



You only get...

1 summer with your baby
3 with your toddler
9 with your child
5 with your teenager

MAKE IT COUNT -
INVEST IN MEMORIES

BENEFITS OF TRAVELING WITH KIDS

School's out for summer, but the learning doesn't have to stop. According to the **Institute for Family Studies**, traveling with kids strengthens family bonds by creating shared memories that act as anchors during difficult times. Travel accelerates child development by building empathy, confidence, and adaptability. Exposing them to diverse cultures, cuisines, and perspectives, helps to foster open-mindedness and creativity.

Exposure to new environments and physical locations acts as "brain fertilizer," boosting analytical thinking, creativity, and academic performance. Meeting people from different backgrounds promotes social intelligence and dispels stereotypes, teaching children to embrace differences at an early age, thereby enhancing empathy.

Navigating airports, trying new modes of transportation, and overcoming small hurdles outside their comfort zone significantly boost a child's confidence fostering independence and resilience. Operating as a group away from home shifts the focus from individual needs to family unity, improving cohesion and communication while creating a team dynamic among family members.

For a smooth trip, involve the kids by letting them help pick a destination, choose an activity, or pack their own bags. This helps build anticipation and teaches how to make mutual agreements.

Investing in memories that will stay with you and your kids for a lifetime is always a good return for you money. Where are you taking your kids this summer?

Ask us about Family Friendly Resorts and Vacations!

Major Airlines Increase Checked Baggage Fees

United, Delta, JetBlue, and Southwest bumped up their fees in April.

The changes primarily apply to economy/main cabin and Basic Economy tickets on domestic and short-haul international flights.

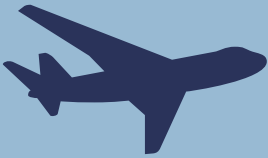
Here are the options for customers seeking to avoid these increased fees:

- **Pre-pay online:** Carriers like American and United offer a \$5 discount on fees when paid on their app or website at least 24 hours prior to your flight.
- **Airline Credit Cards:** Holding a co-branded airline credit card (e.g., Delta SkyMiles, United Explorer, or a Southwest Rapid Rewards card) continues to waive the 1st checked bag fee for you and up to 8 traveling companions.
- **Elite Status:** Mileage programs and elite tier levels still guarantee complimentary checked bags.
- **Pack Carry-On Only:** As long as space allows, take advantage of your included free carry-on bag and personal item to avoid checked bag fees completely.

Current 1st & 2nd Bag Domestic Fees

Prices reflect typical fees paid online or in advance; fees often increase by an additional \$5 to \$10 if paid at the airport or within 24 hours of departure. **A AFAR +1**

- **American Airlines:** \$45 (1st), \$55 (2nd)
- **Delta Air Lines:** \$45 (1st), \$55 (2nd)
- **JetBlue:** Starts at \$39 (1st) and \$59 (2nd), with peak travel dates costing \$10 more
- **Southwest:** \$45 (1st), \$55 (2nd)
- **United Airlines:** \$45 (1st), \$55 (2nd) **A AFAR +2**



Travel is about more than the destination, it's about the people you meet along the way.

Look who I met...

On a recent trip to Oregon, **Travel Advisor Sue Stricker** met **Deniz** who works at the **Lincoln City Glass Center**, a glassblowing studio and gallery located in the historic **Taft District**.
Co-owner and artist **Kelly Howard** creates many of the famous "**Finders Keepers**" glass floats dropped on the local beaches.

www.flatheadtravel.com



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