

Airport Expects Record Holiday Air Travel

Offers tips for a smooth journey

More holiday travelers than ever are expected this year at Portland International Airport.

In the week surrounding Thanksgiving, an estimated 335,000 passengers will travel through PDX; the busiest forecasted holiday days of the year, followed by the next busiest days before and after Christmas and New Year's.

The airport has added some new services include Gold Key Valet parking, automated parking guidance in the short-term parking garage, and a cell phone waiting area.

Officials also offer the following tips to make travel easy.

Expect Busy Conditions: Arrive Two Hours Early

Review Travel Tips: You can find travel tips at pdx.com, the airport's new Web site, and on the toll-free information line at 877-PDX-INFO. Both resources provide flight arrival and departure information, security and parking information, and other facts about PDX.

Prepare for Security Screening:

As a reminder security regulations limit liquids, gels and aerosols in carry-on bags. A passenger can take containers of up to 3.4 ounces if all are included in a single, one-quart, clear, plastic zip-top bag that is presented to screeners at the security checkpoint.

Leave gifts unwrapped, as they may need to be unwrapped for security inspection. Ship high value or fragile items to your destination. Protect necessary valuables by



PHOTO BY RAYMOND RENDELMAN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Ticket lines at Portland International Airport see crowds nearing capacity as the Thanksgiving holiday approaches. Some passengers use electronic check-in stations to expedite the procedures required before entering the terminal.

keeping them with you when you travel, including essential medications.

Choose Checkpoint with Shortest Line: Travelers can use either security checkpoint, so pick the one

with the shortest line, and then use the Concourse Connector to reach any concourse.

Check Ahead on Parking: Travelers should allow extra time to find a parking space. Travelers can get

regularly updated information on parking availability at pdx.com and 877-PDX-INFO.

Remove Valuables from Vehicle: Travelers are encouraged to remove all valuables from vehicles.

You should also remove all forms of identification, including the vehicle registration and leave the garage door opener at home or disable the automatic garage door.

Try Gold Key Valet: The valet parking service allows travelers to drop off their vehicles in front of the airport terminal building, and pick up their vehicles at the same location when they return from their trip.

Follow Automated Parking Guidance: The system directs motorists from the entrance gate to an open parking spot via a series of electronic signs and lights. As motorists enter the garage and approach each level of the garage, a sign indicates the exact number of vacant spaces available on the floor.

Use Quick Pay: Travelers can use credit cards to make quick entries into and speedy exits out of all PDX parking facilities, including the economy parking lots.

Check Out Cell Phone Waiting Area: Motorists can park in the special parking lot, wait for a call from a friend announcing their arrival, and then quickly pull up to the airport terminal to pick-up the traveler; available year-round. Motorists must remain in their vehicles at all times in the lot, and can use the lot for free for a maximum of 30 minutes.

Take TriMet's MAX Red Line: MAX light rail Red Line is a great way to get to PDX; while avoiding congestion and parking problems. To plan trips, go to trimet.org or call 503-238-RIDE.

Enjoy Holiday Entertainment & Specials: PDX's seventh annual "Holidays Take Flight" celebration runs through Jan. 1. Watch for live entertainment throughout the airport.

New Residents, Births Grow Population

State adds 54,950 new residents

Oregon's population increased by 54,950 people in the past year, for a total of 3,690,505 residents, according to new estimates by Portland State University's Population Research Center.

Most of the growth was attributed to 37,750 more people moving

to the state than moving out and 17,200 more births than deaths. The increase in births was the highest that Oregon has experienced in at least a decade.

The state's population growth rate is on par with rates seen in the mid-1990s. Recent data show an increase in school enrollment, labor force participation, employment, the number of Oregon tax exemptions claimed, the number of

drivers' licenses issued and Medicare enrollment.

Population growth in Washington, Multnomah and Deschutes counties accounted for almost one-half of the state's overall population change. In the Portland metropolitan area, Washington County added an estimated 10,490 persons; Multnomah County, 8,480; and Deschutes County in central

Oregon saw an increase of 8,195.

Clackamas County ranked fourth in population growth, adding 5,230 persons, followed by Marion County, with a population gain of 4,405.

The population of cities captures about 70 percent of the state's population, about the same as last year. But most of the towns have seen slightly smaller increases than in the previous year.

Driver's License Restrictions Imposed Rights group opposes action

Gov. Ted Kulongoski has made it more difficult for illegal immigrants to get Oregon drivers' licenses, signing an executive order requiring applicants to have a valid Social Security number or show that they are in the country legally.

The plan was immediately denounced by a statewide immigrant rights coalition.

"This is clearly aimed at undocumented immigrants and not at any sort of national security plan," said Aeryca Steinbauer of Causa, a statewide coalition that advocates for immigrants.

"Restricting drivers' license access also erodes community trust," Steinbauer said. "Rather than increasing security, drivers' license restrictions would result in a situation where immigrants fear discrimination and being reported to ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement.)"

Kulongoski's order issued last Friday limits the kinds of identification the state can accept before issuing a license.

"There is an increasing concern, based on ongoing investigations, that Oregon is becoming a safe haven" for unlawfully obtaining identification, said Kulongoski's spokeswoman, Patty Wentz. "We need to quickly change the requirements to more closely match other states."

Oregon has been one of seven states that do not require proof of "legal presence" to get a license.

Steinbauer said Kulongoski's order will not stop adults from continuing to drive, creating a potential safety problem.

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Sharon Maxwell-Hendricks
General Manager

The Cold Case Files

The Portland Police Bureau and the families for whom have suffered such horrible losses ask for your help in finding justice for these victims.



CASE NUMBER: 88-88210
ROBERT and FRIEDA WHEATLY

On August 29, 1988, police responded to a welfare check at 2612 N Holman and discovered the bodies of 61-year-old ROBERT WHEATLY, and his wife 69-year-old FRIEDA WHEATLEY. The motive appears to be a residential robbery and the medical examiner determined the cause of death to be strangulation.

The home was ransacked and a television, ATM and credit cards, and a light green 1979 Buick Regal - were stolen.

There is a cash reward offered for information reported to the Cold Case Homicide Unit that leads to an arrest in this case.

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