

Booking International Flights on a Budget



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Agenda

- **Tips for Finding Lower Cost Airfare**
- **Avoiding Mistakes**
- **Helpful Apps / Websites**
- **Passports / Visas**
- **Booking an International Flight Demo**
- **Q&A**

Tips for Finding Lower Cost Airfare

- Flight Prices based on ...
 - Availability *and* advanced purchase
 - Try to book at least 2 months in advance
 - Day of week? Time of day?
- Day/Date of Flight:
 - Flying on Tuesday, Wednesday or Saturday can be cheaper (Friday and Sunday are most expensive)
 - More expensive during the summer and holidays
- Decide if price or flexibility is more important
 - Economy vs. Main Cabin
 - Consider change and cancellation penalties
 - [Track prices on Google Flights](#)
- Get creative with routing!
 - Open jaw (ex. DTW to London, then Paris to DTW)
 - Fly out of a different airport!
 - Chicago, Cleveland, Toronto, Windsor



Tips for Finding Lower Cost Airfare

- Look for the cheapest flight to a country/region
 - Google Flights: Click on “Explore” tab
 - Skyscanner and Momondo: Search “Detroit to Everywhere/Anywhere”
- Look into frequent flyer programs (earn benefits or \$ on flight and non-flight purchases)
 - Check out some of the [best US frequent flyer programs](#) (free to join!)
- Look for websites/apps with student discounts (more on that later)
- Get the most bang for your buck with [free stopovers](#)
 - Iberia Airlines - Layover in Madrid
 - Turkish Airlines - Layover in Istanbul
- The [24 hour rule](#): full refund if you cancel within 24 hours of booking
 - Typically, you must book directly with the airline

Google Flights search results for a round trip from Detroit to Europe. The search parameters are Round trip, 1 passenger, Economy class, departing on Sat, May 6 and returning on Sat, Jun 17. The search results show a list of flights to London (starting at \$929) and Paris (starting at \$181). A map on the right shows flight prices to various European cities: London (\$929), Berlin (\$1,540), Rome (\$1,549), Istanbul (\$1,317), Stockholm (\$1,187), and Helsinki (\$1,341).

24-Hour Risk-Free Cancellation

As part of our Customer Commitment for customers who book direct on delta.com or the Fly Delta app, Risk-Free Cancellation means that after you've purchased a qualifying eTicket, you have up to 24 hours after booking to cancel it for any reason and receive a full refund with no fees.

24-Hour Risk Free Cancellation Process

1. Find Your Trip or Log In, and go to My Trips
2. Select the trip you need to cancel
3. Select 'Cancel Flight' button and follow the steps
4. Receive a full refund, which will be automatically issued to your original form of payment

Found Cheap Airfare? Avoiding Mistakes

- Avoid mixed carrier tickets
 - [Guide to Airline Alliances](#) (alliances are not considered mixed carriers)
- Be wary of booking through a third-party site
- Cheaper ≠ Better
- DIRECT ≠ NONSTOP
- Look closely at TOTAL travel times and itinerary
- Layovers
 - Make sure you have enough time to make connecting flights
 - At least 2 hours is recommended
 - The cheapest flights can have very long layovers
 - Look up layout of connecting airport
 - Factor in time for immigration/customs for certain airports



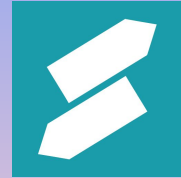
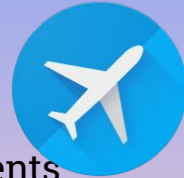
Avoiding Mistakes, continued...


- Research additional fees
 - Examples: baggage costs, seat selection, flight insurance, cost of checking in/checking luggage online vs. at the airport
- Only book your flight AFTER final program plans have been determined
- Consider bringing a credit/debit card with you that has no foreign transaction fees, in case of unexpected purchases
- Pack an extra set of clothes in carry-on in case of delays or lost luggage
 - Consider getting an AirTag for checked bags
- Check to see what food options will be on flight
- Make sure name and passport info are correct
- Read all of the fine print!



Helpful Websites, Apps, Newsletters




- [Google Flights](#), [Skyscanner](#), and [Momondo](#)
 - Don't have student-specific discounts
- [StudentUniverse](#): discounts exclusively for students
- [Hopper](#): app that tells the best times to buy flights
- [Going \(formerly Scott's Cheap Flights\)](#): gives you email alerts when there are cheap international flights
 - [How to Get the Best Deals on Flights](#)
- [Rome2Rio](#): discover alternative travel routes
- [SeatGuru](#): really helpful for airline seat tips!



 Nonstops cost \$572 more.

[Choose Nonstop](#)

Price Prediction

-  **Until Feb 28**
Prices will vary over the next 4 weeks, dropping as low as \$1,322 (savings of \$95).
-  **Mar 1 - Apr 30**
Prices will probably rise about \$123 after March 1.
-  **May 1 - May 2**
Prices are expected to climb at least \$613 after May 1.
-  **May 3**
Departure

Hold this fare starting at **\$38**
Book later when you're ready

[Price Freeze](#)

\$1,417 [Wait](#)
Round trip, per traveler

[View Flights](#)

Passports/Visas

- Make sure passport is valid at least six months after going abroad
- Assume you need a visa
 - [IC Visas Page](#): How to apply, application requirements, visas for international students, resources, FAQs
- When in doubt, contact the consulate or embassy
 - Calling is better, but limited hours. Email responses can take a while, so plan in advance.
- Some countries offer visa on arrival, so look up costs and currencies
- Make copies/take photos/email yourself:
 - Passport and visa
 - Passport picture
 - Flight information



How to book a Flight Demo!

Watch the [recording](#) for the demo!

It starts at about 33:30.





Upcoming Events

- Staying **Safe & Healthy** While Abroad
 - Wednesday, March 26 from 5:30 - 6:30 PM
- Essential **Travel Logistics** for Students
 - Travel tips by region!
- **Survival Language & Culture** with the Language Resource Center
 - For those with no prior language experience in destination



Click here for more info about
[**Global Wolverines**](#)

Thank you!

Any Questions?

