

Save Creatively

Tips on how to save in a creative manner



Comissão
Europeia

AGÊNCIA NACIONAL
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PORTUGAL EDUCAÇÃO E FORMAÇÃO



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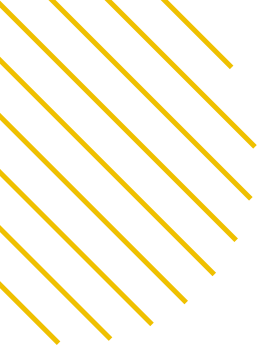


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TRAVEL

➤ Use platforms like **Skyscanner** or **Google Flights** to check the cheapest flights or destinations options.

Google Flights:

The screenshot shows a Google Flights search for a round trip from Porto to Anywhere. The search parameters are: Round trip, 1 person, Economy class, departing on Mon, 16 Oct and returning on Thu, 19 Oct. The search results are displayed on a map of Europe with price tags for various destinations. The cheapest options are listed on the left:

Destination	Flight Type	Price (€)
Lisbon	Non-stop · 1 hr	€83
Paris	Non-stop · 2 hrs 10 min	€55
Madrid	Non-stop · 1 hr 25 min	€46
Barcelona	Non-stop · 1 hr 40 min	€64

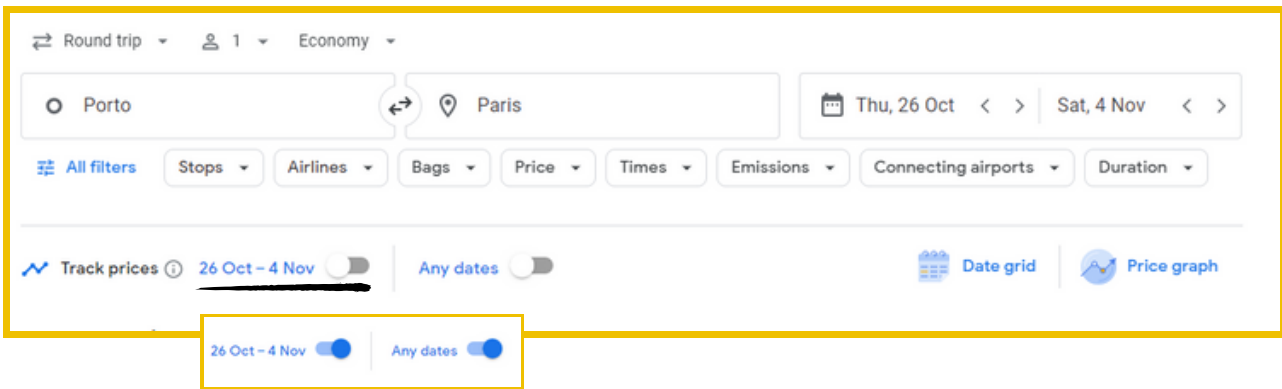
Other destinations shown on the map include: Edinburgh (€223), Copenhagen (€154), Manchester (€241), London (€95), Amsterdam (€178), Hamburg (€207), Berlin (€196), Frankfurt (€229), Prague (€100), Zurich (€119), Munich (€228), Milan (€49), Venice (€187), Bordeaux (€40), Rome (€100), Dublin (€157), Bratislava (€157), Bristol (€95), Seville (€100), Valencia, Nice, Naples, Dubrovnik (€215), and Krakow (€197).

If you are flexible in your destination, Google Flights allows you to explore the cheapest options for specific dates, as demonstrated in the image above. If you are flexible in the destination and the dates, it allows you to explore even cheaper options, as demonstrated in the image above.

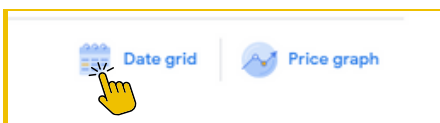
The screenshot shows the search filters section of Google Flights. The search parameters are: Round trip, 1 person, Economy class, departing from Porto to Anywhere. The search results are displayed for a 1-week trip in the next 6 months. The filters are:

- Round trip
- 1 person
- Economy class
- Porto
- Anywhere
- 1-week trip in the next 6 months
- All filters (1)
- Flights only
- Stops

The search results are displayed for the month of August, with the 1-week filter selected. The search results are displayed for the month of August, with the 1-week filter selected. The search results are displayed for the month of August, with the 1-week filter selected.



When searching for flights for a specific country, this platform allows you to track the prices for certain dates. If you tick the button which is underlined in black in the image above, you receive in your gmail account an e-mail regarding the fluctuation of prices, either if they increase or decrease. In case you select the button of "any dates" you receive a notification any time the prices for that specific destination are specially low.



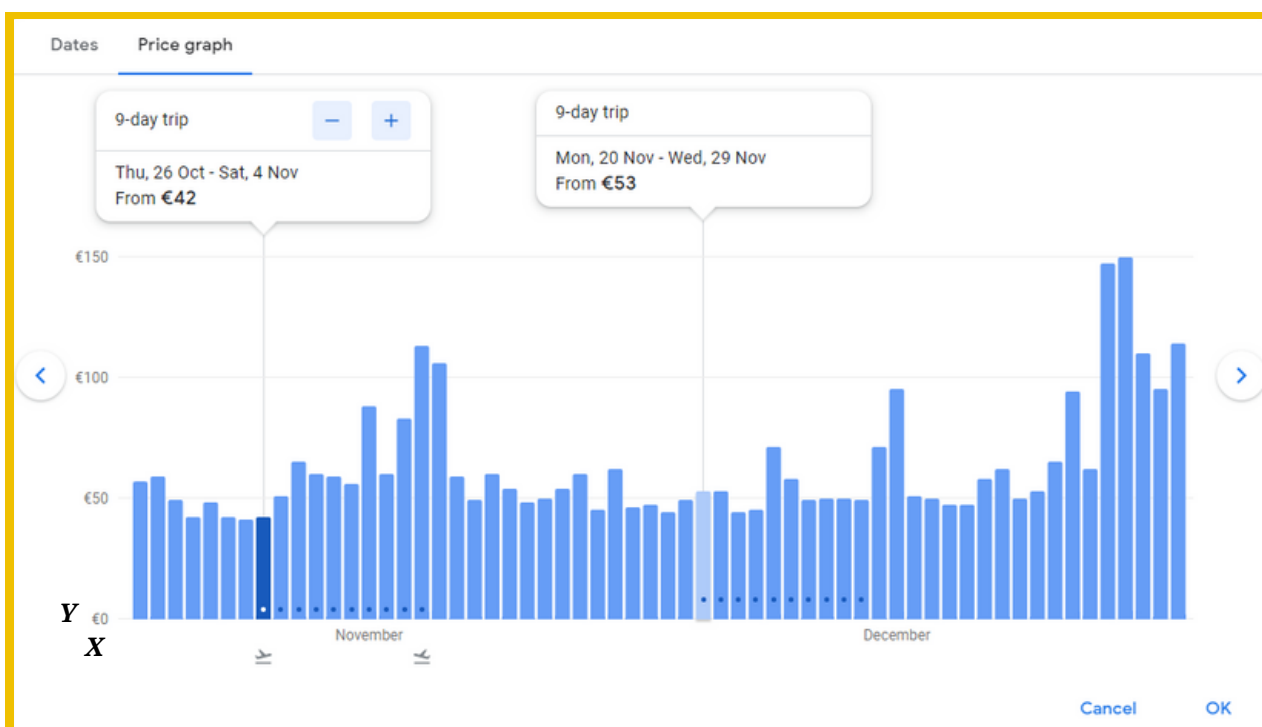
Google Flights offers a wide range of features, besides the ones mentioned before, allowing users to check the cheapest prices in various ways. As the icon in the image above shows, if you click on the "date grid", the image bellow appears, displaying a grid of the flight prices for the week you intend to travel. The prices are divided by colours, in black for average prices, in green the cheapest and red the highest.

Dates							Price graph
Departure							Return
Mon 23 Oct	Tue 24 Oct	Wed 25 Oct	Thu 26 Oct	Fri 27 Oct	Sat 28 Oct	Sun 29 Oct	
€48	€46	€44	€47	€55	€70	€66	Wed 1 Nov
€44	€42	€40	€43	€51	€66	€62	Thu 2 Nov
€45	€42	€41	€43	€51	€66	€62	Fri 3 Nov
€44	€41	€40	€42	€51	€65	€62	Sat 4 Nov
€44	€42	€40	€43	€51	€66	€62	Sun 5 Nov
€43	€40	€39	€42	€50	€65	€61	Mon 6 Nov
€42	€40	€38	€41	€49	€64	€60	Tue 7 Nov

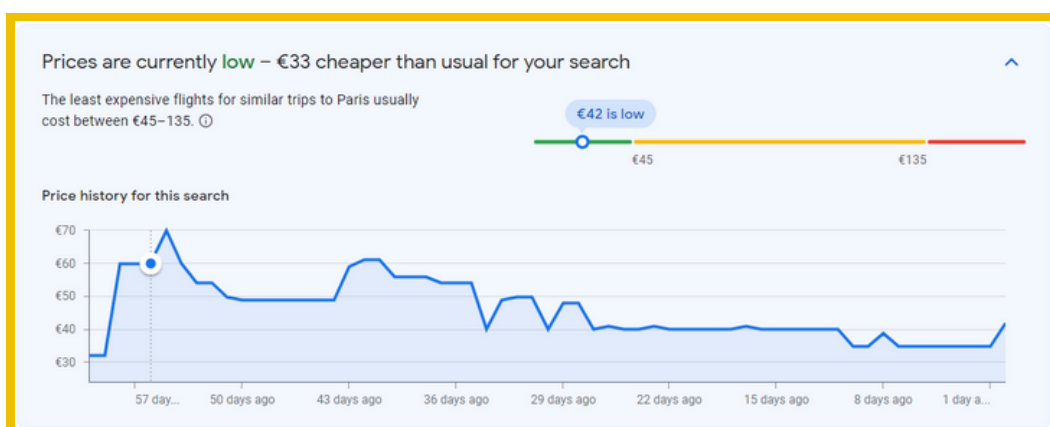
26 Oct - 4 Nov €42 - Round trip

Cancel OK

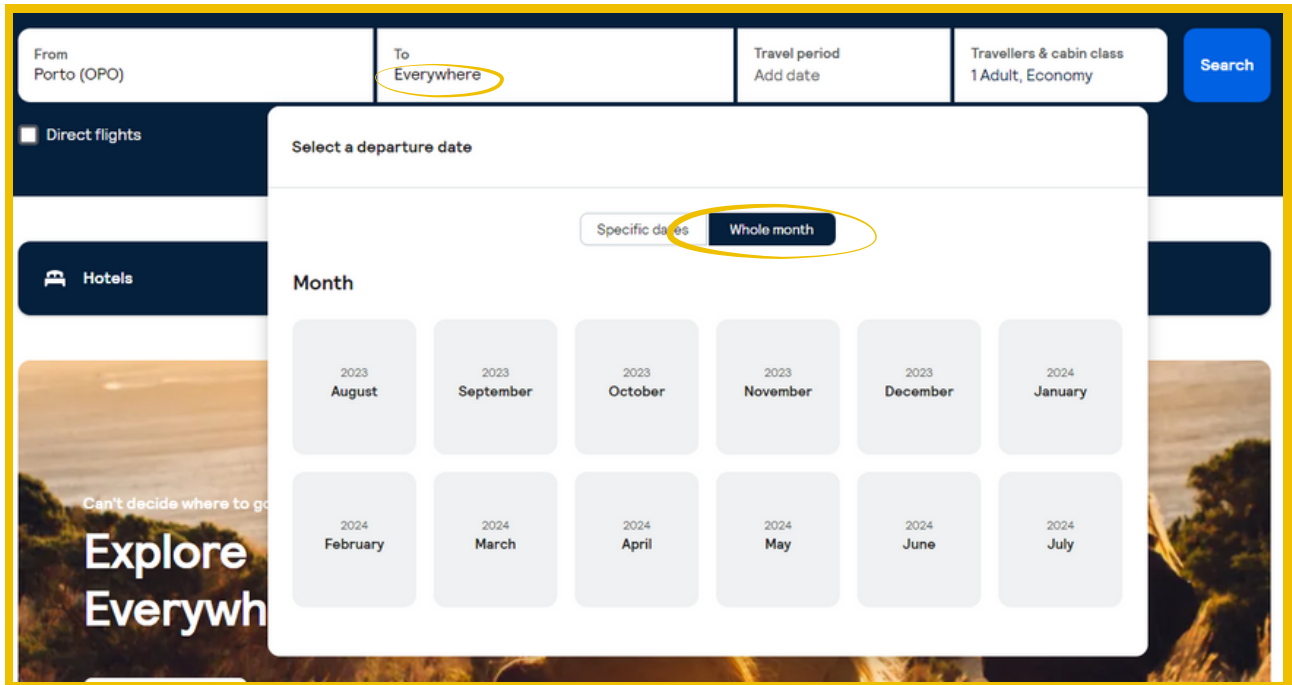
The price graph represents the fluctuations in flight prices for the specific route and dates you're searching for. The x-axis of the graph represents time, showing the dates leading up to and following your selected departure and return dates. This time period can range from a few weeks to several months, depending on how far in advance you're searching. The y-axis of the graph represents the price range for the flights on the selected route. The lowest prices will be at the bottom of the y-axis, while the highest prices will be at the top.



if you check this platform in a computer, it offers you an additional feature, informing you if the prices for the dates chosen are high, average or low. Finally, it also allows you to check the price history, so you can understand if the prices tend to increase, decrease or stay stagnant.

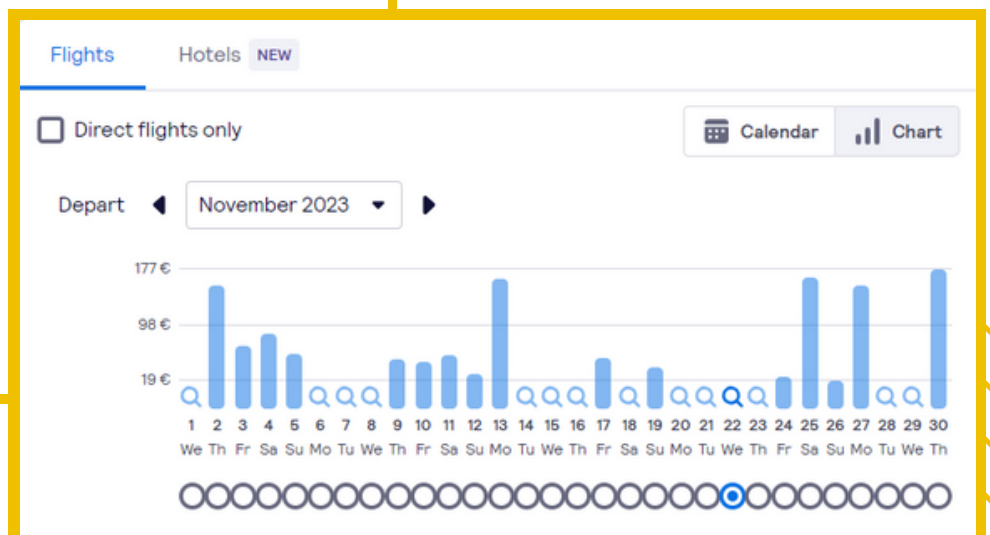
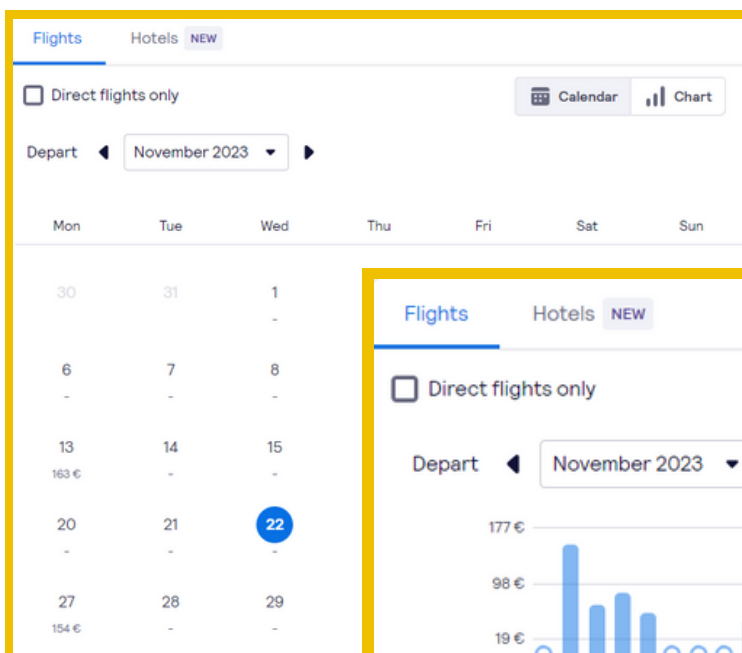


Skyscanner:



Skyscanner also allows you to explore cheaper options if you are flexible in your destination and day/month of travel, as demonstrated in the image above.

Similar to the previous platform, it also offers the feature to check the cheapest prices for a specific period in a price grid and a price chart.



→ Try **Couchsurfing** as an accommodation, it's a global platform that connects travelers with local hosts who offer free accommodations, ranging from couches to spare rooms, creating an opportunity for cultural exchange and meaningful interactions.

It's a budget-friendly way to explore new places while immersing oneself in the local way of life and building connections with people from different backgrounds.





OUTCHEAP

First and foremost, outcheap is the act of buying outfits (clothes, shoes, accessories,...) cheaper than average, either by looking out for sales, or by buying second-hand items. Here are some saving tips:

➔ A key element to saving is looking out for **brands** and **materials**, and reflecting on how much use you will give the item you intend to purchase.

Fast-fashion as the name implies usually uses cheaper materials, and therefore has less quality items. In comparison to more expensive brands which can have better quality materials, and therefore be a better cost-effective purchase.

If you are going to use something many times, perhaps search for something of better quality, however if it will be of very little use, then perhaps spending so much on that item won't be necessary.

➔ **Swap markets** are vibrant events where individuals come together to exchange their gently used items, fostering a culture of sustainability, community, and conscious consumption. They offer a unique opportunity to refresh your belongings, discover hidden gems, and connect with like-minded individuals who share a passion for reducing their environmental footprint.

Attendees bring items they no longer need, such as clothing, accessories, books, and household goods, and swap them with others for items that pique their interest. These markets provide an eco-friendly alternative to traditional shopping, promoting the reuse and recycling of goods while reducing waste. This is a free event and exchange.

Check social media to see the markets closest to you!



➤ Here are some **websites/apps** to sell, buy and exchange **second hand clothes** available in Europe:

- <https://poshmark.com/>
- <https://www.depop.com/>
- <https://www.vestiairecollective.com/>
- <https://www.therealreal.com/about> (luxury fashion)
- App Swop.it





HOME

➤ **IKEA's Used Product Sale** offers a unique opportunity to acquire pre-loved furniture and home items at affordable prices. Carefully selected and refurbished, these products showcase IKEA's commitment to sustainability and circular economy principles.

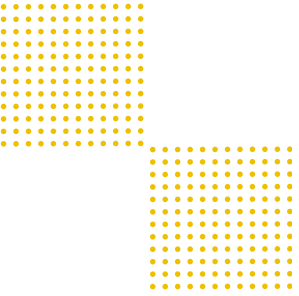
By giving these items a second life, the sale not only provides budget-friendly options for shoppers but also contributes to reducing waste and environmental impact.

Explore a diverse range of gently used pieces that retain both quality and style, allowing you to furnish your home while making a positive choice for the planet.

➤ **Postnatal** expenses can get quite expensive. Some ways to save can be the purchase of reusable diapers or cloth diapers.

While the initial investment in reusable diapers may be higher, they can lead to significant cost savings over time. Unlike disposable diapers, which need to be purchased regularly, reusable diapers can be used for multiple children or even resold after use.

Many disposable diapers contain chemicals, fragrances, and dyes that might irritate a baby's sensitive skin. Reusable diapers are typically made from natural fabrics like cotton or bamboo, reducing the risk of exposing your baby to harmful substances.



➤ Being a **pet owner** can also get quite expensive. Here are some tips to save in your expenses:

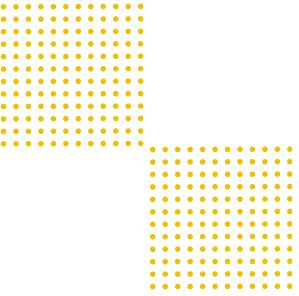
- Reuse your pet's food bags, either to pick up your their poop on the street, or store their food.
- Pet's can play with anything, get creative and transform old items in their new toys.
- If cooking isn't a problem you can always cook their food/snacks/treats instead of buying them. It's healthier, cheaper and more adaptable.
- Instead of buying expensive shampoo full of chemicals, you can make pet shampoo with water, vinegar, and neutral shampoo for babies.

➤ **Plant Propagation** can be a cheap way to have more plants in your home without having to actually buy them. It refers to the process of creating new plants from existing ones, either through seeds or through vegetative methods.

The last one involves using parts of a plant, such as stems, leaves, or roots, to generate new individuals that are genetically identical to the parent plant. This method allows you to propagate plants without having to spend any more money. You can always use your own, or ask from people you know.

Here are some plants known to propagate well:

- Succulents (jade plant, aloe vera)
 - Herbs (mint, thyme, rosemary)
 - Houseplants (pothos, snake plant, spider plant)
 - Woody Plants (roses, lilacs, figs, forsythia)
-



Do it yourself (DIY)! Sometimes doing things yourself instead of buying them can be much cheaper. Here are some examples of DIY's:

- Make your own cleaning products using household items such as vinegar, baking soda, water, and lemon.
- Repurpose/Upcycle old items, such as:



jars as containers;



candles in bottle caps;



drawers turned into stylish shelves, for books or plants;



old puzzle pieces into fun coasters;



old sweaters as pillowcases;



old shirts into tote bags;



picture frames as unique mirrors, chalkboards, serving trays;



unused vinyl records into decorative bowls by heating and molding them.

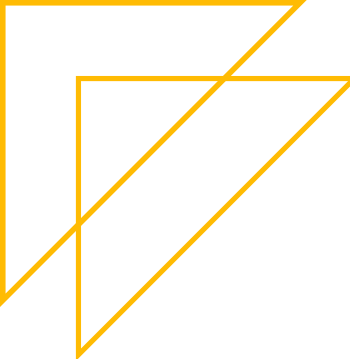




FOOD

➔ Food sharing apps and platforms that allow people to share excess food or ingredients:

- **Olio:** Olio connects neighbors and local businesses to share surplus food. You can list items you have to share or browse listings for items you need.
 - **Too Good To Go:** This app partners with restaurants and stores to sell surplus food at discounted prices before closing time, reducing food waste.
 - **ShareWaste:** ShareWaste connects people who have compost with those who need it. If you're composting at home, you can offer your compost bin to neighbors who don't have one.
 - **Casserole Club:** Casserole Club connects people who love to cook with neighbors who could benefit from a meal. It's a way to share home-cooked food with those in your community.
 - **Nextdoor:** While not specifically a food-sharing app, Nextdoor is a neighborhood-focused social platform where neighbors can offer and request items, including food.
 - **Fridge No More:** This app allows you to buy groceries and household essentials from local stores and have them delivered within 15 minutes, reducing the need for last-minute trips and potential food waste.
 - **Neighborgoods:** Neighborgoods is a platform for sharing items, including food, within your local community.
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- **Food for All:** This app allows you to order surplus food from local restaurants at a discounted price near closing time.
 - **Farmstand:** Farmstand connects you with local farmers' markets and producers, making it easier to find fresh, local, and often more affordable produce.
 - **LeftoverSwap:** This app connects users who have leftover food with those who are nearby and interested in picking it up.
 - **Freecycle:** Freecycle is a platform where people can give away items they no longer need, including food and kitchen supplies.
 - **Voyage Control:** While primarily focused on office food sharing, Voyage Control helps companies share excess meals with employees and other businesses.
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CREATIVE WAYS TO EARN MONEY

➤ If you have specific talents and some spare time, use online work platforms to earn some money, like **Upwork** and **Fiverr**.

Upwork covers a wide range of fields, including writing, design, programming, marketing, translating and more. Upwork provides tools for communication, collaboration, and secure payment processing, facilitating efficient remote work arrangements. It has become a central hub for freelancers and clients to engage in a flexible, global marketplace for various services and projects.

Elevate your projects with **Fiverr**, the go-to online marketplace for creative services. Access a global network of freelancers offering everything from logo design and content creation to voice-overs and video production. Quality results, quick turnaround, and budget-friendly options await you on Fiverr – your gateway to top-notch digital talent.
