

## Budget Air Travel

Like eating and breathing, travel really is an essential part of life. Even our ancient ancestors and early civilizations knew the importance of moving from one place to another. Without travel, we become stagnant. Without taking in astonishing views of natural wonders, and meeting incredible new people, we become overwhelmed by stress.

Air travel, with its breathtaking speed and limitless destinations, is by and far the best choice for adventurous people who need to feed their passion for travel. But there are other considerations, including the travel budget. The money in your pocket, backpack or luggage has to cover all food, hotel accommodations, boarding expenses, sightseeing trips, souvenirs and a lot more. Money can put tight restrictions on where you travel to, unless you choose to take advantage of budget air travel.

Smart travelers are not necessarily thrifty when they travel, but they are wise with their money and budgets in general. Being able to estimate all possible expenses that you will incur over the entire duration of your trip can help you get the most out of your travel budget. Avoid circumstances that can make you fall short of cash. If you are traveling alone and you run out of money, you have no one else to rely on for help. It is important to allow yourself an ample amount of cash, and be prepared for the unexpected.

Traveling with a budget airline, or taking advantage of discounted rates, is a great option for the smart and thrifty traveler. Here are some tips to help you fully enjoy your budget air travel experience:

- \* Make an initial assessment of fare rates. List and compare various airlines to find affordable rates. Remember that you can't put a price on your convenience, and keep in mind that you must enjoy the trip and be comfortable with the services offered.
- \* Look for an airline with cheaper fare but proven service. Practicality doesn't necessarily mean going with a first-class airline company. If you find an airline that offers a lower fare with great customer reviews, go for it.
- \* Go for package deals. Check the available airlines for current and upcoming promotions. If you can determine the exact number of days that you will be away, you can save by booking your departure and return flight at one time. Taking a package deal is also a big help if your return fare is paid for ahead of time.
- \* Travel in a group. If possible, plan to take your trip with your family or a group of friends. Discount air travel is often possible with group rates. The total fare is divided among the members of your group, and each person will pay a little less. Plus, the more the merrier! Don't forget to bring a camera.
- \* Use the Internet to search for discount air travel rates. Airlines will provide actual fare quotes online, and offer full descriptions of their services. Numerous websites are available to help you compare rates, find the best quotes, confirm prices and even book the flights.

When you're taking the trip of your dreams, the last thing you want to worry about is money. Budget air travel is an excellent way for you to see the world and stay within your means. You won't need to cut yourself short, just be realistic and spend your money wisely.