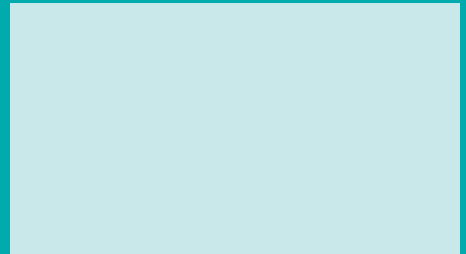




VALUING PEOPLE. VALUING MONEY.
MANAGING IN TOUGH TIMES INITIATIVE



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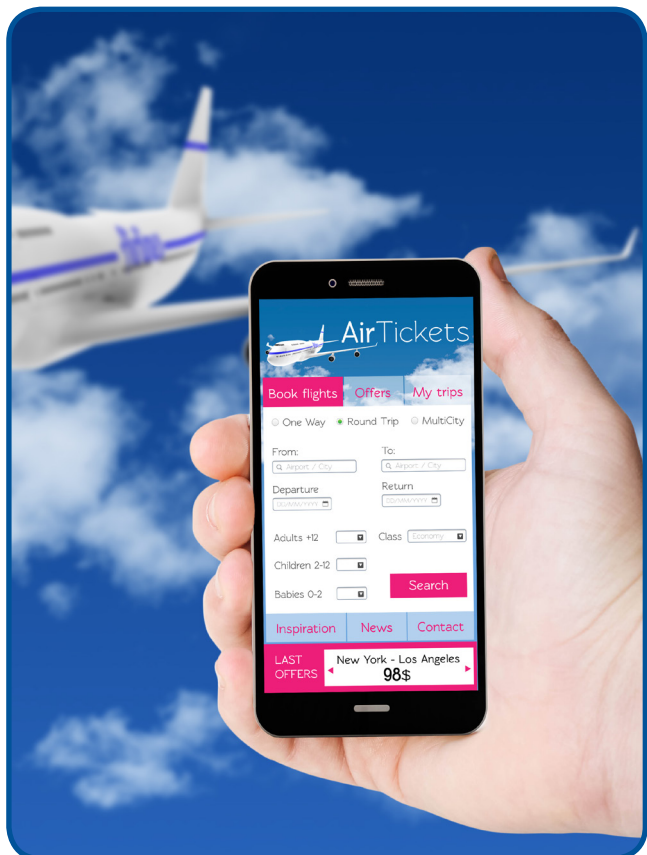
THIS MONTH'S TOPIC:

GET THE BEST DEALS ON AIRFARE

Airfare costs can be the difference between an affordable trip and an expensive one. Unfortunately, the reality is that different people will pay different prices for the exact same flight. At times these differing airline prices may seem utterly unpredictable. However, there is a method to the madness. Consider some of the following suggestions to ensure that you will get the most convenient flight at the best possible price.

Compare Options

When consumers make any kind of purchase, be it items at the grocery or a major home appliance, comparing options is always a smart place to start. With multiple options at your disposal, you can pit one airline against another to leverage the lowest ticket prices. Using comparison websites may be helpful, but they won't necessarily give you the lowest flights of all the airlines. Search big airlines and budget airlines alike to secure the best price.





- Book airfare about seven weeks or 50 days in advance. According to 2017 data, flights are about 10% cheaper when booked 50 days in advance.
- Be flexible on your travel dates. Generally speaking, the middle of the week (e.g. Tuesday or Wednesday) will give you the cheapest flights. If at all possible, leave yourself the flexibility to leave on a couple of different days. This way you can compare among multiple departure dates.
- Be willing to wake up early. Typically, the cheapest flights are at times that most people

Redeem Rewards

- Although you will always want to compare multiple options, frequently flying with the same airline has its advantages. You may accrue free miles you can apply to a later flight.
- Some credit cards are affiliated with airline companies and offer specific benefits such as priority boarding or seat selection. Other credit cards may allow you to convert your cash back directly into airline miles. If you fly fairly often, a credit card with these kinds of benefits may be useful to you.
- Sign up for cheap airfare alerts through a flight search engine. These sites allow you to enter a destination and a date range and will alert you when prices have dropped. If you plan far enough in advance, these websites could do the job for you!

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