



### **“Saving on Travel Expenses”**

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**H**ere are some tips on how to save money when traveling. When it comes to vacationing, if you want to save big on your vacation costs, you can vacation in the off-season when the occupancy is lower and the rates are reduced as well. When shopping, you can use the Internet to compare prices and find the best deals.

Many companies have sprung up in cyberspace that offer discounts if you book your trip through them. Expedia.com and Priceline.com are examples. So before you book directly, check out the rates you can get through these booking companies. Be sure to carefully read their cancellation policies because sometimes the rates are low because it is not easy to cancel without a big penalty. Sometimes you cannot even cancel at all and must use some portion (what is left after the cancellation penalty) on a future trip booked through the same booking company.

If you are going to a place like Las Vegas, or anywhere that will allow you to drive after you arrive (note: it may be impossible in Times Square, for example), then you should compare the cost of renting a car versus paying shuttle and taxi fees.

Also, instead of eating out in restaurants every day, you can stop by the grocery store and buy a Styrofoam ice chest and enough food and snacks and drinks to last several days. You will save a tremendous amount of money by skipping a few restaurant meals, and you may even be able to eat healthier.

Before you leave on vacation, shop on the Internet for coupons offered in your destination.