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Three Ways to Get Travel Discounts

By David Pierce

Every year middle class American families put off traveling because they're too busy or too tired or they just don't have enough money. And, in some ways, they're right. Traveling can be expensive. But by taking the time to learn about discounts readily available to everyone through the internet, newspapers, and even the yellow pages, more families can venture off on vacations that will recharge their batteries, stimulate their minds, and create memories to last a lifetime.

Airfare can be one of the most costly and unavoidable aspects of travel. Air travelers are constantly in search of a good deal. Numerous methods exist to get discounts on your next ticket. First, leave or return in the middle of the week—Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday—and stay at least seven days to get reduced price fares. Check out alternate airports for departure or arrival to see if they offer cheaper prices, and if your plans are flexible, consider letting yourself get bumped for a cash reward or free ticket. Search discount travel sites online, which seek out bargains for you in a variety of ways, and check fares on budget airlines, not just the major commercial carriers. You can also use reverse bidding sites like Priceline to find a deal. Finally, start earning frequent flier miles without even flying by filling out surveys, staying in certain hotels, or simply using a specific credit card.

Another expensive part of traveling is ground transportation. Whether you travel by bus, train or automobile, there are ways to save money. You can find deals on rental cars online, but make sure you have a discussion with the rental car companies about insurance, road side assistance, and other pertinent matters beforehand if you are unclear. You can also rent Recreational Vehicles at surprisingly low prices, especially when you consider that you won't have to spend money on a hotel. Experienced riders can find deals on motorcycles online as well. If you plan to use mass transportation, buses are a surprisingly inexpensive, if time-consuming option, and deals can be found on subways, trains, and ferries online. Rail passes in Europe and North America can be purchased before your trip to save money if you plan to stop in multiple destinations.

Finally, once you've flown, driven, or sailed to your destination, you'll need a place to stay. Extended stays at hotels at weekly rates are one affordable option. Timeshares, home exchanges, house sitting, and hostels are other bargain options. Motel coupons can be found online, while a cheap bed and breakfast that doesn't have a presence online can be found in the yellow pages. Some universities offer discount lodging in their dormitories. Retreat centers and monasteries also offer inexpensive ways

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for travelers to find rest and relaxation under certain guidelines. For more intrepid travelers, staying in national parks in tents, cabins, or RVs can be an inexpensive travel option, and if you plan to stay frequently or for an extended period of time, you can purchase a park pass to save money. RV travelers can also stay in free campgrounds across the country and can buy a pass to save money on RV parks. Finally, some travelers who face a serious lack of funds sleep for free in airports, although rules regarding this lodging option have changed since September 11, 2001.

One of the best ways to find travel discounts on all of the aforementioned aspects of travel—from airfare to lodging—is through memberships in a variety of organizations. Have your kids ever roped you into buying one of those Entertainment books that cost anywhere from \$20 to \$50 but offer a variety of coupons and discounts? Well, the next time you're offered one, buy it. Not only will your money go to a good cause, you can benefit from the discounts on everything from airplane flights to

hotels to rental cars. Without even realizing it, you may also already have memberships that could save you money on your next trip. AARP, Costco, and the military are a few of the organizations that offer bargains. Even a student or teacher's ID can lead you to discounts. Use the resources you already possess to seek out the discounts necessary to make your next vacation a memorable and affordable event.

David is an experienced internet entrepreneur with over 7 years of experience. He owns and operates the site

<http://www.florida-bound.info>

. Visit the site for more info and specials on visiting Florida, plus other exciting places.

What Is Wholesale Airfare And Why Is It Good For You?

By Frank Johnson

Wholesale airfare is a term that you've probably heard or seen when looking for cheap airfare on the Internet. Wholesale airfare is airfare purchased in bulk at a discounted rate. However, to get wholesale airfare deals you need to purchase more than just 4 tickets. Travel consolidators and online travel services purchase airfare in bulk from the airlines in order to receive a significant discount. The exact number of tickets a travel consolidator needs to purchase to receive a wholesale airfare discount varies and often depends on the terms negotiated in the contract between the two parties. But regardless of how many tickets need to be purchase for a travel company to get a wholesale airfare discount, they end up getting tickets at a much lower rate than purchasing a single ticket directly from the airline, giving travelers a solution to flying for less.

Wholesale Airfare and You – How You Get the Deals

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When a travel company/website purchases airfare in bulk, they pass the savings on to you, the traveler. It's just not possible for a single traveler to purchase enough airline tickets to receive the wholesale airfare deals and discount flights travel consolidators and companies get. You'd have to practically purchase half of the seats in the entire plane to receive the discounts travel companies get. Travel consolidators and online travel sites can leverage their business to get the best discounts and deals on airfare and turn around and offer them directly to you. Without wholesale airfare discounts, everyone, including travel consolidators and companies, would end up paying much more for airfare.

What to Look Out for with Wholesale Airfare

Before you search the web for wholesale travel deals, you need to be aware that not all travel websites are the same. Some have you bid on fares while others don't provide you with all details about the flight (i.e. airline, flight times, seat location, etc) prior to purchasing (like Priceline). Some can't even offer an online, real-time option to finding ticket availability. Rather, they end up manually searching for available airfare and calling you multiple times just to situate a flight that fits your itinerary. So before you hit the web in search of cheap airfare, remember that not all travel sites are set up the same. Be sure to read the details involved in purchasing tickets. You'll find that sometimes getting discounted airfare from certain travel sites is more difficult than others.

For more travel information and savings, visit

<http://www.cfares.com>

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cFares is the first choice thousands of knowledgeable travelers are using right now to save hundreds of dollars on low airfares. For

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