

Will Rogers World Airport

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GET READY FOR TAKEOFF

The summer travel season is about to get underway and by all predictions it will be a busy one for air travel. But busy doesn't have to mean hassle. With a little planning, travelers can make their airport experience faster and easier.

Helping the process go smoothly starts prior to arriving at the airport. Many travelers unknowingly try to carry prohibited items through the security checkpoint. Many of these items can be put in checked baggage. When packing, think about the items being taken. Could anything be considered dangerous?

Be sure to consider objects that might be used for vacation activities such as golf clubs, fishing poles, fireworks, wrenches and pliers for bike maintenance, these cannot be taken through the security checkpoint, but can be put in checked luggage. A complete list of prohibited items can be found on the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) website at www.tsatraveltips.us.



Construction is in full swing in the terminal, so allow enough time to navigate the construction walkways and find relocated services. Take advantage of curbside check-in which allows travelers to check bags and obtain a boarding pass.

For inexperienced travelers, the security checkpoints are one airport experience that can cause additional delay for all passengers. One of the biggest mistakes travelers make is trying to take too many items through the security checkpoint. Only two items are allowed – a carryon bag and one personal item such as a laptop or purse. Consolidate your smaller items as much as possible. Put items like pagers, cell phones and cameras in your carry-on bag or purse.

Avoid wearing clothing, jewelry, or other accessories that contain metal as they will set off the metal detectors and require additional screening. Hidden items such as body piercings may also set off the metal detectors.

Once at the security checkpoint, the traveler will need to present a boarding pass along with a government issued ID to proceed. Having these items readily available, as well as placing all metal items in a bin prior to reaching the metal detector, will help to speed the process.

Because of large crowds, terminal construction and additional security rules, travelers are encouraged to arrive at the terminal at least an hour and a half to two hours prior to their scheduled departure time.

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