

Travel planned with care, experience and attention to detail.

Travel feels different when it's designed with intention.

This is the method I use to help you plan with clarity, confidence, and a whole lot of heart.

[Contact Mosaic Journeys](#)



MOSAIC
JOURNEYS

INDEPENDENT TRAVEL AGENT

Welcome

Let's get planning

Hi, I'm **Siobhan**,

an Independent Travel Adviser and founder of **Mosaic Journeys**.

This guide shares the exact framework I use to transform a vague idea into a perfectly executed itinerary. Follow these steps – or simply ask me to do it for you!

Every truly unforgettable journey begins long before you pack your bags. It starts not with a booking, but with a blueprint. The difference between a good trip and a life-changing one lies in the quality of its planning – a methodical process of enquiry that ensures every detail aligns with your unique vision.

What This Guide Covers

01

The Who, Where & When

02

Travel Style & Pace

03

Accommodation & Budget

04

Must-Haves & Deal-Breakers

05

Learning from the Past

SECTION 1

Laying the Foundation: The Who, Where & When

These parameters form the container into which every other detail fits. Getting them right from the outset is non-negotiable — they shape the pace, activities, and character of your entire journey.

Solo Travel

Maximum flexibility, shaped entirely by personal interests and curiosity.

Couples

A balance of shared experiences and moments of individual relaxation.

Family Travel

Children's ages, stamina, and interests must guide every logistical decision.

Group Travel

Diverse personalities require a democratic — or designated — approach to planning.

Pinpointing Where and When

Choosing Your Destination

Whether you have a specific city in mind — Paris, Rome, Tokyo — or a broader region such as Southeast Asia or the Mediterranean, both are valid starting points. The next step is identifying *what draws you there*: culture, landscape, food, or history. This focus narrows vast possibilities into a curated shortlist of locations.

Timing Is Everything

The *when* of your trip affects weather, crowds, pricing, and availability. Consider **shoulder seasons** — the periods just before and after peak season — for a compelling balance of pleasant conditions, thinner crowds, and better value. A 7-day trip calls for a focused, single-destination plan; a 14–21 day journey opens up multi-destination exploration.

- ⓘ Always factor in travel time between locations — transit can easily consume a full day and is often underestimated in initial planning.

Defining Your Travel DNA: Style & Pace

This is where your trip gains its personality. Most travellers are a blend of styles – identifying your primary and secondary preferences ensures every activity and experience resonates deeply with who you are.



Adventure

Hiking, diving, kayaking, zip-lining – active, physical experiences at the fore.



Culture & History

Museums, ancient ruins, architectural tours, and local festivals for the curious mind.



Wildlife & Nature

Safaris, bird watching, and national park exploration – the natural world as centrepiece.



Relaxation

Spa days, beach lounging, and poolside reading. The goal: decompress and recharge.



Food & Wine

Cooking classes, market tours, wine tasting, and Michelin-starred dining experiences.



Luxury

Five-star service, exclusive access, private tours, and the finest accommodations available.

Choosing Your Pace

The most common mistake in travel planning is trying to do too much. Pace should be a *conscious choice*, not an accidental consequence of over-scheduling. Honest self-awareness here transforms a stressful itinerary into a joyful one.

1

Relaxed

Longer stays, plenty of free time, deep immersion over breadth. Perfect for truly unwinding.

2

Balanced

The preferred pace for most. Key sightseeing blended with scheduled downtime and spontaneity.

3

Fast-Paced

Early mornings, packed days, frequent location changes. Exhilarating – but be prepared for fatigue.

Crafting Your Comfort Zone: Accommodation & Budget

Your Home Away From Home

Boutique Hotels

Character, personalised service, and a strong sense of place.

Luxury Resorts

Comprehensive amenities and impeccable comfort-focused service.

Unique Stays

Treehouses, historic castles, houseboats – memorable and often rustic.

Villas & Apartments

Ideal for families or longer stays – space, privacy, and kitchen access.

Eco-Lodges

Sustainability and natural integration for the nature-focused traveller.

Family & Pet Friendly

Welcoming, comfortable, relaxed, flexible and safe.

The Budget Conversation

A clear budget gives you clarity.

It helps you focus on what matters most and make thoughtful choices about where to spend.

Accommodations are usually quoted per person and don't include international flights, unless you have specific a package in your search.

Being open about your budget from the start helps keep planning smooth and ensures your trip stays free from financial stress.

- ✔ Knowing your budget helps your adviser determine whether to prioritise a five-star hotel or a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

The Details That Matter: Must-Haves & Deal-Breakers

Your Non-Negotiable List

Ask yourself: *"If I only do three things on this trip, what will they be?"* These anchor points – watching the Eiffel Tower illuminate at dusk, a Tuscan cooking class, a specific hiking trail – are the beating heart of your itinerary. Every other activity and logistic should be planned around them. When the core experiences are secured, the trip is already a success.

Drawing the Line

Equally powerful is defining what you *don't* want. Large tour groups, early departures, overly touristy restaurants – stating these clearly upfront prevents unwelcome surprises. Dietary requirements, physical considerations, and personal boundaries all belong here. This is not pessimism; it is precision. A great itinerary is as much about what it **excludes** as what it includes.

Learning from the Past to Plan the Future

Your travel history is a rich and underused dataset. Analysing what worked and what didn't provides the most accurate map to your ideal journey – because the best guide to your future preferences is your own past experience.

Replicating Past Successes

Deconstruct your best trip. Was it the freedom of a road trip? The pace? The food quality? The intellectual stimulation? Identifying the *why* behind past joy reveals the core components you need to replicate – regardless of destination.

Avoiding Past Mistakes

A trip that fell short is an invaluable lesson. Was it too rushed? Was the accommodation a poor fit? Did you feel overwhelmed? This honest reflection is not about dwelling on the negative – it is a winning formula to ensure you never repeat the same misstep twice.

When you know the right questions to ask, you are already on the path to the perfect answer.

Your Journey Awaits

Planning with this level of intention turns a simple logistical task into the first meaningful step of your trip. By exploring the key elements – who you're travelling with, your destination, preferred style and pace, budget, and non-negotiables – you create a blueprint that reflects what truly matters to you.

If you'd like support bringing this framework to life with professional guidance, I'm here to help.

From family breaks to business travel, city escapes to luxury retreats – and everything in between.

Get in touch for a personalised quote and expert travel advice.


[Enquiry Form](#)

Ready to start planning?

Contact Siobhan

 [**+44 7736 341465**](tel:+447736341465)

 [**siobhan@mosaicjourneys.co.uk**](mailto:siobhan@mosaicjourneys.co.uk)

 Enquiries welcome by phone, email or via the contact form