

NEWS RELEASE

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PDX Spring Break Travel Revels in March Madness!

As fans cheer their teams to the Sweet 16, and onwards to the Elite Eight, last-minute plans are in the making for a trip to the Big Dance. Whether you're rooting for the Badgers, the Bulldogs, the Ducks or the Jayhawks, an airline ticket might be as tough to come by as a courtside seat.

Portland International Airport is again gearing up for the busy travel season ahead. Roughly 711,000 travelers are expected during our peak spring break period, spanning March 22 through April 4 and encompassing both Oregon and Washington school spring breaks, and the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament.

On the airport's busiest forecasted days – March 24, 27, 30 and 31 – roughly 54,000 travelers will pass through PDX each day, compared to the normal daily average of 47,000 during this time of year.

PDX set an all-time passenger record—18.3 million travelers—in 2016. While it's still early in the year, the airport is on track to surpass that record for 2017.

Traveling over the next few weeks? Take inspiration and direction from these words of wisdom to win the season.

You miss 100 percent of the shots you never take – And, you might miss your flight if you don't arrive early. Give yourself at least 90 minutes ahead of scheduled departure time. And, for those flights departing before 8 a.m., or between 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., consider getting to PDX two hours early.

Play until the clock says 0:00 – But don't wait until the last second to figure out where you'll park. Travelers planning to park at the airport during spring break are encouraged to review

real-time parking availability gauges before arriving, found at www.pdx.com. Also, watch digital signs for parking updates when approaching the airport. If the long-term garage fills, parking staff will direct motorists to other parking options, including the economy lots.

Sports do not build character, they reveal it – And, if you download the free, new [PDX Parking Shuttle App](#), it will reveal real-time arrival information for the shuttle buses serving the airport's Red and Blue Economy Parking Lots. Users can tap the app's 'heart' icon when in the shelter waiting for the next bus, saving the shelter location and making it easier to remember their car's nearest shelter upon returning to the parking lot. Score!

It's not how big you are, it's how big you play – Or, in this case, how smart you pack. For TSA travel tips and a complete list of items prohibited on flights, visit www.tsa.gov. PDX travelers with screening questions related to a disability or medical condition can contact the TSA at 503.889.3067, or PDXcustomerservice@tsa.dhs.gov.

In every challenge you have a choice, win from within – As part of PDX's "Spring is in the Air" campaign, through June 6, travelers can enter to win a \$500 voucher redeemable for round-trip travel from PDX. PDX concessionaires are also offering sales and specials at participating shops and restaurants.

Don't let a win get to your head, or a loss to your heart – While you wait for your flight, you can watch your NCAA team's efforts on televisions at select restaurants throughout the airport terminal including: Stanford's Bar and Beaches (pre-security), Laurelwood (Concourse A), Henry's (Concourse C), Rogue Ales (Concourse D) and Laurelwood (Concourse E).

Keep calm and dribble on – Staying put for spring but looking forward to summer? Europe is calling! Start planning now for an exciting summer adventure! Delta Air Lines starts new nonstop service to London's Heathrow Airport on May 26. Icelandair resumes its flights to Reykjavik on April 7, and Condor Airlines resumes seasonal nonstop flights to Frankfurt on May 3. Additionally, airlines are expanding service to domestic destinations, giving PDX travelers more options for travel in the coming months. Alaska Airlines starts daily service to Philadelphia (May 22), Milwaukee (June 5) and Baltimore (June 6); Horizon starts daily service to Albuquerque (Aug. 18) and Southwest Airlines starts three daily flights to San Francisco (June 4).

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