



Reformation Tours' Guide to Flying

Your vacation begins as soon as you leave home so sit back and enjoy your flight! Your travel days will run more smoothly if you are well prepared, so we have compiled a step-by-step guide to flying internationally. It's important to dress in comfortable clothes, including shoes that are easy to walk in. You might be walking quite a distance!



Check-in online

You can check-in for your flight 24 hours before departure. All you need to do is visit the airline's website and enter the 6-digit record locator / confirmation number that's printed on your ticket e.g. RT6UB8. You can then print off the boarding pass and put it with your final documents. Make sure your passport is in there too! If you would like to change your seat, this is the best time to ask.

Check-in at the airport

Check the flight status before you go to the airport, in case there are delays. Plan to arrive 3 hours before your flight. Your first stop is the airline's check-in counter where you present your passport, your e-ticket, and your checked bags. If you don't already have a boarding pass, you will receive one at this time. Your bag will be weighed and tagged with the final destination. They will give you a receipt to keep with your passport.



Security

If you want to save time when you fly, you can apply for TSA Pre✓® at participating locations. It costs \$85 and lasts for 5 years. Visit www.tsa.gov/tsa-precheck for details.

If you are going through the regular security line, the first step is to present your passport and boarding pass. The officer will direct you to a conveyer belt. You will place your shoes, coats, belt, jewelry, and the contents of your pockets into a plastic bin. Laptops need to go in their own bin, but other electronics can stay in your bag. Liquids and gels must be in individual containers of 3.4 ounces (100 milliliters) or less and placed inside one clear, quart-size, plastic, zip-top bag.

Boarding

Your boarding pass will let you know which gate your flight is departing from, but check the monitors, as they do sometimes change. Make your way to your gate as soon as you have passed security. If there's time before boarding the plane you can charge your phone, read the tour diary, chat with tour members, use the bathroom, buy food and drinks, or browse the shops. If you don't want to buy expensive airport drinks, you can pack an empty water bottle and fill it once you are through security.



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On the plane



Your boarding pass will have your seat number. Try and get settled as quickly as possible. We recommend putting everything you need for the flight into a plastic, zip-top bag that you can store in the seat pocket in front of you. You might want to bring ear plugs, a pen, an inflatable pillow, a book, an eye-cover, your phone (switch to airplane mode), snacks, a credit card, and the tour diary.

On shorter domestic flights you will probably be offered a complimentary drink and small snack, like peanuts. On the transatlantic flight, you will usually have one larger meal and one snack. Planes have individual television monitors, and you will be given headphones. You will also have a pillow and a blanket at your seat. Try to sleep on the way to Europe if you can. Bringing a neck-pillow can make the flight more comfortable.

Changing planes



If you don't have a direct flight, you will need to change planes. Please gather your belongings before you land, so that you can deplane quickly. When you get to the terminal, look on the monitors to check where your gate is. This may be in a different terminal. Large airports often have trains between terminals. If you have trouble walking, we can pre-arrange for assistance between the gates. You usually don't have to go through security a second time but go directly to your gate before browsing shops and restaurants. You don't want to miss your flight!

Arrival in Europe



Before arriving in Europe, you may be given custom forms to fill out, using information from your passport and boarding pass. After disembarking the plane, you will go through immigration, and you will need to go through the non-EU citizen line (unless you hold a passport from a European country). In the UK, Americans go through the UK/ European line.

After you have officially entered the country, you will collect your bags from baggage claim and take them through the "Nothing to Declare" customs line. This will bring you into the Arrivals Hall. We will give you instructions on how to meet up with your group when you get to your destination. Welcome to Europe!



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