

Here Are The Worst Travel Mistakes You Can Make

Here is a list of the most common travel mistakes people make – and how to fix them. This comes from MSNBC and travel columnist Christopher Elliott:

- **Not double-checking the name on your airline ticket.** The new Transportation Security Administration rules say that names on boarding passes and IDs must match exactly - including apostrophes, hyphens and initials. So *always* double check that your name is spelled correctly. If you catch an error quickly, many travel agencies can change the name on the ticket, but if you don't notice for a week or two, you may have to pay a fee – or buy a new ticket – to fix things. If you don't fix it, you run the risk of not getting through security because the name on your ticket doesn't match your ID.
- The next travel mistake: **Not inspecting your rental car when you pick it up.** If you don't, the rental car company could hold YOU responsible for any damage – whether you did it or not! After all, there's no way to tell if that dent was there before or after you used the car. So if you notice any damage, point it out to an employee, and have them write it down. Take a picture of any damage on the car before you drive away.
- Another travel mistake: **Not buying cancellation insurance.** You should purchase this for big ticket travel items – like cruises, guided tours and safaris. That way, you're covered if you have to cancel your trip. You can compare travel insurance prices at [SquareMouth.com](https://www.squaremouth.com), but make sure you find out how far in advance you have to cancel. Most policies require the trip to be canceled at least 48 hours before departure. So if you miss the flight before your cruise, you may have to eat the price on the whole cruise if the boat sails before you get there.
- One more travel mistake: **Staying at a hotel with a "resort fee."** Some hotels can charge up to \$40 a day for the pool, tennis courts, putting green, "complimentary" newspaper, and local in-room phone calls – whether you use them or *not*! The best way to protect yourself is to call the hotel and make sure you're booking an 'all-inclusive' rate.