

PRESENT PERFECT: BEEN vs GONE

A2-B1 | Has the person returned, or are they still away?

1 The key difference

Use have / has been to for a completed visit. Use have / has gone to when the person is still away.

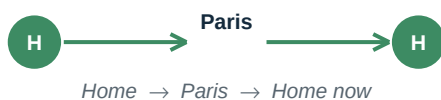
The destination is usually named after to: been to Paris / gone to the bank.

2 Compare the meaning

BEEN TO

The person visited and returned.

The visit is complete.



Mia has been to Paris.

She visited Paris, and she is back now.

GONE TO

The person left and has not returned.

They have not returned from the trip.



Mia has gone to Paris.

She is in Paris now, so she is not here.

3 Common patterns

been to = life experience or a completed visit

Have you ever been to Italy? / I have been to that cafe three times.

gone to = the person is away now

Dad has gone to the supermarket. He will be back later.

Quick check: Is the person back? Yes → been to. No → gone to.