

## **Fly For Less!**

With warmer months fast approaching, people all over the country are thinking about travel. Perhaps you're going to visit family for the Easter holiday or you want to take a long weekend trip this summer. If you're driving, see our tips to save gas, but if you want to avoid the busy highways, consider these helpful hints when looking for airfare.

Fly on the actual holiday. The most expensive fares tend to be the days just before and after. The cheaper flights will be on the holiday itself, especially Christmas and Thanksgiving.

Search for airfare midweek, late at night. Purchase your ticket on a Wednesday; that's when the best fares tend to be available.

Travel on a Tuesday or Thursday. There are fewer passengers on these days so you may see cheaper prices, assuming you have a Saturday-night stay over.

Keep looking for cheaper fares, even after you buy the ticket. If the fare has come down in the weeks after you purchased it, you might be able to change it. You'll probably have to pay a fee of about \$25 - \$100 to rebook your flight, but this charge may be worth it if the fare has dropped by more than this amount.

Negotiate a discount if you're traveling with a group. If you're traveling with more than 20 people, contact the group sales manager of a few airlines and have them submit bids for your group. You can expect a fare at least one-third lower than the going published prices for individual travelers.

Don't limit yourself to Expedia, Travelocity and Orbitz. Oftentimes, the airline's website will have the cheapest fare that is not made available to the discount sites. Remember that you may not be able to search for smaller or discount airlines like Southwest or JetBlue on the discount sites.

Source: Fodor's