



PODCAST

TRANSCRIPT

Episode 143:

Title: “Useful Travel Expressions—July 2025”

Duration: 18:16

How to use this transcript:

1. Print this transcript:

We try to reduce our paper consumption, but we really recommend that you print out this document.

2. Write on it and take notes:

Circle, highlight and note anything that you want. We have even provided space for you to do so!

3. Listen first **without** the transcript:

Don't worry about understanding every single word. Just focus on training your ears to the sound of English.

4. Listen again **with** the transcript:

Listen a second time with the transcript, pausing whenever you want to

| | |
|-------|---|
| 00:00 | <p>Welcome to the Déclic Anglais Podcast, THE podcast for intermediate, French-speaking learners of English. This podcast is like a steppingstone (<i>un tremplin</i>) to help you understand more advanced materials in English. There is a transcript (<i>une transcription</i>) available for this and every episode of this podcast. You can download the transcript for free from the link in the description of this episode. Or go to www.declicanglais.com/podcast.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 01:07 | <p>Hello there, dear listeners! Welcome to <i>The Déclic Anglais Podcast</i>. I'm Tom, and today we're going to explore some fun English expressions about traveling. Whether you're planning your next adventure or just dreaming about one, these phrases will help you sound more natural when speaking English.</p> <p>All three of today's expressions are very common in English. They are safe to use with anyone, and will certainly impress your English-speaking friends and colleagues.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 01:55 | <p>So, are you ready? Let's begin!</p> <p>Expression #1: "To Hit the Road"</p> <p>"To hit the road" is a very common expression: When someone says they're going to "hit the road," they mean they're going to start traveling or begin a journey.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |

| | |
|-------|---|
| 02:30 | <p>In French, you could say <i>“prendre la route”</i>.</p> <p>We can use it in the context of both long and short journeys.</p> <p>Let’s see some example sentences:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "It's getting late. We should hit the road if we want to reach Paris before dark." 2. "After breakfast, we hit the road and drove for six hours." <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 03:27 | <p>Now, this expression also has a second meaning: <i>“cassez-vous!”</i></p> <p>Yes! If you tell someone to “hit the road!” it means “go away!”</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Someone called me telling that I had won a million euros, and all that he needed were my bank details. I told him to hit the road!” <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 04:00 | <p>Alright then, dear listeners, are you ready for expression number #2?</p> <p>"off the beaten track"</p> <p>When a place is "off the beaten track," it means that it's far (<i>loin</i>) from main tourist areas. These places are less visited and more difficult to reach.</p> <p>In French you could say: <i>“hors des sentiers battus”</i></p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |

| | |
|-------|--|
| 04:49 | <p>Let me give you some example sentences:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "We found this amazing little restaurant off the beaten track in Rome. No tourists, just local people!" 2. "Marie prefers to stay off the beaten track when she travels. She doesn't like crowded tourist attractions." <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 05:45 | <p>Think of it this way: the "<i>beaten track</i>" is the path that many people have walked on – it's "beaten" because so many feet have stepped there. So, going "off" this track means choosing less popular places.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 06:12 | <p>Ok, dear listeners, so far so good? (<i>Jusqu'ici tout va bien ?</i>)</p> <p>Let's explore expression #3: "The Travel Bug"</p> <p>When someone says they have "the travel bug," it means they have a strong desire to travel. It's like being "bitten by a bug" (by an insect) that makes you want to explore the world!</p> <p>In French you could say: "<i>avoir la bougeotte</i>" ou "<i>être accro aux voyages</i>"</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |

| | |
|-------|--|
| 07:00 | <p>Here's how you might hear it used:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Ever since my trip to Japan, I've had the travel bug. I can't stop planning new adventures!" 2. "Warning: studying abroad can give you the travel bug for life!" <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 07:55 | <p>Alright, dear listeners. So, there we have it, three lovely expressions to talk about travel.</p> <p>Let's review them quickly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "To hit the road" = to start a journey 2. "Off the beaten track" = away from tourist areas 3. "The travel bug" = a strong desire to travel <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 08:44 | <p>Now, let's put these expressions together in a short story. Listen carefully:</p> <p>"Last summer, my friend Sophie got the travel bug after watching travel videos online. She decided to hit the road with just a backpack and a map. She loved going off the beaten track, discovering small villages that weren't in any guidebook. Three months later, she came back with amazing stories and photos!"</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |

| | |
|-------|---|
| 10:15 | <p>Practice time! Now then, dear listeners, let's now practice what we have learned in today's episode.</p> <p>I will read to you five sentences. You must tell me which expression corresponds the best to each expression. You don't need a pen and paper for this exercise, just your ears and your brain.</p> <p>Are you ready?</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 10:51 | <p>Sentence #1:</p> <p>"When we travelled to Spain, we didn't visit any of the main tourist areas. Instead, we went to explore remote areas in the countryside. It was beautiful!"</p> <p>What do you think, dear listeners? Which expression goes best here?</p> <p>[pause]</p> <p>The answer: "off the beaten track". We didn't visit any touristy areas, we went off the beaten track.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 11:59 | <p>Sentence #2:</p> <p>"My friend Paul is addicted to travelling, he's always away on some adventure. He has been to every continent, and over a hundred countries!"</p> <p>Which expression goes best here, dear listeners?</p> <p>[pause]</p> <p>The answer: "the travel bug" – Paul is crazy about travelling, he absolutely loves it. We could say that he has the travel bug.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |

| | |
|-------|---|
| 12:56 | <p>Sentence #3:</p> <p>“Today I am flying to New York. I am very excited to start my adventure, to begin my journey.”</p> <p>What do you think? Which expression goes best here?</p> <p>[pause]</p> <p>The answer: “to hit the road”. I can’t wait to start my journey, I can’t wait to hit the road. Please note dear listeners that the expression “hit the road” works for any mode of transport. I could be flying to New York, but we can still say “hit the road”.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 14:00 | <p>Sentence #4:</p> <p>“I recently visited my friend who lives in the mountains. He doesn’t live near any towns or cities, in fact, his closest neighbour is 5km away! It was very difficult to find his house.”</p> <p>Which expression goes best here?</p> <p>[pause]</p> <p>The answer: “off the beaten track” – My friend lives a long way from civilisation, in a remote area. If his closest neighbour lives 5km away, we can certainly say he lives off the beaten track!</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |

| | |
|-------|--|
| 15:20 | <p>And finally, sentence #5:</p> <p>“I was sitting on a park bench minding my own business, when someone came to me trying to sell me things out of a suitcase. Watches, sunglasses, even mobile phones! I told him to go away and leave me in peace.”</p> <p>So, what do you think, dear listeners?</p> <p>[pause]</p> <p>The answer: “to hit the road” – Yes, remember, dear listeners, that this expression can also be used to tell someone to “go away” to leave us in peace. If someone tries to sell you their junk you can tell them to “hit the road”!</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |
| 16:58 | <p>Lovely, well done, dear listeners! I hope you enjoyed learning these expressions. Practice using them on your travels, and don't forget - the best way to learn English is to use it often.</p> <p>If you are enjoying this podcast, you will love <i>The Déclic Anglais Club</i>, our online learning platform. Here we turn episodes of this podcast into interactive exercises which allow you to continue learning English from the comfort of your own home. We have something for everyone, including online conversation classes!</p> <p>If you're interested, just go to www.declicanglais.com for more information.</p> <p>Have a lovely week, everyone. Safe travels! And I look forward to seeing you all next time.</p> <p>Bye for now.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p> |

How did it go?

Take a moment to revisit the notes that you took.

List here 3 words or expressions (minimum) that you would like to remember from this podcast. We recommend that you consult a free, online dictionary like

www.wordreference.com to ensure that you have the correct definition and context.

WORDS/EXPRESSIONS THAT I WANT TO REMEMBER:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.