



Although there are tourism careers in the building trades, there are hundreds of trade job opportunities beyond construction. This is because trade jobs are actually **any** jobs that use a skill or craft requiring advanced training or education that often doesn't come from a 4-year college program. Often, trade workers learn their skills through vocational schools, specialized programs, apprenticeships, or simply through on-the-job training! That means that when connecting the **trades with tourism**, you'll see that there are many career opportunities to explore.

Culinary and Food Service: Given how important food and beverage is to the tourism experience, it's easy to see how many options are available in this part of the tourism industry. Some culinary trade positions are:

- **Chef, Baker or Pastry Chef, Butcher, Barista, Brewer or Vintner**

While most people associate these jobs with restaurants, coffee houses, breweries, and grocery stores, culinary professionals work in other settings too. Many **hotels and resorts** have on-site restaurants and catering services. In catering companies, they prepare food for various events, such as weddings, corporate gatherings, parties, and conferences. Culinary tradespeople may work on **cruise ships or for airlines**, preparing meals for passengers during their travels.

Health and Beauty: Careers in the health and beauty trades encompass a wide range of professions focused on self-care and enhancing a person's appearance. These careers require a blend of artistic creativity, technical skill, and people-oriented qualities. Some of these trade options include:

- **Hair Stylist, Massage therapists, Cosmetologist, Esthetician, Yoga instructors**

Many hair and beauty professionals work in the tourism and hospitality industry, especially in the context of spas, resorts, and wellness centers. There is also a growing trend of wellness tourism, where travelers seek destinations that offer health-focused experiences like yoga and spa retreats. Maine hotels, resorts, and cruise ships regularly offer spa facilities that include a range of beauty and wellness services such as massages, facials, manicures, pedicures, and hair styling. In addition, many people travel to different locations for weddings, vacations, and events, and hair and beauty services are often sought out for these occasions.

Drivers and Mechanics: At first glance, you might not think these tradespeople are part of the tourism industry, but their skills are highly valued. These include jobs such as:

- **Small engine mechanic, Diesel mechanic, Ski lift mechanic, Tour bus drivers, Delivery drivers, Automotive mechanics**

Mechanics are regularly employed by rental car services, powersport rental facilities, and tour bus companies, maintaining and repairing the vehicles in their fleet and ensuring that the rental vehicles are safe, reliable, and in optimal condition for visitors. Specialized vehicles like tour buses and trolleys often require their drivers to be CDL trained and certified in order to allow guests aboard.

Agriculture, Aquaculture, and Horticulture Trades: The agriculture and horticulture trades may seem unrelated to the tourism and hospitality industry, but in fact they are connected in a number of ways, especially in Maine. These careers include (but aren't limited to):

- **Farmer, Aquafarmer, Horticulturist, Landscaper, Forest Ranger, Land steward**

Many modern farmers engage in what is known as "agritourism," a type of tourism that involves visitors or tourists engaging in activities related to agricultural and aquacultural environments. Some of these tourist activities include tours of working farms to experience how products are made and even try them out. From another perspective, Maine has 25 festivals and fairs every year around the state that celebrate Maine's agricultural heritage, and these festivals create a big draw for tourists from in and out of the state. Many farms also offer workshops and topics like cooking, gardening, sustainable farm practices, and farmer's markets provide visitors the opportunity to sample and purchase fresh, locally grown produce and artisanal goods. Horticulturists and landscapers are responsible for the curb appeal at every customer facing business, whether it be a hotel or a retail shop. Additionally, Maine has many wildlife areas and botanical gardens that need regular maintenance, and these tradespeople have the skills to keep these places safe and beautiful for future visitors.

Computer, Electronics, and Technology Trades: So many skills in the technology world can be gained through personal study and practice, often not requiring a degree to begin working in the industry. Here are some trades in technology:

- **Website designer and builder, IT technician, Logistics, Social media creator**

These trades can be done from your own freelance business or by working for a company, but with such a growing demand for online representation, there is a substantial need for people with these skills and creative know-how throughout the tourism industry.

