

Beat: Travel

Frequent Flyer - Why Do We Sing The Blues?

Travelling Around The World

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USPA NEWS - Travelling around the world is becoming more and more available to an ever increasing number of people but the problems associated with travelling are becoming worse. Let me share a recent experience.

While on a recent business trip from Bangkok to Singapore I found myself in a sticky situation at the airlines check-in counter. I was late and in a hurry to get going to an important meeting, final call was due any time, and I still needed to make a few phone calls when to my shock and disbelief my one carry-on bag was over weight and I was told to remove some items by the airline staff. The queue behind me started shuffling and murmuring to each other as I opened my case to try and find some items I could remove and reduce the weight of the bag. With my worldly possessions spilling onto the floor and embarrassingly my smalls on view to the world I wished I was somewhere else.

Two globetrotting partners, Jesse Potash and Gaston Blanchet had a similar experience during a long trip from the uncharted wilderness of the remote African islands to the fabled streets of Havana, a new type of travel system was needed and became conceptualised as luggage they always wished they had. A simple but beautiful bag made from the best quality materials to provide the user with a way to optimise their travel experiences, with the modern needs catered for in one easy to move case.

The luggage system has not seen any fundamental changes since wheels were added to an ordinary bag by Bernard Sadow in 1972. Sadow originally applied for a U.S. patent in 1970, and in 1972, he was granted the first successful patent on wheeled suitcases. He attached four casters, like those used on trunks, to the bottom of a suitcase and added a flexible strap, and off to market he went, with a suitcase trailing behind him. New York's famous Macy's store liked the idea and sold the first suitcases in October 1970.

Modern materials and manufacturing processes have developed the wheeled suitcase in many designs but, speed and function have become increasingly important especially with the frequent flyer. Available in two sizes, checked-in size at 69" x 48" x 28" with a carrying capacity of 86 litres and a projected weight of 9.9 lbs / 4.5kg and the carry-on size case at 22" x 14" x 9" in size with a projected weight of 7.9lbs / 3.6 kgs, the Trunkster is the modern day solution to all these problems and more.

The Trunkster carry-on really suits the frequent traveller who doesn't want the hassles of checking luggage at the airport. Trunkster has a unique Zipperless entry systems, by utilising a sliding door you no longer have to unzip the entire bag to instantly get to your belongings. The door is both durable and waterproof made of rigid materials strong enough to deal with the demands of modern day travel and includes an enhanced theft protection unlike those seen on vulnerable zipper A small discrete hidden compartment is especially convenient for travel essentials like passport, notebook, pens, etc.

The robust side to side handle gives greater control while the multi-position grip allows a good balance while in transit. Built into the handle is a digital display that shows the exact weight of your luggage in lbs and kgs when lifted which helps those annoying over-weight problems that can be experienced at check-in.

A nice feature is the removable powerbank and USB charger that is installed neatly into the carry on case only, allowing the ability to charge any mobile device while on the move. The 15,000 mAh capacity gives a charging output of 3 Amps is more than enough to charge a mobile phone up to 9 times. The powerbank is completely removeable and should you need more power can simply be upgraded with any compatible USB power bank.

Whether your bags are unexpectedly gate checked or your checking for a long journey the carry-on case is GPS enabled and can be tracked from any connected device at a push of a button using the same technology utilised by Apple's "Find My Mac" software app.

In addition to the carry-on and checked Trunksters, the luggage comes with the following:

Trunkster's Curated Travel List: the developers favorite off-the-beaten path travel destinations with tips in a downloadable PDF. Having traveled to over 60 countries each, they share info on the most unique spots recommended around the world.

Travel Swag: custom organizational pouch and 1 retro Tyvek (water / tear-resistant) luggage tag.

Travel Wallet: organize your travel essentials (passport, credit cards, currency, etc.) in this classy, minimalist wallet.

Nap Kit: get some extra zzz's with Trunkster's custom memory foam neck pillow and eye mask. Want one? The project was fully funded on the 17th January 2015 with over \$1.3 million pledged from customers wanting a Trunkster and an expected delivery in the fall of this year, I seriously think you should make a pledge and buy a case, I know I will. Visit <http://trunkster.co> - For more details and to place your order.

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