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## The Travel Tip

If you travel first-class, a little-known fact: you can actually hang up your coats or travel bags in the back or closet. This will keep garments in your bag wrinkle-free or prevent the need to wad a coat and put it into the overhead or under seats. It's a nice bonus.

## Fall Travel Season

Welcome to Passages and the fall travel season. Yes, September is technically still summer, but now is the time to plan for your fall escapes. We have dozens of great travel deals for you to take advantage of and enjoy. Watch our **blog** to see some of the latest and greatest you might want to sign up for.

For this month's edition, we thought it might be fun to pay homage to that great John Candy and Steve Martin film Planes, Trains and Automobiles - of course, you our travelers will not be like our two comedic geniuses stranded in some station in Deluth, MN. Instead, we are going to give you some great ideas on fantastic fall excursion on you guessed it - planes, trains and automobiles.

Please don't forget to check out our website for up-to-date travel deals and information at [www.worldlesstraveled.com](http://www.worldlesstraveled.com).

Sincerely,

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Planes, Trains and Automobiles

### PLANES

Let's go in the order of the title and start with air travel. Most people who generally fly coach do not consider air travel a whole lot of fun. You get stuck in long lines, your luggage costs extra in some cases, and you get to squeeze into a tight row of seats and sometimes enjoy elbows in your rib cage or "smells" of your friendly neighbors. It doesn't sound terribly appealing does it? So with that in mind, time to turn around your entire point of view about air travel.



Always fly first-class and make your plane ride a luxurious part of the trip vs. an unhappy experience. Many of you might immediately protest that first-class travel is not in your budget. You're not looking at it the right way. First, if you plan and save your money right, you can include first-class travel as a part of your budget. Consider areas you do not wish to scrimp on. Your air travel and the number of hours you may spend in the air can mean the difference between arriving tired and miserable or refreshed and ready to go. On longer European or Asian trips, you can easily lose an entire day due to fatigue from being in such a small space for so many hours. A full day on a 10-day trip is actually costly. And if you push yourself to go anyway, you'll likely be overwrought and tired and not enjoy it.

If you're flying overseas or internationally anything over eight hours, do consider adding first-class air travel to your trip. Now realize that on the big jumbo jets, business class travel suffices too. Business class on some carriers flying internationally is better than first-class on smaller aircraft. Business class includes recliners and space between seats. In those situations, you don't need first-class to get the same creature comforts. Most of the time when you fly first-class you get first seating, wide comfortable seats with extra legroom, plenty of luggage space in the overheads, free extra luggage stowed, warm food and dessert, individual entertainment devices, bottomless drinks and liquor, and snacks. You can lay back, rest and enjoy the flight. Upon arrival, you won't feel like you need to head straight to your hotel to sleep.

### TRAINS



Make a train ride a part of your journey and not just a means to an end. Train rides give passengers a fantastic opportunity to travel through the country they are visiting. The United States is actually behind the curve when it comes to train passage. Europe and Asia have mastered the art of train travel and use it to move freely about the country. Here in the states, our train technology isn't nearly as sophisticated, train schedules not kept, and don't offer the same amenities.

Some world-famous train excursions in Europe, in particular, will take you through the Swiss Alps or French countryside. You can also move easily and freely about Europe on a Rail Pass. Sitting next to a window, you have an opportunity to get an intimate look at the authentic country and towns. Many different train routes exist, so you will want to sit down with your travel agent and pick the train vacation that is right for you and your family. The downside to train passage is that sleeper cars are typically small and cramped. Even the upgraded sleeper cars aren't big so don't be disappointed if you intend to spread out. But nothing beats eating your breakfast, lunch and dinner in front of a large picture window and watching the scenery in real time.

Also, little kids absolutely love trains. For a parent, small children will be glued to the window or can freely walk around without fear of losing your child (there is typically nowhere to go). Be sure to bring toys and digital entertainment for the boring times to keep your children well entertained.

### AUTOMOBILES

Nothing gives you more intimacy with your destination than an RV trip. You can rent RVs and camp your way through the United States or Alaska and some foreign countries offer RV trips too. Just keep in mind that if you take out an RV in Europe, for example, expect your gas costs to be double what we pay in the states.



RV trips, depending on how far you intend to drive, can take weeks. Even driving between California and Washington state can take up to two weeks to go up and back. It's not two weeks total, but two weeks to really stop and enjoy some of the stops along the way. The California-Washington RV trip is really beautiful as you can drive straight up Highway 101 up through the Avenue of the Giants, into Eureka and up into the Oregon forests and onward. If you map it out correctly, you can literally stay on the scenic routes all the way to the Canadian border. You might even add Vancouver Island to your journey and have your RV ferried over.

Advantages to RV trips include: extra storage space to carry gifts and souvenirs; cost reductions on food since you can cook in your RV; extra space and storage for gear, coats and jackets for unexpected weather; reduction in overnight costs by parking in low-cost campgrounds; no worries over children being too loud and being heard through motel walls; and plenty of room for children to play with toys. Now gas costs can be expensive and balance out the other cost reductions, but you don't have to stay on the road the entire time. You can plan a trip to stay in some key locations.

### BOOK IT

You can come in and sit down with your travel agent to arrange your itinerary, airfare, rail tickets and RV rentals. In fact, you can plan your entire trip before you ever leave to ensure every aspect suits you. You can even plan a trip that does, in fact, include planes, trains and automobiles.