

TRAVEL AGENT CENTRAL

Top Tips for Shopping Abroad



According to **MMGY Global's 2018-2019 Portrait of American Travelers**, more than half of respondents consider shopping to be a desirable vacation feature. And interest in browsing and buying is fairly universal across all age groups, running highest among **Gen Xers** (57 percent) and **Millennials** (54 percent), followed by **Boomers** (51 percent) and **Matures** (50 percent).

In talking to travel advisors and other industry experts, we've learned that there's so much more to shopping abroad than finding a desirable object and flashing a credit card. Following are tips on where to shop for what, how to pack before the trip, how to bargain where applicable and more, as well as advice on knowing the right people on the ground in other countries.



Suppliers Share Shopping Stories

Travel Agent also reached out to top supplier executives and industry experts for some of their favorite shopping stories.

Terry Dale, President and CEO, USTOA

“I always look for a local market that includes artisans and native crafts. One of my favorite pieces I unearthed was a market in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The artist picks up flip-flops that have washed up on their beaches and then presses the soles into a solid block. She then carves sculptures from the flip-flops! I love anything that recycles and has a local story attached to it.”

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