

## FareCompare's How-to-Shop for Cheap Flights Holiday Travel Guide 2009

Helps shoppers navigate new airline fees and find the cheapest days for Thanksgiving & Christmas Flights

DALLAS, TX - NOVEMBER 11, 2009 – FareCompare.com (http://www.farecompare.com/), an airfare comparison shopping site, tracks airfare to help shoppers find the cheapest days and times to fly, every day of the year. FareCompare tracks airfare data year-round and issues the following consumer advisory regarding prices for air travel for the holiday season: As airlines attempt to eke out additional revenue from passengers, prices are steadily going up, while seat capacity is going down, plus additional fees on peak travel days will make it more expensive to fly this season.

Shopping for airfare this holiday season is particularly precarious for shoppers. Prices are slowly climbing, with the average cheapest published airfare for the Wednesday before Thanksgiving creeping up in markets such as Atlanta, where prices are up 11%, seats have been cut back by nearly 3%. Additionally, new travel surcharges of up to \$20 each way on all legacy airlines for peak travel days, are making it more expensive for families to fly this holiday season. These peak travel surcharges occur for Thanksgiving on November 29 and 30 and December 18, 19, 23, 26, 27 for Christmas.



"FareCompare's easy to use 'When-to-Fly' calendars pinpoint the cheapest days and times to fly, at a glance. And our 'How-to-Shop Holiday Travel Guide 2009' is a consumer guide to navigating new fees and surcharges that airlines have begun levying this holiday," says FareCompare CEO Rick Seaney. "The airlines are certainly piling it on, but travelers need not suffer. If your dates are flexible, you *can* get home for the holidays, for less."

This year, FareCompare again analyzed the top 20 busiest cities and noted an average drop of 3.04% seats, meaning there are 42,000 fewer seats on the day before Thanksgiving 2009 compared to 2008. The hardest hit cities this year include Orlando with an 8.55% decline, followed by Las Vegas with an 8.23% decline



How can fliers save on flights this holiday season? FareCompare shows you how:

- <u>FareCompare's How-to-Shop for Cheap Flights Holiday Travel Guide 2009</u> FareCompare
   CEO Rick Seaney provides tips for finding cheap holiday flights; learn how to save big on
   Thanksgiving and Christmas airfares, and more.
- Holiday Travel When-to-Fly Calendars FareCompare highlights the best and worst days to fly
  this holiday. FareCompare's When-to-Fly calendars make finding the cheapest days to fly for
  Thanksgiving and Christmas, quick and easy.
- Finding Cheap Tickets for Thanksgiving Best kept secret: flying on a holiday will often yield
  huge savings. Savvy travelers know that airfare for Christmas Day or Thanksgiving Day is often
  much cheaper than other days of the holiday season. More of these money-saving, insider travel
  tips are available at FareCompare. See also FareCompare's interactive Charts of Cheapest
  Average Published Airfares for the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.
- Leave Early for Cheap Tickets, arrive in time for Thanksgiving dinner FareCompare advises shoppers that the cheapest time of the day to fly is usually early in the morning. So save again by flying early on Thanksgiving Day and you'll still arrive in plenty of time for Thanksgiving dinner!

## About FareCompare.com

FareCompare.com is an independent airfare shopping site with the all the tools necessary to help consumers find <u>cheap flights</u> quickly and easily - and find them first. That's because FareCompare is not the typical airfare "meta search" comparison shopping site.

Every day, FareCompare's sophisticated software processes feeds from more than 500 airlines - totaling more than 270,000 destinations worldwide - making FareCompare a comprehensive one-stop airfare shopping experience. Plus, FareCompare's proprietary software and robust processing power delivers airfare prices in real-time. And that's important because the best fares disappear quickly, but with real-time technology, shoppers learn about the best deals first – so they can rely on getting those cheap tickets first, every time. Learn more about locating best airfare deals at <a href="http://www.farecompare.com">http://www.farecompare.com</a>.

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Companion video: Tips on How To Save On Holiday Flights

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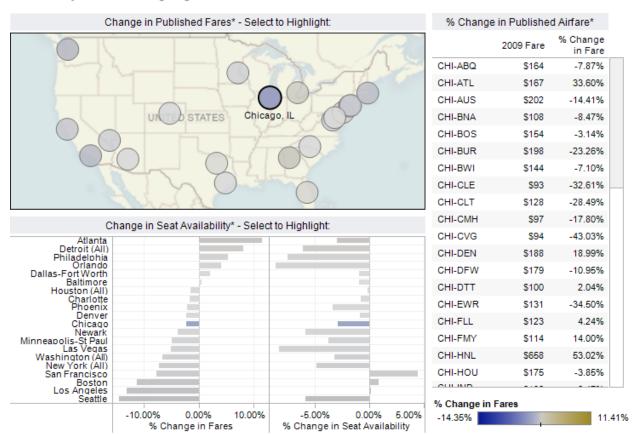
See also FareCompare's Cheapest Average Published Airfares for the Wednesday before Thanksgiving at:

http://www.farecompare.com/articles/holiday-travel-pricing-analysis/

Example of Cheapest airfares and cheap tickets for Chicago:

## FareCompare Charts Cheapest Average Published Airfare Wednesday before Thanksgiving

select or drag to interact



\*Airfares are the average cheapest published from 1-Nov to 5-Nov 2008 vs. 2009 from each city to the top 50 U.S. cities.



**FareCompare Cheapest Airfares**