

Words & Names

Amundsen, Roald	(1872–1928) Norwegian explorer, first man to reach both North and South Poles.
Architectural barrier	Something preventing freedom of movement or accessibility.
Arrivals	The area of an airport at which incoming travellers arrive.
Atlantis	Mythical island located somewhere in the Atlantic Ocean.
ATM	Cash dispenser (Automated Teller Machine).
Ayers Rock	Huge rock formation in Australia, also known as Uluru (25°20'42"S 131°02'10"E).
Backpack	A sack carried on the back and secured over the shoulders.
Baggage claim	An area where travellers pick up bags after flight.
Bermuda Triangle	Triangular area of Atlantic Ocean famed for paranormal activities (25°N 71°W).
Blixen, Karen	(1885–1962) celebrated Danish author of <i>Out of Africa</i> .
Boarding pass	Document enabling airline passenger to board a plane.
Cape of Good Hope	Rocky headland on the Atlantic coast of South Africa (34°21'29"S 18°28'19"E).
Car rental	A place or company where cars are rented out.
Ch'oe Bu	(1454–1504) Korean explorer employed by Chinese court.
Charter	A ship or, more commonly, an aircraft that is hired.
Chatwin, Bruce	(1940–1989) British traveller and writer.
Check-in	The process of reporting one's presence and luggage prior to flight.
Columbus, Christopher	(1451–1506) Italian explorer who is said to have discovered America.
Confirmation	The process of confirming one's booking.
Connection	Arrival in one place and departure to another.
Cook, James	(1728–1779) British explorer and the first European to reach Australia.
Courette	A railway carriage/ship cabin with sleeping berths.
Course	A path of travel.
Cycling route	A dedicated route for cyclists.
Da Gama, Vasco	(1469–1524) Portuguese explorer who reached India.
Departures	The area of an airport from which travellers leave.
Dock	The place where a ship berths.

Double room	A room for two people.
Duty free	Shop which sells goods exempt from taxes aboard ships and at airports.
El Dorado	A legendary place in Latin America, famed for its riches.
Enkidu	Mythical figure from the Gilgamesh Saga.
Exchange rate	Price of conversion between two distinct currencies.
Fitzcarraldo (Fitzgerald, Brian Sweeney)	Fictional character inspired by entrepreneur Carlos Fitzcarrald.
Gate	The exit which leads to departing planes in an airport.
Goethe, Johann Wolfgang	(1749–1832) famous German Romantic writer and dramatist.
Grand Tour	Educational journey to Europe by wealthy Englishmen.
Herodotus	(484–425 BC) Greek historian, the father of history.
Heyerdahl, Thor	(1914–2002) Norwegian traveller and anthropologist.
Hillary, Edmund Percival	(1919–2008) New Zealand mountaineer, first man to conquer Mount Everest in 1953.
Himalaya	Asian mountain range with some of the world's highest peaks.
Hitching	Asking car drivers for a lift to go from A to B.
Hsuan Tsang	(602–664) Chinese Buddhist monk who travelled the Silk Road.
Hyperborea	Legendary land of Greek myth.
Ibn Battutah	(1304–1368/69) Moroccan explorer who travelled in Africa, India and China.
Ibn Majid, Ahmad	(1421–1500) Arab explorer who navigated the Red Sea and Indian Ocean.
Idrisi	(1099–1165/66) Berber geographer and traveller who made the first planisphere.
InterRail	Rail ticket entitling young people to travel in Europe for one month.
Jet lag	Tiredness resulting from long air travel between two countries.
Kilimanjaro	The highest volcanic mountain in Africa (3°04'00"S 37°21'33"E).
Landing	The action of a plane when coming to ground.
Latitude	The angular distance north or south of a place from the Equator.
Left-luggage office	A place where lost or mislaid goods can be found.
Lewis, Meriwether and Clark, William	(1774–1809 and 1770–1838) American explorers, first to reach Pacific coast from inland USA.

Livingstone, David	(1813-1873) Scottish explorer who discovered Victoria Falls in Africa.
Longitude	The angular distance of a place east or west from the Greenwich Meridian.
Luggage	The bags one uses when travelling.
Magellan, Ferdinand	(1480-1521) Portuguese explorer, first European to navigate the Pacific Ocean.
Maltese, Corto	Adventure character created by Hugo Pratt in 1967.
Map	A graphical representation of a place.
Montagu, Mary	(1689-1762) aristocratic English writer who wrote about the Orient.
Nazca Lines	Ancient mysterious lines in the Nazca desert, Peru.
North Cape	Norwegian cape, the northernmost point in Europe (71°10'21"N 25°47'40"E).
Northwest Passage	Sea route connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.
Open ticket	Ticket without a fixed day for return.
Orient Express	Passenger train taking people from Paris to Istanbul.
Overbooking	When the number of places booked exceeds those available.
Path	Course or route to be walked along.
Peer-review	Web-based reviews by travellers of places visited.
Pickpocketing	Theft of money or objects from pockets.
Pillars of Hercules	Mythological name for the Straits of Gibraltar.
Platform	Place where people await trains.
Polo, Marco	(1254-1324) Italian traveller, one of the first to visit China.
Reservation	An arrangement giving the holder the right to a seat, a room or transport.
Room tax	Tax levied on travellers for rental of a room.
Samarkand	Uzbekistan city famed for its position along the Silk Road (39°39'15"N 66°57'35"E).
Saudade	Portuguese word for a feeling of nostalgic longing.
Shackleton, Ernest Henry	(1874-1922) British explorer famous for his Polar expeditions.
Sherpa	Nepalese term used for Himalayan mountain guides.
Silk Road	A route linking the Far East to the Mediterranean.
Smoking area	Public area where smoking is allowed.

Source of the Nile	Much sought-after place on the African continent.
Stanley, Henry Morton	(1841-1904) American explorer and journalist who travelled in Africa.
Stendhal (Beyle, Marie-Henri)	(1783-1842) French writer who travelled widely in France and Italy.
Stopover	A place where a journey is broken.
Strabo	(63 BC - 24 AD) Greek philosopher, thought to be the first geographer.
Sustainable tourism	Tourism which cares for the environment and local people.
Take-off	The moment when a plane leaves the ground.
Tasman, Abel	(1603-1659) Dutch merchant, first to reach New Zealand.
Timbuktu	City in Mali, once the seat of an important Arab sultan (16°46'0"N 3°1'0"W).
Timetable	Table providing information on transport times.
Toll	Fee paid to travel along motorways.
Trans-Siberian Railway	19 th -century railway line connecting European Russia to Siberia.
Traveller's diarrhoea	Intestinal illness affecting travellers.
Ulysses	Celebrated Greek hero, famed for his wanderings.
Vespucci, Amerigo	(1454-1512) Italian explorer who gave his name to the Americas.
Vikings	Ancient Scandinavian populace of merchants and explorers.
Voluntourism	Travel that combines volunteer work with travel for pleasure.
Voucher	Travel agency ticket proving pre-payment of a service.
Weather forecast	Scientifically-based forecast of weather conditions.
Xu Fu	(3 rd -century BC) Chinese explorer who sought the elixir of life in eastern seas.
Zheng He	(1371-1435) Chinese explorer and diplomat who travelled Asia and Africa.
Zhou Man	(15 th -century BC) Chinese explorer who travelled the Pacific and Indian Oceans.
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