Budget
Travel in North America

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Welcome to Ann Arbor Michigan!!
Overview of Presentation

- Trips in Michigan
- Other North American destinations
- Check Before you Leave
- Things to Consider
- Health and Safety
- Getting around North America: Planes, Trains, Buses, Road Trip

- Discounts
- Accommodations
- Outdoor Trips
- Organized Trips
- Helpful Sites

All slides are available on international center website
Trips in State: Largest Cities

- Detroit - sports, concerts, restaurants - most convenient to Ann Arbor (45 minutes)

- Grand Rapids - smaller than Detroit, but still plenty to do (2 hours)

- Lansing - Capital; seat of government (1 hour)
Trips in State: Other Popular Places

- Mackinaw City/Island/Bridge (4 hours)
- Traverse City (4 hours)
- Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes (4.5 hours)
- Upper Peninsula (5-10 hours)
- Lake Michigan Coast (3 hours)
- Frankenmuth (1.5 hours)
- State Parks (Michigan)
New York City
Las Vegas
San Francisco
Canadian Rockies
Trips in Latin America
Mexico
Puerto Rico
Ecuador
BEFORE YOU LEAVE

Visa?

Guidebooks

Finances

https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html
THINGS TO CONSIDER

✓ Check the weather
✓ Consider Time
✓ Save Money

Fact: The days before & after the Thanksgiving holiday are some of the busiest travel days of the year!

Groupon
Informational brochures from the tourism bureau
Student Rates
Health Insurance

Travel Registry

Avoid Danger
- Abandoned places
- Hitchhikers
- Walking around at night
- Women traveling alone

Immunizations

Guidebooks
Ask hostel/hotel staff about places to avoid
## GETTING AROUND NORTH AMERICA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planes</th>
<th>Trains</th>
<th>Buses</th>
<th>Road Trip</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost</strong></td>
<td>Cheap to Expensive</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Cheap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time</strong></td>
<td>Quick</td>
<td>Long</td>
<td>Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example: New York</strong></td>
<td>$84 (1.75 hours)</td>
<td>$94 (18 hours)</td>
<td>$56 (15 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example: Chicago</strong></td>
<td>$69 (1.25 hours)</td>
<td>$37 (4.5 hours)</td>
<td>$19 (6 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pros</strong></td>
<td>Time saving</td>
<td>Scenic</td>
<td>Scenic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cons</strong></td>
<td>Costs can vary depending on time of year, baggage costs</td>
<td>Long trip - spend more money on buying meals along the way</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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PLANES

Travel websites:
➢ www.statravel.com
➢ www.expedia.com
➢ www.kayak.com
➢ www.studentuniverse.com

Low cost airlines flying out of Detroit:
Southwest, Spirit, JetBlue, and Frontier
➢ Consider extra fees!

Join Mileage programs
➢ You can earn miles toward free domestic and international flights
TRAINS

Amtrak
- Save 10% with an International Student ID card
- www.amtrak.com

Via Rail
- Canada only
- Student discounts available!
- www.viarail.ca
BUSES

Fares discounted when you book in advance!

- Megabus: [www.megabus.com/us](http://www.megabus.com/us)
- Greyhound: [www.greyhound.com](http://www.greyhound.com)
- Michigan Flyer: [http://www.michiganflyer.com](http://www.michiganflyer.com)
  - $12 to go from BTC to Detroit Metro Airport
  - Has Wifi and Power Outlet
  - Program is through student government
  - Conditional on academic calendar
ROAD TRIP

Take your car and go across the country!

● **Tips:**
  ■ Check your car (fluid levels, brakes, tires, etc.)
  ■ Toll money
  ■ Have maps (don’t rely on GPS)

● **Renting a Car:**
  ■ Insurance coverage- Get it!
  ■ Age restrictions (25 and under have higher rates)
  ■ Look on sites like Priceline for best rates
Discount Opportunities

Sites:
Brad's Deals
Groupon
Living Social

International Student Identity Card (ISIC: need to apply.
Registration Fee $20
- Discount around the world; 125,000 discount deals in U.S
MCard (U-M): Over 400 discounts with MCard in and around Ann Arbor
# ACCOMMODATIONS

| Hotels/Motels | www.hotels.com  
|               | www.priceline.com  
|               | www.tripadvisor.com  
|               | https://www.booking.com |
| Hostels       | www.hostels.com  
|               | www.hostelworld.com |
| Alternative Accommodations | www.airbnb.com  
|               | www.vrbo.com  
|               | www.couchsurfing.com  
|               | https://www.reserveamerica.com/ |
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE TRIPS

Sponsored by U-M Recreation Sports:
www.recsports.umich.edu/outdooradv/trips/

Sailing
Hiking
White Water Rafting
ORGANIZED TRIPS
THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER

In addition to the IC:
- CCI: Center for Campus Involvement
- Alternative Spring Break
- Student org trips (GRIN)

Check out event listings here:
www.internationalcenter.umich.edu/events/social-events.html
OTHER HELPFUL WEBSITES

- Lonely Planet
- Trip Advisor
- International Center
- Dr. Voyageur
- Frommer’s North America
Other Workshops to Attend

- “Driving in the U.S.”
- “Getting Around Ann Arbor and Personal Safety”
- “Things to do in Ann Arbor”
- “How to Buy A Used Car”
SAFE TRAVELS!

Please complete our evaluation!

You will receive an email with a link to complete.

Thank you!