

FODOR'S[®]
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FOREWORD

The United States is a vast country, with great and beautiful cities and towns—from Carmel to New Orleans to Boston—impressive works of man—from Mount Rushmore to the Brooklyn Bridge to the interstate highway system—and spectacular natural scenery—from Yosemite to Utah's Canyonlands to the Maine coast. A traveler can find a lifetime of vacations here. We hope you'll find this book useful now and suggestive of trips you'll want to take in the future.

In recent years, Fodor's has organized this book not state-by-state but in about two dozen regional, state, and city chapters. The idea is to be both more selective and more complete. You'll still find that we have material on vacations in every state, but by organizing many of the chapters around regions, we've been able to include more useful details on the most popular destinations.

Over two dozen professional writers and researchers—all experts on the regions they covered—and a team of editors have worked on *Fodor's USA*. Still, perfection is hard to come by in a complex and changing world. We update the book yearly and will be glad to learn of any suggestions you may have. Write to Fodor's Travel Publications, 201 E. 50th Street, New York, NY 10022.

Farewell! .

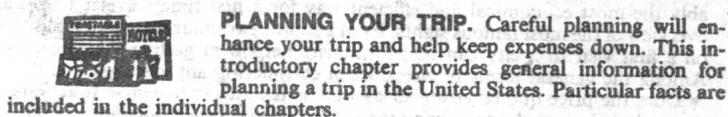
CONTENTS

Foreword	ix
Facts at Your Fingertips, 1	
Northern New England, by Jane E. Zarem	11
Maine, 13	
<i>Map of Maine, 14</i>	
New Hampshire, 25	
<i>Map of New Hampshire, 26</i>	
Vermont, 37	
<i>Map of Vermont, 38</i>	
Southern New England, by William G. Scheller	49
Massachusetts, 50	
<i>Map of Central Boston, 51</i>	
<i>Map of Massachusetts, 55</i>	
Connecticut, 61	
<i>Map of Connecticut, 62</i>	
Rhode Island, 67	
<i>Map of Rhode Island, 68</i>	
Practical Information for Southern New England, 69	
Niagara Falls, by Deborah Williams	87
<i>Map of Niagara Falls, 89</i>	
Practical Information for Niagara Falls, 90	
New York City, by Barbara Pepe	98
<i>Map of New York City, 100-101</i>	
Practical Information for New York City, 110	
The Mid-Atlantic Coast, by Mike Schwanz	132
The Jersey Shore, 132	
<i>Map of Atlantic City, 134</i>	
<i>Map of Jersey Shore Beaches, 136</i>	
Practical Information for the Jersey Shore, 138	
The Delaware Shore, 153	
Maryland's Atlantic Coast, 156	
Philadelphia, by Joyce Eisenberg	162
<i>Map of Philadelphia, 164-165</i>	
Practical Information for Philadelphia, 168	
Washington, D.C., by Francis X. Rocca and Rita Chabot	185
<i>Map of Washington, D.C., 186-187</i>	
Practical Information for Washington, D.C., 193	
Historic Virginia, by Francis X. Rocca and Ed Wozas	209
<i>Map of Northern Virginia, 210</i>	
<i>Map of the Piedmont, 215</i>	
<i>Map of Tidewater Virginia, 218</i>	

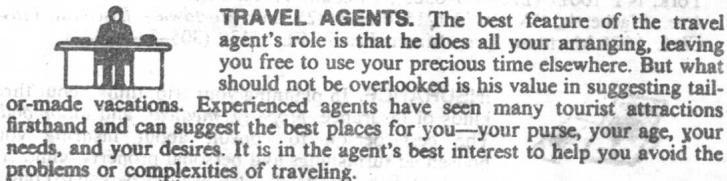
The Southern Appalachian Mountains , by Edgar and Patricia Cheatham	233
<i>Map of the Southern Appalachian Mountains</i> , 236-237	
Practical Information for the Southern Appalachian Mountains, 238	
The Southeast Coast , by Edgar and Patricia Cheatham	277
<i>Map of the Southeast Coast</i> , 280	
Practical Information for the Southeast Coast, 283	
<i>Map of Charleston</i> , 297	
Florida , by Joice Veselka and Moira Bailey	317
<i>Map of Miami</i> , 318-319	
<i>Map of the Orlando Area</i> , 322	
<i>Map of the Tampa-St. Petersburg Area</i> , 324	
<i>Map of Florida</i> , 326-327	
Practical Information for Florida, 325	
The Gulf Coast , by Joice Veselka and Carol Barrington	357
Practical Information for the Gulf Coast, 358	
The Florida Coast, 360	
The Alabama Coast, 369	
The Mississippi Coast, 371	
The Louisiana Coast, 374	
<i>Map of Cajun Country</i> , 375	
The Texas Coast, 379	
<i>Map of Galveston</i> , 380	
<i>Map of Corpus Christi</i> , 387	
<i>Map of South Padre Island</i> , 392	
The South , by Karen Lingo Allord and William Schemmel	396
Georgia, 396	
<i>Map of the South</i> , 400-401	
What to See and Do in Atlanta, 408	
<i>Map of Atlanta</i> , 409	
Alabama, 412	
Mississippi, 421	
Louisiana, 429	
What to See and Do in New Orleans, 439	
<i>Map of New Orleans</i> , 440-441	
Arkansas, 445	
Nashville and Memphis , by William Schemmel	452
<i>Map of Nashville</i> , 454	
Practical Information for Nashville, 455	
Memphis, 465	
The Midwest , by Carolyn R. Langdon	471
Ohio, 472	
<i>Map of Ohio</i> , 473	
Indiana, 479	
<i>Map of Indiana</i> , 480	
Illinois, 487	
<i>Map of Chicago</i> , 488-489	
<i>Map of Illinois</i> , 499	
Missouri, 500	
<i>Map of Missouri</i> , 501	

Iowa, 510	
<i>Map of Iowa</i> , 511	
The Upper Great Lakes , by Jerry Minnich and Don Davenport	517
<i>Map of the Upper Great Lakes</i> , 520-521	
Practical Information for the Upper Great Lakes, 528	
Practical Information for Michigan, 530	
Practical Information for Wisconsin, 536	
Practical Information for Minnesota, 544	
The Dakotas , by Bob Karolevitz	551
<i>Map of North Dakota</i> , 553	
<i>Map of South Dakota</i> , 555	
Practical Information for the Dakotas, 557	
The Central Plains , by Jake Thompson	569
Nebraska, 569	
<i>Map of Nebraska</i> , 571	
Kansas, 578	
<i>Map of Kansas</i> , 580	
Oklahoma, 586	
<i>Map of Oklahoma</i> , 588	
Texas , by Carol Barrington	596
<i>Map of Texas</i> , 598-599	
<i>Map of Dallas-Fort Worth</i> , 602-603	
<i>Map of Houston</i> , 604-605	
<i>Map of San Antonio</i> , 608	
Practical Information for Texas, 609	
Practical Information for Austin, 610	
Practical Information for Dallas-Fort Worth, 614	
Practical Information for Houston, 618	
Practical Information for San Antonio, 623	
Other Points of Interest, 626	
The Southwest , by Ruth Armstrong	633
Practical Information for the Southwest, 635	
The Grand Canyon, 637	
<i>Map of the Grand Canyon</i> , 638	
Phoenix, 643	
<i>Map of Phoenix</i> , 644	
Tucson, 649	
<i>Map of Tucson</i> , 650	
Santa Fe, 654	
<i>Map of Santa Fe</i> , 655	
Albuquerque, 660	
<i>Map of Albuquerque</i> , 661	
Taos, 667	
<i>Map of Taos</i> , 668	
Other Places of Interest, 672	
The Great Basin , by Lee Foster and Stephen Allen	676
<i>Map of Salt Lake City</i> , 678	
<i>Map of the Great Basin</i> , 681	
Practical Information for the Great Basin, 688	

The Rocky Mountains , by Lee Foster and Curtis Casewit	700
<i>Map of the Rocky Mountains</i> , 702-703	
<i>Map of the Denver Area</i> , 704	
<i>Map of Yellowstone National Park</i> , 711	
Practical Information for the Rocky Mountains, 718	
California , by Robert Taylor	735
<i>Map of California</i> , 738-739	
Practical Information for California, 742	
Practical Information for Los Angeles and Orange County, 743	
<i>Map of Los Angeles and the Surrounding Area</i> , 744-745	
Practical Information for the Southern California Coast, 755	
Practical Information for the Central California Coast, 759	
Practical Information for San Francisco, 763	
<i>Map of San Francisco</i> , 764-765	
Practical Information for the Wine Country, 773	
Practical Information for the Northern California Coast, 775	
Practical Information for Lake Tahoe, 777	
Practical Information for Yosemite, 778	
The Pacific Northwest , by Barry and Hilda Anderson	780
Oregon, 781	
<i>Map of Oregon</i> , 782	
Washington, 792	
<i>Map of Washington</i> , 793	
Alaska , by Norma Spring and Archie Satterfield	804
<i>Map of Alaska</i> , 806	
Practical Information for Alaska, 809	
Hawaii , by Lyle Nelson and Jodi Belknap	819
Practical Information for Oahu, 820	
<i>Map of Greater Honolulu</i> , 822-823	
Neighbor Islands, 836	
Index	839



WHAT WILL IT COST? Your major expenses will probably be transportation, accommodations, and food. Count the cost of transportation to and from your destination first and then work out a daily budget for accommodations and food. The price categories in the accommodation and dining out sections in each chapter should serve as useful guidelines. (Necessarily, they vary from chapter to chapter.) Remember to budget money for all the meals you usually eat in an active day. If you require a substantial breakfast before a day of sight-seeing, take that into account. We have supplied as many prices as possible for attractions and activities, so that you can estimate how much money you are likely to spend on the things you want to do in a particular city—and how much you can afford to do. Many of the events and attractions listed in this guide are free, so if you budget your accommodation and food expenses carefully—even without settling for the cheapest possibilities—you should be able to keep the cost of your vacation within reason.



For all this service, the travel agent does not charge you a fee. His fee is collected from the transportation carriers and hotels as a commission for promoting and making the sale. Your only charge might be for extra phone calls.

cables, or other special services. On package tours and groups, the agent's and organizer's services are included in the total price. If an agent has to arrange a complex itinerary and perform myriad services, he may charge you, and you should discuss his charges in advance.

The *American Society of Travel Agents, Inc. (ASTA)* is the world's largest professional travel trade association, composed of all elements of the travel business. ASTA was established in New York in 1931 to promote travel, to prevent unethical practices, and to provide a public forum for travel agents. It is the duty of every ASTA member agency to protect the public against any fraud, misrepresentation, or unethical practices. To avoid being victimized by fly-by-night operators who might claim better bargains, look for the ASTA member shield—the hallmark of dependable travel service. You'll find the shield on entrance doors, windows, and all office forms of the member agency you select.

ASTA membership indicates that the agent has been in business for at least three years and is officially approved by the Society to sell tickets on behalf of airlines and cruise ships. ASTA agents also will arrange bookings for trains, buses, or car rentals. For further information write ASTA, 4400 MacArthur Blvd. NW, Washington, DC 20007.

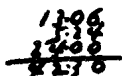
The volatility of the travel field in the last several years has led to the failure of some tour operators and to losses on the part of their clients. To avoid this, a number of leading tour operators have formed a bonding association. For a list of these agencies whose stability is protected, write to: *United States Tour Operators Association*, 211 E. 51st Street, Suite 12B, New York, NY 10022.



PACKAGE TOURS. Time, convenience, cost, and the type of travel that most interests you are the factors to consider when it comes to choosing an all-inclusive, fully escorted tour, a loose plan-your-own-itinerary

package tour, or totally independent travel. In between are fly-drive deals that might include a few nights lodging; hotel-only packages; and hotel packages with certain added services. Package tours are the easiest to arrange and probably the most economical and efficient way for a first-time traveler to get an overview of the most famous sights. Even a simple two-hour orientation bus tour on a first visit to a city can be enormously helpful in getting your bearings. Among the general terms to check when considering any package are:

- Does the price quoted cover air as well as land arrangements? If air fare is not included, does the tour operator have a special rate available?
- How many meals are included?
- Does the rate for an automobile included in the package carry an additional fee per mile or is mileage unlimited? Is the car in the base rate exactly what you need? For example, is air conditioning included?
- What "extras"—usually hotel services such as a bottle of wine, first night cocktail, transportation to another part of town—are thrown in that you don't need? A package for similar accommodations but without these unwanted extras might help keep the price even more within reason.



DISCOUNT TRAVEL. If you have the flexibility, you can sometimes benefit from last-minute sales tour operators have in order to fill a plane or prebooked hotels. A number of brokers specializing in such discount sales

have sprung up. All charge an annual membership fee, usually about \$35 to \$45. Among these are the following: *Stand-Buys Ltd.*, 311 West Superior St., Suite 404, Chicago, IL 60610 (312-943-5737); *Moments Notice*, 40 E. 49th St., New York, NY 10017 (212-486-0503); *Discount Travel International*, 114 Forrest Ave., Narberth, PA 19072 (215-608-2182); and *Worldwide Discount Travel Club*, 1674 Meridian Ave., Miami Beach, FL 33139 (305-534-2082).



INSURANCE. In planning your trip, think about three kinds of insurance: *property*, *medical*, and *automobile*. The best person to consult about insuring your household furnishings and personal property while you

are away is your insurance agent. For Americans, he is also the person to consult about whatever special adjustments might be advisable in your medical coverage while traveling. Foreigners visiting the United States should bear in mind that

medical expenses in this country may seem astronomical by comparison with those they are accustomed to at home, and that the kind of protection that some countries (Britain, for example) extend to their own nationals and foreigners alike does not exist here.

Every state has some sort of financial responsibility law establishing the minimum and maximum amounts for which you can be held liable in auto accidents. Most states require insurance to be offered, and 17 states require you to have it in order to register a car or get a license within their jurisdictions. In any case, it is almost essential to have at least third party coverage, or "liability insurance," as claims can run very high both for car repairs and medical treatment. Insurance premiums vary according to place and person; they are generally highest for males under 25, and for drivers who live in large urban areas.

One possibility is the *American Automobile Association* (AAA), which offers both group personal accident insurance (\$3,000) and bail bond protection up to \$5,000 as part of its annual membership (fee \$36). The AAA can also arrange the validation of foreign driving permits for use in the United States. Foreigners should consider getting their insurance before leaving their own countries since short-term tourists will find it difficult and expensive to buy here. For the AAA, write to AAA, 8111 Gatehouse Rd., Falls Church, VA 22047. Persons over 50 who are members of NRTA/AARP may join that organization's motoring plan which offers, among other things, reimbursement for legal fees, hospital emergency room bonding, arrest bonding, and emergency breakdown service. Write to: *AARP Motoring Plan*, Box 9052, Des Moines, IA 50369.

Trip cancellation insurance is also available (usually from travel agents) to protect you against losing any advance payments should you have to cancel your trip at the last moment.



TIPS FOR BRITISH VISITORS. Passports. You will need a valid passport and a U.S. Visitor's Visa (which can only be put in a passport of the 10-year kind). You can obtain the visa either through your travel agent or airline, or directly from the *United States Embassy, Visa and Immigration Department*, 5 Upper Grosvenor St., London W1 (01-499-5521). Allow 4 weeks if applying to the Embassy by mail; if you apply in person, your visa can be obtained in about 3 hours.

No vaccinations are required for entry into the United States.

Customs. If you are 21 or over, you can take into the U.S.: 200 cigarettes, or 50 cigars, or 2 kilos of tobacco; 1 U.S. quart of alcohol. Everyone is entitled to take into the United States duty-free gifts to a value of \$100. Be careful not to try to take in meat or meat products, seeds, plants, fruits, etc. And avoid narcotics like the plague.

Insurance. We heartily recommend that you insure yourself to cover health and motoring mishaps, with *Europ Assistance*, 252 High St., Croydon CRO 1NF (01-680-1234). Their excellent service is all the more valuable when you consider the possible costs of health care in the United States.

Tour Operators. The price battle that has raged over transatlantic fares has meant that most tour operators now offer excellent budget packages to the U.S. Among those you might consider as you plan your trip are:

American Airplan, Glenbrook House, 5 Molesey Rd., Hersham, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey KT12 4RJ.

Cosmos Air Holidays Ltd., 1 Bromley Common, Bromley, Kent BR2 9LX.

Intasun Holidays, Intasun House, Cromwell Ave., Bromley, Kent BR2 9AQ.

Kuoni Travel, Kuoni House, Dorking, Surrey RH5 4A2.

Speedbird, 152 King St., London W6 0QU.

Trekamerica, Trek House, The Bullring, Deddington, Oxford, Oxon OX5 4TT.

Air Fares. We suggest that you explore the current scene for budget flight possibilities, including *Virgin Atlantic Airways*.

Some of these cut-rate fares can be extremely difficult to come by, so be sure to book well in advance. Be sure to check on APEX and other money-saving fares, as, quite frankly, only business travelers who don't have to watch the price of their tickets fly full-price these days—and find themselves sitting right beside an APEX passenger!



HINTS TO HANDICAPPED TRAVELERS. One of the newest, and largest, groups to enter the travel scene is the handicapped, literally millions of people who are in fact physically able to travel and who do so enthusiastically

when they know that they can move about in safety and comfort. Generally their tours parallel those of the nonhandicapped traveler, but at a more leisurely pace, and with all the logistics carefully checked out in advance. Three important sources of information in this field are: 1) the book, *Access to the World: A Travel Guide for the Handicapped*, by Louise Weiss, available from Facts on File, 460 Park Ave. S., New York, NY 10016; 2) the *Travel Information Center*, Moss Rehabilitation Hospital, 12th St. and Tabor Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19141; 3) *Information Center for Individuals with Disabilities*, 20 Park Plaza, Room 330, Boston, MA 02116. In Britain, there are *Mobility International*, 62 Union St., London SE1 (01-403-5688); and *The Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation*, 25 Mortimer St., London W1 (01-637-5400).

The Itinerary, which bills itself as "The magazine for travelers with physical disabilities," is published by-monthly by Whole Person Tours. Useful articles describe accessible destinations and devices that aid travel. Subscriptions cost \$7 per year. For information, write the magazine at PO Box 1084, Bayonne, NJ 07002.

Lists of commercial tour operators who arrange or conduct tours for the handicapped are available from the *Society for the Advancement of Travel for the Handicapped*, International Office, 26 Court St., Suite 1110, Brooklyn, NY 11242. The Greyhound Bus system has special assistance for handicapped travelers. International Air Transport Association (IATA) publishes a free pamphlet entitled *Incapacitated Passengers' Air Travel Guide*. Write IATA, 2000 Peel St., Montreal, Quebec H5A 2R4.

STUDENT AND YOUTH TRAVEL. The *International Student Identity Card* is not as universally recognized in the U.S. as it is abroad, though it can sometimes be used in place of a high-school or college identification card. Apply to *Council On International Educational Exchange (CIEE)*, 205 E. 42 St., New York, NY 10017 (212-661-1414) or 312 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94108 (415-421-3473). Their *Whole World Handbook* (\$7.95 plus \$1.00 postage) is the best listing of both work and study possibilities. Canadian students should apply to the *Association of Student Councils*, 187 College St., Toronto, Ontario M5T 1P7.

Students might also find it worthwhile to contact *Educational Travel Center*, 438 N. Frances, Madison, WI 53703 (608-256-5551), and *American Youth Hostels (AYH)*, P.O. Box 37613, Washington, DC 20013-7613 (202-783-6161). AYH members are eligible for entree to the worldwide network of youth hostels, which isn't as extensive in the U.S. as in Europe but is a substantial resource nonetheless. Despite its name, AYH is also open to travelers of all ages. The organization publishes an extensive directory.

Among the leading specialists in the field of youth travel are the following: *Arista Student Travel Assoc., Inc.*, 11 E. 44th St., New York, NY 10017 (212-687-5121). Student and young adult tours for 14-16- and 16-18-year-olds including a 27-day jaunt in the Northwest.

Bailey Travel Service Inc., 123 E. Market St., York, PA 17401 (717-854-5511). School-group, escorted, and independent tours.

Campus Holidays, 242 Bellevue Ave., Upper Montclair, NJ 07043 (800-526-2915).

In Canada: *AOSC (Association of Student Councils)*, 187 College St., Toronto, Ontario M5T 1P7. (416-979-2604) is a nonprofit student-service cooperative owned and operated by over 50 college and university student unions. Its travel bureau provides transportation, tours, and work camps worldwide. Try also *Tourbec*, 535 Ontario E, Montreal, Quebec H2L 1N8 (514-288-4455).



AMERICA BY PLANE. A network of thousands of airline flights a day means that even with the limited time most vacations allow, you can see a lot of this country by flying from place to place. Nine airlines link the major U.S. cities. These are called *trunk lines*. They are *American*, *Continental* (only from Chicago west), *Delta*, *Eastern*, *Northwest Orient*, *Trans World (TWA)*, *United*, and *Western* (mainly west of Minnesota, but now flying out of some East Coast cities). However, deregulation has opened the airways to

terally dozens of other lines, many of which had formerly been limited to regional runs. (Deregulation has also prompted several of the larger airlines to buy up the smaller airlines.) Among the latter are *USAir*, in the Northeast; *Frontier*, Midwest and West except the West Coast; *Piedmont*, middle east, north to New York; Information on connecting flights between trunk and regional airlines is available from any of the airlines or your travel agent.



FLY-DRIVE VACATIONS. Among the many ways you can travel, the fly-drive package can be an economical way to visit American cities. Most airlines, in conjunction with car rental companies, offer these combination opportunities to most parts of the country all year round. Fly-drive package rates and flexibilities vary considerably from one to another. Generally, they cover one or more cities plus the use of a rented car for the specified number of days.

Car usage also varies from one to another. For example, with some you can drive an unlimited number of miles, free. On others you get a specified amount of mileage free, and then must pay an additional charge per mile for the overage. Gas, generally, is not included.

Some packages offer plans for small groups and a choice of hotel accommodations. Some even offer motor homes, if you're interested in roughing it. Check into special children's rates.

Before booking, though, you should check with your agent about where you pick up the car (at airport or other station), and about the time it will take you to arrive at your hotel to meet your reservation. If you are not going to pick up the car at the airport, you should check ahead on airport limousines and bus and taxi service to your hotel. These are important details that should be included in or provided for by any good package-tour combination.



AMERICA BY TRAIN. *Amtrak* is the semi-governmental corporation that has taken over passenger service on most of the nation's railroads. At present the system has some 26,000 miles of track linking over 500 cities and towns in 44 states (except Maine, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Alaska, and Hawaii) and since mid-1979, under the pressure of soaring gasoline prices the number of passengers carried has risen sharply. *Amtrak's* equipment, at best, is among the most modern and comfortable anywhere in the world; not all of the equipment is up to this standard, however; and the condition of the tracks and the adequacy of the auxiliary services (stations, meals, punctuality, etc.) is highly uneven. In general the system seems to work best in the "Northeast Corridor," the Boston-New York-Philadelphia-Baltimore-Washington megalopolis, and in southern California, where distances are short and getting to and from airports is inconvenient and expensive. On medium and longer runs the advantages of rail travel are in the spaciousness of the cars (against the cramped immobility of bus and plane) and the chance to enjoy the changing American landscape.

The simplest train accommodation is the day coach. There you ride in reclining seats, which may be reserved, with ample leg room, never more than two abreast. Next up is the leg-rest coach with (of course) leg rests, head rests, and deeper cushioning for the simplest kind of long distance nighttime accommodation. Slumber-coaches have lounge seats that convert into either a single bed or upper berths at night. For more space and privacy, a roomette gives a sitting room by day and at night a sleeping room with a full-length bed, and private toilet facilities. Bedrooms have two separate sleeping berths and private washing and toilet facilities. Superliner cars, operating between Chicago and the West Coast, also have family bedrooms that can sleep up to two adults and two children. Other types of special cars include dining cars, of course, and tavern lounges—an informal setting for a quiet drink, a game of cards, or just conversation. Some trains, especially where the scenery is best, have dome lounge cars, which give a great view of the countryside through high glass domes.

The reservation system is computerized and operates nationwide. Call 800-USA-RAIL. *Amtrak* has about 75 different package tours in addition to its regularly scheduled service. The tours may include hotels, meals, sight-seeing, even Broadway shows. Write to *Amtrak*, Western Folder Distribution Co., Box 7717, 1549 Glen Lake Ave., Itasca, IL 60143, for brochures on the package tours available in the part of the country to which you are traveling.

Senior citizens, handicapped travelers, and families should inquire about discounts.



AMERICA BY BUS. The most extensive and one of the less expensive means of travel in America is the motor coach—the bus; 1,050 intercity and suburban bus companies operate to about 15,000 cities, towns, and villages in the United States, 14,000 of which have no other kind of intercity public transportation. The network totals over 277,000 miles of routes, carrying 10,000 buses. The two major national bus lines are *Greyhound* and *Trailways*. They operate 6,700 buses between them and cover the entire country with regularly scheduled routes. America's intercity buses carry over 350,000,000 passengers a year, more than Amtrak and all the airlines combined.

Reservation and ticketing procedures are basically the same for both. With more than 8,000 coaches on the road daily, you can go almost anywhere with little delay at connecting points. Reservations can be made for only a few trips. "Open date" tickets, good for travel any day, any time, are the rule. So, you just get your ticket, choose the time you want to travel, and show up early enough to get your bags checked in (15 minutes ahead in small towns, 45 minutes in cities).

Both companies offer bargain-rate passes for unlimited travel on any regularly scheduled route in the United States and Canada. These passes are available to both residents and visitors, so there are no restrictions about when and where you can buy them. If they are bought abroad, the period of validity begins on the first day of use in this country; if they are bought here, it begins on the day of purchase.

Long-distance buses carry about 45 passengers. They are air-conditioned in summer, heated in winter. Baggage goes underneath, so the passenger compartment is up high, providing a better view through the big, tinted windows. Seats are the lounge chair type, with reclining backs and adjustable head rests. Reading lamps are individually controlled. Almost all long-distance buses have rest rooms.



HINTS TO THE MOTORIST. If you plan to take your own car on your trip, the first precaution you should take is to have your car thoroughly checked by your regular dealer or service station to make sure that everything is in good shape. The *National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence*, 1920 Association Dr., Reston, VA 22091 (703-648-3838), tests and certifies the competence of auto mechanics.

Each chapter, in the Hints to Motorists section, provides information about traffic laws and driving and parking conditions.



RENTAL CARS. Perhaps you would prefer to rent a car at your destination. Most companies require that you be at least 25; some, under special conditions, will rent to those who are only 21. Most companies accept major credit cards for deposit and payment. Cash transactions will require an advance cash deposit upon rental, and usually an application must be filled out and verified—which may be difficult after regular business hours or on weekends.

Be sure to check into the rent-it-here-leave-it-there option, which allows you to rent the car in one place and drop it off at any other company location in the United States for a modest drop-off charge. Also check into special rates offered for different categories of cars and for weekends, holidays, and extended trips. Rates and conditions can vary enormously; this is one area in which comparison shopping will pay off.

Car rental companies generally charge substantial per-day fees for insurance coverage. You should check the company of your choice for specifics. Here again, the services of a travel agent can save you time, money, and trouble, as he will have on file the relevant data for the major rental firms so that you will not have to check them all one by one yourself.

In most cases, a valid driver's license issued by any state or possession of the United States, by any province of Canada, or by any country which ratified the 1949 Geneva Motoring Convention, is valid and is required to rent a car.

Some of the nationwide rental agencies that provide 24-hour toll-free information and rental service are *Hertz* (800-654-3131), *Avis* (800-331-1212), *National* (800-227-7368), *Dollar* (800-421-6868), *Thrifty* (800-331-4200), and *Budget* (800-527-0700). In many chapters we have listed the names and numbers of local agencies that rent older or smaller cars at rates considerably less than those of the national companies.



AUTO CLUBS. If you don't belong to an auto club, now is the time to join one, even if you don't plan to drive to your destination. The maps, suggested routes, and emergency road service they offer can be helpful to those who rent a car as well as to those who drive from home. The *American Automobile Association* (AAA), in addition to its information services, has a nationwide network of some 26,000 service stations which provide emergency repair service. Its offices are at 8111 Gatehouse Rd., Falls Church, VA 22047. The *Exxon Touring Service*, Box 3633, Houston, TX 77253, provides information, low cost insurance, and some legal service to its members. If you plan the route yourself, make certain the map you get is dated for the current year. Some of the major oil companies will send maps and mark preferred routes on them if you tell them what you have in mind. Try: *Exxon Touring Service*, Box 3633, Houston, TX or *AMOCO Motor Club*, Box 9014, Des Moines, IA 50306.

MAPS. The tradition of free road maps at gasoline stations has almost totally disappeared in the United States today. However, many of the local tourist bureaus listed in each chapter will send maps of cities, and state travel departments provide excellent road maps. The auto clubs offer members many maps to help them get around U.S. metropolitan areas. Another alternative is, of course, a road atlas, purchased at a bookstore, and costing anywhere from \$1.50 to \$6.00. There are three major ones published in this country now: by Rand McNally, by Grossett, and by Hammond. Rand McNally also publishes a "Standard Reference Map and Guide" for each state individually. The Hagstrom Company is the country's leading publisher of city street maps.



NATIONAL PARKS AND FORESTS. A vacation unequalled elsewhere in the world is a week or two in one of the 40 national parks that preserve in beauty and naturalness the variety of landscapes and climates that make the United States so fascinating both to lovers of free space and clear air and to all kinds of students of the outdoors. With some 26½ million acres, the National Park Service has within the last half century managed to preserve about one percent of the total American land as it was before the coming of civilization so that future generations will forever have access to some parts of their country that are unfenced, unworked, unsullied by man's incessant urges to profit from his ground, change it, force his will upon it.

The system of national forests is another fine source of recreational opportunities for vacationers. These are multiuse areas, catering to the needs of industry as well as individuals. They are often less crowded and less rule-bound than the national parks. You may, for instance, camp with your dog in many national forest campgrounds.

For information on national parks, battlefields, and recreation areas, write to National Parks Service, Dept. of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240. For information on national forests and recreation areas, write to National Forest Service, Box 2417, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20013.



ACCOMMODATIONS. In this guide we have organized lists of accommodations in two basic ways. If the section deals with one or only a few cities with many hotels and motels, we have listed them according to price categories. If there are only a few establishments in each of many towns, we have listed them alphabetically under their towns, which are also arranged alphabetically. The categories we have used are *Super Deluxe*, *Deluxe*, *Expensive*, *Moderate*, and *Inexpensive*. The actual prices vary from chapter to chapter, as they do from city to city; they are given at the beginning of each accommodation section. All hotel rates are for two people in a room and, unless otherwise noted, for European plan—no meals included.

Don't take potluck for lodgings. You'll waste a lot of time hunting for a place and often you won't be happy with what you finally find. The hotels we've listed give good value for your money, and they represent the range of standard prices for reasonable and economical accommodations in a particular city. If you don't have reservations, start looking in the afternoon. Each chapter provides information about when reservations are necessary in the city you plan to visit, but it's probably a good idea to make reservations whenever your plans are firm enough to allow it.

If you do have reservations (but expect to arrive later than 5:00 or 6:00 P.M.), advise the hotel or motel in advance. Some places will not otherwise hold reservations after 6:00 P.M. A hotel or motel will also usually guarantee a room regardless of your arrival time if you book using a major credit card. Of course, if you don't end up using the room in such instances, you are still charged the full rate (unless you cancel by a specified time). And if you hope to get a room at the hotel's *minimum* rates, be sure to reserve ahead or arrive early.

Hotel and motel chains. Although these establishments may not offer much local charm, they do offer two important conveniences: nationwide, toll-free reservation services (in most cases) and fairly dependable standards of quality. If you've stayed in one hotel in a chain, you've stayed in them all. Also, there are a number of budget motel chains that can be a good way to keep expenses down—if luxurious accommodations are not high on your list of vacation necessities. The following are some national chains and their toll-free numbers:

Comfort Inns Quality Hotels (800-228-5050), *Days Inns* (800-325-2525), *Econo Lodges* (800-446-6900), *Holiday Inns* (800-HOLIDAY), *Howard Johnson* (800-654-2000), *La Quinta* (800-531-5900), *Quality International* (800-228-5151), *Ramada* (800-228-9898), *Super 8 Motels* (800-843-1991), and *Travelodge* (800-255-3050).



RESTAURANTS. Restaurants are listed in this guide according to the same principals explained above for accommodations. Although many of the less expensive restaurants do not require or accept reservations, it is

probably a good idea to call and ask about dinner reservations—and even lunch reservations in the larger cities. It's a good idea to call anyway, because, although we've made every effort to ensure that the restaurant lists are up to date, restaurants come and go very suddenly.



TIPPING. There is no law in the United States that says you must leave a tip for service. The unwritten laws of custom, however, make tipping necessary more often than not. Tipping is an accepted way of expressing ap-

preciation for service that is attentive and efficient. You can make the amount of the tip reflect the quality of the service you receive, and you need not leave any tip for service that is very poor.

In a restaurant, it is common to leave 10-15% of the charge *before taxes*. At counters, many people leave 50 cents, or 10%, whichever is greater. For bell-boys, 50 cents per bag is usual. Taxi drivers in Canadian cities expect 15%; car-rental agencies, nothing. Bus porters are tipped 50 cents per bag; drivers, nothing. On charter and package tours, conductors and drivers usually get \$10 per day from the group, but be sure to ask if this has already been figured into the package cost. On short, local sightseeing runs, the driver-guide may get 50 cents-\$1 per person, more if he has been especially helpful or informative. At airports and train stations, porters get 50 cents per bag.



TRAVELER'S CHECKS. We urge you to use traveler's checks rather than cash when on the road. Many banks offer traveler's checks free as a service to their customers, but even if you have to pay one percent of the

amount purchased, this is a small expense for the assurance that the checks will be replaced if stolen or otherwise lost. Don't forget to record the check numbers and carry them separately from the checks themselves.



CREDIT CARDS. Credit cards are widely accepted at hotels and motels and at many restaurants. However, many restaurants and shops have a minimum amount below which they do not accept the cards. Also, some establishments listed in this book manage to stay in the budget category in part because they don't contend with the extra fees involved in processing credit-card purchases. We have done our best to indicate establishments that don't accept credit cards, but if you're short on cash, double check before sitting down for a meal.



TIME ZONES. There are four time zones as you cross the continental United States. From east to west they are: Eastern, Central, Mountain, and Pacific. Daylight saving time, whereby clocks are set back an hour in the fall and forward again in the spring, keeps the maximum of sunshine available during summer days. Hawaii is two hours earlier than California.



HOLIDAYS. Five major holidays are marked uniformly every year throughout the nation: New Year's Day, January 1; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, the first Monday in September; Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November; and Christmas Day, December 25. Banks and stock exchanges are closed on all of these days and selectively on other national and state holidays; many stores and restaurants are closed on some of them. It is best to check local papers. Most other holidays, such as Washington's Birthday and Memorial Day, are celebrated on Mondays in order to provide three-day weekends.

BANK HOURS. Banks are usually open Mon.-Fri., 9 A.M.-3 or 4 P.M., though these times vary somewhat. Most are open at least one evening a week, and some have Saturday hours. Increasingly popular are the automated-teller machines that dispense cash 24 hours a day. Certain bank cards are good nationally; you may wish to find out if the one you use at home will be honored in the cities you will be visiting.



MAIL. Stamps can be purchased at any post office in the United States, often from your hotel desk, or from coin-operated vending machines located in transportation terminals, banks, and some shops (stationers and drugstores, for example). They cost more if you get them from a machine—you pay for packaging and convenience—so for the sake of economy you may wish to buy as many as you think you will need when you find a handy post office.

There is no separate air mail rate for letters or postcards posted in the United States for delivery within the country or to Canada. Mail for distant points is automatically airlifted. The following are the postal rates in effect as of mid-1987.

	Letters	Postcards
United States, Mexico, and Canada	22¢ 1st oz.	14¢
*Overseas		
Air to Europe	44¢ 1st ½ oz.	33¢
Air to Central America and Caribbean	39¢ 1st ½ oz.	33¢
Air to most other countries	44¢ 1st ½ oz.	33¢
Surface to most foreign countries	37¢ 1st oz.	25¢
Air Letter Forms to all countries	36¢	

*All are subject to change.



TELEPHONES. Coin-operated public telephones are available almost everywhere: in hotel lobbies, transportation terminals, drugstores, department stores, restaurants, gasoline filling stations, in sidewalk booths, and along the highway. To use the coin telephone, just follow the instructions on the phone box. Local calls usually cost 10 to 25 cents and can be dialed directly.