



For Immediate Release
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Airports Authority Offers Travel Tips for Thanksgiving Travelers

Thanksgiving travel this year at Ronald Reagan Washington National and Washington Dulles International Airports is expected to be busy during peak travel times.

"We expect that holiday travel will keep our terminals busy this season, and we want our customers to be prepared. We anticipate the holiday rush will start Friday, November 21st and continue through Monday, December 1st. We advise travelers to come early and to visit our website for information that may be helpful to them before they leave home," said Airports Authority President and Chief Executive Officer James E. Bennett.

The Airports Authority website offers easy-to-print one-page information sheets for Reagan National and Dulles International Airports that passengers can bring with them on their trip. These tips are available on the Airports Authority website at www.mwaa.com/reagan and www.mwaa.com/dulles. Just click on "Travel Tips."

The Airports Authority offers these travel tips:

Call In Before Check-In: Call your airline's 800 number or visit the airline website to confirm your flight or to verify security regulations related to checked baggage. Consider printing your boarding pass at home or work.

Weather can greatly affect flight schedules. You may also check the Airports Authority website at www.mwaa.com for airport information.

ARRIVE EARLY: Travelers are urged to arrive at the airport at least 1 ½ hours before domestic flights and 2 ½ hours before international flights to allow enough time for ground transportation, parking, luggage check-in and security screening during the busy times, which are early in the morning, mid afternoon and late afternoon, particularly on Friday the 21st, the Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving and the weekend after.

Airlines are predicting that their flights will be booked and it will be difficult to find room on later flights to get to your destination should you miss your flight.

PARKING

Travelers who drive and park should visit the Airports Authority website www.mwaa.com for real-time information on parking availability or call 703-417-PARK (7275).

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Take Metro: Travelers using Reagan National Airport find Metro a good alternative to driving. The Airports Authority also encourages Dulles passengers to consider taking Metro to the West Falls Church Station and connecting to the Washington Flyer Bus to Dulles.

Dulles will have sufficient parking, with 25,000 spaces; for the holiday but favorite spots may be taken so it is wise to come early. For parking information at Dulles, please call 703-572-4500 or visit www.mwaa.com/dulles. The Airports Authority now provides *Parking Locator Cards*. Find them in yellow boxes at the elevator areas in the garages and in the bus shelters in the economy lots. Take one to help you find your car when you return from your trip.

PAY & GO is available at Dulles to avoid waiting in lines at the parking exits. Drivers who park at Dulles Airport should take their parking ticket with them and use the Pay & Go Machines as they exit the Terminal building. Pay & Go Machines are located in the lower level of the Terminal near the east and west exit doors. Once the ticket is paid at the Pay & Go machine in the Terminal, drivers exit at the Pay & Go lanes with the paid ticket without having to stop at the cashier booth.

At Dulles, Valet Parking is available within the Hourly Parking Lot in front of the Main Terminal. No reservations are necessary. Call 703-572-4540 for more information.

Cell Phone Waiting Areas are available at both Reagan National and Dulles International

Here is an easy way to pick up a traveler. Wait in the cell phone area until your party arrives and is ready to be met at the curb. Look for the signs directing you to the areas where you may wait with your vehicle at no cost.

GETTING TO THE AIRPORTS

Try the Washington Flyer Bus Service, Washington Flyer Taxi, or Super Shuttle Service.

For information about Washington Flyer express bus service from the Metro West Falls Church Station to Dulles Airport, please call 703-685-1400 or 1-888-WASHFLY or www.washfly.com. For Washington Flyer Taxi service, please call 703-572-TAXI (8294) to place a reservation. In addition, Super Shuttle provides door-to-door shared-ride service to the airports. Call 1-800-BLUEVAN.

BEFORE YOU GO TO THE TICKET COUNTER

Make sure the security screeners can open your suitcase. Place **id tags** on the inside and outside of your checked baggage. Don't forget your laptop computer; be sure to put an ID label on the computer itself and the carrying case. Government-issued **photo identification is required** for all passengers over age 18.

Consider printing your boarding pass at home or work before coming to the airport or use the airline ticket kiosk. If you have an e-ticket, be sure to have a **boarding pass** BEFORE you leave the ticketing area and keep it handy to show at the security checkpoints.

BEFORE YOU GO TO THE SECURITY CHECKPOINT

- **BAG THOSE LIQUIDS AND GELS.** Remember these numbers: 3-1-1. Only liquids or gels that are no more than 3 ounces are permitted in carry on luggage. You must put them in a clear and sealed plastic bag that is no larger than 1 quart and put only 1 bag per passenger in the bins at the checkpoint for inspection. **Leave gifts unwrapped.** They may be opened for inspection. Check www.tsa.gov for more information.
- Avoid wearing clothing, jewelry, and accessories that contain metal and may set off the alarm at screening checkpoints. **You must remove your shoes.**
- Put cameras and undeveloped film in your carry-on baggage. Checked baggage screening equipment will damage some undeveloped film.
- Carry-on baggage is limited to one carry-on bag plus one personal item. Personal items include laptops, purses, small backpacks, briefcases, or camera cases. Laptops must be removed from their case at the x-ray machine.
- **Travel wisely:** Carry medicine, cash, jewelry and other important valuables with you on the plane. If you leave your car at the airport, remove any valuables. Carry your purse and wallet securely, and keep your luggage and carry-on items in your sight at all times. Under security procedures, unattended bags and other items will be confiscated and may be destroyed.

SHOPPING AND DINING

The Airports Authority has added convenient dining options at both Reagan National and Dulles International. Sit down and enjoy a meal before your flight or order something to bring with you on the airplane. Shopping and Dining guides for both Airports are posted on our website at www.mwaa.com.

For more information about Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, call 703-417-8000. For more information about Washington Dulles International Airport, call 703-572-2700.

For information about both Airports, visit the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority's website at www.mwaa.com

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