

AAA Travel Professionals Say Travelers Adjust Plans in Response to Rising Gas Prices

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Travelers will change plans, but won't shy away from travel overall

Two new surveys of AAA travel agency and auto travel managers reveal that rising fuel prices are affecting Americans' travel plans this summer. From one-on-one interactions with AAA members, 95 percent of AAA auto travel managers say that high gas prices will cause travelers to alter their vacation plans this summer. AAA auto travel managers cited travelers taking trips closer to home, taking fewer trips, and reducing the number of vacation days traveled as the top ways that Americans will adjust their travel plans this summer.

When asked about destinations that most frequently provide the most attractive bargains or best values for summer travel, AAA travel agency managers identified the following: Las Vegas, Orlando/Walt Disney World, Fla., Branson, Missouri, Anaheim/Disneyland, and San Francisco. International destinations identified as best for bargains and value are: the Caribbean, European Cruises, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, South America, and Costa Rica.

When comparing AAA's 2007 and 2008 summer travel surveys, AAA travel agency managers identified the following locations as this summer's top five domestic and international vacation destinations:

Domestic by air:

(Excluding Canada & Mexico)

2008	2007
1. Orlando	1. Orlando
2. Las Vegas	2. Las Vegas
3. New York	3. Seattle
4. Los Angeles	4. New York
5. Washington, D.C.	5. Los Angeles/ Orange County

International by air:

2008	2007
1. Rome	1. Rome
2. London	2. London
3. Cancun	3. Vancouver
4. Dublin	4. Cancun
5. Vancouver	5. Paris

In addition, domestic "hot spots" for this summer include: New Mexico, San Antonio, Texas, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Oregon, and Miami/South Beach. International "hot spots" include: Croatia, Montenegro, Vietnam, Cinque Terra, Italy, and Douro River, Portugal.

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