



Be Your Own Travel Agent

Surfing the Web Before Hitting the Road helps you:

- o Choose a destination
- o Plan & organize your itinerary
- o Save money
- o Review and/or book transportation
- o Find & book accommodations
- o Locate restaurants
- o See what other travelers have experienced



Where do you want to go?

Get ideas from travel guides, blogs, newspapers, magazines, & web sites

- o Information comparable to printed guides
- o Advice from other travelers
- o Online communities to ask questions and discuss your plans

New York Times Travel

- o Searchable site useful for browsing destinations
- o Helpful columns/articles
 - o 36 Hours
 - o The Getaway (Stephanie Rosenblum)
 - o Frugal Traveler (Seth Kugel)
 - o 52 Places to Go

Wall Street Journal Travel

- o Compilation of recent articles about travel that have appeared in the Wall Street Journal
- o Includes a link to “[The Middle Seat Terminal](#)” - blog written by the travel editor of the Wall Street Journal

Other good planning sites

- o Useful for choosing destinations & planning itineraries
 - o [Fodors](#)
 - o [Frommer's](#)
 - o [Rick Steve's Europe](#)
 - o [Moon Travel Guides](#)
 - o [Lonely Planet](#)
 - o [Trip Advisor](#)



Luxury Travel

- o Luxurylink.com

- o Curated list of 5-star boutique hotels & resorts plus packaged luxury vacations at discounted rates

A rectangular stamp-like logo with the words "LUXURY LINK" in a serif font, tilted slightly to the right.

- o Jetsetter.com (register for access)

- o High-end travel at great rates, exotic offerings
- o Includes reviews & editor picks



Budget



- o Budgettravel.com

- o Busy, interactive social media connected site with great deals and links
- o Articles, news, blogs, feature stories, vacation ideas (“how to” section)
- o Book travel including package deals
- o Sign up for their e-newsletter for travel tips, vacation ideas & best travel deals

Major travel booking sites

- Travelocity.com



- Expedia.com



- Orbitz.com



- Kayak.com



- Hipmunk.com





Flights



- o [MSN Travel](#)
- o [Google \(ITA\)](#) - cannot book flights
- o [Fly.com](#) - compares flights, no booking; includes deal alerts
- o [WhichBudget.com](#)
 - o Inexpensive overseas flight plan using local, budget airlines

More tools for flying

o Flatseats.com



- o Airline & airline seat reviews (geared toward business & 1st class)

o Seatguru.com



- o Airplane seat information & reviews (G factor)

o Flightstats.com



- o Flight tracking & airport information including delays

o Airwise.com



- o Information on stores, terminals, restaurants & ground transportation for 67 airports.

Track prices

o Yapta.com 

- o Track your flight's price before or after you buy your ticket and get email or tweet alerts when the price drops

your amazing **personal** travel assistant



finds the
best flights



tracks prices
for you



alerts you when
prices drop



gets you refunds
after you buy

[join now](#) (free!)

Already a member? [sign in](#)

How Yapta Works

We track prices before you buy. If the price drops after you buy, we help you get refund travel credits from the airlines. [Learn more »](#)

Fly vs. Drive

- o Befrugal.com/tools/fly-or-drive-calculator
- o Calculates cost of travel by plane or car depending on your destination and number of travelers as well as other info



Rental Cars

o [Autoslash.com](https://www.autoslash.com)



o Lock in lowest rental car rates



Search
for a car rental



Track a rental
you've booked elsewhere

Pick-up your car at an airport near an address

Airport city or code

Return at a different location?

Pick-up Date  

Drop-off Date  

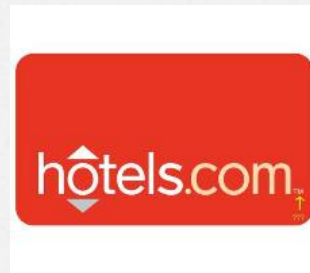
More Options [Car Types, Companies, & Discounts](#) ▶

Search

Accommodation-Hotels

- o [Booking.com](https://www.booking.com) 
 - o Includes smaller hotels.
 - o Good European coverage

- o [Hotels.com](https://www.hotels.com)



Bidding Sites

- o Priceline.com

The logo for Priceline.com, featuring the text "priceline.com" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.


- o Bid on flights, hotels, cars, vacation packages, & cruises

- o Hotwire.com

The logo for Hotwire, featuring the text "hotwire" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter "o" is replaced by a solid red circle.

- o Hotels, cars, flights & vacation packages

- o Bidontravel.com

The logo for BidOnTravel.com, featuring the text "BidOnTravel.com" in a light blue, sans-serif font on a darker blue rectangular background.

- o Bidding strategies for Priceline & Hotwire

Alternative Accommodations

- o Vrbo.com-Vacation Rental By Owner

- o Over 540,000 rentals worldwide

- o AirBNB.com

- o Rent from over 34,000 people in 192 countries

- o Tripping.com

- o Search, compare and book vacation rentals and short term rentals, including renting actual homes.



Booking Accomodations

o [Homeaway.com](https://www.homeaway.com)



HomeAway
let's stay together*

The logo for HomeAway features the brand name in a blue sans-serif font, with 'Home' in a lighter shade and 'Away' in a darker shade. Below the name is the tagline 'let's stay together*' in a smaller, lowercase blue font.

o [Parkervillas.com](https://www.parkervillas.com)

Booking for Italy



Parker Villas
Your key to every corner of Italy

The logo for Parker Villas features a green circular icon containing a stylized white plant or leaf design. Below the icon, the brand name 'Parker Villas' is written in a blue serif font, and the tagline 'Your key to every corner of Italy' is written in a smaller, italicized blue serif font.

I'm hungry.

Where can we eat?

- o [Yelp](#)

- o User restaurant reviews

- o [Chowhound](#)

- o Food forums

- o [Urbanspoon](#)

- o Restaurants and reviews from critics, food bloggers, and friends.

- o [OpenTable](#)

- o Book a table

Helpful social media sites

- o Travelpod.com

- o Travel blog website that has info on printing your blog as a book, linked with Facebook



- o Trippy.com

- o Social media interactive travel site for sharing travel tips with friends, family or other people with similar travel interests



More helpful sites

- o [Virtual Tourist.com](http://VirtualTourist.com)



- o Get travel advice from people behind the scenes

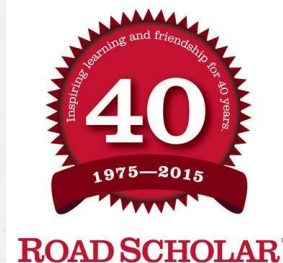
- o Couchsurfing.org



- o Global network of 9 million people in 120,000 cities - share, meet, stay

- o [Road Scholar](http://RoadScholar.com)

- o Educational adventures from Elderhostel



Organizing your itinerary

- o [Tripit](#) - travel organizer
 - o Plan your trip, forward emailed flight, rental car, and hotel confirmations
 - o Gives detailed itinerary, access on Smartphone, tablet or online, forward to anyone



Special Interest Sites

- o [CruiseCritic](#)

- o What travelers are saying about ships and cruises.

- o [National Park Service](#)

- o Plan a National Park visit

- o [Google Maps](#)

- o Map routes for driving, public transit, hiking, & biking.

Government sites

- o [Department of State](#)
 - o Passport & visa information, travel warnings
- o [Students Abroad](#) - Student advice
- o [TSA](#) - Air travel security rules
- o [Traveler's Health](#) -
 - o Health information & vaccinations for destination

Skokielibrary.info

- o Your library's website is an excellent resource for:
 - o Books
 - o DVDs
 - o Audiobooks
 - o E-Books
- o Language learning:
 - o Mango Languages
 - o Rosetta Stone





Bon Voyage!