

10 countries where you can teach English without a degree

Issued by [Wits Plus](#)

2 Nov 2020

Being an EFL teacher is already a reward, but it doesn't hurt to have a few extra perks sprinkled on top. Teaching English abroad is a great way to meet new people, explore new places and experience diverse cultures - all while earning a good salary.

The demand for English teachers doesn't seem to be slowing down. More countries are now offering native speakers the opportunity to teach English without needing a degree. There are endless opportunities beyond the borders of South Korea and Japan, and all you'll need is a TEFL certification.

So, whether you've been slaving away at a desk for far too long and you're looking to make a change or you're a recent high school graduate eager to take on the world, there's something for you.

Here are just a few amazing countries where you can teach English without a degree:



1. Cambodia

Cambodia is a popular tourist destination in Southeast Asia thanks to its ancient temples, such as Angkor Wat, and its incredible beaches in the South. Affectionately referred to as 'The Kingdom of Wonder', there's no escaping this country's bewitching landscapes, making it the ideal teaching destination to travel and explore Southeast Asia. Compared to its neighbours, Thailand and Vietnam, it's often overlooked when it comes to EFL teaching.

Despite its tumultuous past, Cambodia has seen an economic boom over the years, creating a demand for English teachers. Because the demand is so high, teachers can expect to find jobs year-round, and while most language schools prefer a degree, a TEFL certificate is enough to get you hired. Compared to its Asian counterparts, teaching salaries are modest, but the cost of living is low and will provide teachers with a comfortable lifestyle.



2. Mexico

Palm-fringed beaches, mouth-watering food and ancient Mayan ruins make this one of the most exciting and sought-after countries for prospective EFL teachers. Thanks to Mexico's ties to the United States, the demand for English teachers is huge, making it relatively easy to find work with a TEFL certificate and no experience.

Most positions are available in Mexico's private and international schools, but there's also a high demand for Business English, which can be a great way to make extra money. Most schools and positions don't offer free accommodation, and the average teaching salary doesn't compete with that of Europe and Asia, but you'll be more than comfortable thanks to Mexico's low cost of living. If you love warm weather, friendly people and amazing beaches, then Mexico is a great teaching destination for you!



3. Costa Rica

Thanks to its low cost of living, tropical climate and natural splendour, Costa Rica has become the go-to destination for English teachers eager to explore Latin America.

Learning English allows Costa Ricans to secure higher-paying jobs, which means that English teachers are always in demand. Because of this, many jobs can be found in high schools and universities, and because business professionals are also looking to improve their skills, teaching Business English is another option for those looking to get into the EFL market in Costa Rica.

Most institutions don't provide accommodation, but rent is relatively cheap, even in the larger cities like San Jose. The average salary may be dependent on how many hours you work. But the spectacular mountain views, white sandy beaches and lush rainforests in this low-cost Central American paradise will more than make up for it.



4. Nicaragua

This Spanish-speaking country is fast becoming a favourite amongst EFL teachers. Thankfully, it's not as crowded as the rest of Latin America, making it easier to find work. Most positions are in private schools, language institutes or universities in major cities such as Managua and Granada.

Nicaragua is a great place to start your English teaching career and to fine-tune your Spanish skills, but it's not the place for you if you're hoping to get rich. Many schools offer a modest salary, but since the cost of living is quite cheap, it's not difficult to live a comfortable lifestyle. This country provides a beautiful, slow-paced lifestyle that will enrich your teaching experience.



5. Argentina

Over the years, Argentina has become a hotspot for digital nomads looking to explore the country's vibrant landscape and culture – and English teachers are no exception. Fortunately, the demand for English teachers is quite high, especially in major cities like Buenos Aires and Cordoba. Native speakers are likely to find positions in international language schools; the hiring period is usually in March and August.

Argentina is an amazing destination for anyone who loves the outdoors, and public transport is often inexpensive. Many schools don't provide accommodation, but the cost of living is affordable and you can expect to save on accommodation if you share with a co-worker. If you're eager to save a ton of money while teaching, then Argentina might not be the best option. However, it is great for learning Spanish, the tango and visiting the Andes region.

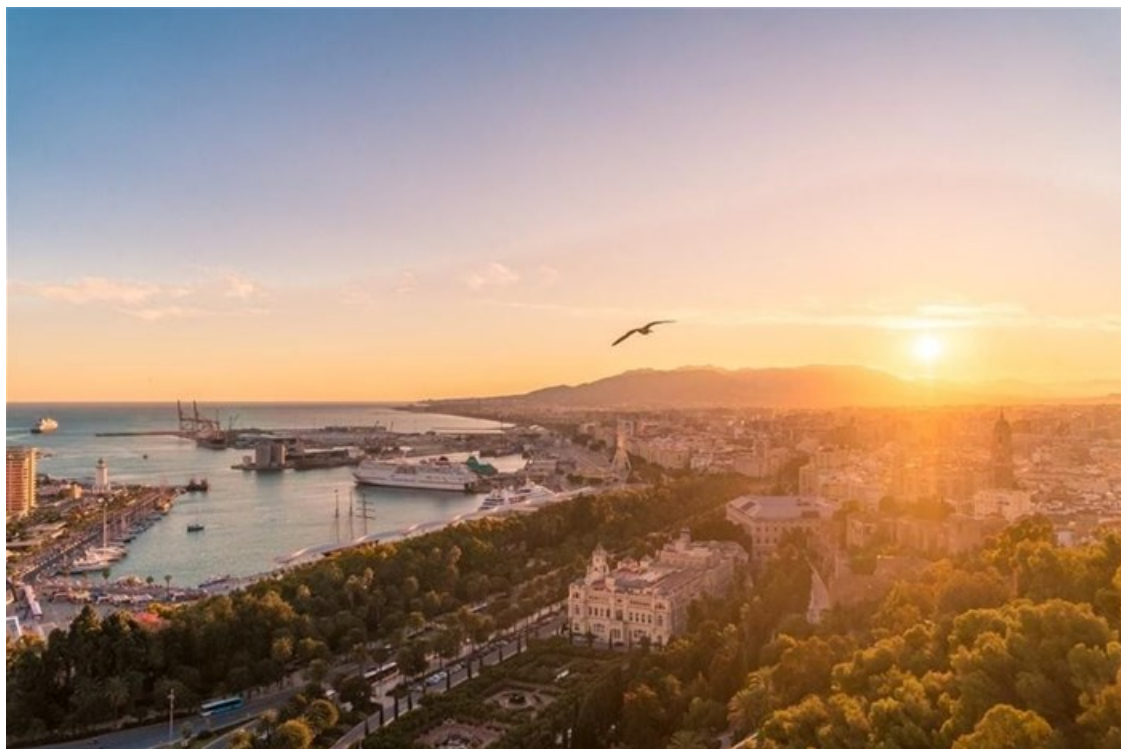


6. Russia

Snow and vodka may come to mind when you think of Russia, but this intriguing country has more to offer EFL teachers than you think. A huge country ready to be explored, Russia is filled with culture, history, art, ballet, classical music and incredible architecture. There's something for everyone, making it one of Europe's hidden gems.

The EFL world has definitely taken note of this, and Russia's quickly become one of the top destinations for English teachers. If you have a TEFL certificate, finding [teaching jobs without a degree](#) here is quite easy, and there are plenty of options in private schools and training centres.

Not only is Russia an affordable option for those looking to travel around Europe, but many schools also offer flight reimbursements and accommodation. It's important to note that while Russia provides an interesting and unique culture, the harsh climate and lifestyle isn't for everyone.



7. Spain

If you're not a fan of cold weather, then sunny Spain is a great option. You may be surprised to know that most positions only need a TEFL certificate and enthusiasm! However, this does make Spain a popular option for many EFL teachers, which makes finding positions incredibly difficult in cities like Madrid, Barcelona and Valencia.

But don't fret: the demand for English remains high as many Spaniards are eager to improve their English and get an edge in the job market. Finding opportunities outside of the bigger cities is easier. The cost of living in Spain can be affordable with the right budget tweaks, but be aware that most schools don't offer accommodation, which can push up your living expenses.



8. Romania

The mere mention of Romania immediately conjures images of Count Dracula and Transylvania thanks to Bram Stoker's literary masterpiece. This has, unfortunately, cast a menacing shadow over this vibrant and multi-ethnic country, but it's the perfect destination for teachers who enjoy something a little more off the beaten track.

There are plenty of teaching options in Romania. Teachers can find positions across the country in public schools or private international schools, which are usually located in Bucharest. Most teachers are typically paid an hourly wage, making teaching salaries quite modest. But, the cost of living is so low that you can still enjoy a good lifestyle. This is an amazing country for anyone looking to explore medieval castles and have an affordable home-base when travelling the rest of Europe.



9. Georgia

No, we're not talking about the state in the US Georgia is a small Eastern European country that offers a fascinating history, majestic cathedrals and unbelievable hospitality. The Georgian government has created initiatives to aid English teaching, which has created a demand for English teachers in private and government schools throughout the country.

Because Georgia is a relatively new market for EFL teachers, teaching salaries are not spectacular. Thanks to the low cost of living in cities like Tbilisi, though, you're able to cover necessary expenses without much hassle. If you're a wine lover, this charming country might pique your interest as it claims to be the birthplace of wine!



10. Jordan

Jordan should be at the top of your list if you're eager to explore the Middle East. Most positions are in the capital city, Amman, and you'll be able to enjoy a comfortable lifestyle as the cost of living is quite reasonable in this city. Jordan is one of the most liberal countries in the Middle East, but foreigners should still observe local customs.

Along with sponsoring your work visa, some schools may offer to reimburse your flight and pay for your accommodation. Spend your free time exploring the ancient city of Petra, floating in the Dead Sea or enjoying a delicious cup of Jordan's famous cardamom coffee – there's plenty to explore in this Middle Eastern gem.

As you can see, not having a degree doesn't have to mean the end of your dreams to teach and travel. There are many more countries that didn't make this list. Do your research.

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