

LANDS' END

FLIGHTWISE

Smart fliers travel wise to avoid hassle and fees

Getting in and out of the airport with little hassle has become almost a competitive sport for travelers. In the coming weeks, the game will get taken to the next level because the US Bureau of Transportation Statistics predicts July and August are the busiest months for air travel. Carrying on bags is one way people are getting smart when it comes to air travel. This summer **Lands' End** introduces **FlightWise™ Luggage** – a series of six bags that all meet all airline carry-on guidelines. For travelers who will avoid checking luggage, travel expert Randy Petersen from flyertalk.com offers these **Ten Travel Tips** to accompany carry-on bags.

Size things up – As more people make the decision to carry on, the more closely the TSA and gate agents are watching bag sizes. Make sure bags don't exceed 22" once they are fully packed.

Watch your weight – Overweight bags can be just as much of a problem at security checkpoints as oversized bags. In order to stay under the 44 lb. TSA weight limit, it's best to pick a bag that is light, even when it is unpacked.

Pack smart – Petersen says packing is like assembling a puzzle in the sense that it's best to lay all the pieces out ahead of time. This allows travelers to plan ahead with what's necessary to pack and the extra items can be eliminated.

Reusable liquid containers – With the 3-ounce rule limiting what travelers can carry on, a lot of people buy travel-size portions of toiletries. Petersen says smart travelers save money by using unbreakable, reusable travel containers that can be filled with toiletries already in the home.

Print at home – If a traveler is carrying on, there is absolutely no reason to stand in a ticket line. Most airlines offer advance check-in online; helping travelers avoid the ticket counter altogether.

Dress light – TSA security lines are unavoidable. Petersen suggests wearing slip-on shoes and avoiding metal belt buckles to speed up the process.

Know your plane – Not all planes have an overhead compartment large enough for a 22" upright luggage piece. If travelers are flying on a small, regional plane, a smaller, crushable bag will fit the space easier.

Get personal – If a bag is gate checked, it can sometimes be unrecognizable in the sea of similar bags. Petersen says adding a monogram to personalize a bag is a great way to help recognize a bag quickly.

Find a friend – Some things brought along on short trips can be shared in order to maximize space. Shampoo, contact solution and toothpaste shared between co-travelers means more room for other liquids like sunscreen and perfume.

Plan for souvenirs – Whether business or travel, Petersen says bags should never be packed 100% full. This way if anything is picked up along the trip, there is still room to fit it in.

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