

Road Trips are King this Independence Day

Drivers should expect the **longest travel delays** heading into the holiday weekend, particularly during **the afternoons on Thursday, June 30 and Friday, July 1** as commuters leave work early and mix with holiday travelers. Drivers in major U.S. metros could experience double the travel times compared to a normal trip.

Daily Worst and Best Times to Travel		
Day	Worst Time	Best Time
Thursday	2:00-8:00 PM	Before 7:00 AM / After 8:00 PM
Friday	12:00-9:00 PM	Before 10:00 AM / After 9:00 PM
Saturday	2:00-4:00 PM	Before 12:00 PM / After 7:00 PM
Sunday	Low congestion expected all day	
Monday	Low congestion expected all day	

Source: INRIX

Remember – Be Kind and Patient

For those traveling this Independence Day, it's important to keep safety in mind for yourself and others. It's easy to lose patience but remember, everyone has a common goal – kicking off their summer vacation safely.

Travel Prices are Higher than Last Year

- **Air**—AAA finds that the **average lowest** airfare is 14% more than last year coming in at \$201/ticket.
- **Hotels**—Mid-range hotel rates **are about 23% more than last year**, with the average lowest nightly rates coming in at \$244/night for AAA Approved Hotels.
- **Car Rentals**— Since last year, the average daily rate for car rentals have continued to increase. With more people traveling, these prices remain on the rise due to continued supply chain issues coupled with growing demand. While daily car rental rates have **decreased 34% compared to last year**, with the average lowest rate coming in at \$110/day, **rates are \$40 more/day on average than in 2019.**

Travel Bookings are up 60%; Here are the Top Destinations

AAA booking data reveals that big cities and international classics are top destinations this Independence Day. AAA data shows that **bookings for air, car rentals, cruise, hotel, and tours are up 60% over last year** for the top domestic Independence Day destinations and up 252% for international.

2022 Top Independence Day Destinations	
U.S Destinations	International Destinations
Orlando, FL	Vancouver, BC, Canada
Seattle, WA	Paris, France
New York, NY	London, England
Anaheim, CA	Rome, Italy
Anchorage, AK	Amsterdam, Netherlands
Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Dublin, Ireland
Las Vegas, NV	Calgary, AB, Canada
Honolulu, HI	Punta Cana, Dominican Republic
Denver, CO	Cancun, Mexico
Chicago, IL	Nassau, Bahamas

Forecast Methodology:

In cooperation with AAA, S&P Global Market Intelligence, a world-leading provider of financial information and solutions developed a unique methodology to forecast actual domestic travel volumes. The economic variables used to forecast travel for the current holiday are leveraged from S&P Global Market Intelligence's proprietary databases. These data include macroeconomic drivers such as employment; output; household net worth; asset prices including stock indices; interest rates; housing market indicators and variables related to travel and tourism, including prices of gasoline, airline travel and hotel stays. AAA and S&P Global Market Intelligence have quantified holiday travel volumes going back to 2000.

Historical travel volume estimates come from DK SHIFFLET's TRAVEL PERFORMANCE/Monitorsm. The PERFORMANCE/Monitorsm is a comprehensive study measuring the travel behavior of U.S. residents. DK SHIFFLET contacts over 50,000 U.S. households each month to obtain detailed travel data, resulting in the unique ability to estimate visitor volume and spending, identify trends, and forecast U.S. travel behavior—all after the trips have been taken.

The travel forecast is reported in person-trips. In particular, AAA and S&P Global Market Intelligence forecast the total U.S. holiday travel volume and expected mode of transportation. The travel forecast presented in this report was prepared the week of May 23, 2022.

Independence Day Holiday Travel Period

For purposes of this forecast, the Independence Day holiday travel period is defined as the five days from Thursday, June 30 to Monday, July 4. The five-day holiday length is consistent with previous holiday periods.