

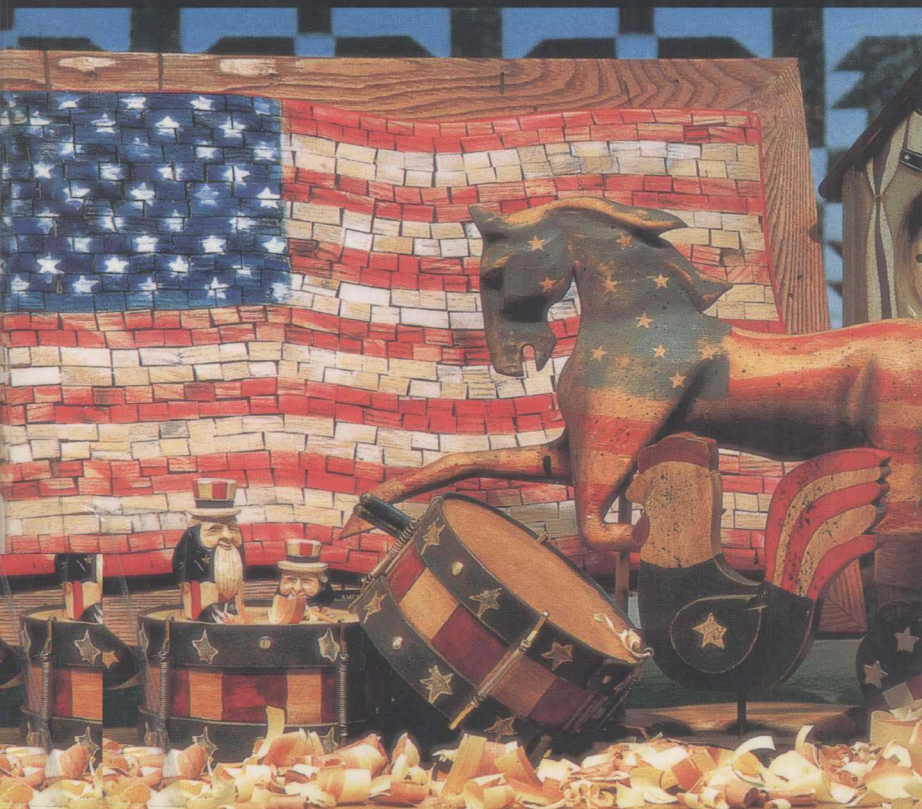
"The King of Guidebooks" — *Newsweek*

★★★★

# USA

Completely Updated  
Where to Stay, Eat, and Explore  
Smart Travel Tips from A to Z

**Fodor's** New Edition



# ON THE ROAD WITH FODOR'S

**W**HEN I PLAN A VACATION, the first thing I do is cast around among my friends to find someone who's just been where I'm going. Unfortunately, such friends are few and far between. So it's nice to know that there's *Fodor's USA*, a book that's written and updated by people you would hit up for travel tips if you knew them.

## Connections

We're pleased that the American Society of Travel Agents continues to endorse Fodor's as its guidebook of choice. ASTA is the world's largest and most influential travel trade association, operating in more than 170 countries, with 27,000 members pledged to adhere to a strict code of ethics reflecting the Society's motto, "Integrity in Travel." ASTA shares Fodor's devotion to providing smart, honest travel information and advice to travelers, and we've long recommended that our readers—even those who have guidebooks and traveling friends—consult ASTA member agents for the experience and professionalism they bring to your vacation planning.

On Fodor's Web site ([www.fodors.com](http://www.fodors.com)), check out the Resource Center, an online companion to the Smart Travel Tips A to Z section of this book, complete with hot links to related sites. In our forums, get advice from other travelers and tips from Fodor's experts worldwide.

## Fodor's Choice

We hope you'll have a chance to experience Fodor's choices yourself while traveling in the United States. For detailed information about each entry, refer to the appropriate chapters in this guidebook.

## Natural Wonders

**The Northeast**  
Niagara Falls (NY)

**The Middle Atlantic States**  
Delaware Water Gap (PA/NJ)  
Natural Bridge (Natural Bridge, VA)  
New River Gorge National River (Glen Jean, WV)

**The Southeast**  
Everglades (FL)  
Okefenokee (GA)  
Jockey's Ridge (NC)

**The Mississippi Valley**  
Buffalo National River (AR)  
Mammoth Cave (KY)  
Bayou Teche (Acadiana, LA)  
The Natchez Trace (Natchez, MS)  
Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Gatlinburg, TN)

**The Midwest and Great Lakes**  
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore (Munising, MI)  
Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (MN)  
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore (WI)

**The Great Plains**  
Badlands (ND/SD)

**The Southwest**  
Grand Canyon (AZ)  
Carlsbad Caverns (NM)  
White Sands National Monument (NM)  
Palo Duro Canyon (TX)

**The Rockies**  
Glacier National Park (MT)  
Bryce and Zion canyons (UT)  
Old Faithful Geyser (Yellowstone, WY)

**The West Coast**  
El Capitan and Half Dome (Yosemite National Park, CA)  
Joshua Tree National Park (CA)  
La Jolla Cove (La Jolla, CA)  
Muir Woods (Mill Valley, CA)  
17-Mile Drive (Pebble Beach, CA)  
Crater Lake National Park (OR)  
Hoh Rain Forest (Olympic Peninsula, WA)

**The Pacific**  
Mt. McKinley (AK)  
Kilauea Volcano (The Big Island, HI)

## Historic Buildings and Sites

**The Northeast**  
Victoria Mansion (Portland, ME)  
Bunker Hill (Boston, MA)  
Historic Deerfield (Deerfield, MA)

Old North Church (Boston, MA)  
 Plimoth Plantation (Plymouth, MA)  
 Canterbury Shaker Village (Canterbury, NH)  
 Ellis Island (New York, NY)  
 Statue of Liberty (New York, NY)  
 Hunter House (Newport, RI)  
 John Brown House (Providence, RI)

### The Middle Atlantic States

Antietam National Battlefield (Sharpsburg, MD)  
 Washington Crossing State Park (Titusville, NJ)  
 Gettysburg National Military Park (Gettysburg, PA)  
 Independence National Historical Park (Philadelphia, PA)  
 Monticello (Charlottesville, VA)  
 Mount Vernon (Alexandria, VA)  
 Frederick Douglass National Historic Site (Washington, D.C.)  
 Vietnam Veterans Memorial (Washington, D.C.)  
 Washington Monument (Washington, D.C.)  
 The White House (Washington, D.C.)  
 Harpers Ferry National Park (Harpers Ferry, WV)

### The Southeast

Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church (Montgomery, AL)  
 Art Deco District (Miami Beach, FL)  
 Andersonville National Historic Site (Andersonville, GA)  
 Johnston Hay House (Macon, GA)  
 Biltmore House (Asheville, NC)  
 Old Salem (Winston-Salem, NC)  
 Wright Brothers National Memorial (Kill Devil Hills, NC)  
 Drayton Hall (Charleston, SC)  
 Fort Sumter National Monument (Charleston, SC)

### The Mississippi Valley

Old State House (Little Rock, AR)  
 Old Washington Historic State Park (Washington, AR)  
 Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill (Harrodsburg, KY)  
 Old Ursuline Convent (New Orleans, LA)  
 Rosalie (Natchez, MS)  
 The Hermitage (Nashville, TN)

### The Midwest and Great Lakes

Sears Tower (Chicago, IL)

George Rogers Clark National Historic Park (Vincennes, IN)  
 Pabst Mansion (Milwaukee, WI)

### The Great Plains

George Washington Carver National Monument (MO)  
 Liberty Memorial (Kansas City, MO)  
 Crazy Horse Memorial (SD)  
 Deadwood National Historic Landmark (SD)  
 Mt. Rushmore National Memorial (SD)

### The Southwest

Palace of the Governors (Santa Fe, NM)  
 The Alamo (San Antonio, TX)  
 Mission Ysleta (near El Paso, TX)  
 The Strand (Galveston, TX)  
 Texas School Book Depository (Dallas, TX)

### The Rockies

Mesa Verde National Park (CO)  
 Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument (MT)  
 Salt Lake Mormon Tabernacle and Temple (Salt Lake City, UT)

### The West Coast

Olvera Street (Los Angeles, CA)  
 Hearst Castle (San Simeon, CA)  
 Sutter's Mill (Coloma, CA)  
 Fort Clatsop National Memorial (Astoria, OR)

### The Pacific States

The Pacific Ketchikan Totem Parks (Ketchikan, AK)  
 'Iolani Palace (Honolulu, HI)

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## Museums

### The Northeast

Wadsworth Atheneum (Hartford, CT)  
 Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum (Boston, MA)  
 Hood Museum of Art (Hanover, NH)  
 American Museum of Natural History (New York, NY)  
 Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, NY)  
 Museum of Modern Art (New York, NY)  
 Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art (Providence, RI)

### The Middle Atlantic States

B&O Railroad Museum (Baltimore, MD)  
 Walters Art Gallery (Baltimore, MD)  
 Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (St. Michaels, MD)

Barnes Foundation (Merion, PA)  
 Chrysler Museum of Art (Norfolk, VA)  
 Virginia Museum of Fine Art  
 (Richmond, VA)  
 National Gallery of Art (Washington,  
 D.C.)  
 Phillips Collection (Washington, D.C.)  
 Smithsonian Institution (Washington,  
 D.C.)

### The Southeast

Ringling Museum of Art (Sarasota, FL)  
 Wolfsonian FIO Gallery (Miami Beach,  
 FL)  
 High Museum of Art (Atlanta, GA)  
 Museum of Early Southern Decorative  
 Arts (Winston-Salem, NC)

### The Mississippi Valley

Louisville Slugger Museum (Louisville,  
 KY)  
 Country Music Hall of Fame  
 (Nashville, TN)  
 National Civil Rights Museum  
 (Memphis, TN)

### The Midwest and Great Lakes

Art Institute of Chicago (Chicago, IL)  
 Walker Art Center (Minneapolis, MN)  
 Milwaukee Public Museum  
 (Milwaukee, WI)

### The Great Plains

Kansas City Jazz Museum (Kansas City,  
 MO)  
 Mark Twain Home and Museum  
 (Hannibal, MO)  
 Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art (Kansas  
 City, MO)  
 The Journey Museum (Rapid City, SD)

### The Southwest

Heard Museum (Phoenix, AZ)  
 Museum of International Folk Art  
 (Santa Fe, NM)  
 Houston Museum of Fine Arts  
 (Houston, TX)  
 Menil Collection (Houston, TX)  
 Kimbell Art Museum (Fort Worth, TX)

### The Rockies

Museum of the Rockies (Bozeman,  
 MT)  
 Buffalo Bill Historical Center (Cody,  
 WY)

### The West Coast

Los Angeles County Museum of Art  
 (CA)  
 San Francisco Museum of Modern Art  
 (CA)  
 Portland Art Museum (OR) Seattle Art  
 Museum (Seattle, WA)

### The Pacific States

Alaska State Museum (Juneau, AK)

## Neighborhoods

### The Northeast

Beacon Hill (Boston, MA)  
 Brooklyn Heights (New York, NY)

### The Middle Atlantic States

Fells Point (Baltimore, MD)  
 Victorian Cape May (Cape May, NJ)  
 Society Hill (Philadelphia, PA)  
 Old Town (Alexandria, VA)  
 Georgetown (Washington, D.C.)

### The Southeast

Coconut Grove (Miami Beach, FL)  
 South Beach (Miami Beach, FL)  
 Buckhead and Druid Hills (Atlanta,  
 GA)

### The Mississippi Valley

Old Louisville (Louisville, KY)  
 French Quarter (New Orleans, LA)  
 Hodges Gardens (Many, LA)

### The Midwest and Great Lakes

Lincoln Park (Chicago, IL)  
 Summit Avenue/Ramsey Hill (St. Paul,  
 MN)  
 German Village (Columbus, OH)

### The Southwest

Plaza (Santa Fe, NM)  
 Deep Ellum (Dallas, TX)

### The West Coast

North Beach (San Francisco, CA)  
 Rodeo Drive (Beverly Hills, CA)  
 Nob Hill (Portland, OR)  
 Pioneer Square (Seattle, WA)

## Parks and Gardens

### The Northeast

Weir Farm National Historic Site  
 (Wilton, CT)  
 Acadia National Park (Bar Harbor,  
 ME)  
 Public Garden (Boston, MA)  
 Adirondack Park (NY)  
 Central Park (New York, NY)

### The Middle Atlantic States

Winterthur Gardens (Winterthur, DE)  
 Sherwood Gardens (Baltimore, MD)  
 Longwood Gardens (Brandywine  
 Valley, PA)  
 Norfolk Botanical Gardens (Norfolk,  
 VA)

Shenandoah National Park  
(Shenandoah Valley of VA)  
Dumbarton Oaks (Washington, D.C.)

### The Southeast

Bellingrath Gardens and Home  
(Theodore, AL)  
Callaway Gardens (Pine Mountain,  
GA)  
Town squares (Savannah, GA)  
Biltmore Estate Gardens (Asheville,  
NC)  
Magnolia Plantation (Charleston, SC)  
Middleton Place (Charleston, SC)

### The Mississippi Valley

Cheekwood-Tennessee Botanical  
Gardens and Museum of Art  
(Nashville, TN)  
Memphis Botanic Garden (Memphis,  
TN)

### The Midwest and Great Lakes

Lincoln Park (Chicago, IL)  
Mitchell Park Domes (Milwaukee, WI)

### The Great Plains

International Forest of Friendship  
(Atchison, KS)  
International Peace Garden (ND)  
Theodore Roosevelt National Park  
(ND)  
Custer State Park (SD)

### The Southwest

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum  
(Tucson, AZ)  
Desert Botanical Garden (Phoenix, AZ)  
Fair Park (Dallas, TX)  
Water Gardens Park (Fort Worth, TX)

### The West Coast

Balboa Park (San Diego, CA)  
Golden Gate Park (San Francisco, CA)  
Huntington Library, Art Collections,  
and Botanical Gardens (San Marino,  
CA)  
Washington Park International Rose  
Test Garden and Japanese Gardens  
(Portland, OR)

## Beaches

### The Northeast

Cape Cod National Seashore (MA)  
Jones Beach (Long Island, NY)

### The Middle Atlantic States

Assateague Island (MD/VA)  
Island Beach State Park (NJ)

### The Southeast

Gulf State Park (AL)  
Crandon Park (Miami, FL)

Grayton Beach State Recreation Area  
(Seaside, FL)

Cumberland Island National Seashore  
(GA)

Cape Hatteras National Seashore (NC)  
Hilton Head Island (SC)

### The Mississippi Valley

Gulf Islands National Seashore (Ocean  
Springs, MS)

### The Midwest and Great Lakes

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (IN)

### The Great Plains

Lake McConaughy State Recreation  
Area (NE)

### The Southwest

Lake Powell (AZ/UT)  
Padre Island National Seashore (TX)

### The West Coast

Corona del Mar (CA)  
Pismo State Beach (CA)  
Oregon Dunes National Recreation  
Area (OR)

### The Pacific States

Wailea's five crescent beaches (Maui,  
HI)

## Restaurants

### The Northeast

Good News Café (Woodbury, CT; \$\$-  
\$\$\$\$)  
White Barn Inn (Kennebunk, ME;  
\$\$\$\$)  
Biba (Boston, MA; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)  
Daniel (New York, NY; \$\$\$\$)  
Al Forno (Providence, RI; \$\$-\$\$\$)

### The Middle Atlantic States

Tio Pepe (Baltimore, MD; \$\$-\$\$\$)  
Le Bec-Fin (Philadelphia, PA; \$\$\$\$)  
Meskerem (Washington, D.C.; \$\$-\$\$)  
L'Auberge Chez François (Great Falls,  
VA; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)  
Red Fox (Snowshoe, WV; \$\$\$)

### The Southeast

Highlands Bar & Grill (Birmingham,  
AL; \$\$-\$\$\$\$)  
Norman's (Coral Gables, FL; \$\$\$\$)  
Louie's Backyard (Key West, FL; \$\$\$\$)  
Elizabeth on 37th (Savannah, GA; \$\$\$-  
\$\$\$\$)  
Seeger's (Atlanta, GA; \$\$\$\$)  
The Dining Room, Ritz Carlton  
(Buckhead, GA; \$\$\$\$)  
Woodlands Inn (Summerville, SC;  
\$\$\$\$)

L'Auberge Provencale (White Post, VA; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

### The Mississippi Valley

Lilly's (Louisville, KY; \$\$\$)

Commander's Palace (New Orleans, LA; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

Nola (New Orleans, LA; \$\$-\$\$\$)

Charlie Vergos' Rendezvous (Memphis, TN; \$-\$\$)

### The Midwest and Great Lakes

Charlie Trotter's (Chicago, IL; \$\$\$)

Lelli's Inn (Detroit, MI; \$\$-\$\$\$\$)

Sanford (Milwaukee, WI; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

### The Great Plains

Stroud's (Kansas City, MO; \$\$)

Mandan Drug (Mandan, ND; \$)

Cattlemen's Steakhouse (Oklahoma City, OK; \$-\$\$)

Jakes (Deadwood, SD; \$\$)

### The Southwest

Café Terra Cotta (Tucson & Scottsdale, AZ; \$\$-\$\$\$\$)

The Mansion on Turtle Creek (Dallas, TX; \$\$\$) Café Annie (Houston, TX; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

Star Canyon (Dallas, TX; \$\$-\$\$\$\$)

### The Rockies

Strings (Denver, CO; \$\$-\$\$\$)

Glitretind (Deer Valley, UT; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

### The West Coast

Campanile (Los Angeles, CA; \$\$-\$\$\$\$)

Chez Panisse (Berkeley, CA; \$\$-\$\$\$\$)

Geno (Portland, OR; \$\$\$)

Rover's (Seattle, WA; \$\$\$)

### The Pacific

The Double Musky (Anchorage, AK; \$\$-\$\$\$\$)

A Pacific Café (Kaua'i, HI; \$\$\$)

## Hotels

### The Northeast

The Mayflower Inn (Washington, CT; \$\$\$)

Charlotte Inn (Edgartown, MA; \$\$\$)

Fairmont Copley Plaza (Boston, MA; \$\$\$)

Mount Washington Hotel (Bretton Woods, NH; \$\$\$)

The Carlyle (New York, NY; \$\$\$)

The Point (Saranac Lake, NY; \$\$\$)

### The Middle Atlantic States

Harbor Court (Baltimore, MD; \$\$\$)

Stone Manor (Middletown, MD; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

The Homestead (Hot Springs, VA; \$\$\$)

Keswick Hall at Monticello (Charlottesville, VA; \$\$\$)

Hay-Adams Hotel (Washington, D.C.; \$\$\$)

The Greenbrier (White Sulphur Springs, WV; \$\$\$)

### The Southeast

The Breakers (Palm Beach, FL; \$\$\$)

Delano Hotel (Miami Beach, FL; \$\$\$)

The Four Seasons (Atlanta, GA; \$\$\$)

Grove Park Inn (Asheville, NC; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

Charleston Place Hotel (Charleston, SC; \$\$\$)

John Rutledge House Inn (Charleston, SC; \$\$\$)

### The Mississippi Valley

The Seelbach Hilton (Louisville, KY; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

Windsor Court Hotel (New Orleans, LA; \$\$\$)

Cedar Grove (Vicksburg, MS; \$\$-\$\$\$)

The Peabody (Memphis, TN; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

### The Midwest and Great Lakes

Ritz-Carlton (Chicago, IL; \$\$\$)

Ritz-Carlton (Cleveland, OH; \$\$\$)

Pfister Hotel (Milwaukee, WI; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

### The Great Plains

The Raphael (Kansas City, MO; \$\$\$)

Island Guest Ranch (Ames, OK; \$)

The Bullock Hotel (Deadwood, SD; \$)

### The Southwest

Arizona Biltmore (Phoenix, AZ; \$\$\$)

The Boulders (Carefree, AZ; \$\$\$)

Bellagio (Las Vegas, NV; \$\$-\$\$\$\$)

The Mansion on Turtle Creek (Dallas, TX; \$\$\$)

Menger Hotel (San Antonio, TX; \$\$\$)

### The Rockies

Oxford (Denver, CO; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

Cliff Lodge at Snowbird Resort (Snowbird, UT; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

Old Faithful Inn (Yellowstone, WY; \$-\$\$\$)

### The West Coast

Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel (Dana Point, CA; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

The Heathman (Portland, OR; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

Stephanie Inn (Cannon Beach, OR; \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$)

The Four Seasons Olympic Hotel (Seattle, WA; \$\$\$\$)

### **The Pacific States**

Camp Denali (Denali National Park, AK; \$\$\$\$)

Four Seasons Resort Hualālai (Ka'ūpūlehu/Kona, HI; \$\$\$\$)

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### **Don't Forget to Write**

You can use this book in the confidence that all prices and opening times are based on information supplied to us at press time; Fodor's cannot accept responsibility for any errors. Time inevitably brings changes, so always confirm information when it matters—especially if you're making a detour to visit a specific place.

Were the restaurants we recommended as described? Did you find a museum we recommended a waste of time? Keeping

a travel guide up-to-date is a big job, and we welcome your feedback. If you have complaints, we'll look into them and revise our entries when the facts warrant it. If you've discovered a special place that we haven't included, we'll pass the information along to our correspondents and have them check it out. So send us your thoughts via e-mail at [editors@fodors.com](mailto:editors@fodors.com) (specifying the name of the book on the subject line) or on paper in care of the USA editors at Fodor's, 280 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017. In the meantime, have a wonderful trip!



Karen Cure  
*Editorial Director*



## The United States







Amtrak Rail Passenger System





Mileages Between Major U.S. Cities												
	Albuquerque	Atlanta	Boston	Chicago	Cincinnati	Cleveland	Dallas	Denver	Houston	Kansas City	Los Angeles	
Albuquerque	—	1409	2225	1343	1402	1608	666	446	876	818	790	
Atlanta	1409	—	1105	703	466	715	791	1404	800	801	2199	
Boston	2225	1105	—	1018	861	657	1765	2006	1857	1414	3007	
Chicago	1343	703	1018	—	296	365	940	1013	1107	511	2014	
Cincinnati	1402	466	861	296	—	249	943	1195	1079	592	2192	
Cleveland	1608	715	657	365	249	—	1193	1354	1328	797	2355	
Dallas	666	791	1765	940	943	1193	—	825	241	523	1440	
Denver	446	1404	2006	1013	1195	1354	825	—	1075	606	1004	
Houston	876	800	1857	1107	1079	1328	241	1075	—	764	1545	
Kansas City	818	801	1414	511	592	797	523	606	764	—	1610	
Los Angeles	790	2199	3007	2014	2192	2355	1440	1004	1545	1610	—	
Memphis	1004	401	1309	533	487	736	456	1113	592	474	1798	
Miami	2009	695	1524	1388	1149	1251	1342	2088	1215	1485	2759	
Minneapolis	1255	1121	1435	417	713	782	962	916	1202	437	1889	
New Orleans	1178	473	1529	928	818	1067	511	1273	350	842	1894	
New York	2002	878	226	814	634	463	1538	1802	1630	1192	2803	
Orlando	1770	446	1314	1149	912	1041	1104	1850	976	1247	2521	
Philadelphia	1949	779	326	798	581	437	1462	1742	1554	1139	2738	
Phoenix	463	1859	2687	1805	1865	2071	1068	832	1173	1280	372	
Portland, OR	1411	2599	3046	2126	2370	2466	2009	1241	2205	1796	963	
St. Louis	1050	555	1175	293	352	558	647	852	819	249	1840	
Salt Lake	646	1876	2396	1403	1647	1743	1290	518	1500	1073	689	
San Francisco	1095	2505	3125	2132	2376	2472	1761	1247	1923	1802	381	
Seattle	1463	2651	3085	2067	2328	2432	2117	1293	2274	1848	1136	
Washington, DC	1875	641	462	733	488	377	1323	1649	1415	1045	2665	

Memphis	Miami	Minneapolis	New Orleans	New York	Orlando	Philadelphia	Phoenix	Portland, OR	St. Louis	Salt Lake	San Francisco	Seattle	Washington, DC
1008	2009	1255	1178	2002	1770	1949	463	1411	1050	646	1095	1463	1875
401	685	1121	473	878	446	779	1859	2599	555	1876	2505	2651	641
1309	1524	1435	1529	226	1314	326	2687	3046	1175	2396	3125	3085	462
533	1388	417	928	814	1149	798	1805	2126	293	1403	2132	2067	733
487	1149	713	818	634	912	581	1865	2370	352	1647	2376	2328	488
736	1251	782	1067	453	1041	437	2071	2466	558	1743	2472	2432	377
456	1342	962	511	1538	1104	1462	1068	2009	647	1290	1761	2177	1323
1113	2088	916	1273	1802	1850	1742	832	1241	852	518	1247	1293	1649
592	1215	1202	350	1630	976	1554	1173	2205	819	1500	1923	2274	1415
474	1485	437	842	1192	1247	1139	1280	1796	249	1073	1802	1848	1045
1798	2759	1889	1894	2803	2521	2738	372	963	1840	689	381	1136	2665
—	1045	848	398	1082	807	1006	1471	2276	286	1553	2104	2328	867
1045	—	1805	887	1298	245	1203	2387	3284	1239	2561	3137	3336	1066
848	1805	—	1243	1231	1567	1215	1718	1737	575	1264	1994	1651	1150
398	887	1243	—	1302	649	1226	1512	2505	681	1802	2272	2574	1087
1082	1298	1231	1302	—	1088	95	2465	2915	952	2192	2921	2881	237
807	245	1567	649	1088	—	994	2149	3046	1061	2322	2899	3098	856
1006	1203	1215	1226	95	994	—	2412	2899	899	2176	2905	2751	142
1471	2387	1718	1512	2465	2149	2412	—	1333	1513	673	750	1489	2337
2276	3284	1737	2505	2915	3046	2899	1333	—	2048	765	634	173	2835
286	1239	575	681	952	1061	899	1513	2048	—	1324	2054	2100	806
1553	2561	1264	1802	2192	2322	2176	673	765	1324	—	735	817	2111
2104	3137	1994	2272	2921	2899	2905	750	634	2054	735	—	807	2841
2328	3336	1651	2574	2881	3098	2751	1489	173	2100	817	807	—	2800
867	1066	1150	1087	237	856	142	2337	2835	806	2111	2841	2800	—

# SMART TRAVEL TIPS A TO Z

*Basic Information on Traveling in the United States, Savvy Tips to Make Your Trip a Breeze, and Companies and Organizations to Contact*

## AIR TRAVEL

### BOOKING

Price is just one factor to consider when booking a flight: frequency of service and even a carrier's safety record are often just as important. Major airlines offer the greatest number of departures. Smaller airlines—including regional and no-frills airlines—usually have a limited number of flights daily. On the other hand, so-called low-cost airlines usually are cheaper, and their fares impose fewer restrictions, such as advance-purchase requirements. Safety-wise, low-cost carriers as a group have a good history—about equal to that of major carriers.

When you book **look for nonstop flights** and **remember that "direct" flights stop at least once**. Try to avoid connecting flights, which require a change of plane. Two airlines may jointly operate a connecting flight, so ask if your airline operates every segment—you may find that your preferred carrier flies you only part of the way.

**Ask your airline if it offers electronic ticketing**, which eliminates all paperwork. There's no ticket to pick up or misplace. You go directly to the gate and give the agent your confirmation number—a blessing if you've lost your ticket or made last-minute changes in travel plans. There's no worry about waiting on line at the airport while precious minutes tick by.

### CARRIERS

► **MAJOR AIRLINES:** Air Canada (☎ 888/247-2262). Alaska Airlines (☎ 800/426-0333). America West (☎ 800/433-7300 or 800/235-9292). Continental (☎ 800/525-0280). Delta (☎ 800/221-1212). Northwest (☎ 800/225-2525). TWA (☎ 800/221-2000). United (☎ 800/241-

6522). US Airways (☎ 800/428-4322).

► **SMALLER AIRLINES:** Aloha (☎ 800/367-5250). Hawaiian (☎ 800/367-5320). IslandAir (☎ 800/323-3345). Mesa Airlines (☎ 800/637-2247). SkyWest (☎ 800/453-9417). Southwest Airlines (☎ 800/435-9792). Tower Air (☎ 800/348-6937).

► **FROM THE U.K.:** American (☎ 0345/789-789). British Airways (☎ 0845/773-3377). Continental (☎ 01293/776-464, 0800/776-464 toll-free). Delta (☎ 0800/414-767). Northwest (☎ 0870/507-4074). TWA (☎ 0181/815-0707). United (☎ 0845/844-4777). Virgin Atlantic (☎ 01293/747-747). Most serve at least the New York area plus their own U.S. hubs. British Airways serves the largest number of U.S. cities—an impressive 20 destinations, including Atlanta, Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Orlando, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington, DC. A few cities not served by British Airways can be reached by connections with other major carriers.

► **FROM AUSTRALIA:** Air New Zealand (☎ 1800/063-385). Qantas (☎ 131313).

### CHECK-IN & BOARDING

Assuming that not everyone with a ticket will show up, airlines routinely overbook planes. When everyone does, airlines ask for volunteers to give up their seats. In return, these volunteers usually get a certificate for a free flight and are rebooked on the next flight out. If there are not enough volunteers, the airline must choose who will be denied boarding. The first to get bumped are passengers who checked in late and those flying on discounted tickets, so **get to the gate and check in as early as possible**, especially during peak periods.



Although the trend on international flights is to drop reconfirmation requirements, many airlines still ask you to reconfirm each leg of your international itinerary. Failure to do so may result in your reservation being canceled.

Always **bring a government-issued photo ID to the airport**. You may be asked to show it before you are allowed to check in.

### CUTTING COSTS

The least expensive airfares to the United States must usually be purchased in advance and are nonrefundable. It's smart to **call a number of airlines, and when you are quoted a good price, book it on the spot**—the same fare may not be available the next day. Always **check different routings** and look into using different airports. Travel agents, especially low-fare specialists (see Discounts & Deals, *below*), are helpful.

Consolidators are another good source. They buy tickets for scheduled international flights at reduced rates from the airlines, then sell them at prices that beat the best fare available directly from the airlines, usually without restrictions. Sometimes you can even get your money back if you need to return the ticket. Carefully read the fine print detailing penalties for changes and cancellations, and **confirm your consolidator reservation with the airline**.

When you **fly as a courier**, you trade your checked-luggage space for a ticket deeply subsidized by a courier service. There are restrictions on when you can book and how long you can stay.

On flights within the United States, most airlines offer non-U.S. residents discounted Visit USA fares, with savings of 25%–30%, provided the arrangements are made outside the United States. **Look for air-pass programs that give you a fixed number of domestic flights for a flat fee**; discount passes are available from many airlines, including America West, American, Delta, Hawaiian, Northwest, TWA, and United but must be booked or purchased before

you come to America. Check details with the airline or a travel agent.

► **CONSOLIDATORS: Cheap Tickets** (☎ 800/377-1000). **Discount Airline Ticket Service** (☎ 800/576-1600). **Unitravel** (☎ 800/325-2222). **Up & Away Travel** (☎ 212/889-2345). **World Travel Network** (☎ 800/409-6753).

► **COURIERS: Now Voyager** (☎ 212/431-1616).

### ENJOYING THE FLIGHT

For more legroom, **request an emergency-aisle seat**. Don't sit in the row in front of the emergency aisle or in front of a bulkhead, where seats may not recline. If you have dietary concerns, **ask for special meals when booking**. These can be vegetarian, low-cholesterol, or kosher, for example. On long flights, try to maintain a normal routine, to help fight jet lag. At night, **get some sleep**. By day, **eat light meals, drink water** (not alcohol), and **move around the cabin** to stretch your legs.

### FLYING TIMES

Flying time from London is 7 hours to New York; 8 hours, 40 minutes to Chicago; 9 hours, 45 minutes to Miami; and 11 hours to Los Angeles.

Flying time from Sydney is 22–23 hours to New York; and 13 hours, 25 minutes to Los Angeles on a direct flight.

Flying time from Toronto is 1½ hours to New York and 5¼ hours to Los Angeles. Flying time from Vancouver is 23 hours to Los Angeles, 4 hours to Chicago.

### HOW TO COMPLAIN

If your baggage goes astray or your flight goes awry, complain right away. Most carriers require that you **file a claim immediately**.

► **AIRLINE COMPLAINTS:** U.S. Department of Transportation **Aviation Consumer Protection Division** (☐ C-75, Room 4107, Washington, DC 20590, ☎ 202/366-2220, [airconsumer@ost.dot.gov](mailto:airconsumer@ost.dot.gov), [www.dot.gov/airconsumer](http://www.dot.gov/airconsumer)). **Federal Aviation Administration Consumer Hotline** (☎ 800/322-7873).



## AIRPORTS

The major gateways to the United States include New York, Miami, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

► **AIRPORT INFORMATION:** See Arriving and Departing by Plane in New York City, Miami, Chicago, and Los Angeles for specific information about airports in these cities, or the appropriate Arriving and Departing by Plane section under whatever city or region you are planning to fly into.

## BIKE TRAVEL

Biking the nation's byways, you'll discover farms and factories, forests and strip malls, antique mansions and trailer parks. Stick to roads and bike paths or go mountain biking on the designated trail systems in city, county, and state parks. **Check the area's policy on mountain bikes before you hop on the trail**, as many parks have banned them to protect the terrain. If you ignore the ban, you could be issued a fine or, worse, have your bicycle impounded. Many ski resorts open their slopes, trails, and chairlifts to mountain bikers during the off-season.

► **RESOURCES:** Adventure Cycling (☐ Box 8308, 150 E. Pine St., Missoula, MT 59807, ☎ 406/721-1776 or 800/721-8719, FAX 406/721-8754, [www.adv-cycling.org](http://www.adv-cycling.org)). Rails to Trails Conservancy (☐ 1100 17th St. NW, 10th fl., Washington, DC 20036, ☎ 202/331-9696, FAX 202/331-9680, [www.railtrails.org](http://www.railtrails.org)) has information on the more than 10,000 mi of abandoned railroad beds that have been turned into bike trails.

## BIKES IN FLIGHT

Most airlines accommodate bikes as luggage, provided they are dismantled and boxed. For bike boxes, often free at bike shops, you'll pay about \$5 from airlines (at least \$100 for bike bags). International travelers can sometimes substitute a bike for a piece of checked luggage at no charge; otherwise, the cost is about \$100. Domestic and Canadian airlines charge \$25-\$50.

## BUS TRAVEL

Aside from the two coasts and the major cities, long-distance buses

(motor coaches) serve more of the United States than trains do. Various regional bus companies serve their areas of the country; the most extensive long-haul service is provided by Greyhound Lines. Generally no reservations are needed—**buy your tickets before boarding** (allow 15 minutes in advance in small towns, up to 45 minutes in larger cities). Long-distance buses often have reclining seats, individually controlled reading lights, rest rooms, and air-conditioning and heating.

## CUTTING COSTS

Visitors from overseas can sometimes receive substantial savings on Greyhound by purchasing an Ameripass through their travel agent prior to arriving in the United States. Student discount cards are available at local bus stations.

Students age 15 and over can buy a Student Advantage Card for \$22.50, which gives the user a 15% discount on all Greyhound bus tickets. The cards are valid for one academic year (August to August) and also entitle the holder to discounts at participating hotels, restaurants, car rental agencies, and retail stores.

► **DISCOUNT PASSES:** Greyhound International (☐ Port Authority, 625 8th Ave., New York, NY 10018, ☎ 212/971-0492 or 800/246-8572). Greyhound (☎ 888/454-7277, [www.greyhound.com](http://www.greyhound.com)). Student Advantage (☎ 800/333-2920, [www.studentadvantage.com](http://www.studentadvantage.com)).

► **BUS INFORMATION:** Greyhound (☎ 800/231-2222, 800/345-3109 TDD).

## BUSINESS HOURS

Banks are generally open weekdays from 9 AM until 3 PM, post offices weekdays between 8 AM and 5 PM; many branches operate Saturday morning hours. Business hours tend to be weekdays from 9 to 5, a little later on the East Coast and earlier the farther west you go. Many stores may not open until 10 or 11, but they remain open until 6 or 7; most carry on brisk business on Saturday as well. Large suburban shopping malls, the focus of most Americans' shopping activity, are generally open seven days a week, with evening hours every day

except Sunday. Large all-purpose stores like Wal-Mart are often open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, even in small towns. All across the country, so-called convenience stores sell food and sundries until about 11 PM. Along the highways and in major cities you can usually find all-night diners, supermarkets, drugstores, and convenience stores.

### CAMERAS & PHOTOGRAPHY

► **PHOTO HELP:** Kodak Information Center (☎ 800/242-2424). *Kodak Guide to Shooting Great Travel Pictures*, available in bookstores or from Fodor's Travel Publications (☎ 800/533-6478; \$16.50 plus \$5.50 shipping).

### EQUIPMENT PRECAUTIONS

Always **keep your film and tape out of the sun**. Carry an extra supply of batteries, and **be prepared to turn on your camera or camcorder** to prove to security personnel that the device is real. Always **ask for hand inspection of film**, which becomes clouded after repeated exposure to airport X-ray machines, and **keep videotapes away from metal detectors**.

### CAR RENTAL

► **MAJOR AGENCIES:** Alamo (☎ 800/327-9633, 0181/759-6200 in the U.K.). Avis (☎ 800/331-1212, 800/879-2847 in Canada, 02/9353-9000 in Australia, 09/525-1982 in New Zealand). Budget (☎ 800/527-0700, 0144/227-6266 in the U.K.). Dollar (☎ 800/800-4000; 0181/897-0811 in the U.K., where it is known as Eurodollar; 02/9223-1444 in Australia). Hertz (☎ 800/654-3131, 800/263-0600 in Canada, 0181/897-2072 in the U.K., 02/9669-2444 in Australia, 03/358-6777 in New Zealand). National InterRent (☎ 800/227-7368; 0345/222525 in the U.K., where it is known as Europcar InterRent).

### CUTTING COSTS

To get the best deal, **book through a travel agent, who will shop around**. Also **price local car-rental companies**, although the service and maintenance may not be as good as those of a major player. Remember to ask about required deposits, cancellation penal-

ties, and drop-off charges if you're planning to pick up the car in one city and leave it in another. If you're traveling during a holiday period, also make sure that a confirmed reservation guarantees you a car.

Do **look into wholesalers**, companies that do not own fleets but rent in bulk from those that do and often offer better rates than traditional car-rental operations.

► **WHOLESALEERS:** Auto Europe (☎ 207/842-2000 or 800/223-5555, FAX 800/235-6321, [www.autoeurope.com](http://www.autoeurope.com)). Kemwel Holiday Autos (☎ 800/678-0678, FAX 914/825-3160, [www.kemwel.com](http://www.kemwel.com)).

### INSURANCE

When driving a rented car you are generally responsible for any damage to or loss of the vehicle as well as for any property damage or personal injury that you may cause. Before you rent see what coverage your personal auto-insurance policy and credit cards already provide.

For about \$15 to \$20 per day, rental companies sell protection, known as a collision- or loss-damage waiver (CDW or LDW), that eliminates your liability for damage to the car. Some states, including [California/Nevada], have capped the price of the CDW and LDW. You pay for only the first \$100 of damage to the car in New York State, for only the first \$200 in Illinois. No CDW or LDW is available in either state.

In Arizona, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Utah the car-rental company must pay for damage to third parties up to a preset legal limit, beyond which your own liability insurance kicks in. However, **make sure you have enough coverage to pay for the car**. If you do not have auto insurance or an umbrella policy that covers damage to third parties, purchasing liability insurance and a CDW or LDW is highly recommended.

### REQUIREMENTS & RESTRICTIONS

In the United States you must be 21 to rent a car, and rates may be higher if you're under 25. In New York you must be 18 to rent a car. You'll pay