Traveling on a Shoestring Budget

Presentation by
BCD Travel
Traveling on a Shoestring Budget
Consider all forms of transportation

• Air
  - Book as far in **advance** as possible
  - Choose **Low Cost Carriers** when possible especially on international routes e.g. EasyJet, German Wings, Blue1, VirginBlue, Air Asia etc.
  - Be as flexible as possible, consider dates, times, alternate airports. Usually the lowest fares are available for travel on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays
  - Travel light, most airlines charge for baggage
  - Avoid changing as the cheapest airfares are restrictive and have costly change fees
  - Check social media sites as airlines have begun blasting discounted fares
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Consider all forms of transportation

• Rail
  • Book journey in sections rather than the entire itinerary which attracts additional international tariffs
  • Utilize sleeper cars when traveling from country-to-country to avoid overnight accommodation costs
  • Purchase a rail pass when possible, which could save up to a third of the fare

• Bus
  • Generally traveling by bus is far cheaper than air or rail
By Car

Spend less on Gas

• Don’t be a hot-rodder
  - Going from 0 to 60 mph and stopping abruptly make your car work harder wasting gas

• Use cruise control
  - Traveling at a steady pace you will get much better gas mileage

• Pack less
  - Extra weight in your car means extra gas

• Follow you car’s maintenance schedule
  - Taking care of your car with frequent oil changes, correct motor oil and properly inflated tires will reward you with better gas mileage

There’s an App for that!

• greenMeter – Calculates your fuel costs and evaluates your driving for fuel efficiency
• GasBuddy
• YP
• AAA Mobile

All help to find the cheapest gas at a location close to you
By Car
Spend less on Parking

- Research the least expensive parking facilities
- Avoid parking tickets
- Don’t get towed or let the meter expire!
- Use public transportation where available

There’s an App for that!
- ParkerMobile
- VoicePark
- PrimoSpot
You can find the cheapest parking in select cities
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Domestic Travel

Plane & Rail

• Plane
  • Look for those low cost carriers, like AirTran, JetBlue and Southwest
  • Book in advance, don’t wait for the last minute

• Rail
  • Rather than taking the Acela try one of the metro liners
  • Trains tend to sell out during holidays and peak travel times
  • Book in advance and be sure to ask about available discounts e.g. AAA, Student Advantage etc
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Hostels VS Hotels

• Hostels
  • Resembles basic hotels without the marketing budget
  • Controls cost with dorm-style accommodations
  • Hostels can now be booked online at www.hostelbookers.com or www.hostelworld.com

• Hotels
  • Look for Mid-level and limited service hotels such as Courtyard and Holiday Inns, Fairfield Inn and Holiday Inn Express
  • Look outside the downtown area, this can help reduce your nightly rate
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Purchasing Food

- **Food**
  - Does your rate at hotel include free breakfast
  - Check out apps for local food deals e.g. Blackboard Eats, Scoutmob, Around Campus and Deal News
  - Ask about discounts e.g. Student discounts, AAA