can't be something that you're not. That's fine. Just try to have some backups ready in case anything goes wrong, or at least a backup plan. Even if you are only serious about one woman at a time, there is nothing wrong with having some other female friends as a backup, especially if you met them on non-dating sites.

Organize your female contacts when you go abroad like this: Put all the contact information you need in a word processing document, print it out to carry with you in hard copy form (though don't let any of the ladies see it), and put a copy onto a CD or memory stick to carry with you as backup. Also upload it as a file to your email account as well so you can retrieve it from any internet cafe. I usually format them out like this:

Woman's full name
Telephone number
Email address
Home address
Location, City
Any other miscellaneous notes you need to make about her

And if you're using a marriage or introduction agency:

Agency name
Telephone number
Email address
Address, location, city
Staff to contact

Etc. Etc.

Visiting one woman vs. many

This is a common dilemma that Western men encounter or soon face when beginning the process of corresponding with Foreign women. It has also been discussed in many articles, discussion lists, boards, etc. The issue is whether one should correspond and develop relations with one woman at a time, or several at once. The abbreviated terms on the internet for these two methods are WOVO (Write One Visit One) and WMVM (Write Many Visit Many). There are no absolute rules of course, but here is what I have learned regarding this issue.

Most men (and especially marriage agencies since they have a vested interest in it) suggest the WMVM approach. The rationale is simple. If you "put all your eggs in one basket", you are taking a big unwarranted risk and could end up being disappointed and wasting a lot of time and money in the process. It just doesn't seem sensible to put all your chips on one person, especially if you haven't met her yet. Besides, there are just too many horror stories of men who went to only visit one woman he corresponded with, only to have things not work out, and then he realizes he bet all his chips on her for nothing and has to start the process all over again. Therefore, it seems more sensible to correspond with several ladies, and visit them all on one trip to narrow down the field. This way, it ups the odds in your favor and broadens your choices, giving you more "backups" if things don't work out with certain ladies. However, this can be seen as unethical and make you look sort of like a "cheating two-timer" in the eyes of some (particularly women), and some men's conscience won't allow them to do it that way. Hence, the dilemma.

In addition, one runs the risk of spreading oneself too thin if he visits too many women at once. And if he visits them in the same city, there is the risk of them finding out about each other, which would be a big time embarrassing disaster. Still, the consensus of most experienced people is that before going to a country, you should at least narrow down the field to about three ladies with high compatibility potential. That seems to be the general advice you'll find from most advisers in this area. I would agree with this, as I believe that you aren't required to be exclusively faithful to someone until you've met them and spent some time together. Therefore, my own suggestion is to use the WMVM method but narrowing it down to a few good potential prospects, with perhaps some "backup" women or introduction agencies to call if none of them work out or you find yourself with some extra time on your hands.

However, if you find that your conscience prevents you from using the WMVM method, and you only feel comfortable with the WOVO approach, then I would suggest that you at least bring contact information with you for some dating introduction agencies in the area you will be in. That way, if things don't work out, you can call them to arrange on-the-spot introductions or other services, so that you can meet and date other prospects. And even if you're using the WMVM approach, it's good to have this contact information ready on hand anyway, since you never know when you might need it.

Watch out for online scammers

Watch out for the typical scam where you received canned letters professing love early on, describing how she's dreaming about you everyday, telling all her girlfriends about you, etc. Those are all setups to ask you for big amounts of money later, for some stupid reason like either to pay for her visa to come see you (not possible) or to help a sick relative. It's a form of the oldest trick in the book where someone attempts to hype up your emotions to the point where your clear-thinking senses are subdued, so you will just go along with whatever comes next. Sales people, advertisers, multi-level marketing recruiters, preachers, and scam artists use this tactic all the time. It's a classic brainwashing trick, and no different with Russian con artists who want to scam you. The easiest way to detect these scams is to notice that they never answer your questions, or only answer them on the first sentence before the canned form letter. And also when you ask them for their phone number, they come up with an excuse such as that they have no phone.

NEVER EVER send money to someone you only know on the internet. Too many girls are using men to get free money, and too many men are all too willing to send them free cash, that it gives us sensible guys a bad name and perpetuates an expectation that we will do the same. If you are wealthy enough to spare them a few hundred dollars, which is what they usually want, then at fine, it's your money. But at least pay attention to the following: How soon does she ask for money after you begin correspondence? If it's within a few days, that's a very bad sign that she is just a user. And when she receives your money, notice her attitude. Does she act like you owed it to her? If so, that's a red flag. Or does she act very shy, bashful and appreciative? Also note how soon she asks for money again, as if she's greedy for more.

For the rest of us guys who are on a budget though, we can't afford to waste precious funds on greedy girls who want to use us, nor are we obligated to. There are some guys though, who truly believe that women should be bought. Their style of human relations is to influence and control others with cash. These types will do things their way of course. But I do not share their values.

Here are some tips to help screen out the scammers:

- Ask her questions about herself. See if she answers them, or just sends you canned love letters that sound fake. Some scammers won't answer any of your questions while others do, but this will at least help narrow them down.
- Ask for her phone number so you can call her (you can use a calling card from my shop at the link near the end of this guide). Many scammers are not even women, but men, and will find excuses not to give you their phone number. Now, it is true that some women in poor countries do not have a phone number, neither a landline nor a mobile phone. However, if this lady is truly interested in you, she should be willing to go to a friend's home or grandparent's home that has a phone to receive your call as long as you are willing to set up an appointed time. (Remember to calculate the time zone difference, e.g. Moscow time is 11 hours ahead of the Pacific Coast time zone most of the year, for example) Or she can use an internet café and talk to you on Skype or Yahoo Messenger. After you talk to her on the phone and hear her voice, it will at least confirm that it is not a man scamming you.

If she isn't willing to cooperate with any of the above, it is a suspicious sign either of her (or his) intentions, or lack of interest at least. These tips should help you narrow the field down and weed out scammers so that you don't waste your time, energy or money. After all, it can be quite disheartening to think that you are having a great relationship with a woman only to find out later that she wants you to send her money, rendering all the time you put into it as wasted.

How to approach women in public – Open vs. Reserved

In really open countries where people are not as isolated and private, but more direct, it is more acceptable to approach women cold in public. For example, in Russia I chatted up women in public all the time, and found that they will chat you up too. It was the most natural thing in the world, and never felt forced or creepish. Even if they weren't interested, you never felt like it was illegal to try. As a result, my only pickup line there was "Miss, you're very beautiful. Can we meet?" in Russian of course. It worked like a charm and I never had to change it.

Some parts of Europe are the same way. People are open and curious and do not fear strangers (unless there is a good reason to of course). So communication is very open, relaxed, and flows naturally. People talk to you like they already know you. That's my kind of environment.

Of course, if you're new to the overseas world, you might be too shy or timid to chat up women yet. If that's so, there's good news for you. You don't have to be "brave" or "gutsy", because you see, when you are in an environment where women do NOT fear strangers and are not paranoid and are in fact COMFORTABLE meeting new people, then you also DO NOT fear approaching them. **Basically, we reflect our environment and its vibes.** And vice versa, when you are in an environment where women fear others, are paranoid and defensive, and uncomfortable about talking to strangers, it also rubs off on you, causing you to FEAR approaching them as well, even if you are a very outgoing person. In such a case, it simply feels inappropriate and "not right".

That's why **location** really is everything in this issue, not "attitude" or some pseudo-pop psychology. To see more examples of location making all the difference in the world, see this collection of testimonials I put together: <http://www.happierabroad.com/ebook/Page74b.htm>

In open countries, you don't really need any "pickup line". Just do something casual and within the flow of the environment, such as asking an innocent question about something, such as directions, information, commenting on something in the surroundings, etc. Then if you get a positive welcoming response, which you will often do, you continue and build up the conversation naturally. Sometimes, friendships, acquaintances, and dates will result from this. The great thing is that it happens naturally, you don't have to push it or try to "make" it happen. Once you get the hang of it and get used to it, it becomes as easy and smooth as pie.

When you are new to all this, it's best to play it safe and start up conversations with women in a more innocent manner, in case she has a boyfriend waiting around the corner. That way, if her boyfriend comes, it will not look like you are hitting on her, but just asking for directions in an innocent manner. When you first get acquainted, you can tell if she's alone or waiting for a boyfriend, because if she's waiting for someone, she will look distracted and tell you that she's waiting for a guy. You can also just ask her if she's waiting for anyone, and that will tell you right away if she's alone or with another girl.

Now, some countries are more reserved, like Japan, Singapore, Sweden, Finland, etc. In such places, people are not as quick to talk to you or invite you places. And the hard direct approach that works in Russia will not jive there. But you can still meet people in such places. It just takes longer. But it will be worth it, because often, shy people make the truest friends and develop the truest connections. And if you can break a shy girl out of her shell, she can be the most loving devoted faithful partner you've ever had. Basically, a shy girl may have a lot of love to give, which she saves for the right man, rather than spreading herself thin superficially. Again, it's another tradeoff.

To meet reserved women, you have to do it in a way that fits within "the flow". Asking for directions is a very non-threatening method that looks normal and innocent too. It's a way of using something that's socially acceptable as an opener or "ice breaker". Just be friendly and cheerful everywhere you go, and often, you will meet people just naturally, even in reserved countries. Some will respond but slowly. Also try social networking sites, dating sites, pen pal sites, and culture exchange sites to meet some people who

can show you around. The ones I mentioned before, Couchsurfing.com, HospitalityClub.org and Globalfreeloaders.com are great examples.

In general, if you are very open and direct yourself, you'd probably be better off in countries that have your social communication style (Russia, Philippines, Latin America, Texas in the US), and likewise, if you are a reserved type, you are probably better off in a cultures that are of a similar disposition to yourself. That's why expats usually end up in countries that reflect a big part of them, unless they're there only to make money. Reserved countries are probably better for those who have the patience for them or living there long term. For the short term traveler looking for quick dates and fast action, they're better off in the more open direct countries.

Gauging her interest in you - Signs and Clues

At some point you might wonder whether your date or love interest is interested in you. You could just ask her of course, but depending on the culture, some women do not tell their feelings upfront. Instead, they show it by their ACTIONS and BEHAVIORS.

According to experts I talked to, body language is the most important tell tale sign. You can't just rely on what she says, since some women pretend to like you to be polite, telling you that they had a great time and that you're interesting, promising a second date, etc. but then suddenly they don't show up for the next date or get too busy to see you again. But body language doesn't lie. If while with you, she shows an open posture, leans toward you, has dilated pupils while gazing at you, etc. then those are good signs. On the other hand, if she has a closed posture, always folds her arms while walking, leans away from you, gets irritated by little things, etc. then those are bad signs. Remember to look for patterns, not just one or two examples.

Also, if she likes you or is attracted to you, she will put out certain vibes and pheromones which you can sense. The best way I would describe it is this. When someone is interested in you, you will feel that their energy is being directed toward you. But if they're not, then you feel like their energy is being directed away from you or kept at a distance. That's the best way I can put it. Those with a lot of experience in dating and human relations, are able to pick up on these kind of things. Therefore, body language, vibes, and pheromones are much better indicators of a woman's interest level in you, than the words she says (which could just be uttered out of tactful politeness). So you should learn to read and sense them.

I would say that in most cases, if she is interested in you, she will at least be taking your arm, holding your hand, or kissing you goodnight, by the third date. You've probably heard the saying "actions speak louder than words". Well it's true, but be careful not to misinterpret another's actions or jump to conclusions either.

Generally though, if you are in doubt about her interest in you and question it, it's not a good sign and probably means she isn't. At that point, you can cut your losses and lay the real test on her by telling her you are about to leave, and watch her reaction to it. If she really cares about you, it will show. If not, then cut your losses and move on.

The old cliché "actions speak louder than words" rings true here, and it's the thing to keep in mind.

Here are some obvious signs of interest to watch for:

- She will make time to be with you, even if she's busy. If she's not available on a certain day, she will offer another day.
- When she sees you or hears your voice, she will look happy and delighted, or "turned on" as though something were sparked in her.
- She will not be concerned about where you will take her, but be happy just to be together.

- Around you, she will look comfortable, or focused and nervous (if she's shy and tense) as if you were important to her, not annoyed or bored.
- She will look at you and focus on you as you talk and sit together, and will not look away as though she were daydreaming or bored.
- You will feel that there is an energy from her that is being directed at you, one of interest and attraction.
- She will introduce you to her friends and family, not hide you from them.
- She will be glad to hold hands and take your arm frequently, sometimes initiating it too.
- She will stay out late with you, even if she has to get up early the next day.
- She will not pressure you to buy things for her during the first few weeks of your relations, or treat you like a cash cow.
- She will not always make excuses to avoid physical intimacy. Even if she is the shy and slow type, she will still at least gradually warm up in a steady progression, regardless of the pace, rather than give you hot/cold treatment. At the very least, by the second date, she should be willing to take your arm or hold your hand.

On the other hand, if she looks annoyed or impatient around you, or if she only wants to go to expensive places where you have to spend a lot, and rarely or never touches you, those are all horrible signs. Another classic horror sign is if she starts pressuring you to buy her gifts and things, and acts as though you are obligated.

Here is a list of bad signs and red flags outlined by the owner of the Russian Women Abroad Forum, Natasha:

http://www.russianwomenabroad.com/forum_eng/index.php?sid=cecac74d7c9772e386426cf1b62ae8b4

Here are some signs, which can enlighten you that she is not attracted to you:

She looks very frustrated when she first sees you. She does not smile;

Even after you spend some time together, she still does not want to hold hands. When you try to touch her, it looks as though it irritates her... Here I should say that it is wrong to think that Russian women don't like "holding hands". They do, but only if they like you. I remember my close friend told me about one of the foreigners who visited her. She said, "you know, when he tries to touch my hand, I feel repulsed..." In another situation, when she liked a guy, she would love "holding hands"!

Here are some other Red flags:

During your stay, your Russian friend will prefer to spend all of your evenings in night-clubs or restaurants, instead of spending "quality time" together with you getting to know each other (don't confuse this with her attempting to be hospitable and showing you the town);

Will try to make you buy as much stuff for her as possible, will complain and show her dissatisfaction in case you don't get her something she wants;

Will show a change in her mood very often (ex. Will be happy and excited when you are in public, but sullen and silent when you are alone);

Will act like she is very busy and could devote only a short time to you, in particular meeting you at restaurants or bars only;

Will be reluctant to discuss your future together, and make serious plans;

Will have sex with you on the first date, but won't kiss you on the lips or will accept sex passively (remember "Pretty woman"?))

Also, I wish to assure you that if your Russian friend will be willing to have sex with you on the first date, it does not prove anything. She may really like you, or she may just believe that it is the only way to get abroad.

One more point: on our Women's forum we discussed if any of our women were really "in love" when they agreed to marry their husbands, 95% admitted that they were not in love. Some said that they developed love and respect throughout their life with their spouses. Those, few who replied that they did fall in love before the marriage, were met with distrust and disbelief. Many said that it is impossible to fall in love with a stranger whom you met on-line. Surely, many (if not all) of these women assured their future husbands that they were "in love" before the marriage. This is something to think about!

There is a lot to consider in developing any relationship. Of course, it's nice to be very positive and open to the possibilities, but in order to avoid great disappointment afterwards, I would advice you to use your judgment, insight and maturity when arriving at this crucial step in your relationships.

If you are ever unsure whether she likes you, or wondering if her friendliness is a sign of interest in you or just the way she is with everyone, here's an easy test. While you're walking or sitting, offer your arm or hand. If she takes your arm or holds your hand, that is a strong sign of interest. Sometimes though, she will hold your hand or take your arm out of politeness only. The way to determine that one is to see if, after you hold hands for a while, if she offers to hold your hand again or initiates it. If she does, then that's a very clear sign of her interest and attraction to you.

Learn to attune yourself to reading body language, for it can tell you a lot, especially in Asian countries where communication is more subtle. Language and culture may be different in every country, but body language tends to be universal. Across all cultures, people who are happy, angry, or comfortable usually show it in the same way. If you aren't good at reading body language and signals, look up some websites or books that will teach you the basics.

Basically, if her words and body language are contradicting, then that is not a good sign, as mixed signals are not good news. They often signal a conflict in her over you, a conflict in which her heart is not usually for you. Better not to waste time in such cases. Just put her to the test right away by telling her you want to leave and see her reaction. At that point, her true feelings will surface and reveal itself.

Even though body language and actions are the biggest indicators, **time is the ultimate test**. You see, some women are messed up and do not know what they want, or they are really changeable. I've seen cases where a woman exhibits many positive signs but then all of a sudden, whoila! She does a 180 and it all falls apart. I've also seen cases where a woman exhibits a lot of negative signs of disinterest for a while, before turning around completely into a strong committed interest in the guy. So you see, time is the only true test.

Elena Petrova of ElenasModels.com and WomenRussia.com, one of the top Russian bride agencies, also emphasized body language as a female's primary indication of interest, in an email to me:

"The real indication is her body language. If she unconsciously reciprocates your body language (moves forward when you move towards her, smiles back when you smile at her, takes you "under the arm" when you walk together (crossing

your and her elbows), sits close to you in public places, is relaxed and seems to be at ease even when you make awful mistakes, and always tries to help you - then she is attracted to you. If she, vice versa, moves back when you move forward, crosses her legs and arms when you move closer to her, looks away when you look at her, tries not to sit close to you in public places, is irritated with minor things and seems to be unhappy or indifferent, and does not help you out even when you really need it - then she is not attracted to you.”

Keep in mind though, not to read too much into one single good or bad sign. You have to look at the circumstances and take into account the overall patterns of signs from her to get a more complete picture. It is also said that intuition, while inherently unreliable in solving logical or technical problems, tends to be very accurate in predicting whether a relationship is working out.

Scammers and gold diggers

Opportunistic gold diggers and leeches meet foreign men either through marriage agencies and social tours, the internet, or in bars and clubs where foreign men hang out. Though they pretend to be seeking serious relations, their true intent is to be showered with money, gifts, and fancy dinners. They tend to pick the most expensive activities and places to go, and are total shameless takers, perceiving money as an aphrodisiac. They are not ashamed to directly ask for presents, or cash gifts and loans. And they treat men as cash cows with no regard for their feelings.

Sometimes, they use mind-control techniques, such as calling the man “greedy” if he refuses to buy them what they want or spend freely, staring at him with a hypnotic gaze that induces guilt in him. Unless they are attracted to the man, they will make excuses not to have sex, ranging from her parents being worried about her being out late, to saving sex for marriage, to claiming that she moves slowly, etc. They will sometimes accept sex for money, with the price in inverse proportion to their level of attraction to him. In other words, the less attracted to you she is, the more money she will ask from you.

Now, if you find yourself dating an opportunistic type of woman that is seeking “financial support”, here’s my suggestion. If you plan on using them for sex or companionship in exchange for gifts or cash, make sure that she at least TREATS YOU RIGHT. If she is fair, honest and treats you good, and makes you feel good, then you can work out a deal, short term or long term, with her.

However, if she treats you bad, looks annoyed around you, acts impatient, is inconsiderate, and tries to give you very little in return for taking a lot, then don’t bother. Such a person will only frustrate and drain you.

When entering into this type of “arrangement” with a new woman you don’t really know well, establish the parameters early on. Otherwise, if they have it their way, they may attempt to extract from you without giving anything back (unless they find you attractive). Sometimes such women are without honor, will not think anything of screwing you over, and may not even keep their part of the bargain. Or they may give you really bad “service” in bed, putting nothing into it. If possible, try to get her to put out first, so you have the upper hand. Otherwise, if she gets what she wants first, she will not feel any pressure to make you happy in bed, unless she plans to see you again. It’s a game you have to play. If you find that you get emotionally drained by it, then you are probably with a person who is a bad match.

Also, if you don’t know her well, before she leaves your flat or room, don’t unlock the door until you make sure that none of your valuables are stolen. Some poor people have a “Robin Hood mentality” and do not think it is wrong for them to steal.

There are many third world women who will treat you well and please you in exchange for a little financial support for her and her family, or for help with school tuition. For example, in the Philippines, some college girls do this for money. It is a gray area. Some will call it prostitution. Others will not. It depends. But as long as the arrangement is honest, mutual and satisfactory, there's nothing wrong with it in my view. Everything in life is a give and take arrangement one way or another. As long as both partners respect and treat each other good, it's fine. Many happy marriages result from this type of arrangement too, believe it or not. It's not altruistic love, but it's not all business too. In America, there is no in-between. A prostitute is all business or she's not one. But in third world countries, there are shades of gray.

Conclusion

Thank you for reading. I hope you've found this guidebook useful and beneficial. Hopefully it prepares you mentally for what to expect and arms you with some rules of thumb to be aware of. If I've left out anything important to you or you have further questions, feel free to contact me by email WWu777us@yahoo.com or post your questions on my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/index.php>

Remember, life, human relationships and social conditions do not follow formulas or systems. It doesn't work that way. And anyone who tells you it does is either trying to sell you something or very singular minded. Also, every case and situation is different and unique. What applies or works for one person may not necessarily go for another. Nevertheless, there are certain consistent patterns that you will find in people and events across the spectrum, if you observe them carefully. For example, as noted earlier, poorer countries tend to be more open, warm and communal, while richer countries are more stuck up, private, and non-inclusive. And men tend to value looks and youth in women, while women value status and character in men. People in Asia seem to be reserved and shy. Etc. There is nothing wrong with noting such patterns, which do exist, as long as you remain open to the unexpected and understand that they are not absolutes.

Remember that adaptability is key, as mentioned in the introduction. And opening up and broadening your mind will help you to be more adaptable. Few things in life go as planned.

I've known guys who went to a country, and at the airport were picked up by the girl they met online, and been with that same girl ever since, never having to seek anyone else. They found a nice stable partner right off the bat. And I've known others who have been to their favorite country for years and years, and have all the experience in the world there, who do not have stable relationships. Either they were too picky, didn't meet the right one, or just enjoy dating lots of women without commitment. Some men prefer having strings of short term relationships, rather than a long term committed one which they feel limits their personal space and freedom. People are different and have varying needs and styles. They will have different experiences too.

Thus, no man can tell another what to do with his life. And no man is qualified to either, because no man can truly know what's best and right for another. Those who think they do are either ignorant or foolish. All we can do is offer guidance, tools for self reflection, and share what we've learned in our past. We can't dictate to others what they should do, only plant seeds.

In the end, you've got to follow your heart, select the right location, make the right choices, and prioritize your goals. Don't see everything that goes wrong as a mistake or failure, but view them as learning experiences. The more you learn, the closer you get to success, self-actualization, and a realization of who you really are and what your calling is.

The first step of course, is to ask yourself the right questions. I hope this guidebook has helped you in that process.

And remember the saying, “You regret more what you didn’t do, than what you did.”

Thanks for reading. If you have any questions or comments, post them in the Forum (<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/index.php>) so that others may benefit and so you will receive a wider range of views.

For more valuable insights and advice on Expatriate Living and Culture Comparison, see my Expat Advisor’s Ebook **Expat Insights** that came with this package you ordered. Or visit his Blog at <http://expatriateobservations.blogspot.com>. You may also post questions to him at the forum link above. His username there is Ladislav.

Happy Travels and Dating.

Best Wishes,
Winston Wu