



"The Getaway Girl"

The Getaway Girl™ Provides Tips to Keep Travel Costs Down

Love to travel, but hate what it does to your bank account? Looking to keep your next vacation costs to a minimum? There may be no immediate cushion as experts say travel costs are expected to rise in 2008. According to America Express Global Business Travel Forecast, airfare is expected to increase, 1-5% for domestic flights and 5-10% for international flights; rental car costs will rise 2-4%; and hotel stays will cost travelers 4-7% more this year.

Despite these increases, travelers need look no further than travel expert Casey Wohl, author of the *Girls Getaway Guide* series. Wohl understands the need to travel and “getaway” from everyday life and has learned a few tricks to enjoy your trip without breaking the bank.

“Everyone should be able to travel and experience all that life has to offer,” said Wohl.

Below are some of The Getaway Girl’s™ cost-cutting travel tips to keep your costs down:

Planning: Plan in advance to avoid higher costs. Enroll in programs that offer travel points, such as hotel, credit card and airline programs. This way, you can redeem your points to help save money. Also, do some research in advance to see if there are any specials or discounts offered, like buy one get one free, etc. Another great option is to travel with a group and pool resources for rental cars and hotel rooms.

Accommodations: A great vacation does not necessarily mean a stay at a high-priced hotel. Deals can be found at quaint and charming bed & breakfasts, as well as timeshares and condos. Look for accommodations that provide complimentary breakfast or evening snacks. Also, accommodations that feature kitchenettes provide opportunities to save on food costs. Search online, contact the destination city’s Convention & Visitors Bureau or contact a travel agent.

Meals/food: Ask the locals where to eat. Many times great, inexpensive restaurants are off the beaten path and well known only by the locals. These establishments usually don’t have the higher overhead so they can charge considerably less for a wonderful meal. Bring snacks and your own beverages, as this saves money purchasing these items from vendors.

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Transportation: We often forget that cars are not the only means of transportation. Your destination city may offer a wide array of inexpensive transportation options, such as bicycles, mopeds, electric cars, pedicabs, subway and other means of public transportation. Also, hotel and resorts often provide complimentary transportation, so be sure to check with the concierge. See what options are available by searching online for "transportation" and your destination city.

Attractions: Prior to your visit, contact the local Chamber of Commerce, visitor/convention bureau and visitor centers for discount coupons and special offers for area attractions. Often these groups provide entertainment books that feature several discount coupon options, like two-for-one.

There are many ways to enjoy travel without blowing your bank account. If you have a great tip for saving money while traveling, the Getaway Girl would love to hear it. Visit www.GirlsGetawayGuide.net and share your tips on her blog.