

Will Rogers World Airport

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Planning Will Help Holiday Travel Go Smoothly

OKLAHOMA CITY – As airlines predict full-to-capacity flights, and construction on the Will Rogers World Airport terminal continues, travelers planning to fly this holiday can head off stress and frustration with a little advance preparation. Reviewing packed items, being prepared for the security checkpoint and allowing plenty of time prior to one's flight are the keys to a smooth travel experience.



While many milestones have been reached throughout the terminal expansion project, the renovation of the old terminal lobby and baggage claim areas have necessitated pedestrian detours to ensure visitor safety. Airport authorities advise taking time to read the signs carefully both inside and outside the building to avoid confusion. Additional security guards and Travelers Aid volunteers will also be available this week to answer questions and give directions.

Before coming to the airport travelers should review what items they are taking in their carry-on and checked luggage to ensure that they are not carrying prohibited items. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) provides a complete list of items that are allowed in both carry-on and checked luggage at www.tsa.gov. A reminder not to wrap presents before traveling. If a screener cannot determine the item or needs additional inspection the gift will have to be unwrapped.

Being prepared at the security checkpoint will not only be easier on the traveler but will keep the lines moving. Avoid clothing and accessories that might set off the metal detector and try to limit the number of items being carried on. Remember that only one carry-on and one personal item such as a purse or laptop are allowed.

Travelers waiting in line can do the following to facilitate passing through the screening area smoothly: place all metal items in the carry-on bag, take laptops out of the cases, and take off coats, including sports coats and athletic jackets. Place those items in the bins provided by TSA.

Finally, travelers need to allow plenty of time. Airlines are advising passengers to arrive two hours prior to flights during peak times. In addition, arriving early will allow visitors plenty of time to read directional signs or ask directions while navigating construction.



Additional Tips

CONSTRUCTION:

- Use caution when driving in and out of the airport
- The upper roadway is now open. Departing travelers can drop off in front of the terminal building and take advantage of skycap curbside check-in.
- Inside the terminal, newly erected construction walls have changed some familiar paths. Look for directional signs.
- Take advantage of the different services provided at the airport: automated check-in kiosks, shuttle parking for long-term travel, one hour free parking when picking up arriving passengers, and the information booths.

SECURITY:

- Pack smart. Think about the items that are being packed in both checked and carry-on luggage. Could they be a security problem?
- Be sure to put identification on the inside *and* outside of your luggage.
- Don't wrap gifts. Wrapped packages in both carryon and checked baggage may require additional inspection, which means – unwrapping the present.
- Plastic containers are now being provided at the security checkpoint. Place all loose items, including cell phones, pagers, keys, change, coats and jackets into the containers, and then place on the conveyor belt.
- Avoid clothing and accessories that will set off the metal detector including shoes.
- For a comprehensive list of security travel tips, check the TSA's website:

www.tsa.gov.



GENERAL:

- Only one bag and one personal item, such as a purse or laptop computer, to be carried onto the plane
- Take advantage of the airlines automated kiosks for quicker check-in
- Be prepared to show your boarding pass and your photo ID at the security checkpoint
- Allow plenty of time.
- Do not leave car unattended in front of terminal building
- Ticketed passengers only are allowed beyond the security checkpoint. If a unaccompanied minor or elderly person needs to be escorted to the gate, check in at the airline ticket counter about the possibility of a pass
- Always carry medicine, cash, jewelry, passports, visas, business papers and other valuables such as cameras onboard with you