

Living off the land

Post by “HsiehKW” of July 26, 2023 at 12:21 AM

[Don](#) I'm meaning to experiment with how far I can go live on today's equivalent of 2 asses in my currency. But unlike Epicurus, I don't think I'd have a good reason to gloat or boast.

I used this [ancient money calculator](#) for fun to estimate how much would it be today in USD and in my country's currency. The minimum wage here is \$7.29 *per day*. If I used the calculator correctly, 2 asses would amount to \$5.47. I think a family of 3 with one breadwinner in this particular rural area can "easily" feed themselves on just \$4 per day. There may even be some who do live on less than \$2 per day, considering this is a rural area and I recently found out that many live without water and electricity (recently moved). One of our neighbors, in fact, doesn't. But that \$2 per day would probably be just rice with salted fish, instant ramen, or even just soy sauce and oil just to give rice flavor. That said, I could *easily* live on just \$0.50 per day but that's not really an achievement (and probably not healthy). And, definitely, nothing to boast about given the context here.

I think living off 2 asses at \$5.44 in the US based on a \$7.25 minimum wage, would be somewhat commendable. I lived there for a while (during high school) and if I remember correctly that's not much. So, I'm wondering if anybody of us here already tried the same experiment. How did it go? Is it sustainable? And how would we today define living in moderation in relation to finances?

[Bryan](#) that's also my general idea. Hard to do without a community though. But I'mma try. I guess it comes down to hiring help for me (something Epicurus wouldn't mind, I believe).