

# MOVING BACK TO AMERICA

## *A Quick Guide*

So that's it. You're off. You've made all the necessary arrangements, hugged an enormous number of people goodbye, and watched your last episode of whatever daytime soap opera you've been secretly watching for years. So how do you make the transition as smooth as possible?

Presumably there will be friends and family to help you during this time, so just the simple act of letting everyone know your whereabouts will make your journey easier. Draw up a spreadsheet that explains your movements, where you will be on certain dates, how you can be reached, etc. Make sure all your contacts both home and in Britain have a copy. Oh, and make sure they read it otherwise that tip won't work!

### **The Big Move**

American customs are pretty strict - as an excess baggage company, we know all too well. You're probably aware that most animals and plants cannot be taken into the country, but there are other items that could lead to a dreaded 'inspection'. For instance, if you're taking shoes or boots with you, wash them thoroughly before packing. Any mud on your footwear could lead to them being confiscated.

If you find you have packed a fair amount of household items and furniture for the move, it may be in your best interests to ditch some of it, or in other words 'eBay' some of it. It's understandable that you would take items of sentimental value, but if you can replace an item with something similar in America, take that option. It will cost less and you won't have to worry about transportation. Yes, we know this is being written by a relocation company, but just think of this tip as a selfless act on our part. We're nice like that.

There's no denying that if you're moving to be with friends or family who have also made the big jump, then you will be in a better position than someone who is not. You just have to know how to make a connection. If you like sports, join a local club or a gym. If you have children, get them involved in community activities. Despite America's myriad of bustling, lively cities, you should have no trouble finding a community in your area to be a part of, and if you're going back home, things may have changed, but this should be a little easier!

### **Finding a Job Back in America**

You're lucky enough to be living in the digital

age. Seriously, you're tremendously fortunate, we can't stress this enough. Do you realise how amazing that is? To just type something into a search engine bar and receive billions of pages on the subject in question? It's incredible. And with that in mind, surely a little research on your employers won't go a miss.

Hit up their official website, find out about their business, think about how you'd fit into the company dynamic and how your talents could be successfully employed there. Take a notepad and pen in with you. Your interviewers will usually tell you a bit about themselves and the company so it's good to jot down any relevant information that you can refer to later.

It's best not to use your phone as a notepad. No matter how you style it, you'll always look like you're texting. It always looks a bit rude. Try not to do it. Perhaps at the end of the interview when they ask if you have any questions, you can fashion a question from your notes. It's good to have a question than not have one.

It's important to be friendly, assertive and, if you can, funny. Throwing in the odd joke or humorous observation during the interview could make all the difference. After all, a sense of humour is important to the dynamic of any team you're working in.

Oh, and dress smartly. It doesn't matter what the job is, you need to show you care enough to make an impression. Oh, and make sure your hands aren't clammy before shaking theirs and go get 'em'.

### **Finding a New Home**

Ripples from the economic crash of 2008 are still being felt throughout America, so bear in mind that locating your dream home could be a bumpy ride. If you can buy a property that, as they say, 'needs a bit of work' and knock the seller down on the asking price, you could find yourself with a desirable investment - particularly if you're lucky enough to find the property in an up-and-coming area or one going through extensive regeneration. You'll know which areas are undergoing regeneration - there will be a lot of bright colours, straight edges and hipsters in red jeans wearing non-prescription glasses.

Of course there's a chance you might not be so lucky. New houses are being built all the time. (Obviously. You don't build old houses. But I digress.) However, not enough new

houses are being built to cope with the influx of new arrivals which is pushing the prices up. A house which may have been within your reach a few years ago, may now be as far off as the Disneyland Castle.

A tip worth mentioning is that if you're throwing your net wide, it's always a good idea to look at coastal towns when viewing property. Should you wish to move at a later date, you will never find a shortage of prospective buyers whatever the price.

The best way to ensure a smooth transition is to talk to your chosen bank in the States about house prices and house-buying in general in America.

So there you have it - a handy and concise guide to moving back to America, and we wish you a smooth transition to your next adventure!

**Another way of ensuring a smooth transition is to use the services of Seven Seas Worldwide. We have a global shipping network, collecting, delivering and storing personal belongings throughout the world. We're very proud of our shipping network because it means we have total control over each consignment. Many of our competitors hand over items to a third party when they leave the country leading to a lot of uncertainty. Seven Seas Worldwide will be with your belongings from A to B, allowing you to track your consignment online. Peace of mind and all that.**

**We also offer what we believe to be a revolutionary approach to moving - the MoveCube®. The MoveCube® is essentially a mini shipping container inside a trailer that can be brought directly to your home for loading. Check out the website [www.sevenseasworldwide.com](http://www.sevenseasworldwide.com) for more information.**

