

Travel



Photo Courtesy of Permobil

Get out of town: the world awaits you. The Big Sur coast in California, the grandeur of the Grand Canyon, the nightlife of Las Vegas. Or, how about the beautiful cities of Europe, the great peaks of Peru, the soothing beaches of the Caribbean?

For many people there is nothing so invigorating as travel. It renews the spirit, recharges the imagination.

Away from the controlled environment of home, of course, most of the planet is not paved. Even in modern urban settings, things are not always accessible.

Travel can be a challenge no matter your level of comfort with uncertainty. Outside of the U.S., bathrooms are going to be a problem. Curbs may not be cut. Airlines have been known to mangle wheelchairs and scooters. But the hassles and even the horror stories supply the contrast to make the good parts all the more special.

But when you're ready to hit the road or the high seas, it's best to be well informed. Know what you're getting into, and what you might expect once you get there.

Some tourists like to have it pretty much laid out for them – if it's Friday this must be Frankfurt. But others, the travelers, embrace the uncertainty and the true adventure of the experience.

You might have heard that the most important piece of luggage is a joyful heart. Or that the heaviest baggage is the empty purse. The best advice is to take all advice with a grain of salt, to be prepared as best you can and be open to the adventure.

Source: Sam Maddox

Please note that a listing of services and companies are provided for information purposes only.

Web Sites

<http://accessibleescapes.blogspot.com/>

Accessible Escapes

Accessible Escapes offers inventive, barrier-free travel programs and services for wheelchair users, slow walkers, families and independent travelers of all mobility levels and ages.

<http://www.accessibleeurope.com/>

Accessible Europe: Tourism 4 All

E-mail: info@accessibleeurope.com

A pool of European travel agents expert in accessible tourism services for people with special needs: people with disability, slow walkers, and all tourists needing special care.

<http://accessiblego.com/>

Accessible GO

This site allows one to book accessible travel (hotel, airline, etc.) It also offers lists such as the "Top 10 Accessible Hotels in Atlanta". It also offers info on equipment rental, caregivers, tour companies, transportation and attractions.

<http://www.disabilitytravel.com/>

Accessible Journeys

Phone: 800-846-4537

Email: sales@accessiblejourneys.com

Accessible Journeys offers travel services including vacation planning, group tours, cruises, and travel companions for slow walkers, wheelchair travelers, their families and their friends.

<http://accessibletravelreviews.com/>

Accessible Travel Reviews

Devoted to travel reviews by and for people with physical disabilities and their families.

<https://www.accomable.com/>

Accomable: Accessible Accommodation

Accomable is a service to help people with mobility difficulties find accessible properties around the world, similar to Airbnb.

www.airbnb.com

Airbnb

Airbnb is an online site which offers short-term rentals of homes or rooms in a home. They offer accessibility filters such as: wide hallways, roll-in showers, elevators, disabled parking spots, etc. so that you can choose the accessibility features you want or need.

<http://www.amtrak.com/accessible-travel-services>

Amtrak: Accessible Travel Services

This page has information on reserving accessible space, station accessibility, traveling with a companion/attendant, traveling with a wheelchair, oxygen equipment, service animals and pets, meal service for customers with disabilities, and thruway motorcoach accessibility.

<http://jfactivist.typepad.com/jfactivist/2009/03/amtrack-reports-on-accessibility-and-ada-compliance.html>

American Association of People with Disabilities: Amtrak Reports on Accessibility and ADA Compliance

This March 4, 2009 blog post discusses Amtrak's *Report on Accessibility and Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)*, released February 1, 2009.

<http://www.travelinstruction.org>

Association of Travel Instruction

P.O. Box 2747

Chicago, IL 60690

Phone: 530-528-1737

Email: info@travelinstruction.org

E-mail: Conference co-chairs rbernardy@mtm-inc.net (Robyn Bernary) or

Julie.rosekrans@cmrtransit.org (Julie Rosekrans)

A non-profit organization that supports providers of travel instruction for the purpose of teaching people with disabilities (other than blindness) and seniors to travel safely and independently using all modes of public transportation.

<http://www.makoa.org/travel.htm>

Makoa: Disability Travel and Recreation Resources

This page has links to many websites in the categories of travel planning, destinations, transportation, air travel, camps for children, and travel guides.

<http://www.disabledtravelers.com/>

Disabled Travelers

This site provides a comprehensive listing of businesses from around the world that specialize in disability travel.

<https://craighospital.org/resources/Airline-Travel>

Craig Hospital: Airline Travel

www.curbfreewithcorylee.com

Curb Free with Cory Lee

Offers a travel blog from a person who uses a wheelchair.

<http://www.projectaction.org/>

Easter Seals Project ACTION: Travelers Database

Phone: 866-528-6278

Email: contact@nadtc.org

This database has listings for accessible airport shuttles, paratransit services, tours and tour companies, and taxi services in the U.S. It can be searched by city, state, or zip code.

<http://www.easyaccesstravel.com>

Easy Access Travel

1716 Morning Glory

Carrollton, TX 75007

Toll-free: 800-920-8989

Email: debra@easyaccesstravel.com

Easy Access Travel specializes in cruise vacations and packaged land tours to accessible destinations for disabled and mature travelers.

<http://www.accessibletourism.org/>

European Network for Accessible Tourism (ENAT)

c/o EWORX S.A.

66 Jean Moreas St.

GR-15231 Halandri, Athens, Greece

Phone: (0030) 210 6148380

Email: enat@accessibletourism.org

ENAT is a non-profit association of organizations that are improving the accessibility of tourist information, transport, infrastructure, design and service for visitors with all kinds of access needs.

<http://www.flyertalk.com/forum/disability-travel-224/>

Flyer Talk

A forum that has many threads that allows other people who share similar concerns and questions about travel topics to discuss and communicate information.

<http://www.flyingwheelstravel.com>

Flying Wheels Travel

143 W. Bridge St.

Owatonna, MN 55060

Phone: 507-451-5005, 877-451-5006 (Toll-free)

Flying Wheels is a full service travel agency for people with physical disabilities, chronic illness, or difficulty walking.

<http://www.isla-aguada.com>

Freedom Shores

Phone: 951-218-4023, 281-354-6899

Freedom Shores is a resort in Isla Aguada, Campeche, Mexico, that was designed by a quadriplegic for complete accessibility. Personal Care Attendants can be reserved through a nursing school near the resort.

<http://www.gimponthego.com/>

Gimp on the Go

Gimp on the Go bills itself as “the Internet's premier disabilities travel publication.” The site has sections on travel reviews, tips, resources, and industry news, as well as a photo gallery.

<https://shop.lonelyplanet.com/products/accessible-travel-phrasebook-ebook-1>

Lonely Planet: Accessible Travel Phrasebook

The phrasebook is available for free download and covers accessible travel phrases in 35 languages. The phrases pertain to hotels, adaptive equipment, accessible transportation, and common conditions.

Lonely Planet also has other free e-books related to accessibility for download including ones covering Melbourne, Edinburgh, Rio de Janeiro, Glasgow, and Brighton (UK).

<https://help.lyft.com/hc/en-us/articles/213584508-Accessible-Vehicle-Dispatch>

Lyft: Accessible Vehicle Dispatch

<http://www.miusa.org/>

Mobility International USA (MIUSA)

132 E. Broadway, Suite 343

Eugene, OR 97401

Phone: 541-343-1284

MIUSA is a cross-disability organization serving those with cognitive, hearing, learning, mental health, physical, systemic, vision and other disabilities. It works with the National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange has programs to increase the participation of people with disabilities in international exchange programs.

<https://www.mossrehab.com/patients-and-visitors/information-for-out-of-town-visitors/travel-resources>

MossRehab Travel Resources

60 Township Line Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027
Phone: 215-663-6000

This site provides general information to help people with disabilities make travel plans. There are links to many resources, including state and country tourism offices, travel agencies, hotels, and resources related to different modes of travel (air, train, bus, car, cruise).

<http://www.patienttravel.org/>

National Patient Travel Center

4620 Haygood Road, Suite 1
Virginia Beach, VA 23455
Phone: 800-296-1217 (Toll-free)

E-mail: info@nationalpatienttravelcenter.org

The purpose of the National Patient Travel Center is "to ensure that no financially-needy patient is denied access to distant specialized medical evaluation, diagnosis or treatment for lack of a means of long-distance medical air transportation." The organization's helpline provides information about all forms of charitable, long-distance medical air transportation and provides referrals to all appropriate sources of help available in the national charitable medical air transportation network.

http://sci.washington.edu/info/forums/reports/travel_2011.asp

Northwest Regional SCI System: Travel after Spinal Cord Injury: Finding Your Comfort Zone

<https://www.ricksteves.com/travel-tips/trip-planning/travelers-with-disabilities>

Rick Steves Europe: Tips for Travelers with Disabilities

<https://www.ricksteves.com/watch-read-listen/read/easy-access-europe>

Rick Steves Europe: Easy Access Europe

This is a book published in 2006 on accessibility in Europe. Available as free file.

<http://www.rollingrains.com>

Rolling Rains Report

This site provides resources on inclusive tourism to the travel & hospitality industry.

<http://www.sagetraveling.com/>

Sage Traveling: The European Disabled Travel Experts

3319 Stoney Brook Dr.
Houston, TX 77063
Phone: 888-645-7920

Founder John Sage traveled Europe extensively in a wheelchair before launching the company in 2009.

<http://www.scootaround.com/>

ScootAround Mobility Solutions

Phone: 888-441-7575 (Toll-free)

Scootaround rents mobility scooters, wheelchairs and power chairs in over 1500 locations across North America.

<http://www.sath.org/>

The Society for Accessible Travel & Hospitality (SATH)

Phone: 212-447-7284

Email: sathinfo@sath.org

SATH is a membership organization with a mission of raising awareness of the needs of all travelers with disabilities, removing physical and attitudinal barriers to free access and expanding travel opportunities in the U.S. and abroad. The site has a variety of travel tips and resources, including articles and blogs from members.

<https://www.specialglobe.com/>

Special Globe

Metro Atlanta, GA

Email: press@specialglobe.com

Special Globe allows parents the ability to book custom trips, book hotels and share their experiences and learn from other parents and experts through forums and written articles about special needs travel.

<http://www.specialneedsatsea.com>

Special Needs at Sea

Phone: 800-513-4515 (Toll-free)

International Phone: 954-585-0575

Special Needs at Sea provides a broad range of special needs equipment including wheelchair, power chair and scooter rentals, oxygen units and oxygen rentals, audio and visual aide rentals, baby crib rentals and other essential items to travelers on cruises, at hotels, resorts, theme parks, convention centers and other specialty locations.

www.spintheglobe.net

Spin the Globe

A travel site from a woman who lives with MS. It offers tips on travel for people living with disabilities.

<http://scia.org.au/publications/rollawayz>

Spinal Cord Injuries Australia: RollAwayz

RollAwayz shows the location of wheelchair accessible accommodation in hotels, resorts, motels, backpacker hostels and bed and breakfasts across Australia.

www.starbritetravel.com

Starbrite Kids

Phone: 732-539-1690

Email: starrynighttravel@gmail.com

Travel consultants who specialize in providing travel accommodations for children with special needs.

www.Travability.travel

TravAbility

Provides education, advocacy, and accessibility information for travel destinations.

www.TravAbled.com

TravAbled

A place for wheelchair users and people with disabilities to share their experiences about accessible places.

<https://travel-for-all.com/>

Travel for All

5114 Maureen Way, Nanaimo BC

Canada V9T 5Z5

Toll Free: 1-888-993-9295

Phone: 1-250-585-5525

Email: info@travel-for-all.com

A travel agency located in Canada whose founder and CEO lives with multiple sclerosis.

<https://newsroom.uber.com/serving-our-users/>

Uber: Serving Our Users with Accessibility Needs

<http://ucp.org/resources/travel-transportation/accessible-travel>

UCP: Accessible Travel

This page has resources for travelers with a variety of disabilities.

<http://ucp.org/resources/travel-transportation>

UCP: Transportation

This page has resources for travelers using public and private transportation.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations/traveling-with-disabilities.html>

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs: Traveling with Disabilities

This document has tips for people with disabilities planning to travel abroad.

http://www.dot.gov/citizen_services/disability/disability.html

U.S. Department of Transportation: Accessibility – Equal Access to Transportation

This page has links to resources, including laws, covering air travel and public transportation for people with disabilities.

<http://wheelchairjimmy.com/default.asp>

Wheelchair Jimmy

330 Madison Ave S. Suite 101

Bainbridge, WA 98110

Email: contact@wheelchairjimmy.com

A travel website for researching how well hotels, restaurants, city attractions, cruise lines and local transportation services satisfy the accessibility and usability needs of travelers in wheelchairs.

<http://wheelchairtraveling.com/>

Wheelchair Traveling

E-mail: info@wheelchairtraveling.com

This site is an international resource built by wheelchair travelers on accessible destinations and activities that allows people to see and read the details about a destination before going there. There is information on rentals, destinations, lodging, and travel equipment.

Air Travel:

Some airlines have complaint resolution officials (CROs) who are specially trained and are aware of applicable Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Department of Transportation (DOT) disability regulations. If an issue arises, please ask for a CRO to be called.

http://www.disabilitytravel.com/airlines/air_carrier_act_details.htm

Accessible Journeys: Air Carrier Access Act

This page has a Guide to the Air Carrier Access Act designed to offer travelers with disabilities an authoritative source of information about the Air Carrier Access rules: the accommodations, facilities, and services that are and are not required.

<http://www.airaccess30.org/>

Air Access 30

Individuals with disabilities now have a platform for sharing their stories, photos, videos and graphics about their air travel experiences. AirAccess30.org, launched in January 2016 by Paralyzed Veterans of America, enables passengers with disabilities who utilize air travel to share positive and negative stories about their experiences. The new website, launched in advance of the 30th anniversary of the Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA), seeks the help of passengers with disabilities in showing the progress that has been made as well as the work that remains to accomplish the true spirit of the ACAA.

<https://www.allwheelsup.org/>

All Wheels Up

5575 LaJolla Drive

Frisco, TX 75034

Phone: 917-414-0897

A non-profit organization that advocates for airplanes which are more accessible to wheelchair users. In particular, they advocate for redesign of airplanes so that wheelchair users can remain in their wheelchairs for flights.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjkb7VabsJ0&feature=youtu.be>

<https://vimeopro.com/flatworld/magee-and-southwest-airlines>

Magee Rehab Hospital: Airline Travel video

An on demand video from Magee Rehab Hospital and Southwest Airlines on what to expect when traveling by plane.

<http://cqrcengage.com/mda/accessibleairtravel?0>

Muscular Dystrophy Association Accessible Air Travel Resource Center

This resource lists info for disabled travelers by airline along with travel blogs and other information.

<https://unitedspinal.org/pdf/2015-accessible-air-travel-brochure.pdf>

United Spinal Association: Accessible Air Travel – A Guide for People with Disabilities

This booklet has comprehensive information for people who use wheelchairs or other mobility aids.

<http://www.tsa.gov/>

Transportation Security Administration (TSA)

<http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/travelers-disabilities-and-medical-conditions>

TSA: Travelers with Disabilities and Medical Conditions

This page has information on the TSA Cares helpline and screening of passengers with disabilities and medical conditions.

TSA Cares Helpline

Phone: 855-787-2227 (Toll-free)

In 2011, TSA established the toll free helpline to provide information and assistance to passengers with disabilities and medical conditions related to the security screening process. The hours of operation for the TSA Cares helpline are Monday through Friday 8 am to 11 pm EST, and weekends from 9 am to 8 pm excluding federal holidays.

https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/Horizons_2009_Final_0.pdf

<https://www.transportation.gov/airconsumer/new-horizons-information-air-traveler-disability>

U.S. Dept. of Transportation: New Horizons – Information for the Air Traveler with a Disability. Aug. 2009.

This guide is designed to offer travelers with disabilities a brief but authoritative source of information about the Air Carrier Access rules: the accommodations, facilities, and services that are now required to be available. It also describes features required by other regulations designed to make air travel more accessible. The guide is structured in much the same sequence as a passenger would plan for a trip: the circumstances he or she must consider prior to traveling, what will be encountered at the airport, and what to expect in the transitions from airport to airplane, on the plane, and then airplane to airport.

<https://www.transportation.gov/airconsumer/toll-free-hotline-air-travelers-disabilities>
U.S. Department of Transportation: Toll Free Hotline for Air Travelers with Disabilities

Phone: 800-778-4838 (Toll-free), 800-455-9880 (TTY)

Available Monday through Friday 9 am to 9 pm EST, excluding federal holidays.

Specific Carriers:

http://www.airtran.com/special_needs_information.aspx

AirTran Airways: Passengers with Disabilities and Special Needs

<http://www.aa.com/i18n/travelInformation/specialAssistance/customersWithDisabilities.jsp>

American Airlines: Accessibility and Assistance for Customers with Disabilities

http://www.delta.com/content/www/en_US/traveling-with-us/special-travel-needs/disabilities.html

Delta: Services for Travelers with Disabilities

http://www.jetblue.com/travel/special-needs/?intcmp=hd_travel_specialneeds

JetBlue: Special Assistance

http://www.lufthansa.com/online/portal/lh/de/info_and_services/travel_preparation?l=en&nodeid=1770719

Lufthansa: Travelers with Special Needs

<http://www.southwest.com/html/customer-service/unique-travel-needs/index-pol.html>

Southwest Airlines: Customers with Disabilities

<http://www.united.com/page/middlepage/0,6998,1039,00.html>

United Airlines: Travelers with Special Needs

<http://www.usairways.com/en-US/traveltools/specialneeds/default.html>

US Airways: Policies & Special Needs

<http://virginamerica.custhelp.com/app/answers/list/p/0/kw/Individuals+with+Special+Needs/search/1>

Virgin America: Individuals with Special Needs

Buses:

<https://www.greyhound.com/en/help-and-info/travel-info/customers-with-disabilities>

Greyhound

Phone: 800-752-4841

At Greyhound, your personal care attendant may be issued a 50 percent discounted ticket to travel with you. The Greyhound PCA program is voluntary and not mandated by any

federal regulations. Greyhound reserves the right to invoke and/or modify program qualifications and qualification guidelines for participation in this program.

Rental Cars:

<https://www.alamo.com/>

Alamo

Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on “Customers with disabilities” to view policies. Alamo can provide hand controls, spinner knobs and pedal extenders.

http://www.avis.com/car-rental/content/display.ac?contentId=avis-access-US_en-001311

Avis: Services for Physically Challenged Customers

Avis can provide scooter rentals, hand controls, spinner knobs, panoramic mirrors, swivel seats, and transfer boards to people with disabilities.

<http://www.budget.com/budgetWeb/html/en/smartservices/rentersWithDisabilities.html>

Budget: Devices for Renters with Disabilities

Budget can provide hand controls and other assistive devices for many rentals.

<http://www.dollar.com/help/FAQs/CustomersDisabilities.aspx>

Dollar: Customers with Disabilities

Dollar can provide hand controls and spinner knobs. Dollar can also remove the center and/or rear van seat in rented vans and minivans to provide space for service animals or personal aids.

http://www.enterprise.com/car_rental/mobilityDevices.do

Enterprise: Customers with Disabilities

Enterprise can provide hand controls, spinner knobs and pedal extenders.

http://www.hertz.com/rentacar/productservice/index.jsp?targetPage=PhysicallyChallenge&US.jsp&leftNavUserSelection=globNav_3_5_1&selectedRegion=United%20States

Hertz: Services for People with Disabilities

Hertz can add hand controls and spinner knobs to many of its rental cars.

<http://www.thrifty.com/CustomerCare/content/FAQ.aspx#26>

Thrifty: What do you offer customers with disabilities?

Thrifty can provide hand controls and spinner knobs. Thrifty can also remove the center and/or rear van seat in rented vans and minivans to provide space for service animals or personal aids.

Hotels:

<http://www.hilton.com>

Hilton Hotels & Resorts

Hilton brands allow guests to book accessible rooms online. Brands include Conrad, DoubleTree, Embassy Suites, Hampton Inn, and Homewood Suites.

www.marriott.com

<http://www.microtelinn.com/>

Microtel Inns & Suites

Reservations: 800-337-0050 (Toll-free)

ADA-Accessible guestroom suites provide a microwave, refrigerator and coffee maker that are located conveniently within reach of a person using a wheelchair. All hotels welcome service animals trained to assist guests with disabilities.

http://www.motel6.com/reservations/reservation_faq.aspx#accessible

Motel 6: Reservation Policies & FAQs

Reservations: 800-466-8356 (Toll-free)

Accessible rooms can be booked online. Some have roll-in showers.

<http://www.wyndhamworldwide.com>

Wyndham Hotel Group

Wyndham Hotel brands allow guests to book accessible rooms online. Brands include Baymont Inn & Suites, Days Inn, Dream Hotels, Howard Johnson, Knights Inn, Microtel Inns & Suites, Ramada, Super 8, and Travelodge.

Blogs

<http://www.disabledtravelers.com/blog/>

Disabled Travelers Blog

Magazines

<http://www.emerginghorizons.com/>

Emerging Horizons Accessible Travel News

C & C Creative Concepts

P.O. Box 278

Ripon, CA 95366-0278

Phone: 209-599-9409

Emerging Horizons is an on-line magazine about accessible travel — travel for wheelchair users to slow walkers. It is published quarterly, with additional articles available exclusively to subscribers in the months when a new issue is not released.

The information contained in this message is presented for the purpose of educating and informing you about paralysis and its effects. Nothing contained in this message should be construed nor is intended to be used for medical diagnosis or treatment. It should not be used in place of the advice of your physician or other qualified health care provider. Should you have any health care related questions, please call or see

your physician or other qualified health care provider promptly. Always consult with your physician or other qualified health care provider before embarking on a new treatment, diet or fitness program. You should never disregard medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have read in this message.

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