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Happy Holidays! Here are Some Tips To Ease Your Travel Through the Airport

PHILADELPHIA -- The busy holiday travel season is here and Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) is prepared to welcome large numbers of travelers.

To facilitate your departure, the Airport has provided the following tips:

- Check your flight status prior to arriving at the Airport by contacting your airline directly, calling the Airport at 800-PHL-GATE or visiting the Airport's website, phl.org, and then click on "Flight Information" for the latest updates. Have your flight number ready. In addition, some airlines have mobile apps that allow passengers to check flight status, gate information and more.
- If you are 18 or older, have a valid government-issued photo ID (driver's license, passport, military ID, or government employee ID.)
- Arrive at the airport at least 2 hours prior to your departure time in case extra time is needed for checking-in and security screening
- US Airways has merged with [American Airlines](#). All US Airways logos and signage has been replaced by American Airlines. If you are flying American, please check your departure gate and terminal before you arrive at the Airport so you know which terminal to check in.
- Liquid, gels, aerosols, creams and pastes in **3.4-ounce or small containers** may be carried onto the aircraft in a re-sealable, one quart, clear plastic bag. Only one such bag per traveler is allowed and it must be removed from your bag for inspection at the check point. Liquids, gels and aerosols in containers larger than 3.4 ounces must be placed in your checked baggage. Medications, baby formula and food, and breast milk are allowed in reasonable quantities exceeding 3.4 ounces and they do not need to be in a zip-top bag. Declare the items for inspection at the checkpoint. Items may be opened and are subject to additional screening.

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For additional information on items that are permitted and prohibited, consult the [Transportation Security Administration](#) (TSA) website, email the TSA at TSA-ContactCenter@dhs.gov or call the TSA Consumer Response Center toll-free at 1-866-289-9673.

- The **My TSA** mobile application can be downloaded on iOS and Android Devices from iTunes and Google Play as well as accessed by visiting tsa.gov/mobile. Also follow on Twitter @AskTSA
- Travelers or families of passengers with disabilities and medical conditions may call the TSA Cares toll-free helpline at 1-855-787-2227. 72 hours prior to traveling with any questions about screening policies, procedures and what to expect at the security checkpoint.
- TSA Pre-Check-lanes for eligible American Airlines, United Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Alaska Airlines, Southwest Airlines, and JetBlue passengers are available at Security Checkpoints in Terminals A-East, B, C and D/E. The checkpoints are operated by the Transportation Security Administration. TSA Pre-Check allows select frequent travelers of participating airlines and certain members of existing U.S Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Trusted Traveler Programs eligibility to receive expedited screening benefits during domestic travel.
- Global Entry kiosks are available in the federal inspection areas of Customs Arrivals. The U.S Customs Border Protection program allows expedited clearance for pre-approved travelers upon arrival in the U.S.
- Automated Passport Control kiosks are available in the federal inspection area in Terminal A-West to U.S. and Canadian passport holders. For more information, visit www.cbp.gov
- **Wheelchair service request are handled by airline ticket counter personnel (all airlines provide wheelchair service; only American Airlines provide both wheelchair and electric cart service)** If services are required upon your traveling, consult with your airline when making your reservation and confirm the request prior to the day of departure.

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- Consult with your airline for specific carry-on baggage fees as well as checked baggage policies. Many airlines assess a charge for checked bags.
- Your name and contact information should be placed inside your checked bags in case your luggage tag is lost.
- Check with your airline to find out if it offers curbside check in. If curbside check-in is not available, allow extra time for checking in at the ticket counter.
- All Passengers must obtain a boarding pass prior to entering the security checkpoint. If you are not checking any bags, checking in and printing out a boarding pass from the airlines website is permitted. Most airlines have check-in kiosk at the Airport near the ticket counter. In addition, most airlines operating at PHL offer mobile boarding; check with your carrier.
- Boarding passes and Photo ID will be required at the checkpoint. These documents should be kept handy and ready for inspection by TSA personnel.
- The TSA has deployed AIT Technology, or full body scanners, and all checkpoints.
- **Drinks are not permitted through the checkpoint.** Picking up a carry-on meal and beverage for your flight once you passed through the check point is suggested.
- For a quicker passage through the checkpoint, place small electronics like cellphones, tablets and personal items like keys, loose change and jewelry into your carry-on bag. At the checkpoint, TSA provides bins where you can place items such as shoes, coats, jackets and belts, which are required to pass through the X-ray machine.
- Laptops are to be removed from their cases and placed in a bin to be X-rayed. Video games with consoles must also be removed from bags and placed in a separate bin for screening.

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- Equipment used to screen checked baggage may damage certain types of undeveloped film. Pack undeveloped film in your carry-on bag. Remove undeveloped high-speed and specialty film from canisters and place in a clear plastic bag. Screening equipment will not affect digital cameras or electronic image storage cards.
- All checked baggage is subject to hand inspection. The TSA recommends using locks that screeners can open and re-lock. Some recommended locks are listed on its website.
- **Do not wrap gifts.** They may be opened for inspection. This applies to both checked and carry on items.
- Free gift wrapping will be provided inside of security for purchases at any of the Airport shops.

Parking

- Close to 19,000 parking spaces are provided at the Airport. Long-term parking is available in the Garages and in the Economy Lot; parking in the Short-Term lot is recommended for visits of less than an hour
- Parking Rates are as follows:

Economy Lot: \$11 daily flat rate	Garage Parking: \$20 daily	Short-Term Lot: \$40 daily
	\$6.00 up to 1 hr.	\$6.00 up to 1hr
	\$15.00 up to 3 hrs.	\$20.00 up to 4 hrs.

For more information on Airport parking, contact the [Philadelphia Parking Authority](#) at 215-683-9842

A free PHL on-Airport “**Cell Phone Waiting Lot**” is available for drivers to wait, with their vehicles, for short periods of up to 30 minutes until their party is ready to be picked up. The lot is less than a one-minute drive from baggage claim areas. Follow the Arriving Flights roadway into the Airport and then follow the signs to the Cell Phone Waiting Lot

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SEPTA Airport Rail Line

- Convenient and accessible, the SEPTA Airport Rail Line runs every 30 minutes and stops at Terminals A,B,C/D and E. The one-way fare is \$8.00 to and from Center City (cash only). For more information on schedules and fares, contact SEPTA at 215-580-7800 or visit SEPTA's [website](#).

Remember, if you see something that doesn't look or seem right, don't hesitate to tell a police officer or call 3111 from a white courtesy phone. Safety is everyone's business.

Stay up to date with PHL news by following the Airport on Twitter @PHLAirport

"The holiday season is one of the busiest travel periods and is also a time when the Airport welcomes many travelers who are not familiar with the routine of traveling by air," said Airport CEO Mark Gale. "We are glad to have these recommendations listed in order to help those traveling become better prepared once they arrive at the Airport. There will be additional staff assisting the traveling public during peak travel times. On behalf of the employees at the Philadelphia International Airport, I wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

This year, Philadelphia International Airport celebrates the 75th anniversary of its commercial air service. In 1940, the Airport served 40,000 passengers flying to a handful of cities. Today, more than 30 million passengers travel annually to 131 destinations around the world.

Philadelphia International Airport is owned and operated by the City of Philadelphia. The Airport is a self-sustaining entity that operates without the use of local tax dollars. It is one of the largest economic engines in Pennsylvania, generating an estimated \$14.4 billion in spending to the regional economy and accounting for more than 141,000 jobs.