

contiki

—
TRAVEL WITH NO REGRETS

USA & CANADA 2019-21



UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCES. LIFELONG MEMORIES.

What makes travelling the USA & Canada so special?

For us, it's not just about ticking off the icons like New York, Las Vegas, Miami, & Whistler. It's about the experiences you have while you're there.

The experiences that break down barriers and make you comfortable outside your comfort zone. The moments you learn about the people around you, and learn about yourself.

It's not about ticking boxes, it's about chasing your curiosity. Even if it scares you.

It's about knowing you'll still laugh about that day, when you're old and grey.

It's about knowing how to make every moment count. Because everyone wants a good story to tell.

And that's where we come in.



UNDER CANVAS GLAMPING,
ZION NATIONAL PARK, USA



WELCOME TO CONTIKI

You're about to head out on the adventure of a lifetime & experience the way we travel. We can't wait to show you the USA, Canada & Hawaii on our small group adventures.

Like you, we're a bunch of passionate travellers, so we know all the top tips that you need to know before & during your trip.

We've put together this handy (& exclusive!) Traveller Guide to set you out right.

Before you go...

From the big stuff, like where does my trip start & what should I pack, to the smaller stuff, like where's the best place to find free WiFi on your tour – it's all here in our handy guide.

When you're on the road...

We've packed in a heap of awesome things to do in almost all the cities we visit. It's the stuff the locals love – from the best places to shop, where to try some authentic local food or just to chill.

Getting Social...

We all know there's nothing better than posting pics from where you'd rather be to your friends & family back home. So make sure to use your trip hashtag, #contiki & #NOREGRETSS so everyone can follow your epic story!

Keep this in your pocket or take the sharing is caring approach & pass it on to a friend when you're done.

Let the adventure begin...

Love,
Team Contiki

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BEFORE YOU GO

CHECK IN ONLINE

Save time on Day 1 and check in online before you leave home.

It's easy. Just give us your details and tell us what you're interested in before you start your trip & you're done! It will save you time, so you can get on having fun as soon as you arrive.

Visit contiki.com/checkin for details.

PACK YOUR BAGS...

Packing for your trip can be niggly, so we make it easy with some handy tips.

On our trips, you can bring one bag or suitcase of 73 x 50 x 25 cm (or 29" x 20" x 10"), with a max weight of 20 kg (44 lbs) & one piece of hand luggage.

Besides the standard stuff like jeans, jumpers, t-shirts & your iPod etc here are some ideas about what else you might need on tour...

- Rainproof jacket
- Comfy walking shoes
- Travel alarm clock
- A watch!
- Hat or cap
- Swimwear & towel
- A diary (for writing down all your travel stories)
- Medical stuff & insect repellent
- Sunblock
- Travel adaptor/s
- Spare camera memory cards
- Going out gear & shoes
- A couple of fold away travel bags (for all that shopping, girls!)
- Some portable speakers (perfect if you're hitting the beach).

AND DON'T FORGET...

- Your passport!
- Your Contiki trip documents & hotel vouchers
- Travel insurance details
- Visas (if applicable, see below)
- Credit cards & cash
- A spare print out of all your important details, just in case...

For more, visit contiki.com/travelresources for all our suggestions.

OVERNIGHT BAG

On some of our trips, it is necessary to use an overnight bag on the occasional nights when it's not possible to unload your bags from the coach (like overnight ferries etc). It's a good idea to bring an overnight bag, or hand luggage that's big enough to double up as an overnighter when needed.

FLYING HINTS

- Ensure you carry in your hand luggage all your travel documentation, your camera & any items to keep you occupied on your flight.
- Most airports have restrictions on the amount of liquids that can be in your hand luggage. Please check this before you pack.
- Take advantage of duty free shopping but check the current limits that apply in the country of your destination.
- Do not carry articles packed by others & never accept articles to carry from people not known to you.
- Adjust immediately into local time on arrival by staying awake until the evening before sleeping. This will help you recover from jet-lag.

KICK-START MEETINGS

On all of our trips, a Kick-Start meeting with your Trip Manager will be held at the beginning of your trip – check your trip docs & the hotel notice board for details.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

You should bring a money-belt (or similar) to safely carry your travel documents & cash, and ensure that your luggage has a lock. Bring photocopies of your passport and visa, plus some extra passport photos if you are applying for an on-arrival visa.

On arrival in certain countries, you may be given baggage claim tags (they will be stuck to the back of your ticket.) Keep these, as you may need to show them when leaving the airport.

PASSPORTS & VISAS – please read carefully

Depending on your nationality, you may require visas to enter USA and Canada on your trip. You are fully responsible for obtaining all necessary visas prior to the departure of your trip. Contiki is not legally permitted to knowingly allow anybody who does not have a valid visa to join a trip. Visa and other entry & exit conditions (such as currency, arrival/departure taxes, customs and quarantine regulations) do change regularly.

At contiki.com/contikipedia we have put together some information for all of the countries that we visit, please check contikipedia and consult your Travel Agent to determine which visas you require, and how to obtain them.

Your passport must have at least six months' validity remaining when you arrive. Local immigration authorities may deny entry and deport people who do not meet this requirement, even if they only intend to stay for a short period. Important to consider:

- Visas can take up to six weeks and a fee is normally charged
- Failure to obtain all necessary visas could cause you to miss part of your trip and will result in you incurring considerable expense and inconvenience
- It is better for you to apply for all visas before you leave home
- It is essential that the entry and exit dates are correct on the visa

INSURANCE

It is strongly recommended you take out comprehensive insurance cover for cancellation, medical expenses, personal accident, personal baggage, money & public liability before you travel. For insurance details, please speak to your Travel Agent or Contiki reservations agent at the time of booking.

CURRENCY

The two currencies you'll encounter in North America are the US Dollar (USD) & the Canadian Dollar (CAD).

US DOLLAR

In paper form you'll find US\$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 & \$100 notes / bills. The coins available are 1¢ (penny), 5¢ (nickel), 10¢ (dime), 25¢ (quarter), 50¢, \$1 (rare.)

CANADIAN DOLLAR

Paper notes are C\$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 & \$100 notes / bills. The coins available are 1¢ (penny), 5¢ (nickel), 10¢ (dime), 25¢ (quarter), 50¢, \$1 (Looney) & \$2 (Tooney)

BUDGETING ON TOUR

Budgeting for your trip is one of the hardest things to do before you leave home. Everyone is different, so it's hard to know how much money to bring on your trip. On our trips, we include loads – like lots of evening meals, & we've got lots of ideas online to help prepare your budget before you leave home.

Check out contiki.com/travel-resources & the spending money tab for more information.

ELECTRICITY & VOLTAGE

North America operates on 120v as opposed to other countries which operate on alternating current (AC) which varies between 220 – 240v.

KEEPING CHARGED

North America operates on 120v as opposed to other countries which operate on alternating current (AC) which varies between 220-240v. As well as bringing a two-pin adaptor, if you're travelling from outside North America, it's important to note that there's a change in voltage, so it's key to bring a power converter to enable your electrical stuff to work & keep you up & running.

TOILETRIES & MEDICATION

Although imported beauty products are readily available in larger cities, it's advisable to pack staples like sunscreen, contact lens solution & mosquito repellent, as well as prescription medication.

Note: in both countries, penalties for drug offences are severe. The possession of even small quantities of "soft drugs" for recreational purposes can result in a lengthy jail sentence and deportation.

VACCINATIONS

At the time of publication, there are currently no immunizations recommended for travellers to North America by the C.D.C. (US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention.)

CONTIKI ON THE ROAD

ON-ROAD TEAM

YOUR TRIP MANAGER

Our Trip Managers are like your walking, talking guidebook – just for you. Because they know everything about where you're going, you will too! They really know their stuff & they take care of all the niggly details – so you don't have to.

YOUR DRIVER

Your Trip Drivers are the experts on getting you from A to B in the US, Canada. They know their way around like the back of their hands & they'll drop you at your door & unload your bags – too easy!

HOW WE TRAVEL

YOUR COACH

The coach is all about socialising! Chill, take in the views, chat to your mates & hang out as you make your way from one spot to another. They're environmentally friendly, plus you get panoramic windows, power outlets for charging on the go, pumping sound systems, DVD players & reclining seats. They're the perfect way to get around. We also make lots of stops along the way, so you can grab a drink & a snack & have some time to stretch your legs.

On some of our trips, we include flights. Check out your trip documents for more, & get ready for a taste of what you can experience.

Note: the Best of USA, New York Uncovered, New York NYE & Powder Rush trips do not have charging on the go.

WHERE YOU STAY...

Our accommodation in the USA & Canada is amazing! Think twin-share hotels every night except when staying at our Special Stays like Bass Lake & Banff. Our well-located hotels, packed with great facilities you'll love, mean you're where you need to be. There's no compromise on comfort – you can relax in a home away from home. In the cities, we have easy access to the action either by foot, metro or bus, & in the smaller spots, think quaint hotels for a cool local experience.

We also mix it up with some Special Stay experiences like a resort overlooking stunning Bass Lake, a chalet overlooking the Canadian Rockies & a lodge right near the rim of the unbeatable Grand Canyon.

IMPORTANT LEGAL DRINKING AGE IN THE USA & CANADA

The legal drinking & gambling age in the USA is 21 & it is strictly enforced. The legal drinking age in Canada varies by province. In Quebec & Alberta the legal age is 18, & in British Columbia & Ontario it is 19. You **must present proof of age** when entering clubs, bars & gaming establishments/casinos or when purchasing alcohol.

TIPPING

Tipping is customary in North America. It is an accepted practice in all areas of the service industry, & particularly in restaurants, bars, hotels & taxis. It's common practice to tip if you feel that the service provided has been excellent.

The same goes for your Contiki Team. If you feel that your Trip Manager & Driver's service has been exceptional, then feel free to tip them if you feel they've done a great job. If you choose to tip, we recommend around US\$3 per person per day, however whether or not you choose to tip (& how much) is up to you.

ACCESS TO CASH ON TOUR

It's a good idea to carry your cash in a number of different ways, so you're never caught short. It's a good idea to have some cash, a credit card & a debit card when you travel.

Debit cards mean you can access money at ATM machines throughout North America, or you can get a pre-loaded cash card (like Travelex) & load it up before you leave home. Your Trip Manager will let you know the best places to find cash. Just make sure you have a pin associated to the card before you leave home.

MAKING PHONE CALLS

Save a bundle on your calling & texting from around the world & control your spending whilst travelling. with the Contiki Global Phonocard & Contiki International roaming SIM card. Get your free Global Phonocard with heaps of great value features in your Contiki Pack!

- Low cost international & long distance calls: Save up to 70% off payphones & hotel phones calling from over 150 countries.
- Free: Each card comes with a free five-minute call so you can let your family know that you arrived safely.
- Messaging: Friends & family can leave you voice messages for free – no matter where you are. You can then retrieve your messages over the phone or the web. Send SMS (text messages) from the web to any cellphone worldwide – check it out at **www.contiki.ekit.com**.
- 24 x 7 Customer Service: Our multilingual team provide free assistance 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Call the free phone access number for the country you are in & press 0 # to speak with a consultant. One of the best things about the Contiki Global Phonocard is that it is rechargeable!

Go to www.contiki.ekit.com for all the latest access numbers & calling tips. If you are visiting a city where there is an economy number, use this for even cheaper rates. Dialling Toll Free access numbers usually requires no coin deposit but the per-minute charge on your Contiki Global Phonocard will be higher.

If you want an even more convenient option, why not get yourself a free Contiki roaming SIM card? It saves you 70% on global roaming rates & works from all the countries that you will visit on your Contiki trip & more, over 110 countries in total! Using your cell phone from home while travelling can become very costly. With the Contiki Global SIM card calls cost from just 49¢ per-minute as well as free to receive calls in over 50 countries! For more rates information go to:

www.contiki.ekit.com/mobile

LAUNDRY ON TOUR

Many of our hotels have laundry facilities, so it's easy to get your washing done fast. And at some of them, there's even someone to do it for you! As a guide it's always a good idea to start your trip with a reasonable amount of clothes so you're not caught out. Your Trip Manager is the best person to advise on the best places to do your washing while you're on tour. **Note:** all laundry services are at an additional cost.

LOVE TO SHOP?

If you love shopping as much as us, you're going to love the shopping on tap in the USA & Canada. Get your shopping list written & ready... From amazing department stores like Bloomingdale's & Macy's to labels like American Apparel, J Crew & Urban Outfitters to more expensive treats like Marc by Marc Jacobs & unique stuff you can't get at home, get ready to splash some cash on kit.

When you're on the road, you can ask your Trip Manager about the best places to shop for what you're into, & we've put together a list of some of our favourite spots in some of the cities we visit so check out the start city info further on.

Tip: You can also claim back VAT (tax) on some items when you head home, so make sure you ask before you purchase!



DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS (DVT)

Although DVT is rare, we love our travellers & keeping healthy before, during & after your trip is important. If you are flying to &/or from your trip, please read the DVT info below for our hints on what to look for & how to minimise any risks.

WHAT IS DVT?

DVT is when blood clots develop in the veins of the legs, the groin & sometimes the arms. For some people, the risk of DVT can significantly increase after a flight of 4+ hours, & it's important to note that it can take a few days before the side effects of DVT become known. If you're on a trip & you feel any symptoms below then let your Trip Manager know.

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO DVT INCLUDE

- Immobility or cramped seating positions
- Flying
- Recent major surgery
- Personal or family history of DVT, heart disease or Pulmonary Embolism
- Cancer, pregnancy, obesity, or if you're taking contraceptive pills

THE SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

- Redness or skin discolouration, warmth, hardening & swelling in the ankles, calves or thighs
- Tenderness &/or pain on walking, raising or flexing the foot

HOW CAN YOU LOWER THE RISK?

- Make more leg room (pop your hand luggage in the overhead lockers)
- Try not to sit with your legs crossed
- Try some of the exercises listed on the right
- Elevate your legs whenever you can
- Wear your favourite comfy threads when travelling
- Take a short walk every 2-3 hours
- Drink plenty of fluids & keep hydrated
- Avoid too much alcohol & taking sleeping tablets
- If you think you're at risk – throw on some compression stockings for your flight

OUR TOP EXERCISES TO KEEP YOU MOVING

- Bend & straighten your legs, feet & toes regularly
- Press the balls of your feet down hard on the floor
- Take a short walk

DVT TOP EXERCISES



Take advantage of any breaks by getting off the coach & stretch your legs.

You can also exercise whilst seated. Use the following movements to keep your circulation moving & to avoid getting stiff:



Bend & straighten your legs, feet & toes.



Press the balls of your feet down hard against the floor.

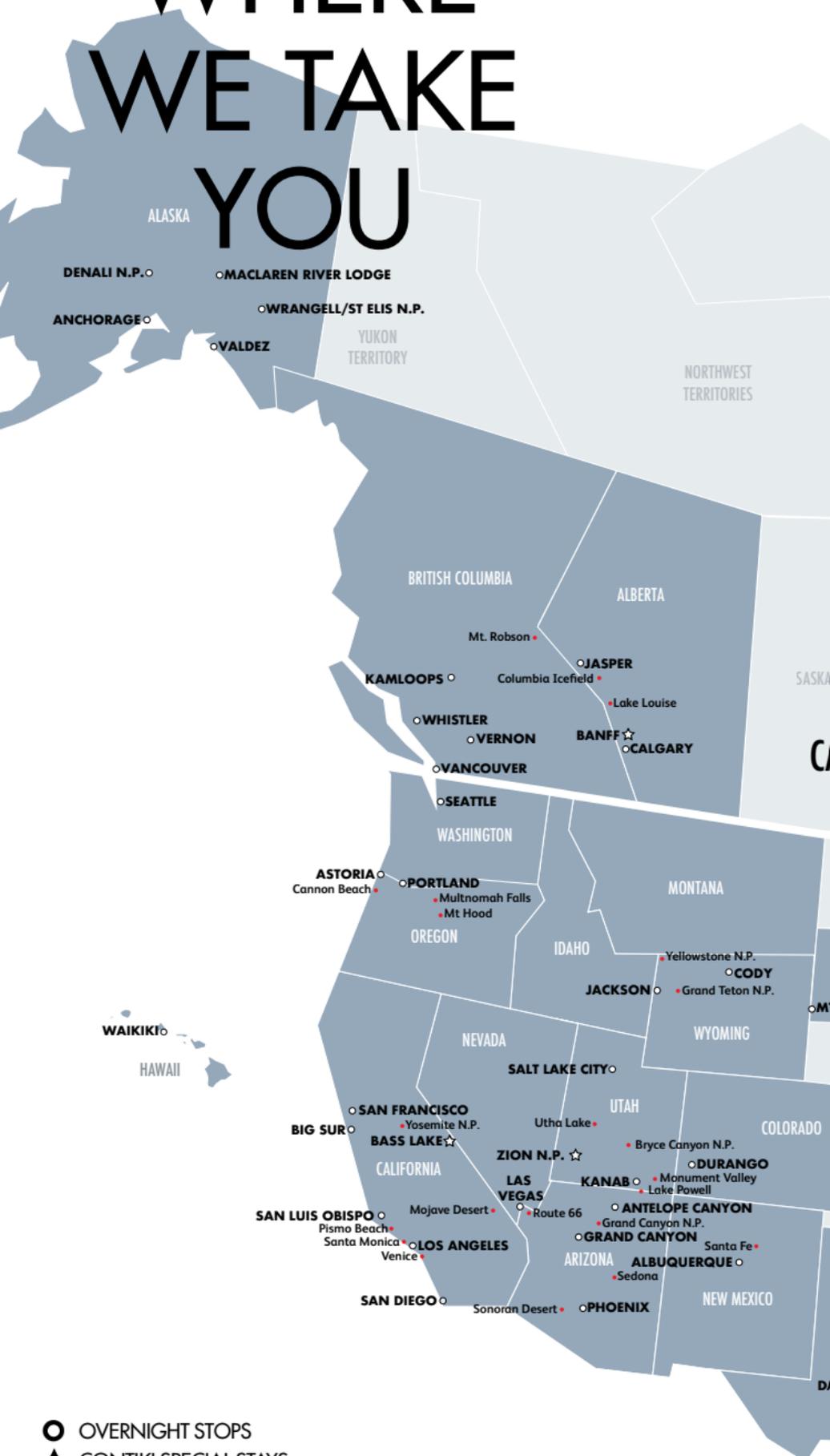


Perform regular upper body movements & breathing to relax the back & shoulders.

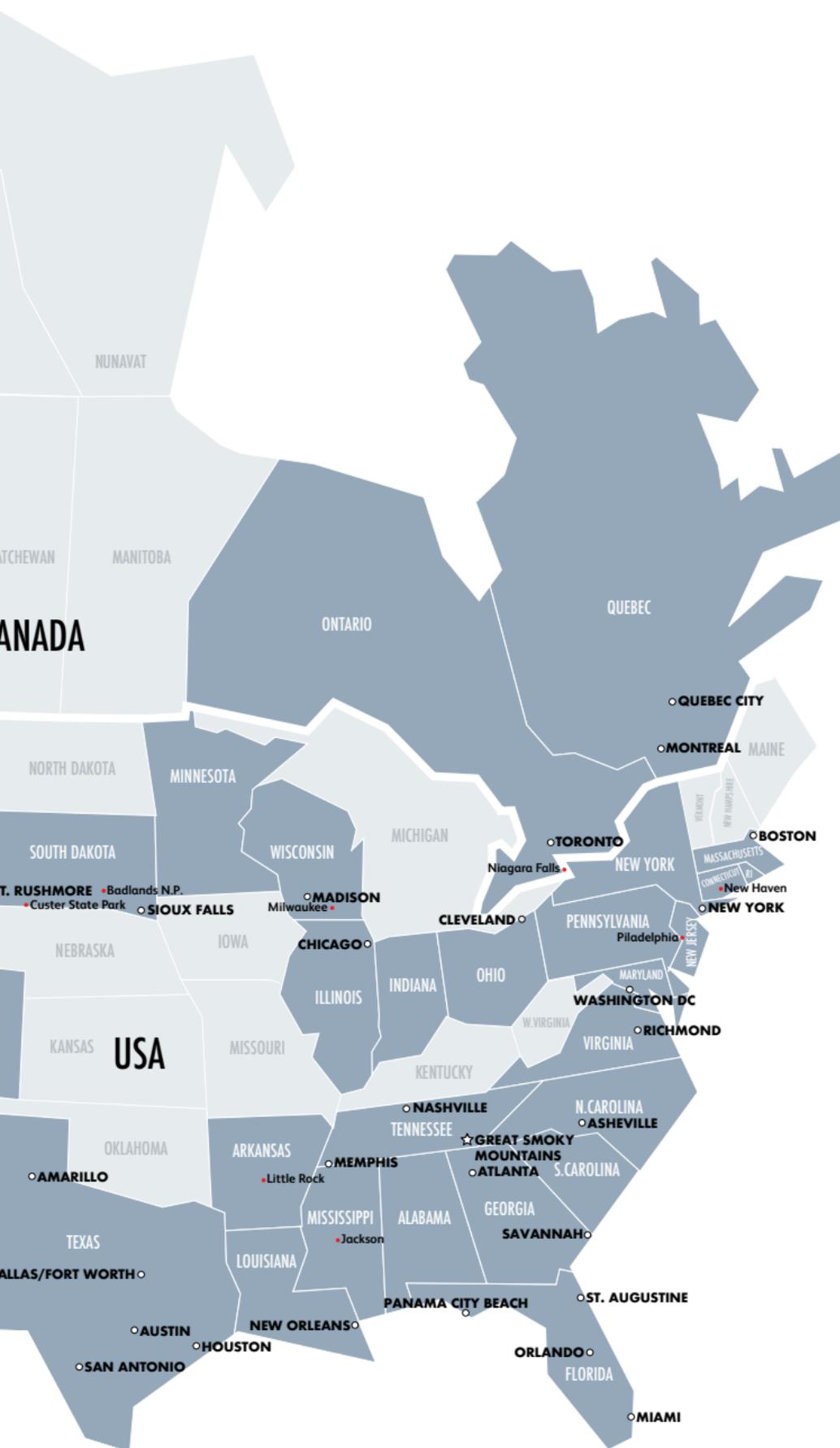


Make sure you drink water regularly to avoid becoming dehydrated.

WHERE WE TAKE YOU



- OVERNIGHT STOPS
- ★ CONTIKI SPECIAL STAYS
- PLACES WE VISIT



TRIP DEPARTURES

Your trip could start in Los Angeles, New York, Vancouver or in one of our other locations in North America. So, what do you do when you arrive there? How do you get around the city?

What sights should you see so you don't double up on things included in your trip?

We've put together a guide of the essentials & some of the cities cool stuff too, so you can go it local & experience the coolest stuff.

Note: On our trips, you'll need to make your own way to the start location for your trip. Info about where your trip starts can be found in the Info section of your trip documents.

- Los Angeles p.18
- New York p.25
- Las Vegas p.31
- Chicago p.35
- Washington DC p.38
- New Orleans p.44
- San Francisco p.46
- Boston p.46
- Dallas/Fort Worth p.49
- Waikiki, Hawaii p.51
- Vancouver p.56

LOS ANGELES DEPARTURES

WHAT TRIPS?

WILD WESTERN, LA TO THE BAY, WESTERN HIGHLIGHTS, GRAND SOUTHERN (Start LA), SOUTHERN ADVENTURE, THE BIG WEST, EPIC ADVENTURE, BEST OF USA

Kick-Start Meeting: 7:00 pm (the night before your trip departs)

Check-in: 7:00 am. Departure time: 7:30 am.

Your Kick-Start meetings will be held in the reception area of the hotel – just across from the reception desk. Check the Contiki information sheet located at reception for details on trip check-in.

NEW YORK DEPARTURES

WHAT TRIPS?

GRAND NORTHERN, NORTH BY NORTH EAST, GRAND CANADIAN, GRAND SOUTHERN, EASTERN DISCOVERY (Start NY), NEW YORK UNCOVERED, NEW YORK NEW YEAR

Kick-Start Meeting: 7:00 pm (the evening before your trip departs.)

Check-in: 7:00 am. Departure time: 7:30 am.

Please note: New York Uncovered & the New York New Year start at 8:00 am. Departure time: 8:30 am.

LAS VEGAS DEPARTURES

WHAT TRIPS?

CALIFORNIA HIGHLIGHTS, LAS VEGAS NEW YEAR

Kick-Start Meeting: 3:00 pm (first day of your trip.)

Check-in: 4:00 pm.

Kick-Start meetings & check-in will be held in the reception area of Harrah's. Look for your Trip Manager near reception.

WAIKIKI HAWAII DEPARTURES

WHAT TRIPS?

THE BIG KAHUNA

Kick-Start Meeting: 7:00 pm (the evening before your trip departs.)

Check-in: 8:30 am. Departure time: 9:00 am.

Kick-Start meetings & check in will be held in the hotel reception area.

CHICAGO DEPARTURES

WHAT TRIPS?

NORTHERN ADVENTURE

Kick-Start Meeting: 7:30 am (the morning your trip departs.)

Check-in: Departure time: 8:00 am.

Kick-Start meetings & check in will be held in the hotel reception area.

WASHINGTON DC DEPARTURES

WHAT TRIPS?

CANADIAN ENCOUNTER

Kick-Start Meeting: 7:00 am (the morning your trip departs.)

Check-in: 7:00 am. Departure time: 7:30 am.

Kick-Start meetings & check in will be held in the hotel reception area.

NEW ORLEANS DEPARTURES

WHAT TRIPS?

EASTERN DISCOVERY, SOUTHERN ADVENTURE

Kick-Start Meeting: 7:30 am (first day of trip.)

Check-in: 8:00 am.

Kick-Start meetings & check-in will be held in the hotel reception area.

BOSTON DEPARTURES

WHAT TRIPS?

EASTERN ESCAPE, REVOLUTIONARY ROADS

Kick-Start Meeting: 7:00 pm (the evening before your trip departs.)

Check-in: 7:30 am. Departure time: 8:00 am.

Kick-Start meetings & check in will be held in the hotel reception area.

DALLAS/FORT WORTH DEPARTURES

WHAT TRIPS?

BOOT, SCOOT 'N' BLUES

Kick-Start Meeting: 7:00 pm (the evening before your trip departs.)

Check-in: 7:00 am. Departure time: 7:30 am.

Kick-Start meetings & check in will be held in the hotel reception area.

VANCOUVER DEPARTURES

WHAT TRIPS?

CANADA & THE ROCKIES, NORTHWEST PASSAGE

Kick-Start Meeting: 7:00 pm (the evening before your trip departs.)

Check-in: 10:00 am. Departure time: 10:30 am.

Kick-Start meetings & check in will be held in the hotel reception area.

THE POWDER RUSH

Kick-Start Meeting: 7:00 pm.

Check-in: 8:00 am. Departure time: 8:30 am.

THE USA

Currency: Dollar \$ (USD)

Language: English

Country code: +1

LOS ANGELES, CA.

Area Code: 310 & 213

Climate: Average seasonal temperatures: Spring 20.5-22.7°C (69-73°F), Summer 24-28°C (76-84°F), Autumn 24-29°C (76-85°F) and Winter 20-21°C (68-70°F)

ARRIVING IN LOS ANGELES

From Los Angeles International Airport (LAX):

By shared shuttle: claim your luggage, then head outside to look for the orange "Shared Ride Van" sign located outside. Look out for a blue Super Shuttle uniform & they'll help you out with your journey. You can book in advance online (& save) at www.supershuttle.com. Standard fare is \$16.

Note: It's customary to tip an additional 10%-15% on top of your fare.

By taxi: taxis from LAX to Downtown Los Angeles are expensive. It will cost approx. \$49 inc. \$2.50 airport surcharge for the journey.

Note: it's customary to tip an extra 10%-15% on top of your fare.

By LAX Flyaway Shuttle: take advantage of our hotels' Downtown locations & their proximity to LA's Union Station – for just \$7 each way you can take the Flyaway shuttle between Union Station & LAX. Union Station is a quick 10-minute walk to the Miyako Hotel.

CONTIKI'S LOS ANGELES HOTELS

Miyako Hotel-Best of USA ONLY

328 E 1st St, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Tel: +1 (213) 617-2000

Kawada Hotel - LA Explorer and all other LA Start Trips except Best of USA

200 S Hill St, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Tel: +1 (213) 621-4455

The Contiki hotels are well located in the heart of Downtown, so they are right where the action's at & perfect for exploring. You have access to the train & metro station which means easy access to Hollywood, Universal City Walk, Universal Studios, Pasadena & Anaheim.

What's even better is that they are both close to the world-famous Staples Center, LA Live (one of the city's newest entertainment complexes) & lots of places to head for a fun night out.

For pre-departure accommodation we offer rates for Contiki travellers (twin-share or a single room for an additional charge).

Note: check-in at both the Miyako & the Kawada is after 3:00 pm & check-out is before 11:00 am.

INTERNET

We love WiFi, and keeping your Facebook & Twitter accounts updated as you travel is key! The hotels have WiFi where you can access your email (at a cost) to let your friends & family know you have arrived safely in Los Angeles, or email after your trip with all your stories.

U S A



National parks, beaches, cities to small town charm, the USA has it all...

LUGGAGE STORAGE

If you want to head out & discover the energy of Los Angeles, store your luggage with the front desk until you want to check in to your hotel after 3:00 pm.

MAIL

You can have letters & parcels sent to your start hotel, which you can pick up when you arrive. Please reference your start hotel on p.18 or in your trip documents. Please write: PLEASE HOLD FOR CONTIKI TRAVELLER: (Your name) ARRIVING on (Arrival date), to avoid confusion.

Note: LA Explorer is an unescorted package meaning there is no Trip Manager at the hotel.

IF YOU MISS THE COACH

If you miss the coach, please check the front desk for a note from your Trip Manager & contact Contiki toll free at 1-800-944-5708 & ask to speak with our Operations Team for detailed information on how to catch up with your trip.

WHEN IN LA...

GETTING AROUND & PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Downtown LA is a busy business, shopping and residential district that is in the heart of the city. Easily accessible by bus or rail,

Downtown is home to many of Los Angeles' most iconic spots.

From the historic neighbourhoods of Chinatown, El Pueblo de Los Angeles, and Little Tokyo to arts at the Music Center & MOCA there's loads to explore. The shopping in LA is awesome too, with the Jewelry & Fashion Districts packed full of incredible places to shop, Downtown LA provides a something for everyone.

The easiest way to get around Downtown LA is by DASH, a local bus service. There are six routes that service the Downtown area. The fare is 50¢ (you must have exact change!) DASH runs weekdays from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm (depending on the route) & weekends 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

It is important to note that the Los Angeles metropolitan area is very much a car culture. However, there is public transportation that will take you to some of its well-known destinations.

THE METRO

The main Metro station is located in Union Station. There are four main lines: Red, Gold, Expo & Blue. You will need to purchase a reloadable TAP card for \$1.00. Fares will vary based on how far you travel on each line but the base fare is \$1.75 & a one-day pass may be purchased for \$7.00 or a week pass for \$25.

The Red Line runs to Hollywood & Universal City, where Universal Studios is located if you're keen to check them out.

The Gold Line will take you to Old Town Pasadena (exit Memorial), one of Southern California's oldest communities, so it's a cool place to check out if you're feeling like getting out to explore.

The Blue Line will take you to Long Beach. Please note that the Anaheim listed on the Blue Line is **not** the same Anaheim, where Disneyland is located.

The Expo Line will take you to Santa Monica. For more information visit www.metro.net

BIG BLUE BUS

This is a bus that services Santa Monica beach, one of the city's most famous spots to chill, people watch or just relax. You can catch the Express #10 bus at Olvera St. & El Pueblo Visitors' Center, a short walk from our hotel & take it all the way to Santa Monica. The one-way express fare is \$2.00, or \$4.00 for a day pass, and may be purchased on the bus with exact change. The journey takes approx. one hour. For more information visit www.bigbluebus.com

AMTRAK

AMTRAK is a nationwide train service. Trains leave from Union Station in Downtown Los Angeles for cities such as Anaheim, San Diego & San Francisco. Amtrak also operates a bus service to Las Vegas. www.amtrak.com

TAXI CABS

There are nine franchise taxi operators in the City of Los Angeles who operate more than 2300 taxis. Before hailing any LA cabs, look for the official City of Los Angeles Taxicab Seal. Taxis bearing this seal are insured, have trained drivers & are regularly inspected by the City of Los Angeles. Any taxi without the seal has no legal authorisation to operate in the City. Cabs can be hailed from the street & generally if their sign is lit up they are available.

The starting fare is \$2.85, plus 30¢ for each additional 1/9th mile or 37 seconds of wait time. The 10% - 15% gratuity is not included in the final fare.

UBER & LYFT

If you are using a data plan while in North America download the Uber or Lyft app as an alternative to taxis. Uber is available in most major cities.

Note: Public transport & taxi rates are subject to change. Trips that depart from Los Angeles usually do not spend much time sightseeing in the city (apart from the Best of USA trip). So with so much to explore, heading out into the city is a must.



BORN TO SHOP?

Make sure you check out the famous Rodeo Drive, the iconic street where Julia Roberts has her shopping spree in *Pretty Woman*. It's known for its exclusive boutiques that are uber expensive, but worth a walk through, if only for the celebrity spotting. Melrose Avenue is iconic in LA shopping, with a range from vintage hipster through to Fred Segal's & Mui Mui. A hybrid of the two is Robertson Blvd, with the exclusiveness of Rodeo & the cutting edge hipster of Melrose, this is the street that has you covered, from sought-after fashion stores, through to USA-renowned Kitson.

HUNGRY?

When in California, you have to check out the state's infamous In-N-Out Diner where the beef patties are never frozen & the potatoes are hand sliced daily. For something a little more local visit Gjelina in trendy Venice. The simple well prepared California food & wine, & reasonable pricing makes it a great hot spot (make sure you book in advance). For a cool little drink spot check out The Varnish, for some thoughtfully prepared cocktails. And when in LA, make sure you jump on board its newest food movement, the Food Trucks that you can follow on Twitter.

LA'S DON'T MISS...

Beverly Hills: the home to movie stars, famous athletes & musicians – Beverly Hills is a must-see part of Los Angeles. Doing some window shopping (& celeb spotting) as you stroll up & down Rodeo Drive & Melrose Avenue is a must!

Hollywood: hitting Hollywood is an essential part of any trip to LA. Take a walk down Hollywood Boulevard where the sidewalks are paved with stars. Stop off at Mann's Chinese Theater where the hand & footprints of many of America's most famous silver screen stars are imprinted in cement is a photo op must-do.

Universal Studios: you could spend an unforgettable day right in the middle of the greatest film adventures & right alongside the biggest stars. You'll go 'behind the scenes' to share in the magic of how some of the world's most famous television, movies & movie history are made.

Universal City Walk: attached to Universal Studios, Universal CityWalk is a shopping, dining & entertainment complex. In addition to its nightclubs, restaurants, shops & cinemas, CityWalk is also host to a variety of concerts & special events throughout the year.

Santa Monica: famous for being the subject of popular songs, movies & TV shows, the city has a vibe like no other. Visit the Third Street Promenade, a stroller's paradise known for its movie theatres, restaurants & animated street performers. Or take a trip to the famous & historic Santa Monica Pier, home to savoury smells from fast food stalls & the solar powered, nine-storey high Ferris wheel that has long been a symbol of the city. This is also where historic Route 66 ends.

If your feet start to fail, hop on the electric powered Tide Shuttle, a bus service that runs along the beach offering great views plus a ride to the artsy Bergamot Station & the Santa Monica Museum of Art. Or maybe hire a bike & jet down the boulevard.

Venice Beach: the chilled vibes of Venice Beach are legendary – it's unlike any place on earth, well known for its artists, street performers & funky atmosphere. It is a virtual carnival running year round with free admission.

Hop-on, Hop-off double decker fun tour: with Starline's HOP-ON HOP-OFF tour you can discover the whole of Los Angeles on a city tour that allows you to get on or off the bus at any of their 50 stops. Enjoy the open-air view on a vintage English double decker bus as the tour commentary points out landmarks from Downtown Los Angeles to the beaches of Santa Monica, with Hollywood & Beverly Hills in between. Hop on or hop off as often as you like! When you're ready to continue, just hop back on the bus. You can purchase two types of tickets that are good for all four loops: 24-hour tickets or 48-hour tickets. Or, book online before you leave home at www.starlinetours.com

Anaheim Disneyland: welcome to the happiest place on earth! Opened by Walt Disney himself in 1955, Disneyland is one of America's most famous landmarks. The park is split into four different areas – Fantasyland, Adventureland, Frontierland & Tomorrowland – each with their own rides, shops & restaurants.

Disney's California Adventure: located next to Disneyland, California Adventure is Disney's newest theme park having opened in early 2001. Rides, shows & attractions highlight the diverse state of California. Explore areas such as the Sunshine Plaza, Golden State, Paradise Pier & Hollywood Pictures Backlot.

Downtown Disney: this bustling entertainment area is located adjacent to Disneyland & California Adventure. Downtown Disney has quickly become one of the hottest nightspots in California, packed with shops, theatres & restaurants.

* See our LuxBus Ad for special Contiki discounts on Disney & round-trip transport.



TRAVEL INFO

The hotel concierge can help you with Los Angeles sightseeing or if you're looking for more ideas, you can check out Los Angeles Tourism online at www.discoverlosangeles.com

CONSULATES AND EMBASSIES**AUSTRALIA**

Consulate-General,
2020 Century Park East 31st Floor. Los Angeles, CA 90067.
Tel: +1 310 229-2330

BRITAIN

Consulate-General,
11766 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 1200, Los Angeles, CA 90025-6538.
Tel: +1 310 481-0031

CANADA

Consulate-General,
550 S Hope St. Los Angeles, CA 90071.
Tel: +1 213 346-2700

GERMANY

Consulate-General,
6222 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite No. 500, Los Angeles, CA 90048.
Tel: +1 323 930-2703

ISRAEL

Consulate-General,
6380 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90048.
Tel: +1 323 852-5500

JAPAN

Consulate-General
350 S Grand Ave, #1700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.
Tel: +1 213 617-6700

KOREA

Consulate-General
3243 Wilshire Blvd, #300, Los Angeles, CA 90010.
Tel: +1 213 385-9300

NEW ZEALAND

Consulate-General
2425 Olympic Blvd, Suite 600E, Santa Monica, CA 90404.
Tel: +1 310 566-6555

SOUTH AFRICA

Consulate-General
6300 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90048.
Tel: +1 323 651-0902

NEW YORK CITY, NY

Area Code: 212 (Manhattan)

Climate: average seasonal temperatures: Spring 5-16°C (42-62°F), Summer 21-24°C (71-76°F), Autumn 20-8°C (68-48°F) and Winter 0-3°C (32-37°F)

ARRIVING IN NEW YORK

New York has three airports: John F. Kennedy, La Guardia & Newark.

FROM JOHN F. KENNEDY (JFK)

By taxi: taxis to Contiki's New York hotels in Manhattan can take anywhere from 45-60 minutes & costs \$52 **not** including bridge tolls (these are an additional cost) or a tip. Taxis take both cash or credit cards. Make sure to hail a legitimate cab in the designated areas or ask a uniformed airport employee to help you. It's customary to tip an additional 10%-15%.

By public transport: AirTrain JFK is the easiest way to travel to, from & around Kennedy International Airport. AirTrain connects with MTA New York City Transit subways & buses & the Long Island Rail Road, providing a low-cost way to travel by mass transit to major destinations in New York & New Jersey. Best of all, you never have to worry about traffic & can lower your carbon footprint. It is \$7.50 & takes approx. 50 minutes to Midtown.

By shared shuttle: upon arrival, follow the signs to the baggage claim & collect your luggage. Follow the signs to the Ground Transportation Desk, open 5:00 am to 12:00 am daily, near the baggage claim area. You can either speak with one of the airport's Ground Transportation Agents, who will contact SuperShuttle on your behalf, or you can call SuperShuttle directly by dialling 29 from the courtesy phones located next to the Ground Transportation Centers and Welcome Centers throughout the airport. Standard fare is \$19. **Note:** It's customary to tip an extra 10%-15% on top of your fare.

FROM NEWARK (EWR)

By taxi: taxis to Contiki's New York hotels in Manhattan can take anywhere from 45-60 minutes & cost between \$50-65 **not** including bridge tolls (these are an additional cost) or a tip and accept both cash or credit card as payment. Make sure to hail a legitimate cab in the designated areas or ask a uniformed airport employee to help you. It's customary to tip an additional 10%-15%.

By shared shuttle: upon arrival, follow the signs to the baggage claim & collect your luggage. Follow the signs to the Ground Transportation Desk, open 5:00 am to 12:00 am daily, near the baggage claim area. You can either speak with one of the airport's Ground Transportation Agents, who will contact SuperShuttle on your behalf, or you can call SuperShuttle directly by dialling 29 from the courtesy phones located next to the Ground Transportation Centers & Welcome Centers throughout the airport. Standard fare is \$20. **Note:** It's customary to tip an extra 10%-15% on top of your fare.

FROM LA GUARDIA (LGA)

By taxi: taxis to Contiki's New York hotels in Manhattan can take anywhere from 30-45 minutes & costs \$27-\$39. It is customary to tip an additional 10%-15%.

By public transport: NYC Airporter departs approx. every 30 minutes to Port Authority Bus Terminal, Grand Central Station & Penn Station. Fare is \$14. Purchase tickets online at www.NYCAirporter.com.

By shared shuttle: upon arrival, follow the signs to the baggage claim & collect your luggage. Follow the signs to the Ground Transportation Desk near the baggage claim area. You can either speak with one of the airport's Ground Transportation Agents, who will contact us on your behalf, or you can call SuperShuttle directly by dialling 29 from the courtesy phones located next to the Ground Transportation Centers & Welcome Centers throughout the airport. Standard fare is \$15. **Note:** it's customary to tip an additional 10%-15% on top of your fare.

OUR NEW YORK HOTELS

The Pod 39

Address: 145 E 39th St, New York, NY 10016.

Phone: (212) 865-5700

We offer discounted rates for Contiki clients & the accommodation is based on twin-share, or a single room for an additional cost.

Note: check-in at the Holiday Inn Hotel is at 4.00 pm & check-out is at 12:00 pm.

The hotel concierge can help you with New York sightseeing or you can head online before you go & check out New York City Tourism at www.nycgo.com

At check-in, the hotel will ask you for your trip accommodation voucher. If you would like to charge anything to your room a credit card is needed.

INTERNET

Each hotel has internet access (for a fee) where you can access your email to let your friends & family know you have arrived safely in New York, or email after your trip with all your adventure stories.

LUGGAGE STORAGE

If you want to head out straight out into the city, store your luggage with the front desk for a small fee until you want to check into your hotel.

LUGGAGE

It is very important that your one piece of luggage is no heavier than 20 kg (44 lbs), as this rule is strictly adhered to on morning of departure. Hand luggage must weigh no more than 4 kg (8 lbs).

MAIL

You can have letters & parcels sent to your start hotel, which you can pick up when you arrive. Please reference your start hotel on p.16-17 or in your trip documents. Please write: PLEASE HOLD FOR CONTIKI Client: (Your name) ARRIVING on (Arrival date), to avoid confusion.

IF YOU MISS THE COACH

Should you miss the coach, please check the front desk for a note from your Trip Manager & contact Contiki toll free at 1 800 944-5708 & ask to speak with our Operations Team for detailed information on how to catch up with your trip.

WHEN IN NY...

GETTING AROUND AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT

If you can't walk to your destination, the next-best way to get around is by the city's transit system. It's inexpensive, environmentally friendly, a great way to see NYC & it operates 24/7.

Getting a MetroCard & travelling like a local is your first step to getting around on the subway or bus. They can be purchased at subway stations, from either automated machines (which accept cash, ATM bank cards & regular credit cards) or from the ticket booths. A single subway or bus ride is currently \$2.75. Riders have the choice of buying a pay-per-ride or an unlimited MetroCard. Pay-per-ride cards range in value from \$2.75 to \$89. The unlimited MetroCard allows users to ride as often as they like within a fixed time period: or purchase a seven-day (\$32). For more information visit www.mta.info

SUBWAY

The easiest & quickest way to travel around four of the five NYC boroughs is by public subway. Riding the subway or 'the train' is the best way to feel like a local during your stay in NYC. Trains operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week & for \$2.75 (cost of a single ride), you can use the system citywide & transfer as many times as you need, so long as you don't exit the system through a turnstile. You can transfer from bus to subway or vice versa within two hours of using your MetroCard. Subway stations are generally about eight to 10 blocks apart.

BUSES

Public buses are a scenic way to see the city too & a great way to reach destinations not convenient to a subway stop. All city buses accept MetroCards & exact coin change (no pennies accepted). Check the route sign at the front of the bus before boarding to ensure it's the bus you want. Buses operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week & for \$2.75 (cost of a single ride) will take you any distance until the end of the route. Waits vary depending on the time of day, but they're usually 5-15 minutes. Buses generally stop every other block on avenue routes & every block on cross-street routes.

TAXI CABS

There are 12,187 iconic Yellow Cabs (taxis) in New York City (they're everywhere!) Cabs can be hailed from the street & generally if the sign is lit up they are available for hire. Yellow Medallion cabs are the only ones authorised to pick up hails. Any cab without the medallion has no legal authorisation to operate in the city.

There are regular cars that will take you from place to place; they usually cost more than cabs & aren't as well regulated (or as safe). Taxi cabs are required to take you to your destination inside the metropolitan area. Cabs take both cash & credit cards. However, if you are paying cash it's a good idea to have small bills because the cabbies can't usually break anything higher than \$20. The starting fare is \$3.00, plus 50¢ for each additional 1/5th mile or one minute of wait time. Mon-Fri there is a \$1 peak surcharge (4 pm-8 pm) & a 50¢ night surcharge (8 pm-6 am). Tolls are extra but additional riders are free. The 10%-15% gratuity is not included in the final fare.

UBER & LYFT

If you are using a data plan while in North America download the Uber or Lyft app as an alternative to taxis. Uber is available in most major cities. **Note:** Public transport & taxi rates are subject to change.

NYC TRANSPORT INFORMATION

MTA: +1 718 330-1234

Yellow Cab: +1 845 877-7222

TRIP ITINERARY AND DEPARTURE INFO

Trips that depart from New York usually do not spend any time sightseeing in the city (apart from New York Uncovered & New York New Year's Eve). It's important that you make the most of the time you have in NYC to explore as much of the city as you can!

BORN TO SHOP?

5th Avenue has you covered for all shopping expeditions, but if you are after something a little more relaxed then head to the West Village where you can stroll the picturesque streets & enjoy some great boutique shops. For the iconic NYC brands Soho has it all. From Victoria's Secret to Topshop, & the world famous Bloomingdale's, it's going to be hard to resist all the temptation. For a little more exclusivity, head uptown to Madison Avenue, where you can walk past iconic fashion labels including Michael Kors & Barneys Warehouse.

HUNGRY?

With over 30,000 restaurants on one small island, NYC has you covered when it comes to food. Soho is NYC food mecca, with every type of cuisine covered. After something a little more glam? Try the exclusive Meatpacking district, where you can get great food & a fantastic atmosphere. Abe and Arthur, & STK are some great spots that get even better as the night goes on & the food is delicious. For something a bit different head to East Village; Beauty & Essex. On Essex St, you enter through a pawn store, go through a secret door & arrive in one of the best restaurants in NYC. Food isn't too badly priced, & the vibe is awesome. Great cocktails & even better people watching. Make sure you book ahead.

NEW YORK'S DON'T MISS...

Statue of Liberty: this world-famous symbol of freedom was given to the US by France & was the first thing immigrants saw as they came into New York's harbour.

Empire State Building: this building is 102 storeys high & constructed in an art deco style. Heading up the top for views of the city are a must. **Note:** On our New Years Eve trip a visit is included.

Fifth Avenue: if you love to shop, then a visit to Fifth Avenue is a total don't-miss. All the big stores & loads of expensive boutiques like Tiffany, Chanel etc are all here. Start your shopping here & you may never make it anywhere else! **Tip:** it's expensive, but definitely worth a look & a perfect place to watch New Yorkers.

Times Square and Broadway: get right into the heart of where the action is. Packed with theatres, clubs, the rich & sometimes the not-so-famous hang out here. The majority of New York plays & shows are on nightly in this area, so if you're into theatre, check out what's going on & maybe head to a show. **Insider tip:** by downloading the Todaytix app, Broadway tickets can be purchased online at a discount.

Rockefeller Center: one of NYC's most well known parts of town, it's packed with 200 shops & restaurants as well as Radio City Music Hall (home of the Rockettes & NBC tv studios) with an observation tower located at the top.

Greenwich Village: many consider 'The Village' to be New York's cultural centre with its eclectic bars, cafés & shops. It's perfect for framing up cool shots of quirky city sights. **Our tip:** make sure to check out the street performers & chess players in Washington Square Park.

Museum of Modern Art: feed your inner art lover, or if you're not so much of a fan maybe give it a try – 'MoMA' houses one of the world's finest collections of modern art work from the past 150 years & will give you a serious artistic fix.

SoHo (South of Houston): SoHo is located at Canal Street, between Sixth Avenue & Lafayette Street. Once the home of factories & warehouse buildings, artists flocked to this area in the 50s & 60s for cheap loft spaces. Today, SoHo is one of the coolest parts of town, full of on trend people, fashion, stores, restaurants & boutiques. It's a great place to go for a stroll around at night or on the weekend to walk around & window shop with a delicious coffee stop along the way.



Chinatown: this area is a colourful & vibrant part of the city & a great place to pick up some serious bargains on clothing & leather. If you walk down Canal Street in the open markets you can buy knockoffs of most anything & everything. Hungry? Most of the Chinese restaurants can be found near Mott St where you can truly indulge.

Little Italy: next to Chinatown on Mulberry Street is Little Italy, the Italian section of New York City. Little Italy is slowly shrinking due to booming Chinatown encroaching on its borders, but there are loads of Italians, shops & restaurants to explore (not to mention some amazing foods!) Today, there are less than 5,000 Italians living in the area.

World Trade Center Memorial & Museum September 11, 2001 changed the landscape of New York & attitudes of Americans forever. The National September 11 Memorial and Museum has an information kiosk to help the thousands of visitors to Ground Zero with tours, maps & brochures.

CONSULATES AND EMBASSIES

AUSTRALIA

Consulate General, 150 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10017.
Tel: +1 (212) 351-6500

BRITAIN

Consulate-General, 845 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022.
Tel: +1 212 745-0200

CANADA

Consulate-General, 1251 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020.
Tel: +1 212 596-1628

GERMANY

Consulate-General, 871 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017.
Tel: +1 212 610-9700

ISRAEL

Consulate-General, 8002 Avenue, New York, NY 10017.
Tel: +1 212 499-5000

SINGAPORE

Consulate General, 231 East 51st Street, New York, NY 10022.
Tel: +1 212 223-3331

JAPAN

Consulate-General, 299 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10171.
Tel: +1 212 371 8222

KOREA

Consulate-General, 335 E. 45th St. (4th Fl.), New York, NY 10017.
Tel: +1 212 692-9120

NEW ZEALAND

Consulate-General, 222 East 41st Street, New York, NY 10017.
Tel: +1 212 832-4038

SOUTH AFRICA

Consulate-General, 333 East 38th Street, New York, NY 10016.
Tel: +1 212 213-4880

LAS VEGAS, NV

Area Code: 702

Climate: Average seasonal temperatures: Spring 20-30°C (69-87°F), Summer 36-38°C (98-101°F), Autumn 33-18°C (93-66°F) & Winter 13-17°C (57-63°F)

ARRIVING IN LAS VEGAS

Las Vegas is serviced by McCarran International Airport (LAS).

The easiest way to get to the hotel from LAS is by taxi, available on the east side of baggage claim, outside door exits 1-4. Airport personnel are available on the taxi curb to assist passengers. The fare to the hotel is \$15-\$18. If you want to pay by credit card you must inform the taxi attendant before they hail the cab. There is a service charge for using a credit card. There is a \$1.80 charge on all fares originating at the airport. The maximum number of passengers allowed in any taxi is five. It is customary to tip 10% to 15%.

OUR LAS VEGAS HOTEL

Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino

3000 paradise Rd, S Las Vegas, NV 89109.

Tel: +1 (702) 732-5111

The Westgate is located at the beginning of the Las Vegas monorail. "The Strip" is 2 stops off the Monorail. The hotel features a casino, a variety of restaurants, an outdoor swimming pool, spa, health club, full-service beauty salon, a variety of retail options & of course, entertainment.

Note: You must be 21 or older to book pre or post nights at Harrah's. We offer discounted rates for Contiki clients & the accommodation is based on twin share. This is the departure point for all Contiki trips that start in Las Vegas.

Note: Check-in at this hotel is at 4:00pm & check-out is at 11:00am.

GETTING AROUND & PUBLIC TRANSPORT...

Distance is deceiving in Las Vegas because some 'Strip' hotels are three to five city blocks long & appear closer together because of their size. Luckily, Las Vegas has a variety of public transport options.

Walking: if you decide to walk remember that the Las Vegas Strip is over 6.4 km long (4 miles) from one end to the other, walking the strip will take considerable time. It is also very hot in Las Vegas during the summer so it can be uncomfortable to walk. Be sure to wear sunscreen, bring bottled water, maybe try your luck in the casinos along the way to cool off.

Monorail: the Las Vegas monorail runs from the Westgate Hotel to Sahara Ave & operates 7 days a week from 7:00 am to 2:00 am Monday - Thursday & until 3:00 am Friday - Sunday.

Monorail tickets can be purchased at vending machines located inside each station & at station hotel properties. A single ticket is \$5 so the best option is to purchase an unlimited rides day pass for \$12. There is a station at the Westgate where you can board the monorail.

Free trams: a tram runs from Bellagio to the Monte Carlo hotel every 10 minutes 24 hours a day & offers indoor boarding platforms. The Excalibur to Mandalay Bay tram operates 24 hours a day with non-stop service on the southbound trip. The same tram on the return (northbound) trip from Mandalay Bay to Excalibur provides a stop at the Luxor for those wishing to visit there.

Buses: the Deuce is a double decker bus that stops at virtually every hotel & casino along the Las Vegas Strip & down to Fremont Street. It operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Stops, which are located about every quarter mile in each direction, are marked with signs or by bus shelters. A two-hour pass is \$6 & a 24-hour pass is \$8. You must have exact change for the single ride fare \$2 & a day pass may be purchased at the Showcase Mall (between the MGM & the Grand Canyon Experience) & Slots-A-Fun Casino.

Taxi cabs: there are 16 different taxicab companies that service the Las Vegas valley. Cabs cannot be hailed from the street. In order to hail a cab you must enter a taxi line at one of the casinos/hotels. A valet will then flag a cab for you. It is polite to tip the valet, usually \$1 will do. The starting fare is \$3.30 & ¢.20 for each additional 1/12th of a mile travelled. If the taximeter senses that the cab is moving less than 8-12 mph, the meter will assess a charge of 20¢ every 24 seconds (\$30 per hour waiting time).

Once the taximeter senses that the taxi cab is moving at a speed greater than 8-12 mph the fare calculates on the actual distance travelled. The 10% - 15% gratuity is not included in the final fare.

Note: Public transport & taxi rates are subject to change.

TRIP ITINERARY & DEPARTURE INFO

Trips that depart from Las Vegas usually do not spend any time sightseeing in the city. The exception is our Las Vegas New Year's Eve trip. It's important that you make the most of any time you have in the city before your trip departs or on your return.

BORN TO SHOP?

The best place to start in Vegas is at the Forum Shops at Caesars Palace, where you will find all the boutiques you need. The Grand Canal shops are another great choice, along the Venetian waterways at the Venetian. But if you're after something a little less pricey then check out Fashion Show Mall, with seven flagship department stores & over 250 different shops you are covered. It's also an attraction in its own right, with an 80-foot catwalk through the middle, & shows nearly every day.

HUNGRY?

Why not go straight to the top & dine in at Wolfgang Puck Bar and Grill. The chef, famous for his celebrity connections, provides amazing meals at fairly reasonable prices. Plus it's on the Casino Floor of the MGM Grand. For a good 'home cooked' meal, check out Company American Bistro, located in the Luxor Hotel and Casino. Backed by some famous names, it's great for celebrity spotting over good old comfort food with a French twist.

LAS VEGAS' DON'T MISS...

Conservatory at Bellagio: crafted by a team of 100 horticulturalists, the Bellagio's conservatory features elegant, elaborate arrangements of plants & flowers that change with each season in its bright and airy atrium.

Fountain Show at Bellagio: using a dramatic combination of music, water & light, the Bellagio in Las Vegas delivers spectacular performances with its majestic fountains. The fountain show runs Monday - Friday, 3:00 pm - midnight & Saturday & Sunday, noon - midnight, every half-hour until 8:00 pm & every 15 minutes after that until midnight. Fountains are occasionally closed during high winds.

Las Vegas Shows: Las Vegas has many fantastic shows from Cirque du Soleil, Broadway musicals, headliners, comedy & more. Check with the hotel concierge or visit www.lasvegas.com for tickets.

Gondoliers at Venetian: a little piece of Venice with a Vegas spin. Canals meander through this casino's shopping centre, while gondoliers serenade passengers. Watch for free or \$21 gets you a ride as the gondola glides past cafés & sidewalks; it is a good place to tell that special someone stories about how one day you will take them to Venice.

Miracle Mile Shops: located inside Planet Hollywood Casino, over 170 shops, restaurants & entertainments can be found at this prime 'Strip' location. Shops include H&M & Urban Outfitters for clothes, Sephora for makeup & Wild Pair for shoes.

Fall of Atlantis Show at Caesars Palace Forum Shops: no civilisation put on a greater spectacle than Ancient Rome, now you have a chance to witness the glory for yourself at Caesars Palace's fountain shows. Hours of operation: Fall of Atlantis & Festival Fountain: every hour on the hour Sunday - Thursday, 10:00 am. - 11:00 pm Friday & Saturday, 10:00 am - midnight.



Forum Shops at Caesars Palace: the Forum Shops has the best selection of shops in Vegas. Here you'll find everything from famous designers to popular favourites. What sets the Forum Shops apart are their speciality shops, rhinestone-studded shoes with handbags to match at Stuart Weitzman, Estée Lauder's gold compacts, Louis Vuitton's bags & Harry Winston's jewels!

Lion Habitat at MGM Grand: one look into the MGM Grand's lion habitat & you'll be hooked. The majestic cats command adoration whether they're chasing a large ball, licking their immense paws or just lyin' around. Hours of operation: Open daily, 11:00 am-7:00 pm. There are daily feeding times at 11:15 am & 4:30 pm.

Las Vegas Outlet Center: you will need to take a taxi, 7600 S. Las Vegas Boulevard is over 5 km away. Las Vegas Premium Outlets: More outlets stores are located downtown at 875 S. Grand Central Park.

TRAVEL INFO

The hotel concierge can help you with Las Vegas sightseeing or you can check out Las Vegas Tourism online at www.vegas.com

Hotel check-in: upon check-in, the hotel will ask you for your trip accommodation voucher. If you would like to charge anything to your room a credit card is required. As a reminder check-in is at 4:00pm & check-out is 11:00am. **You must be 21 or travelling with someone who is aged 21 or above to check into the hotel.**

Internet: Harrah's has a business centre where you can access your email (at a cost) to let your friends & family know you have arrived safely in Las Vegas, or email after your trip with all your adventure stories.

Luggage storage: if you want to head out & discover the energy of Las Vegas, store your luggage with the front desk until you want to check into your hotel after 4:00pm. This service is free.

Luggage: it is very important that your one piece of luggage is no heavier than 20 kg (44 lbs), as this rule is strictly adhered to on morning of departure. Hand luggage must weigh no more than 4 kg (8lbs).



CHICAGO, IL.

Area Code: 312

Climate: Average seasonal temperatures: Spring 2-15°C (37-58°F), Summer 20-22°C (68-73°F), Autumn 17-8°C (64-48°F) & Winter -3-4°C (26-24°F)

ARRIVING IN CHICAGO

Chicago is serviced by two airports: O'Hare & Midway Airports. Airport Express provides convenient van service to the hotel from both airports, visit www.airportexpress.com.

FROM O'HARE AIRPORT (CHI)

By shared shuttle: Airport Shuttles depart from O'Hare Airport every 10-15 minutes for downtown service to Chicago hotels. Ticket counters & loading zones for boarding the GO Airport Express van are at Door 1E across from baggage claim 6, at Terminal 2 door 2E across from Jet Blue Baggage Claim, Terminal 3 Door 3E across from baggage claim 9 and at Terminal 5, just outside door 5E. If you do not see an van, please call our toll-free number at 1 888 284-3826, and ask a reservationist to send a van to one of these locations when available. The last GO Airport Express van leaves O'Hare at 11:30 pm seven nights a week. visit www.airportexpress.com. It's visit customary to tip an additional 10%-15%.

By taxi: there are taxi lines outside of each terminal arrival area. Taxis from O'Hare to downtown Chicago will cost approx. \$52. It's customary to tip an additional 10%-15%.

By train: go to terminal 2 & get on the Blue Line in the direction of Forest Park & get off at Clark/Lake station. Transfer to the Orange Line & take that train in the direction of Midway. Exit the train at Roosevelt station & walk towards Michigan Ave. Make a left on Michigan Ave – the hotel will be on the left hand side of the street across from Grant Park just before 11th St.

FROM MIDWAY AIRPORT (MDW)

By shared shuttle: buses depart from Midway Airport every 15 minutes for downtown service to Chicago hotels. The Airport Express ticket counter & loading zone is located at Door 3, lower level across from baggage claim. Request a one-way trip to the Days Lincoln Park North & the ticket agent will indicate where to board the van. The last Airport Express van leaves Midway at 10.30 pm 7 nights a week. The standard fare is \$22. It's customary to tip an additional 10%-15%.

By taxi: there are taxi lines outside of each terminal arrival area. Taxis from MDW airport to downtown Chicago will cost approximately \$26. It's customary to tip an additional 10%-15%.

By train: enter the train at Midway take the Orange Line in the direction of Loop. Exit the train at Roosevelt station & walk towards Michigan Ave. Make a left on Michigan Ave – the hotel will be on the left hand side across the street from Grant Park just before 11th St.

OUR CHICAGO HOTEL

Travelodge Hotel Downtown Chicago

65 East Harrison, Chicago, IL 60605

Phone: +1 (312) 427-8000

This is the departure point for all Contiki trips that start in Chicago. Contiki's Chicago hotel is well located near the famous Grant Park & within walking distance of many Chicago attractions. Check out Willis Tower (formerly Sears Tower), the Magnificent Mile shopping district, Navy Pier, Hancock Tower & more! We offer discounted rates for Contiki clients & the accommodation is based on twin-share.

Note: Check-in at this hotel is at 3:00 pm & check-out is at 11:00 am.

GETTING AROUND & PUBLIC TRANSPORT...

Getting around Chicago is simple & quick, thanks to buses & the "L", a system of elevated trains operated 24 hours a day by the Chicago Transit Authority. Chicago has the second largest public transportation system in North America so you'll have a safe, convenient & comfortable ride.

Trains/subways: each rail line has a colour name. All trains operate to Downtown daily until at least midnight, except the Purple Line Express. Trains run every 5-10 minutes during the day & early evening, & every 10-15 minutes in later evening.

The Howard-Dan Ryan is the Red Line; Lake Englewood–Jackson Park is the Green Line; the O'Hare–Congress–Douglas is the Blue Line; the Ravenswood is the Brown Line (whose trains circle the Loop, giving the area its name); the Evanston Express is the Purple Line; & the Skokie Swift is the Yellow Line. A single ride fare is \$2.25 or a day pass can be purchased for \$10.

Passes are valid for both buses & trains & are sold at select currency exchanges, Jewel & Dominick's stores, CVS Pharmacies & Willis Tower (formerly Sears Tower).

Buses: most bus routes operate every day, including all holidays. Buses run every 10-15 minutes. A single ride fare is \$2.25 or a day pass can be purchased for \$10.00. Passes are good for both buses & trains & are sold at select Currency Exchanges, Jewel & Dominick's stores, CVS Pharmacies & Willis Tower (formerly Sears Tower) & "L" Station Vending Machines. If you pay cash you must have the exact change.

For more info on train & bus routes go to www.transitchicago.com

AMTRAK: AMTRAK is a nationwide train service. Trains leave from Union Station in Downtown Chicago for cities such as Madison, WI.

Taxi cabs: Chicago's taxis, despite a recent increase in fares, are more reasonable than those of many other major US cities. Cabs can be hailed from the street & generally if their sign is lit-up they are available. The minimum fare for any journey is \$2.25, then for every 1/9 of a mile travelled it is 20¢. For the first additional adult passenger there is a \$1 charge & any additional adult is 50¢. In addition, for every 30 seconds of time not spent moving the meter adds 20¢. You are responsible for paying any tolls. The 10%-15% gratuity is not included in the final fare.

Note: public transport & taxi rates are subject to change.

TRIP ITINERARY & DEPARTURE INFO

Trips that depart from Chicago do not spend any time sightseeing in the city. It's important that you make the most of any time you have in the city before your trip departs or on your return.

CHICAGO'S DON'T MISS...

The Art Institute of Chicago: one of the United States best art museums, the Art Institute of Chicago houses seven centuries of art, including drawings, photography, textiles & architectural sketches. An absolute must for all art lovers.

The Magnificent Mile: stretching along Michigan Avenue from the Chicago River to Oak Street is the Magnificent Mile, one of the highest concentrations of posh boutiques, department stores & salons in the world.

Lincoln Park: the largest park in the city, Lincoln Park stretches along Lake Michigan & contains several beaches, famous outdoor works of art & a free zoo featuring over 2,000 species of animals from around the world. The area surrounding Lincoln Park is a nightlife favourite for university students & young adults living in Chicago.

Museum of Science & Industry: one of Chicago's most popular attractions, the Museum of Science & Industry, contains exhibits of applied sciences, engineering & industry, in a hands-on setting with buttons to push, cranks to turn & levers to lift. There is a World War II submarine on display, as well as a simulated space station & an Omnimax movie theatre.

Willis Tower (formerly Sears Tower): the USA's tallest building at 442 metres (1,450 feet). A great way to see the city.

Wrigley Field: for those who believe that the game of baseball is truly "America's Pastime" – Wrigley Field is the centre of the baseball universe. Without a doubt, it is one of America's most famous ballparks. Check out the pubs & bars around the stadium on game day –they're sure to be fun.

Navy Pier: over 8 million people a year visit the sights & sounds of Navy Pier. Specialty shops, an IMAX Theatre & boat tours of Lake Michigan & the Chicago River are all represented on the pier. Restaurants include the Bubba Gump Shrimp Company & the Navy Pier Beer Garden, there's also live entertainment daily throughout the summer.



TRAVEL INFO

The hotel concierge can help you with Chicago sightseeing or you can check out Chicago Tourism online at www.explorechicago.org

Internet: the Best Western Grant Park offers a business centre & free WiFi access in room to let your friends & family know you have arrived safely in Chicago, or email after your trip with all your adventure stories.

Luggage storage: if you want to head out & discover the energy of Chicago, store your luggage with the front desk until you want to check into your hotel after 3:00 pm. This service is free.

Luggage: it is very important that your one piece of luggage is no heavier than 20 kg (44 lbs), as this rule is strictly adhered to on morning of departure. Hand luggage must weigh no more than 4 kg (8lbs).

Mail pickup point: you can have letters & parcels sent to the Best Western Grant Park, which you can pick up when you arrive. The address is: Best Western Grant Park 1100 S Michigan Ave, Chicago IL 60605. Tel: 312 922-2900. To avoid confusion please write: PLEASE HOLD FOR CONTIKI CLIENT: (Your name) ARRIVING on (Arrival date).

IF YOU MISS THE COACH

Should you miss the coach, please check the front desk for a note from your Trip Manager & contact Contiki toll free at 1 800 944-5708 & ask to speak with the Operations department. They will give you detailed information on how to catch up with your trip.

WASHINGTON D.C.

Area Code: 202

Climate: Average seasonal temperatures: Spring 18°C (65°F), Summer 31°C (88°F), Autumn 18°C (65°F) & Winter -3°C (27°F)

ARRIVING IN WASHINGTON DC FROM DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (IAD)

By shared shuttle: claim your luggage, after collecting your luggage, proceed to the Super Shuttle ticket counters located on the lower level by Door 2 for international arrivals, and Door 6 for domestic arrivals. After checking in, a uniformed Customer Service Representative will direct you to the loading areas located at curb 1E. You can book in advance online (& save!) at www.supershuttle.com. Use the discount code 57ZAX to receive \$2 off your fare. Standard fare is \$29. **Note:** It's customary to tip an additional 10%-15% on top of your fare.

By taxi: Washington Flyer Taxi operates exclusively out of Dulles International Airport. There are no reservations required and taxis are available 24/7, every day of the year. Rates into the district start at \$50, making this the most expensive option. Washington Flyer Taxi accepts cash, credit cards, and airline vouchers.

By public transport: the Metrobus route 5A provides a reliable way to travel to or from the Washington Dulles International Airport. Look for the 5A at location 2E in the ground transportation area. The bus runs on an hourly schedule, and takes about 40 minutes to travel between L'Enfant Station and the airport.

If taking the bus, be sure to build some flexibility into your schedule to account for varying traffic conditions. The trip will cost \$6 (Metrobus requires exact change or use of a SmarTrip card). Get off at L'Enfant Station and take the green or yellow line to 1 stop to Gallery Place where you change to the Red line and take it to the Van Ness/UDC Metro Station and the hotel is a short walk from there.

Note: while the bus has some luggage space, it is not designed to carry lots of gear. During busy times it can be a popular and crowded option, so it may not be the best option if you are not travelling light.

FROM BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON THURGOOD MARSHALL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (BWI)

By shared shuttle: upon arrival, follow signs to baggage claim and collect your luggage. For domestic arrivals please exit door #7 or door #12 and cross street to outer curb pickup zone C1. For international arrivals, please exit door #16, cross street, and walk left to outer curb pickup zone C1. Please check in with a Super Shuttle CSR available from 8am-midnight 7 days per week. You can book in advance online (& save!) at www.supershuttle.com. Use the discount code 57ZAX to receive \$2.00 off your fare. Standard fare is \$37. **Note:** It's customary to tip an additional 10%-15% on top of your fare.

By taxi: BWI Airport Taxi is the exclusive supplier of taxi transportation services from BWI. A taxi is expensive and the approx. cost is \$90. The taxi stand is located just outside of the baggage claim area of the Lower Level of the BWI Marshall terminal. Please note that this service is available from BWI Marshall only.

By public transport: Metro now offers BWI Express Metro bus direct service between BWI and the Greenbelt metro station. The BWI Express/B30 service runs every 40 minutes, 7 days a week to the Greenbelt Metro Station, which is located on the Green Line of the Washington Metro System. Buses run 25 times each weekday and 21 times on Saturdays and Sunday, every 40 minutes. For more information www.wmata.com.

There are two WMATA Bus Stops. One is located on the lower level of the International Concourse and the other stop is located on the lower level of Concourse A/B. The B30 will pick you up outside at the bus shelter. Follow the signs that say "Public Transit." Get off at the The Greenbelt Metro Station which connects to Metro Stations throughout Washington, DC. Take the red line to the Van Ness/UDC Metro Station and the hotel is a short walk from there.



OUR WASHINGTON DC HOTEL

Days Inn Connecticut Ave

4400 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20008

Tel: +1 202 244-5600

A 4-minute walk from the Van Ness-UDC Metro Station, this straightforward hotel is less than two miles from the Smithsonian National Zoological Park.

All rooms include en suite bathrooms with showers, and have free WiFi, TVs, traditionally styled modern furnishings and tea and coffeemakers. There's an Italian restaurant on site, as well as a bar/lounge and a business centre. We offer discounted rates for Contiki clients & the accommodation is based on twin-share. Single rooms are available for an additional cost.

This is the departure point for all Contiki trips that start in this city.

GETTING AROUND & PUBLIC TRANSPORT...

METRO: Washington DC's Metro system is a great way to get to hundreds of popular locations and attractions in and around Washington DC. Metro's six metro lines: the Red Line, Blue Line, Orange Line, Silver Line, Yellow Line, and the Green Line. 91 stations are located in Washington DC and neighboring Virginia and Maryland. The rail system provides easy access to popular attractions including the National Mall, National Zoo, White House, Washington Nationals Park, and much more.

First download a metro map from: <http://dctransitguide.com/m/MetroMap/> and you are on your way!

Fares

- SmarTrip Peak Fares (open-9:30am, 3-7pm) \$2.10-\$5.75
- SmarTrip Off-Peak Fares (all other times): \$1.70 - \$3.50
- Farecard (instead of SmarTrip) - \$1.00 surcharge.
- Riders may walk between Farragut West Station (Orange Line, Blue Line) and Farragut North Station (Red Line) within a half hour, and be charged for a single trip.

Hours

- 5:00 am - midnight (Monday-Thursday)
- 5:00 am - 3:00 am (Friday)
- 7:00 am - 3:00 am (Saturday)
- 7:00 am - midnight (Sunday)

Taxi cabs: taxis are a convenient way to get from place to place in Washington DC. Surprisingly, they can be an affordable option when you have a group of people travelling together. The best places to find a taxi are along the busier streets, in front of hotels and major attractions, around the perimeter of the National Mall, and outside of Union Station. Hailing a taxi is as simple as stepping off the curb and holding out your arm. You can also call to arrange for one in advance. Maximum four people per cab. All taxis must accept credit cards.

Fares

- Minimum taxi fare is \$3.25
- The mileage charge is \$0.27 per 1/8th mile
- Each additional passenger is \$1.00

Note: Public transport & taxi rates are subject to change.

TRIP ITINERARY AND DEPARTURE INFO

There is no sightseeing included on this trip. However, if you have booked pre nights here are some ideas of what to do & see while in the city.

SIGHTSEEING

For an easy way to see the city we recommend a hop on and hop tour through Old Town Trolley Tour. You can buy your ticket online and it's a great, flexible way to see DC, its monuments and learn about its history. www.historictours.com

BORN TO SHOP?

The Washington, DC area has a number of great neighborhoods for shopping. Check out Capitol Hill, DuPont Circle & Georgetown.

HUNGRY?

DC has some of the hottest restaurants around with an immense variety of cuisines is on hand, representing the international population of the capital, including the diplomatic staffs of 187 foreign embassies. With over 1900 hundred restaurants to choose from there is something for everyone. Try newcomers Masa 14 and Estadio which are all about small-plate choices; at Masa 14 is Latin-Asian fusion and Estadio, its authentic Spanish tapas. Try Georgetown's Tackle Box, a full dinner of wood-grilled fresh fish and two delicious sides runs you about \$14 or stop into Bens Chili bowl and get a ½ smoke! You'll have to trust us.

WASHINGTON DC'S DON'T MISS...

D.C. is made up of distinct neighbourhoods all offering something different.

The National Mall: The National Mall is part of the National parks system and sits between the Capitol steps and the Lincoln Memorial, the Mall spans 1.9 miles (3.0 km) and is the place for both locals & tourists. Stroll the green promenade or sit upon a bench and watch the Washington world go by. Once you've had a chance to catch your breath, it's time to hit the museums. Whatever your interest the Smithsonian Museums cover most everything from Native American culture to Aviation to African art to American History to the natural world and more!

The Smithsonian: The Smithsonian Institution – the world's largest museum and research complex – includes 19 museums and galleries and the National Zoological Park. Most Smithsonian museums and the National Zoo are FREE and open every day of the year except December 25th. Stop at the Smithsonian Castle for more information.

OTHER MUSEUMS...

The Spy Museum: get into 007 mode and visit the International Spy Museum which features the largest collection of international espionage artifacts ever placed on public display and is the only public museum in the United States solely dedicated to espionage and the only one in the world to provide a global perspective on an all-but-invisible profession that has shaped history and continues to have a significant impact on world events.

Newseum: The Newseum is an interactive museum of news that allows one to experience the stories of yesterday and today through the eyes of journalists and photojournalists. The Newseum has seven levels of interactive exhibits. Among the most memorable exhibits are the 9/11 Gallery featuring the broadcast antennae from the top of the World Trade Center, the Berlin Wall Gallery whose eight concrete sections are one of the largest pieces of the original wall outside Germany, and the Pulitzer Prize Photographs Gallery which features photographs from every Pulitzer Prize-winning entry dating back to 1942. It's a must visit!

United States Holocaust Museum: a living memorial to the Holocaust, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum inspires people worldwide to confront hatred, prevent genocide, and promote human dignity. The Museum provides a powerful lesson in the fragility of freedom, the myth of progress, and the need for vigilance in preserving democratic values. With unique power and authenticity, the Museum teaches people about the dangers of unchecked hatred and the need to prevent genocide. The museum is free but to prevent crowding during the busy season, the Museum distributes free timed passes for visits to the Permanent Exhibition during the months of March through August. These passes are available at the Museum on the day of your visit or online.

Capitol Hill: this historic neighbourhood sits in the shadows of the Capitol dome and offers a mix of nationally known retail outlets and neighbourhood specialty boutiques. On weekends, join locals at Eastern Market, one of the city's liveliest open-air arts and crafts markets.

Downtown/CityCenterDC/Penn Quarter/Chinatown: fashion staples & specialty shop treasures. DC's downtown area has welcomed a wave of development in recent years, including the arrival of new shopping destinations. Chinatown's Gallery Place retail area includes popular shops like Urban Outfitters, Aveda and City Sports. Take a walk down F Street to shop for hip fashions at H&M, Zara or Guess. Pick up handmade jewelry at Mia Gemma or cool DC-themed products and stunning hand-knit fashions at Peruvian Connection. Browse 7th Street's galleries for showpieces by emerging artists.

Georgetown: You'll want to get lost in Georgetown, because it's the neighbourhood's side streets that hold the history and centuries-old houses of this former colonial tobacco port. Georgetown is so compact that you're never very far from its main thoroughfares, M Street and Wisconsin Avenue. Serious shoppers won't want to miss a trip to Georgetown, one of DC's most celebrated shopping destinations. At once hip and historic, the neighbourhood's cobblestone streets are lined with locally owned boutiques, antiques shops and national retail outlets. Stroll up Wisconsin Avenue to shop independently owned boutiques like Egg by Susan Lazar.

Arts District/U Street/Shaw: Hip home decor. The U Street Corridor is home to more than history and the half-smokes found at Ben's Chili Bowl. The intersection at 14th and U Streets NW is at the centre of it all, and the neighbourhood is exploding with funky furniture stores, hip clothing outlets and cool boutiques like Lettie Gooch and Junction, making it a "capital" place to shop.

DuPont Circle: Explore DuPont Circle's lovely side streets extending off Connecticut and Massachusetts avenues. You'll discover picturesque 19th-century town houses serving as homes to small art galleries, historic museums, and actual residences. Stroll Embassy Row (northward on Massachusetts Ave.) to view Beaux Arts mansions, many built by wealthy magnates during the Gilded Age.

TRAVEL INFO

The hotel front desk can help you arrange your time or you can check out Visit DC online at: www.washington.org

Internet: the Day Inn offers free WiFi to let your friends & family know you have arrived safely in Washington DC.

Mail pickup point: You can have letters & parcels sent to the Days Inn Connecticut Ave, which you can pick up when you arrive.

The address is: Days Inn Connecticut Ave
4400 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20008 USA
Please write: PLEASE HOLD FOR CONTIKI CLIENT: (Your Name)
ARRIVING on (Arrival Date), to avoid confusion.

Luggage: it is very important that your one piece of luggage is no heavier than 20 kg (44 lbs.), as this rule is strictly adhered to on morning of departure. Hand luggage must weigh no more than 4 kg (8lbs).

IF YOU MISS THE COACH

Should you miss the coach, please check the front desk for a note from your Trip Manager & contact Contiki toll free at 1 800-944 5708 & ask to speak with the Operations department. They will give you detailed information on how to catch up with your trip.



NEW ORLEANS, LO

Area Code: 504

Climate: Average seasonal temperatures: Spring 16-23°C (61- 74°F), Summer 26°C (81°F), Autumn 25-16°C (78-61°F) & Winter 12°C (54°F). Summers are generally humid.

ARRIVING IN NEW ORLEANS

From Louis Armstrong International Airport (MSY)

By shared shuttle: Shuttle service is available from the airport to the hotels in the Central Business District (CBD) for \$20 (per person, one-way visit). www.airportshuttleneworleans.com. Ticket booths are located on the lower level in the baggage claim area. It's customary to tip an additional 10-15%.

By Taxi: A cab ride costs \$33 from the airport to the Central Business District (CBD) for one or two persons & \$14 (per passenger) for three or more passengers. Pick-up is on the lower level, outside the baggage claim area. It's customary to tip an additional 10-15%.

OUR NEW ORLEANS HOTEL

La Quinta Inn & Suites

301 Camp St, New Orleans, LA 70130 (504) 598-9977

In the heart of the Central Business District and steps from the vibrant French Quarter, this hotel makes for a perfect base of operations while in town. Its walking distance to the French Quarter and other attractions and its crisp and contemporary rooms are stuffed with thoughtful amenities, including free Wi-Fi and flat-panel TVs.

Note: Check-in at this hotel is at 3:00 pm & check-out is at 12:00 pm

GETTING AROUND & PUBLIC TRANSPORT...

Streetcars: The streetcars are not only a form of public transportation (serving in place of buses on some routes) but they are a tourist attraction as well. Experience a mode of transportation that dates from the 1800s. Each trip on the streetcar is only \$1.25 & you'll need exact change.

Taxi cabs: Many taxis are privately owned, so one will look different from the other – even those within the same company. Taxis can be hailed from the street. A taxi ride within the city will cost you \$1.20 mile with a \$2.50 drop charge & \$1 charge for each additional passenger. Trips to the west bank are an additional \$2 plus meter charge. The 10% -15% gratuity is not included in the final fare.

TRIP ITINERARY AND DEPARTURE INFO

For trips beginning in New Orleans, your first day does not include a city sightseeing tour so it's important to make the most of your time in the city.

BORN TO SHOP?

Magazine Street is a great place for shopping, with a huge array of clothing, art & antique stores with an authentic local feel to check out. If you're after something a little more relaxed the French Market has a great collection of arts & fresh produce to check out. Riverwalk Marketplace, in the beautiful French Quarter gives off a real cultural vibe, distinct to Louisiana. For all your big brands, head to the Mall of Louisiana for great coverage of almost everything & anything.

HUNGRY?

Head to Cochon, on Tchoupitoulas Street for some delicious food, & great people watching! The food, service, & freshness are unparalleled, & it's a great gathering spot for some of New Orleans hottest musicians. Mother's on Poydras Street is another must, get your po'boy sandwich and bread pudding for real New Orleans experience. If you're looking to tick something off the tourist list, then it's worth the effort visiting Napoleon House. Smack in the heart of the French Quarter, it breathes history, from the bar & staff through to the décor.

NEW ORLEANS DON'T MISS...

French Quarter: Bourbon Street is a must see when in New Orleans but to get a real feel for the city you have to veer away from this hot spot. If you do, you will find great shopping, music, food & hotels. Most importantly, the French Quarter is a living history museum not to be missed. When the streetcar drops you off at Canal St. turn right on Canal & left on Decatur to get to the French Quarter.

Jackson Square: the heart of the Quarter is Jackson Square, flanked on its sides by the Pontalba Buildings & at its top, by the St. Louis Cathedral, Cabildo (the seat of government for the French & Spanish) & Presbytère.

French Market: offers everything from upscale shopping & cuisine to flea & farmers markets at America's oldest running marketplace.

Marie Laveaus House of Voodoo: purchase souvenirs, take a tour & maybe even run into a ghost or two – 739 Bourbon Street.

Lafayette Cemetery: the above-ground tombs in the cemeteries of New Orleans are often referred to as “cities of the dead.” The stones are bleached white & have beautiful decorative iron work. The most famous is Lafayette Cemetery No. 1, Garden District. Do not visit a cemetery at dusk or at night time without a guide.

St. Charles Avenue: this is one of the main thoroughfares in New Orleans & the home of the world famous St. Charles Streetcar Line. It is also famous for the hundreds of mansions that adorn the tree-lined boulevard for much of the uptown section of the route. Hop on the streetcar & ride it to the Carrollton bend for a mini tour of the Garden District.

Blain Kern's Mardi Gras Museum: across the river in Algiers you can see how Mardi Gras is brought to life & its history as well. 1380 Port of New Orleans Place.



TRAVEL INFO

The hotel front desk can help you with New Orleans sightseeing or you can check out New Orleans Tourism online at www.neworleanscvb.com

Luggage storage: If you want to head out & discover the vibe of New Orleans, store your luggage with the front desk until you want to check in to your hotel after 4:00 pm. This service is free.

Luggage: It is very important that your one piece of luggage is no heavier than 20 kg (44 lbs), as this rule is strictly adhered to on morning of departure. Hand luggage must weigh no more than 4kg (8lbs).

BOSTON, MA

Area Code: 617

Climate: Average seasonal temperatures: Spring 10-18°C (50-65°F), Summer 21-29°C (69-85°F), Autumn 14-20°C (57-69°F) & Winter -5° to -1°C (22-31°F)

ARRIVING IN BOSTON

From Boston Logan International Airport (BOS)

By Hotel Shuttle: Once you get through customs and pick up your bags, exit the airport through the arrivals level. There will be courtesy phones, and you will be able to reach the Ramada Boston. Inform them what terminal you are in and they will provide you instructions on where and when the pick-up location will be.

By Bus/Subway: once you get through customs and pick up your bags, exit the airport through any exit on the arrivals level. Look for a rectangular sign that says "MBTA" or Airport Shuttles. Wait for a white bus with a horizontal blue stripe. The sign on the front should read "MBTA Blue Line." Bus numbers 22, 33, and 55 will take you to the subway station, depending on the time of day. The shuttle is free.

Enter the subway station through the glass doors and look for ticket machines on the sides of the entrance hall. Some machines take cash, some credit cards, and some take both. You can choose to buy a weekly, monthly, or fare loaded card.

Tap your loaded Charlie Card or slide your paper ticket through the electronic entrance machines and walk up the stairs over the tracks to the next platform. Take the next blue line train toward Bowdoin that arrives.

Exit the train at Government Center (the 4th stop from the airport) and transfer to a Green Line train towards Heath. Exit at Symphony (the 6th stop from Government Center) and walk north on Huntington Ave. The Midtown Hotel will be on the right just a few minutes from the stop (220 Huntington Ave).

By taxi: you won't have difficulty finding a taxi at Logan, but make sure you understand the fee before you use one. All areas within a 12-mile radius of Boston are charged a metered rate of \$2.25 to start and 30 cents per 1/8 mile after that. The charge becomes a flat fee beyond the 12-mile radius. Fares are based on one to four passengers per taxi. It's important to know that all taxis leaving Logan are charged a \$2 airport fee. Fares are approx. \$35. It's customary to tip an additional 10% - 15%.

CONTIKI'S BOSTON HOTEL

Ramada Boston

800 William T Morrissey Blvd, Boston, MA 02122

Tel: +1 (617) 287-9100

Located five miles from downtown Boston, the newly-renovated Ramada Boston has complimentary WiFi, outdoor pool, business and fitness centres. Hop on T-Red Line from the Fields Corner Station to explore exciting attractions, including Fenway Park, Boston Commons, New England Aquarium, Boston Convention Center and TD Garden, home of the Celtics. **Buses & Subway (The T):** Boston is called the walking city but if you can't walk to your destination, the next best way to get around is the subway called the "T". Boston has 5 lines Green, Red, Blue Orange & Silver. The T starts running at 5am and the last trip is generally between 12am-1am. Buy a Day Pass (Linkpass) for \$12 or a single fare, good to use for 90 minutes, is \$2.10. Tickets are called Charlie Tickets which are good on the T and buses. Tickets can be bought at vending machine in the stations. If you don't buy a Charlie Ticket or Charlie Card you will need exact change for the bus.

Taxi cabs: taxis are widely available in downtown Boston, although it can be difficult to find an available cab late at night on the weekends when people make their way home from the bar and club scene. If you are traveling with friends, taxis are a pretty good way to get around, especially after midnight when the T shuts down. Cab fares are not cheap, with Boston now among the five most expensive large cities for taxi service. The 10-15% gratuity is not included in the final fare.

Note: Public transport & taxi rates are subject to change.

TRIP ITINERARY AND DEPARTURE INFO

A full day of sightseeing is included in your trip. However, if you have booked pre- or post-nights here are some ideas of what to do & see while in the city.

BORN TO SHOP?

Boston is a shopper's paradise. Beginning on Newbury Street, famous for enticing the rich and famous to spend, Newbury has everything from high end to cutting edge. The next stop for any avid shopper is The Mall at the Prudential Center and adjoining Copley Place. This indoor experience allows uninterrupted luxury for those looking to spend a day out of the elements and opening their wallets.

Make your way through the connecting covered bridge and pass between both the Prudential Center and Copley Place without setting foot outside. Filled with big name retailers these malls provide everything to meet your shopping needs. Downtown Crossing, near Boston Common, is a pedestrian-friendly, no cars allowed location, and a way to transition from Back Bay to Faneuil Hall. See some historical sights and spend some cash while walking through Faneuil Hall, Boston's oldest open air pedestrian mall. Blow your budget at boutique shops on Charles Street, at the foot of Beacon Hill, or find time to browse the new and used bookstores of Harvard Square

HUNGRY?

Well known for its rich variety of fresh seafood and local delicacies, you will find no shortage of great food in Boston. Head to the Quincy Market to discover a wide variety of local treasures all under one, very historic, roof. If you'd like a more relaxed atmosphere, Quincy Market also boasts a replica Cheers bar, just like the one you saw in the show. Try the Norm Burger (not for the small appetite!) Just up the street from Quincy Market at 41 Union Street, you will find the Union Oyster House, which has the claim of being the longest continuously operating restaurant in American History, having opened its doors in 1826. It is among the 10 oldest restaurants globally. The restaurant boasts the invention of the toothpick, so don't hesitate to grab one after sampling the Lobster Stew, a favourite of Boston native President John F Kennedy.

BOSTON'S DON'T MISS...

Freedom Trail: stretching for 2½ miles, the Freedom Trail weaves past 16 of the city's most historical sites, including Faneuil Hall, the Paul Revere House, and Bunker Hill Monument, the site of the Boston Massacre. Taking in all the Trail's attractions requires a full day (and some comfortable walking shoes), but you can easily plot points of interest before you begin your jaunt from Boston Common.

Old North Church: most people who know anything about American history have heard of Paul Revere's famous midnight ride, when he rode through town to warn people about the British troops' arrival. Before heading off to Lexington, Revere gave orders at Old North Church. The church's sexton, Robert Newman, then climbed the steeple and held two lanterns as a signal (from Revere) that the British Regulars were indeed coming, and that they were coming by sea. As Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote, "One if by land, and two if by sea."

Museum of Fine Arts: the museum is home to one of the best art collections in the world, including the celebrated Art of the Americas Wing. Inside this sprawling collection, which debuted in 2010, you'll stumble upon 53 galleries showcasing iconic pieces spanning from Pre-Columbian times to the 20th century. John Singer Sargent's dazzling pieces are one standout here, and as you delve further into the collection, you'll see his paintings sharing wall space with others by masters like John Singleton Copley and Edward Hopper, among others.

Boston Public Garden: although the Boston Public Garden sits right next to Boston Common, the two are quite different. The Public Garden is newer (established in 1837), and many say that it is more scenic than the Common, as the first public botanical garden in the country. Flowers and trees are beautifully organised and kept in good condition throughout. You can see the colourful arrangements and exotic trees from the four-acre pond in the centre of the garden before taking in the lagoon by Swan Boat.

TRAVEL INFO

The hotel front desk can help you arrange your time or you can check out Boston Tourism online at: www.bostonusa.com

Internet: the Ramada Boston Hotel offers free WiFi to let your friends & family know you have arrived safely in Boston or email after your trip with all your adventure stories.

Mail pickup point: you can have letters & parcels sent to the Midtown Hotel, which you can pick up when you arrive. The address is: Ramada Boston, 800 William T Morrissey Blvd, Boston, MA 02122. Please write: PLEASE HOLD FOR CONTIKI CLIENT: (Your Name). ARRIVING on (Arrival Date), to avoid confusion.

Luggage: it is very important that your one piece of luggage is no heavier than 20 kg (44 lbs), as this rule is strictly adhered to on morning of departure. Hand luggage must weigh no more than 4 kg (8 lbs).

IF YOU MISS THE COACH

Should you miss the coach, please check the front desk for a note from your Trip Manager & contact Contiki toll free at 1-800-944-5708 & ask to speak with the Operations department. They will give you detailed information on how to catch up with your trip.

DALLAS/FORT WORTH TEXAS

Area Codes: 682, 817, 214, 469, 972

Climate: Average seasonal temperatures: Spring 21-27°C (69- 84°F), Summer 35°C (96°F), Autumn 32-25°C (89-79°F) & Winter 18°-14C (66F-56°F). Summers are generally humid.

ARRIVING IN DALLAS

Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW).

FROM DALLAS/FORT WORTH AIRPORT (DFW)

By shared shuttle: you can book a shared shuttle service online at www.supershuttle.com or reserve at the airport. Standard fare is \$15. It's customary to tip an additional 10-15%.

By taxi: A cab ride costs \$59 from the airport to the hotel. It's customary to tip an additional 10-15%.

CONTIKI'S FORT WORTH HOTEL

Sheraton Forth Worth Downtown

1701 Commerce St, Forth Worth, TX 76102 (817) 335-7000

Set in the heart of vibrant downtown Forth Worth it located within minutes from nightlife, shops and restaurants. Its crisp and contemporary rooms are stuffed with thoughtful amenities, including free WiFi and flat-panel TVs.

Note: Check-in at this hotel is at 3:00pm & check-out is at 11:00am

GETTING AROUND & PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Trolley: get around easily on the vintage Molly Trolley. Choose from three Molly routes - the Downtown Get Around, Sundance Lunch Line and Stockyard Shuttle. Seven days a week, 10:00 am to 10:00 pm
Cost: \$2 per person, per ride

Taxi cabs: you'll have to call a cab unless you're lucky enough to catch one outside a hotel. The major companies operating in Fort Worth are Yellow Checker Taxi (tel. 817/426-6262) and Cowboy Cab (tel. 817/428-0202). Fares are \$2.25 (initial drop) and 20¢ for each additional 1/9 mile. Extras include \$2 extra passenger charge, \$3.60 airport exit fee, and \$2.60 airport drop-off fee.

TRIP ITINERARY AND DEPARTURE INFO

For trips beginning in Fort Worth, your first day does not include a city sightseeing tour so it's important to make the most of your time in the city.

BORN TO SHOP?

Folks needing some retail therapy will find plenty of options in Fort Worth. Home to some of the best malls and shopping centers in the Southwest, the city boasts national department stores, one-of-a-kind boutiques, outlet shopping and upscale shops. From Justin Boots Outlet store to locally made items.

HUNGRY?

Welcome to Texas! it's really hard to go hungry in these parts. Fort Worth Food Park is Fort Worth's first and finest park for food trucks and food truck hounds. Enjoy a variety of gourmet dishes served up by some of the area's top local chefs all in one serene park-like setting in the heart of Fort Worth's cultural and entertainment district. Feeling like some Mexican food? Head over to Taco Heads on 700 Carroll St. It's a well-known fact that the taco market in Texas is highly competitive, but Taco Heads is simply a step above the rest. If you want a healthier welcome to the USA, pop over to MASH'D on 2948 Crockett St. It's a fun and trendy spot to enjoy good food and get into the American spirit of homecooked goodness. Feeling jetlagged? Or do you just need that caffeine fix? Get some good coffee from Avoca Coffee on 1311 W Magnolia Ave.

You can store your luggage with the front desk until you want to check into your hotel after 4:00pm. This service is free.

Luggage: It is very important that your one piece of luggage is no heavier than 20 kg (44 lbs), as this rule is strictly adhered to on morning of departure. Hand luggage must weigh no more than 4kg (8lbs).

Mail pickup point: you can have letters & parcels sent to the Midtown Hotel, which you can pick up when you arrive. The address is: 220 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA 02115. Please write: PLEASE HOLD FOR CONTIKI CLIENT: (Your Name). ARRIVING on (Arrival Date), to avoid confusion.

Luggage: it is very important that your one piece of luggage is no heavier than 20 kg (44 lbs), as this rule is strictly adhered to on morning of departure. Hand luggage must weigh no more than 4 kg (8 lbs).

IF YOU MISS THE COACH

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HONOLULU, HAWAII

Area Code: 808

Climate: There are really only two seasons in Hawaii: summer (called Kau in Hawaiian) from May to October, & winter (Ho'oilō) from November to April. The average daytime summer temperature at sea level is 29°C (85°F) while the average daytime winter temperature is 25.6°C (79°F)

ARRIVING IN HONOLULU

Oahu is accessed by Honolulu International Airport

FROM HONOLULU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (HNL)

By shared shuttle: the easiest & cheapest way to get to the hotel is by SpeediShuttle. Shuttle stops are conveniently located on the ground level at the tour group areas adjacent to Baggage Claims C (Interisland Terminal) and H (Diamond Head Terminal), as well as curbside at the Overseas Terminal (between Baggage Claim D and E) and the Commuter Terminal. SpeediShuttle Greeters and Shuttle Attendants wearing red aloha prints are present throughout baggage claim and at each pickup location to arrange your door to door transportation. SpeediShuttle signage is located throughout the terminals & at each pickup zone. Departs within 20 minutes of check-in with Shuttle Attendant at pickup zone. \$15.48 one-way plus \$2.00 gratuity.



OUR HONOLULU HOTEL

Ala Moana Hotel

410 Atkinson Dr, Honolulu, HI 96814

Phone: +1 (808) 955-4811

The Ala Moana is connected to the just steps away from Ala Moana Center, the largest shopping centre in Hawaii. Stores range from Gucci to Banana Republic. It's also a 15 min stroll to legendary Waikiki Beach. It's the ideal place to unwind – laze about by the outdoor swimming pool & enjoy the views of Diamond Head or take a stroll around Waikiki & explore the sights. We offer discounted rates for Contiki clients & the accommodation is based on twin share.

Note: Hotel check-in is at 3:00 pm and check-out is at 11:00 am.

GETTING AROUND & PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Buses: If you can't walk to your destination, the next-best way to get around is by public transport. Or, The Bus. A single ride is currently \$2.50 & you can get one free transfer. Waiting times vary, depending on the time of day, but they're usually 5-15 minutes. For more information visit www.thebus.org

Taxi cabs: there are plenty of taxi companies in Honolulu. The hotel can call one for you or you can hail one from the street. Fares tend to be more expensive than on the mainland so it is best to take the public bus or do a sightseeing tour if you are going a fair distance. All cabs are metered & controlled by the City and County of Honolulu; the starting fare is \$3.50 for the first 1/8 of mile or fraction plus 40¢ for each additional 1/8 of a mile or fraction or 45 seconds of wait time. The 10%-15% gratuity is not included in the final fare.

Inter-island flights: Hawaii is made up of six major islands: Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, Maui, & Hawaii's Big Island. Each one is distinctive, & while in Honolulu you may want to visit a different island & check out the scene.

You can purchase a day trip through Polynesian Adventures. The day trip includes a round trip flight & sightseeing to Maui, the Big Island or Kauai.

Visit www.polyad.com for more information or our Customer Service Centre can assist you with making your booking. Alternatively, you can fly over on your own. Check www.iflygo.com for inexpensive flights.

Note: Public transport, flight fares & taxi rates are subject to change.

OAHU'S DON'T MISS...

Polynesian Cultural Center: experience seven Polynesian island villages with demonstrations of arts, crafts & cultural handiwork, followed by a night time dinner luau.

Pearl Harbor: pay tribute to the thousands of soldiers who died in the infamous 7 December 1941 attack on this beautiful harbour.

International Marketplace: this is a must for souvenir shopping. A wide selection of Hawaiian handicrafts set in an outdoor Polynesian village. Bargaining is allowed.

Beaches: naturally, Waikiki is the best known beach used by Hawaiian Royalty for centuries. Others include Hanauma Bay (the best snorkelling in Oahu), Makapuu (great surfing) & Sandy Beach (used for filming 'Magnum, PI').

Water sports: the beautiful Hawaiian waters can best be explored by snorkelling or by sailing on a catamaran.

Honolulu Zoo: spend a couple of hours at Honolulu's small yet enjoyable zoo. It's right across from your hotel.

Paradise Cove Luau: enjoy an all-you-can-eat Hawaiian buffet dinner at a beautiful secluded beach 55 km (35 miles) outside of Honolulu (transport provided). Take part in various forms of island entertainment before dinner & then take in the spectacular dinner show.

Duke's Canoe Club: looking for somewhere to have dinner & drinks? Try the barefoot bar at Duke's Canoe Club, located in the Outrigger Waikiki on the Beach Hotel. Great atmosphere & it's located right on the beach.

Luggage storage: if you want to head out & discover Waikiki, store your luggage with the front desk until you want to check in to your hotel after 3:00 pm. This is a free service.

HAWAII STOPOVER INFO

Honolulu serves up an easygoing mix of culture, fantastic food & jaw-dropping nature. With a few days here, you'll soon find yourself on "island time" enjoying the Hawaiian lifestyle.

With gentle waves, it is a great place to give surfing a go, or to just work on getting a great tan, chill out & people watch.

While you're here, learn about World War II on our included trip of Honolulu's historical hot spots. Visit the Pearl Harbor & Arizona Memorial & see the sunken USS Arizona up close. Then cruise through the crater of an extinct volcano when you visit the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl – your local guide will tell you all about the fallen soldiers who are buried here. You'll also see the USA's only royal residence, Iolani Palace & learn about the former royal family who lived there.

Your Pearl Harbor trip has been pre-booked for your Contiki Hawaiian stopover package for the first free morning.

You must call: Grayline/Polynesian Adventure Tours 24 hours prior to your trip departure +1 (888) 206-4531 during office hours Mon-Fri, 6:00 am-7:00 pm to reconfirm your pick up time & location. You must provide all names & your Contiki booking number at this time. You will be picked up for your tour at 9:00am at the side entrance of the hotel on Mahukona Street & return at 2:00-2:30pm. Look for GRAY LINE/POLYNESIAN ADVENTURE TOURS. You must present your voucher to the driver.

Note: there is no Trip Manager included in this stopover package so there is not a Contiki representative at the hotel.

CANADA

Country Code: +1

Currency: Dollar (CAD) C\$

Language: English/French

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Area Code: 604

Climate: Average seasonal temperatures: Spring 10-18°C (50-65°F), Summer 21-23°C (69-74°F), Autumn 18-9°C (65-48°F) & Winter 6-7°C (43-44°F)

ARRIVING IN VANCOUVER

FROM VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (YVR)

By train: Once through the customs & immigration arrivals process, walk toward the exit to our International Arrivals greeting area. Exit the building following signs marked 'Canada Line'. Before the parkade entrance, an escalator & elevator will take you up to the Canada Line platform. Price is C\$4.00 to Vancouver. Get off at the Vancouver City Centre Station which is on Granville between Georgia & Robson, your hotel is at 180 W Georgia.

By taxi: Taxis are a quick & easy way to get to & from Vancouver International Airport. Our taxis are available 24-hours a day, seven days a week. Taxis charge a metered rate based on time & distance. Let the curbside staff know your needs & they will hail a cab. The fare to downtown Vancouver is approx. C\$28 - \$32. It's customary to tip an additional 10% - 15%.

CONTIKI'S VANCOUVER HOTEL

GEC Granville Suites Hotel

718 Drake St, Vancouver, BC V6Z 2W6.Canada

Reception Telephone: +1 (604) 669-9888

The GEC is ideally located in the heart of Downtown Vancouver. You are walking distance to shopping, restaurants, parks & museums with easy access to public transport & the new Canada line at Robson St & Granville St.

We offer discounted rates for Contiki clients & the accommodation is based on twin share. This is the departure point for all Contiki trips that start in Vancouver.

Buses & SkyTrain: if you can't walk to your destination, the next-best way to get around is the SkyTrain or bus system. It's inexpensive, environment-friendly & a great way to see Vancouver. Buy a Day Pass for C\$9.75 or for a single fare, good to use for 90 minutes, is C\$2.50-5.00 depending on how many zones you are travelling through. These passes are good for use on the SkyTrain or buses. You will need exact change for the bus, but can use bank notes, coins or cards at the SkyTrain stations.

Taxi cabs: there are four taxi companies in Vancouver. Cabs can be hailed from the street & generally if their sign is lit-up they are available. If you're in a popular downtown area, you'll be able to find a taxi easily. If you can't, it is probably best to call the cab company & request pick up. Vancouver Taxis are metered & generally cost between C\$5-10. The 10-15% gratuity is not included in the final fare.

Note: Public transport & taxi rates are subject to change.

CANADA

A person wearing a red jacket and blue jeans stands on a rocky outcrop, looking out over a vast, turquoise lake. The lake is nestled in a valley between steep, rocky mountains. The mountains are covered in patches of snow and evergreen trees. The sky is overcast and grey. The person's arms are raised in a gesture of triumph or awe.

From the chic charm of the east, to the action of the west, get ready for a taste of legendary Canada...

TRIP ITINERARY AND DEPARTURE INFO

A full day of sightseeing is included in your trip. However, if you have booked pre or post nights here are some ideas of what to do & see while in the city.

BORN TO SHOP?

Vancouver is a sanctuary for those that love to hit the shops. From big name brands to cute little boutiques & cute vintage stores, there's something for everyone. Robson Street is the perfect place to head for big brands you will love & some of the city's best shopping – the selection here is endless! Pick up some quintessential Canadian threads at Roots Canada, cool gear at American Apparel & American Eagle. We love stopping at Café Crepe for a delicious snack along the way. If shopping malls are more your thing, you will love the selection on offer at Metropolis at Metrotown. With over 470 stores, theatres & loads of restaurants there's something for everyone here, no matter the weather. Or, if markets & street food is what you're after, then look no further than Richmond Night Market for some delicious Asian food & awesome bargains.

HUNGRY?

Widely renowned as the best spot for a sandwich in the city, The Delly is always buzzing! It's right on the university campus, so is perfect for experiencing the student vibes, & the endless flavours on offer mean there's something to tempt all tastes. If you're after the exotic tastes of Asia, then try Simply Thai for some spicy treats. It's in the trendy Yaletown area (perfect for people watching) & its open kitchen means you can watch the chefs cook while you wait.

VANCOUVER'S DON'T MISS...

Stanley Park: Stanley Park is almost 1000 acres of forest, beaches & trails. But it's also the home of the Vancouver Aquarium, tennis courts, a 'pitch & putt' course, a cricket club, & a children's zoo. There is also a miniature railroad, two restaurants, a gift shop, & nearly a dozen memorials & statues. Most famous of all is the Totem Poles, British Columbia's most visited tourist site.

Granville Island: this used to be an industrial area but has been converted into an artist's paradise. You can browse galleries & studios while watching the artists create. There is also fresh fruit, baked goods & other mouth-watering delicacies at shops, stalls & restaurants. You can take the SkyTrain or a water taxi directly to Granville Island.

Vancouver Art Gallery: internationally renowned artists & photographers are on display in this museum right in the heart of the city. 750 Hornby Street, Vancouver.

Gastown: stroll down the cobbled streets. Explore its historic buildings & courtyards. Enjoy its unique shopping, nightlife, attractions & special events. Gastown is just a couple blocks from the hotel on Cambie St.

TRAVEL INFO

The hotel front desk can help you arrange your time or you can check out Vancouver Tourism online at: www.tourismvancouver.com/visitors.

Internet: the Sandman Hotel has a business centre where you can access your email (at a cost) to let your friends & family know you have arrived safely in Vancouver or email after your trip with all your adventure stories.

Mail pickup point: you can have letters & parcels sent to the Sandman Hotel, which you can pick up when you arrive. The address is: Sandman Hotel 180 W Georgia St, Vancouver BC Canada V6B 4P4

Please write: PLEASE HOLD FOR CONTIKI CLIENT: (Your Name) ARRIVING on (Arrival Date), to avoid confusion.

Luggage: it is very important that your one piece of luggage is no heavier than 20 kg (44 lbs), as this rule is strictly adhered to on morning of departure. Hand luggage must weigh no more than 4 kg (8 lbs).

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CONSULATES AND EMBASSIES

AUSTRALIA

Consulate-General, 1225-888 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, BC V6C 3K4
Tel: +1 (604) 684-1177

GERMANY

Consulate-General, World Trade Centre Complex,
704 - 999 Canada Place, Vancouver, BC V6C 3E1.
Tel: +1 (604) 684 8377 or +1 218-1390 (24 hrs)

JAPAN

Consulate-General, 800-1177 West Hastings Street,
Vancouver, BC V6E 2K9.
Tel: +1 (604) 684-5868

KOREA

Consulate-General, Suite 1600-1090, W. Georgia St,
Vancouver, BC V6E 3V7.
Tel: +1 (604) 681-9581 / 2

NEW ZEALAND

Consulate-General, 1200-888 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, BC V6C 3K4
Tel: +1 (604) 684-7388

SOUTH AFRICA

Consulate-General, 1700-1075 West Georgia Street,
Vancouver, BC V6E 3C9.
Tel: +1 (604) 688-1301

UNITED KINGDOM

Consulate General, 800-1111 Melville Street, Vancouver, BC V6E 3V6.
Tel: +1 (604) 683-4421

UNITED STATES

Consulate General, 2100-1095 W. Pender Street, Vancouver, BC V6E 2M6
Tel: +1 (604) 685-4311

KEEN TO JOIN OUR TEAM? APPLY NOW FOR 2019

People are at the heart of everything we do, and our team are what makes our trips.

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- Excellent organisation & admin skills
- A valid UK visa or European Passport



APPLY TO BE A DRIVER IF YOU'VE GOT:

- A valid European Passport & European Driving Licence
- Great references & a clean driving record
- Excellent people skills
- An enthusiastic & positive attitude



**IF YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT
TAKES APPLY NOW AT**

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10 or more Everyone saves 10%,
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the threads

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to see what you can deck
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CONTIKI WORLDWIDE

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Tel: +65 6337 8166
asia.res@contiki.com

contiki.com

If you choose to write to Contiki via the internet, please provide your home address so we are able to reply to you in writing.

The information in this booklet was, to the best of our knowledge, correct at the time of going to print but we cannot be held responsible for any subsequent changes to the contents of it.

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