Possible Write-Offs for a Home-Based Travel Business

| Category | What you may deduct | Special rules / limitations |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Home Office | Portion of your home used exclusively & regularly: mortgage interest or rent, utilities (electric, gas, internet, phone), homeowners insurance, property taxes, depreciation (if you own) or rent portion. (U.S. Chamber of Commerce) | Must be dedicated space. Two methods: simplified (square footage × fixed rate, up to a limit) or actual expense. (Kiplinger) |
| Travel Costs | If you travel overnight for business: airfare, hotel, lodging, transportation to/from airports, etc. (IRS) | Only business portion deductible. If combined business/personal, you must allocate. Also lodging must be reasonable, etc. (IRS) |
| Meals while traveling | 50% of meals while traveling for business, or business meals with clients. (Jackson Hewitt) | Need documentation — who, when, where, business purpose. Receipts. (<u>Jackson Hewitt</u>) |
| Vehicle / Transportation | Car expenses (mileage or actual expenses) for business use: client meetings, running errands, etc. Tolls, parking. Rental cars when required. (Jackson Hewitt) | Must track mileage or actual costs clearly. Choose standard mileage rate vs actual expenses. Only business portion. (Jackson Hewitt) |
| Supplies, Equipment, Software | Computers, phone(s), office supplies, business software, printers, furniture that is used for business. (<u>Travel Agent Central</u>) | Some items may need to be depreciated rather than expensed, depending on cost. Section 179 may apply for certain property. (Wikipedia) |
| Marketing, Advertising | Costs of marketing your travel business: website hosting, advertising, promotional materials, trade shows, etc. (<u>Travel Agent Central</u>) | |
| Professional Fees / Licenses | Accounting fees, business licenses or permits, membership dues in trade associations (travel agent organizations), continuing education (seminars) that relate to your business. (<u>Travel Agent Central</u>) | |

Possible Write-Offs for a Home-Based Travel Business

| Category | What you may deduct | Special rules / limitations |
|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Insurance, Bank & Credit Card Fees | Business insurance, business bank account fees, credit card interest (for business charges). (<u>Travel Agent Central</u>) | |
| Internet / Phone | Portion used for business (a second phone line, or a % of service). Internet costs if used for business. (Travel Agent Central) | |