



RIGHTPATH™

Investments & Financial Planning, Inc.

Find Your True Vocation on Vacation

Winter 2006

Does the idea of interesting and satisfying work as part of your retirement sound appealing? But, you don't have the time to research what that might be or don't feel that you have the contacts and access to try out a "dream job"? A new type of web-based service may be just the solution you've been seeking.

VocationVacations® (www.vocationvacations.com) provides the opportunity to test-drive your dream job during a vacation, working along side one of 200 experienced mentors in 75 different fields. The website includes a "Dream Job Search Finder." Enter your location of interest, category, length of vacation and a price range and the service begins to help you narrow down your choices.

Each vacation includes two sessions with one of VocationVacations' approved life/career coaches, to help make sense of the experience and how to follow through. According to founder Brian Kurth, VocationVacations has provided hundreds (going on thousands) of stimulating and satisfying vacations to career-conscious travelers.

Adventures of this type—whether job or volunteer oriented, the pursuit of a passion or just a means to satisfy one's curiosity—are on the rise. The March 8th edition of "Fast Company Now" notes that "holidays that help" are becoming favorites. "According to the World Tourism Organization," notes FC Now, "cultural holidays are the fastest growing sector of the tourism market. In other words, more of us are getting tired of just sitting on a beach and prefer to see something interesting, authentic, or both." Such vacations often combine an interesting location with making a difference in some way, like those offered through Global Volunteers (www.globalvolunteers.org), which connects volunteers to projects around the U.S. and the globe.

Of course, it helps to do some planning before and after such an experience, to make the most of it. Ask yourself what your goals are in taking a purposeful vacation: some obvious reasons might be to make a career transition, to find part-time work as you reach retirement, or just to do something different that captures your imagination. If you want to use the experience to help you make decisions as retirement approaches, take advantage of mentors and life coaches, whether you use those provided by a vacation service or find your own.

Might be the best vacation you ever take.