

DARREN BRIAN CALPIN

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PROFILE

Self-motivated and diligent with a broad base of experience. Able to use own initiative and work as part of a team. Analytically minded with an acute attention to detail. Calm and reliable in stressful situations with proven problem solving and organisational skills.

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

JAN 2006 - JUL 2007	National Council for the Training of Journalists <i>NCTJ Writing for the Periodical Press – Merit</i>
SEP 2006 - DEC 2006	Peterborough Regional College <i>Level 2 Web Design – Distinction</i>
SEP 1999 - JAN 2000	John Moores University, Liverpool <i>Dip HE Science (Football) – Deferred due to injury</i>
SEP 1992 - JUN 1994	Nottingham College of Tertiary Education <i>BTEC National Diploma Science (Sports) – Pass</i>
SEP 1986 - JUN 1991	Chauncy School, Ware, Herts <i>Nine GCSEs at grade 'C' or above</i>

INTERESTS

Travel: Born with a curious nature and perennially itchy feet; the urge to see the world and discover new things runs very deep within me. Wandering overseas with my trusty backpack is still my biggest thrill in life.

Music: I truly believe there's nothing quite like seeing a really good live band. I'm a regular attendee at music festivals during the summer. Glastonbury tends to be my annual highlight.

Outdoor pursuits: I adore being outdoors and love going camping, kayaking and hiking whenever the weather allows. Exploring Lincolnshire's beautiful countryside on my bike is also an addiction.

Writing: As well as a means of earning a living, I love to write for the sheer enjoyment of putting pen to paper. My first book (*Expecting the Unexpected*), an autobiographical account of pregnancy from a man's point of view, was published last year. A portfolio of my work can be viewed at boheamyan.journoportfolio.com

KEY SKILLS

Conversational level of French. Full driving licence with no endorsements. Confident user of Content Management Systems as well as MS Office, GoogleDocs, Photoshop and social media. Proficient with SAP/MERPS.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Freelance Travel Content Producer (TRIVAGO)

FEB 2015 – PRESENT

I research and write concise hotel descriptions and guest review summaries in both US and British English for *Trivago's* popular meta-search platform. As well as writing and editing to tight guidelines, I also liaise with members of the in-house editorial team to assess, fact-check and improve content.

Freelance Magazine Writer (GROUP TRAVEL WORLD)

JUL 2017 – PRESENT

Regular contributor to the monthly travel print magazine, *Group Travel World*. Along with brainstorming ideas, I research and create a number of feature-length articles highlighting tours, events and destinations that are likely to appeal to people who enjoy travelling as part of a group. I also conduct interviews when required.

Freelance Writer (QUILL CONTENT)

JAN 2014 – PRESENT

I generate blogs and articles for one of the UK's leading content creation companies on an ongoing, ad-hoc basis. The briefs I fulfil are many and varied, requiring much research. Most of them tend to have a travel or lifestyle slant.

Freelance Magazine Writer (PERFECT FIT)

SEP 2013 – SEP 2016

I generated fitness-related content for the monthly health & fitness print magazine, *Perfect Fit*. Along with regular news updates and one-page staples such as *Fitness Fables* and *Celebrity Workouts*, I generated training and nutrition features and wrote profiles of notable athletes, some of whom I was tasked with interviewing.

Freelance Travel Content Writer/Editor (MORAVIA)

NOV 2015 – MAR 2016

Produced evergreen hotel descriptions in British and US English via a third-party for *Google's* pre-eminent search engine. I also attended regular video call meetings to ensure editorial standards remained consistent.

Freelance Contributor (CAREER ADDICT)

DEC 2013 – FEB 2015

Contributed a diverse range of motivational articles and relevant news stories to an aspirational job-seekers' website. Over time, I carved out a niche for myself writing features which focussed on achieving success as a freelancer, and on developing and maintaining a career as a 'digital nomad' while travelling/living abroad.

Freelance Contributor (YAHOO!)

SEP 2013 – SEP 2014

Provided the renowned search engine with feature-length contributions, most of which were related to travel, films, outdoor pursuits, and parenting.

Freelance Travel Content Writer (TRIPSBYTIPS)

DEC 2013 – JAN 2015

Researched and wrote country overviews, city guides and resort reviews in British and US English for well-known travel meta-search platforms like *Kayak.com* and *Venere.com*. In addition to meeting strict deadlines, I also worked with the in-house editorial team to ensure all content remained evergreen and factually correct.

Freelance Editor (LIONBRIDGE)

MAR 2010 – JAN 2011

Worked within a web-based application comparing user search engine queries and advertiser keywords with website landing pages, then judged the relevancy and relationship between the query, keyword, and the page itself. The purpose of this project was to help maintain algorithms for Microsoft's search engine, *Bing*.

Freelance Copywriter (CLICK CONSULT)

FEB 2010 – JUL 2014

Generated a very diverse range of commercial, SEO-friendly articles and blogs for online publication.

Work before becoming a freelance writer (VARIOUS)

APR 1995 – SEP 2009

Worked seasonally throughout the UK, France, Greece and Turkey as a lifeguard/sports instructor for Siblu, Mark Warner Holidays, Butlins and Pontins. I also had a coaching role at Southampton FC for a short while.
