

January 20, 2010

## Travel Resources **INDUSTRY INSIDER**

### **Transport Canada to Allow One Carry-on Bag on Flights to the US**



Ottawa is relaxing its rules for flying into the United States by **allowing passengers to take one carry-on bag on the plane.**

The changes announced Tuesday by Transport Minister John Baird take effect Wednesday at all Canadian airports.

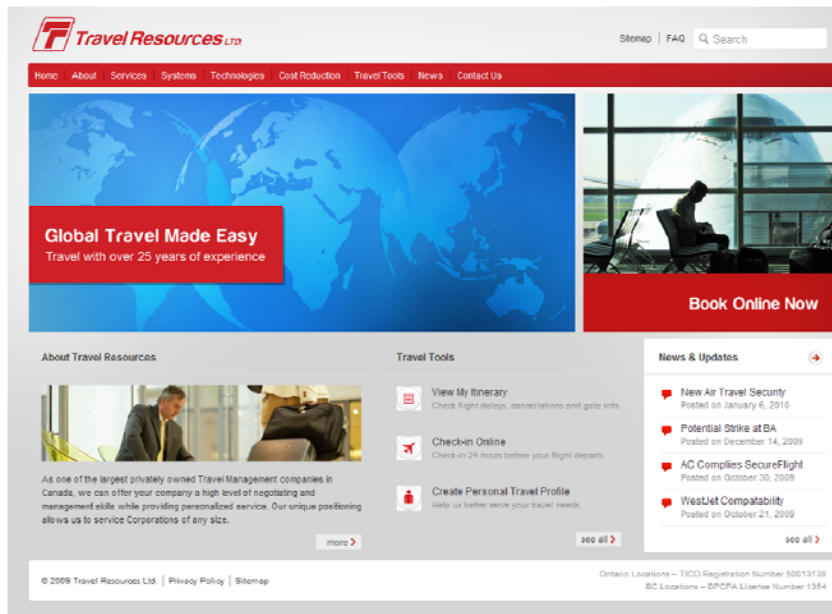
There will be some exceptions to the new regulation -- **travelers will be allowed to take a purse or laptop or briefcase or camera bag on board along with the carry-on.**

**All items taken on a plane such as reading material, personal electronics and medications must be stored in the carry-on bag and packed prior to the security check. The bag must not exceed 23 centimeters by 40 centimeters by 55 centimeters.**

Carry-on bags were restricted after the failed Dec. 25 bomb plot on a Northwest flight to Detroit from Amsterdam. The changes and increased security at airports caused chaos and long lines for travelers for weeks.

Transport Canada also announced they were buying full body scanners for airports and a plan to implement a screening method known as behavior pattern recognition.

### **Presenting the New Travel Resources Website!**



The Travel Resources Website has recently undergone a makeover!

Our redesigned site at [www.travelresources.net](http://www.travelresources.net) is up and ready to use, and it contains more resources and information than ever before.

We hope it will make it easier for you to find out anything you need to know about Travel Resources, and provide you with some useful tools to help you handle your travel needs.

Not sure where to get started? Our favourite tools are:

- √ "Book Online Now"
- √ "View My Itinerary"
- √ "Check-in Online"

We're pretty proud of our new look and hope that you visit us often. Don't forget to visit the "News & Updates" section to stay informed about current Travel News!

## ***Air Canada Set to Launch Daily Copenhagen Service***



AIR CANADA

**Air Canada will launch daily service between Toronto and Copenhagen next summer** as it further expands international flying at its major hub.

**Air Canada will begin non-stop, daily flights between Toronto and Copenhagen on June 24, subject to government approval.** The only non-stop service to Scandinavia from Canada will be operated with a 211-seat Boeing 767-300 ER aircraft featuring 24 lay flat bed suites in Executive First and a personal digital in-flight video system, a USB port and a power plug available at every seat throughout the aircraft.

Service will operate daily in the summer, with reduced frequency in the winter. Flights will be timed to conveniently connect with Star Alliance partner Scandinavian Airlines, which offers more than 120 flights per day from Copenhagen to 52 destinations.

## ***Air Canada to Charge for Second Checked Bag on US, Transatlantic Flights***



AIR CANADA

Effective Jan. 19, 2010, Air Canada will begin charging for second checked bags on US transborder and transatlantic routes. Customers purchasing Economy Class tickets (Tango, Tango Plus and Latitude fares) for travel on or after Jan. 19 to/from the United States, Europe and Israel will be able to check one bag for free, in addition to permitted carry-on baggage, and will be charged for a second checked bag as follows:

- For flights to/from the US (including Hawaii, excluding Puerto Rico) \$30;
- For flights to/from Europe and Israel \$50.

Air Canada's checked baggage policy of two free checked bags for Economy Class ticket holders remains unchanged for travel within Canada, as well as to/from Mexico, the Caribbean, South and Central America, Asia and Australia. The fee for a second checked bag to/from the US, Europe and Israel will not apply to Air Canada Prestige, Elite, Super Elite members or Star Alliance Silver and Gold members. (<http://www.aircanada.com/baggage>)

## ***Argentine Reciprocity Fee***

United The Argentine Immigration Office is implementing an Argentine Reciprocity Fee, for Canadian, US and Australian National arriving in Argentina. The fee, applicable starting Dec 28, 2009 is:



- \$ 70 US, for Canadian Nationals; valid for one entry
- \$ 131 US, for United States Nationals; valid for ten years
- \$ 100 US, for Australian Nationals; valid for one entry

Payment on arrival in Cash, ARS, USD, credit card or travelers cheques; booths will be positioned in the immigration arrivals hall. At this time the fee is only applied at Buenos Aires Airport Exempt are:

- Flight Crew
- Canadian, Australian, US citizens with legal residence in Argentina
- Canadian, Australian, US citizens holding passports with an Argentine consular visa
- Canadian, Australian, US citizens holding official or diplomatic passports

## *Avis and Budget Go Smoke-Free*



**Avis Rent A Car and Budget Rent A Car vehicles in Canada and the United States are now smoke-free** under a new policy that prohibits smoking in the rental vehicles.

To ensure compliance with the new smoke-free policy, Avis and Budget have established new inspection processes and will assess customers a cleaning fee if the vehicle is returned with tobacco odor or residue. In addition, the company has instituted a smoke-free policy for all employees and contractors who drive its vehicles.

## *Passport Soon Required for Travel to Mexico*



United Nolitours and Transat Holidays are reminding us that **travelers flying into Mexico will be required to show a valid passport as of March 1**. This measure harmonizes Mexican border control policy with that of Canada and the US under the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI).

## *Delta / Northwest Merger Update*

Delta and Northwest predictably see smooth skies ahead and suggest the merger's impact on passengers will be minimal.



- For now, customers can continue to book travel on Delta. or Northwest until all flights are combined into Delta's operation during the first quarter of 2010, according to the airlines.
- After that, if all goes as planned, ticket-buying will involve only one carrier by mid-year. Check-in and gate locations for most airports served worldwide are being combined under the Delta brand.

- Existing itineraries and reservations should not be impacted by the merger, according to Delta. Whether ticketed on a Northwest or Delta flight, at most airports customers should check in at a Delta kiosk or with a Delta-uniformed agent. Check-in and gate locations for most airports Delta and Northwest serve worldwide have been combined under the Delta brand.
- The SkyMiles and WorldPerks programs are now being consolidated into one best-in-class loyalty program. WorldPerks accounts have become SkyMiles accounts, according to Delta.

Four longer-term impacts for passengers are:

1. Higher fares are one major new prospect. "Whenever you reduce the number of competitors in the marketplace, the upward pressure on fares is inevitable," says Tim Winship, publisher of FrequentFliers.com. Hardest hit are likely to be shorter, regional flights.
2. Fewer flights and more overcrowding are generally expected at first with less wiggle room for travelers to find empty seats. Single flight cancellations will have domino effects.
3. The silver lining here is that the two carriers will offer more nonstop and direct flights and travelers will be able to virtually circle the globe without switching carriers.
4. There may be some rougher times ahead in the immediate future but better service will eventually win out, according to various commentators.

## ***Cathay to Increase Toronto / Hong Kong Service***



Cathay Pacific Airways is increasing its services to and from North America. **From March 28, 2010 three flights per week will be added to the existing daily non-stop service between Toronto and Hong Kong.** The additional services will depart Toronto at 9:35 a.m. every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, while the existing daily flights will depart at 1:30 a.m. from Toronto.

Once in Hong Kong, travelers can seamlessly connect to 17 cities in Mainland China through Cathay's sister airline, Dragonair. All flights will be operated by the fuel-efficient 777-300ER ultra-long haul aircraft and are equipped with Cathay Pacific's three-class service. The airline is also adding three flights per week from Los Angeles from May 1, increasing the frequency to 17 each week. (<http://www.cathaypacific.com/ca>)



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*Should you have any questions please contact a member of our Management Team at 905-480-9986:*

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