

Travel Tips for Travellers to Cope with New Security Requirement at Airports

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Following intelligence reports regarding possible terrorist threats on airplanes, airport authorities around the world are imposing restrictions on the contents of hand luggage.

Due to the fast changing development, The Planet Traveller can only provide the following GENERAL ADVICE to customers:

- Be alert to developments. Stay in touch with the latest news and check with your local airline office rep or your airline's website for the latest updates on flight status and carry-on luggage restrictions. The situation changes daily, even hourly.
- Pack hand luggage as lightly as possible. Keep it simple.
- Do not pack any fluids, gels or toiletries in hand luggage on flights to countries where they are prohibited, especially if you have an onward connection. Leave them in your check-in luggage as more countries may extend the restrictions with little or no notice. And double protect it in zip-locked plastic bags to prevent fluid from leaking and damaging your other contents.
- Get to the airport early, preferably arriving at the departing airport 3 hours in advance of your flight departure time.
- When at the airport, go to your airplane departing gates much earlier as these new security measures will require travellers to allow more time to go through the various screening procedures or transiting within the airport. For example, your laptop may be separately check in another room that may take up to 15 minutes.
- If traveling with medicines (especially in gel, cream or liquid form), make sure they are properly labeled with your name on the medicine that matches your name shown on your air ticket. Carry copies of your prescriptions or certifications.
- Wear light, comfortable shoes that can be easily removed for security checks. You can expect to be asked to remove your shoes, belt and any jewelry while proceeding through the security screening point.
- Be patient and co-operate with instructions from security staff. Understand everyone is in the same position, and these checks are being done for a real reason. It will make the travel experience a lot more comfortable if you relax and be patient during the screening process.

- Do not joke with security staff about the contents of your baggage and don't take out your frustrations on check-in or security staff or air crews.
- Do not buy duty free alcohol or perfumes prior to departure, or in flight, to countries where hand luggage restrictions now apply - buy at shops on arrival. Major airports have duty free retailers for arriving customers.

The most severely affected sectors are flights departing UK. For those that are concerned about flights in/out of UK, more information on hand baggage restriction by British Airways can be found at the link below:

<http://www.britishairways.com/travel/flights/public/en>

To check the restriction applicable on various airlines and at various airports, it is advised that you contact the respective airline local sales office for assistance.

The Planet Traveller has also found the following websites most informative:

Useful Websites:

http://www.dft.gov.uk/	UK Department of Transport
http://www.heathrowairport.com/	UK Heathrow Airport
http://www.tsa.gov/	US Transportation Security Administration
http://www.singaporeair.com/	Singapore Airlines
http://www.britishairways.com/	British Airways
http://www.united.com/	United Airlines
http://www.qantas.com.au/	Qantas Airways
http://www.nwa.com/	Northwest Airlines
http://www.catsa-acsta.gc.ca/	Canada Air Transport Security Authority