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
  • 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.

• 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 car 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 cites
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Hostels VS Hotels

Consider your safety first!

• **Hostels**
  - Resembles basic hotels without the marketing budget
  - Controls cost with dorm-style accommodations
  - Hostels can now be booked online at [www.hostelbookers.com](http://www.hostelbookers.com) or [www.hostelworld.com](http://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
  - Consider Pod Hotels if available
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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
  - Check Groupon.com for specials