# tee guide 20 Tips, Tricks, and Resources for Finding the Cheapest Flights BY REBECCA BLACKMON 




## Welcome! I'M REBECCA

I'm a travel and fitness expert, and I'm here to help you become the same.

I use proven tactics and methods to teach ANYONE how they can find the freedom to do what makes them happy - travel and stay healthy specifically!

## HERE ARE THE

## WAYS WE CAN WORK TOGETHER

1 Book a one-on-one call with me to discuss travel itineraries, budgeting, or anything health and fitness!
2. Send me your email so you don't miss out on valuable tips and tricks!


YOU CAN

## FIND ME ON

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Talk to you soon! Meanwhile, here's the free guide on finding the cheapest flights! Enjoy!

## -1 IGNORE THE MYTHS

First and foremost, throw all the myths you've heard surrounding airline travel out the window. They may have worked in years past, but the system today is way smarter than we are. No, it's not cheaper to buy tickets on Tuesdays. No, the airlines cannot track your specific cookies. It just takes time and research these days!

## GET THE BEST TRAVEL CREDIT CARD FOR YOU



If you have good credit, apply for your favorite airline's credit card! American, Delta, and United all have great programs. For every dollar you spend, you get miles back as a reward. Miles add up FAST, and using miles is the NUMBER ONE trick to being able to save on airline travel!!

## 0 3 <br> DON'T FLY DIRECT

Traveling on a budget means being flexible, and being
flexible sometimes means not flying direct to your destination. I know flying direct is more convenient, but it usually is cheaper to pick flights that have layovers!

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# 05 DON'T FORGET ABOUT SOUTHWEST AIRLINES 

Don't forget to check on Southwest prices! Why?
Southwest is the only airline that ONLY lists their prices on their website. Since you won't find them on Kayak, Google Flights, and other third party websites, people tend to forget to look at their options.

# SIGN UP FOR YOUR FAVORITE BRANDS' REW ARDS PROGRAMS 



Similar to the credit card tip, signing up for rewards programs will save you big bucks! I know the emails are annoying, but if you're serious about saving money it's worth it! Sometimes airlines even partner up so you can trade hotel points for flight points and vice versa (Delta and Hilton do this!).

# 07 <br> SEARCH FOR ONEWAY TICKETS 

Compare when you're shopping - sometimes it's cheaper to buy two one-way flights than it is to buy one round trip flight!

# SHOP AROUND ON DIFFERENT SITES AND SEARCH ENGINES 



Don't just jump on the first ticket you find - be sure to compare rates from different websites. Look at the airlines' direct websites, and then compare on third party websites. Contrary to popular belief, the third party booking websites don't always have the cheapest deals!

## 09 MIX DIFFERENT AIRLINES

Sometimes it's cheaper to mix airlines. For example - a ticket from Birmingham to NYC with a layover in Chicago might cost $\$ 500$ with Delta. If I booked from BHM to Chicago for \$200, and then Southwest had a flight from Chicago to NYC for \$100, I've saved \$200.

## DON'T RULE OUT BUDGET AIRLINES <br> 10

If you're willing to sacrifice a little bit of comfort and some amenities in the name of saving money, don't skip out on the budget airlines! For example - about a month ago, I was looking for ticket from Birmingham, AL to Orlando, FL. The trip was over $\$ 200$ with Delta, and only $\$ 33$ to fly with Frontier. While the flight won't be as comfortable, it's short and the savings were huge!

# 11 SUBSCRIBE TO PRICE ALERTS 

Again, I know the emails are annoying, but signing up for price alerts is a great way to do "research" without really having to do research. Someone else will tell you when the prices drop and when it's a good time to buy. Airlines will even honor the "lowest price match", so if you buy a ticket and then the price drops, they'll refund you the difference!

> ONLY SEARCH FOR ONE TICKET AT A TIME - NOT MORE

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If you're traveling with a buddy, it can sometimes be cheaper to buy two individual tickets versus one of you purchasing both tickets together. Sure, you won't be able to sit together, but you'll both survive and you'll both save money.

## 13 CHECK AIRLINE HUBS

For example - Atlanta, GA is a Delta hub. That means that usually if you're flying out of Atlanta, Delta will be your best bet. This one requires some research, but it works!

## UNDERSTAND EVENTS, HOLIDAYS, <br> AND SEASONS <br> 1 <br> 4

This one seems like a no brainer, but make sure you're doing research for where you're flying from AND where you're going. Christmas, Memorial Day, etc. will always be expensive weeks to fly out of or to the US. It's also important to understand the seasons of your destination - for example, rainy season tickets to Costa Rica will be cheaper than dry season tickets.

## 15 <br> PAY LOCAL CURRENCIES

If you're traveling internationally, it can sometimes be cheaper to buy plane tickets with local currency. For example, if I was flying to Europe, I would buy a one way ticket there, and on the way home I would get a one way ticket using pounds (or whatever the local currency is). This one requires some expert level digging, but it will usually pay off!

## SEARCH IN "INCOGNITO" MODE <br> 16

No, the airlines cannot track your specific search engine history. What they can do, however, is search website traffic for a certain ticket. So, if you and 100 other people are contributing to website traffic that leads the airlines to believe the ticket is desirable, they'll raise the prices to meet the demands.

## 17 STUDENT FLIGHT TICKETS

If you're a student, make sure you check out student flight programs! The two most popular are Student Travel Agency and Student University. They offer pretty hefty discounts but you HAVE to be able to prove that you're an active student to be eligible!

## CHECK NEARBY AIRPORTS <br> 

Make sure you check not only your city's airports, but surrounding cities as well. As long as you're willing to make the drive, you can save serious money! For example - GRR (Grand Rapids, MI) is not a 24 hour airport and flights are pretty costly. Chicago is just a couple of hours away and since it's a 24 hour international airport, flights are much cheaper.

## 19

## LOOK FOR FLIGHTS LEAVING ON TU/W/SA

These are the cheapest days to fly (not the cheapest to buy the ticket - to actually leave for your destination). Obviously mid-week travel is much less popular. Also, Saturday is way less popular than Sunday travel because people don't want to split their weekends. If your trip dates are flexible, check these days first!

## THINK ABOUT YOUR LUGGAGE



This goes without saying, but if you can avoid checking a bag, you can save money at the airport! Most airlines allow you two carry ons. Practice packing hacks and get good at traveling light!

