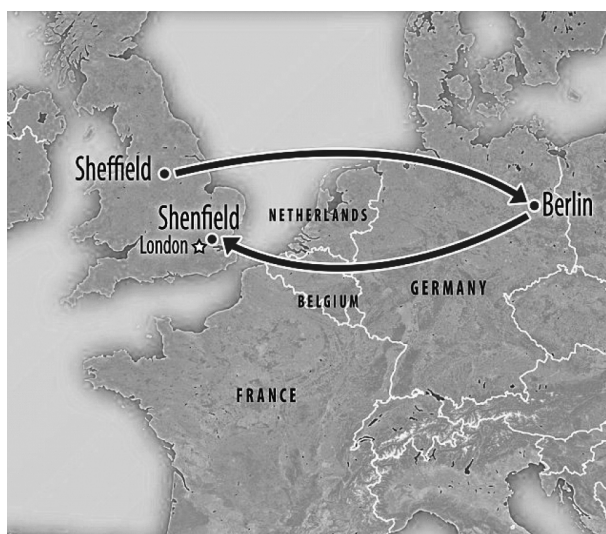


### Plane madness



- 1 He has always been willing to go the extra mile to save money – but this time he went 1,017 miles. Jordon Cox, 18, was so shocked by the cost of a train ticket from Sheffield to his home in Shenfield, Essex, that he decided to see if flying was cheaper. After ransacking the internet for a deal, he flew from East Midlands Airport to Stansted via Berlin and still saved cash, despite spending his seven hour layover on a super quick tour of the German capital feasting on currywurst. This extreme option may not be for everyone. Jordon's journey took 13 hours door-to-door, while a train trip would have been just three-and-a-half.
- 2 Jordon, who blogs on how to save money, was dubbed The Coupon Kid by friends when he started saving money by using vouchers. He once got £600 of groceries for 4p. On the day of his Berlin trip, he had travelled from Shenfield to Sheffield by train to teach a class on couponing. The teenager had managed to book a cheap £19 ticket for the journey north. But when he discovered the cheapest fare back home was £47, he looked for alternatives. An open return from Shenfield to Sheffield would have set him back £97.70. He discovered he could fly home via Milan, Copenhagen, Dublin or Berlin with Ryanair and it would be cheaper than a single train journey in England.
- 3 'Even by my usual standards, I'll admit this is a rather extreme way of saving money,' he said. 'In the end I chose to travel via Berlin as it was the cheapest and the furthest away so I would get my money's worth. It is also a city on my bucket list that I have never been to before, so to have a short holiday there for less than the price of my train fare was brilliant. I know that flying is not environmentally friendly and I won't do this every time I travel, but this was the cheapest way for me to get home and I got to enjoy a 'free' mini holiday to a city I've always wanted to visit.'

- 4 Jordon, who blogs for MoneySavingExpert.com, booked his flight around three weeks in advance, flew from East Midlands Airport to Berlin. Jordon's extraordinary talent as a bargain hunter first hit the headlines in 2013 when it emerged he had bought his mother Debbie more than £100 of groceries for almost £100 off. On one occasion he got a Christmas dinner with all the trimmings for 10p. The teenager has since been turning his money-saving skills into a job. He began by holding seminars at his local theatre in Brentwood, Essex, to give adults tips on how to save hundreds of pounds on day-to-day purchases. He also set up Facebook and Twitter pages where he shared his top coupons and deals.
- 5 And though his single-minded pursuit of a bargain may seem a little unusual, Jordon originally did it to help his mum. She was struggling to make ends meet after a divorce. Though Jordon's father helped with the mortgage, bills had become problematic. At the time, Debbie said: 'When my husband and I separated I was panicking. I didn't know how I'd cope financially. When Jordon mentioned couponing I was a bit sceptical. But he's made some incredible savings and it's really improved our lives. We had been spending around £120 a week before my husband left and now we're down to just £10.'

*dailymail.co.uk, 2016*