What is the Amateur Traveler?

The Amateur Traveler is an award winning online travel site. The Amateur Traveler has won both a Lowell Thomas award and a SMITTY Award from Travel+Leisure as the “best independent travel journalist”.

The Amateur Traveler weekly audio podcast focuses primarily on travel destinations and the best places to travel. It covers everything from knowing what to put on your Chicago dog when you go to the windy City to swimming with whales in Tonga.

The Amateur Traveler blog features travel tips, destination advice, travel photography, travel advice, and product reviews.

The Amateur Traveler is produced by Chris Christensen.
What’s New in 2019

The Amateur Traveler podcast had its second best year in 2019, but saw lots of new competition. The podcast remains one of the top 5% of all podcasts across all genres. On July 2nd, 2018, the Amateur Traveler podcast turned 14 years old. The podcast released episode 685 in 2019.

This Week in Travel podcast celebrated 10 years in 2019. We started This Week in Travel after the first TBEX conference. In 2019, we added Spud Hilton as a co-host.

I spoke at the TBEX conference in Billings MT. BloggerBridge.com was also used to run speed networking at TBEX, Travelcon and WITS (Women in Travel Summit).

I actually went back to work full-time at a software startup company in the FinTech space, so have had more limited personal travel.

Amateur Traveler took a small group of listeners on an overland trip in Southern Africa.

We launched a California travel blog - CaliforniaTravelMedia.com
Traffic 2019

Podcasts Downloads

- 2.6 million - Amateur Traveler
- 145,006 - This Week in Travel

Amateur Traveler Blog

- 438,112 Users
- 815,698 Page views (up 26%)

new California Blog

- 9,883 Users
- 13,353 Page views
Notable mentions in 2019

- The 6 travel podcasts you need to listen to right now - Rough Guides
- The Best Travel Podcasts To Inspire Your Next Grand Adventure - Uproxx
- 18 Podcasts to inspire vegan travelers - World Vegan Travel
- Best travel podcasts 2019 according to travel bloggers
- The Best Travel Podcasts
- 25 Best Travel Podcasts of 2019
- 14 Best Travel Podcasts to Inspire Your Wanderlust
- 10 of the best travel podcasts - Hostelworld
- The top travel podcasts you need to listen to - Wanderlust Magazine
- The Best Travel and Entrepreneurial Podcasts for Bloggers 2019
- The Top 5 Podcasts Nurses Should be Listening to
- Top 11 Podcasts for Travel Lovers - StaySure
- 7 Best Travel Podcasts For The Travel Junkie In You - Outlook Traveller
- 10 Family Travel Podcasts Worth Subscribing to Now
- Best Travel Blogs: The Top 30 List
- Best Podcasts For People Who Love Travel - Sheerluxe

See more press mentions
Amateur Traveler Inspires Travel

I'm currently on a 8-week epic journey that is taking me through Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, Laos, Macau, and Hong Kong. The first thing I did was to download and listen to all the episodes about these countries or cities from the Amateur Traveller Podcast. I know I would always learn something from Chris' guests who are knowledgeable about the places.

Savio Wong

BTW I love your podcast. I'm a faithful listener. I own a study abroad business & am a university instructor so I travel a lot. In December, I went to Bulgaria, Macedonia and Kosvo. Those episodes were very helpful. I learned a lot.

Anthony Spencer @dr_spencer

Last fall, my wife and I moved from Pennsylvania to Brussels for an expat assignment. I've been combing through the Amateur Traveler archives since then and binging the European episodes to help decide where we should travel on our new home continent.

Kyle Wagaman

Your podcast was suggested to me on Spotify. Their recommendation page posted your podcast and it couldn't have been more timely. A couple of weeks ago, I had two friends coming to visit me in Singapore (from the US) and we couldn't decide on another destination in SE Asia to visit (they had a limited visit). The episode that popped up was about Ipoh, Malaysia.

Immediately I listened and was instantaneously intrigued. I sent your podcast to my friends and they too were hooked. It was then, we decided Ipoh was the place to explore.

Thank you for delivering fantastic content.

Sarah Emery

Chris my homeroom class really enjoyed watching you Mario Karting experience in class today. They all now want to go to Tokyo.

Charles Prevatte

The Diary of a Slow Traveler – Amateur Traveler and other blogs

…However, without doubt, our go to site is Chris Christensen's Amateur Traveler. It's a regular podcast that centre's on a location, area or country. A podcast to listen to while walking the dog or sitting at the computer so you can search the places his guest mentions. But it's better than that because each podcast has a companion page with the full transcript and links to key places mentioned.

We made decisions about Rome and Lazio based on Amateur Traveler pods. We thought about a trip to the Italian Alps based on a fascinating pod – the weather was against us but it did open our eyes to agriturismo. …

Chris podcast on train travel in Wales definitely influenced our decision to make a steam train journey a must on a recent trip. As we plan our next trip, his pods on Israel have been invaluable. …

Michael Browne

I have been listening to your podcast for a few years now. I was inspired by one of your podcasts to take my wife to Zambia and see the world's largest bat migration. She studied bats in her undergrad and just loves them. So we went in Oct 2018.

David Lugo

We are booked on Enchante June 2021. We are so looking forward to our trip. Thank you for sharing your journey.

Vicki Christie
What is a Podcast?

A podcast is just an audio show that is distributed on the internet. Specifically a podcast usually provides a way for you to subscribe with programs like iTunes or devices like an iPhone or Android phone.

32% of the 12+ US population now listen to podcasts at least once a month. That’s, up from 26% in 2018. This percentage goes up to 39% in the 25-54 year old demographic.

Podcasts continue to grow as more people discover it. They listen during their morning commute on the train, in their car while they’re running or at the gym, or while doing household chores.

source: Edison Research Infinite Dial 2019

Amateur Traveler

The weekly Amateur Traveler show is usually 35-60 minutes long and typically features an interview focusing on a specific destination. Think of it as an audio guide to a specific destination.

The guests on the Amateur Traveler are travelers and storytellers. Guests include other bloggers and podcasters, travel writers, show listeners and locals.

The shows have a mix of domestic US and international destinations. Episodes tend to focus more on independent travel but have also dealt with cruises, high-end safaris and packaged bicycle tours. The show features an mp3 version and an iTunes enhanced version with photos and links.
Who Follows the Amateur Traveler?

The Amateur Traveler audience tends to be split pretty evenly between male and female and focuses on those with enough money to travel. As you would expect it is an English speaking audience although a number of listeners (as well as Oxford University) use the Amateur Traveler audio podcast to improve English comprehension.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Listeners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
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This Week in Travel

This Week in Travel is an audio podcast that features Jen Leo, Gary Arndt and Chris Christensen. It is an hour long round table discussion with the regular hosts and a guest about travel news and topics.

This Week in Travel has won 3 awards from the North American Travel Journalism Association in both audio and video.

Passport Travel Marketing & PR Podcast

The Passport podcast is hosted by Chris Christensen and Leif Pettersen. It covers current topics that travel marketing and PR people need to know. Shows cover creative campaigns, what it like to work in a PR agency, influencer marketing, SEO, analytics, social media, content marketing and more.
BloggerBridge.com

BloggerBridge.com lets companies connect with bloggers. It is specifically strong right now in the travel space.

• Search through a database of bloggers
• Be alerted when bloggers book a trip to a city that you choose to watch
• Advertise to some/all bloggers how you would want to work with them. You can filter which bloggers will see this opportunity
• Manage lists of bloggers and work flow of the work you are doing with them
• Review bloggers or see reviews left by other companies

BloggerBridge.com is particularly strong in the travel space. Hundreds of bloggers share their Google Analytics with the system and over a 1000 have their current schedule in BloggerBridge.com.
There are many different ways to work with Amateur Traveler. See detailed pricing at http://amateurtraveler.com/working-with-amateur-traveler/ for more information about:

- Podcasts
- Podcast Sponsorships
- Guest Posts
- Content Creation
- FAM Trips
- Reviews of Hotels / Restaurants / Gears / Books
- Blogger campaign management
- Social Media campaign management
- BloggerBridge.com which connects companies and bloggers

Contact Chris if you have questions at

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ChrisTwice on Skype