

## Travel

This past holiday weekend, it was estimated that about 37 million Americans would be traveling. This is an increase of about 60% over last year.

Approximately six million were expected to travel by air for the weekend. Airfares are up slightly from last year; my travel agent expects a larger increase for 2022. Airlines are no longer keeping middle seats vacant. As of today, masks are still required.

Amtrak is restoring services cut back due to the pandemic. In the northwest, the trains connecting Seattle with Chicago and Los Angeles are back to daily service (from thrice weekly). Amtrak Cascades trains between Seattle and Eugene, OR are running twice per day; in addition, there is another train connecting Seattle and Portland daily. There is still no service to Vancouver BC, as the Canadian border is still closed to most travel. As of today, masks are still required.

Cruise lines are resuming some operations this summer.

Some travel, including international travel, will most likely require some form of vaccination or COVID test documentation. At a G-7 meeting to take place in a few days, the subject is expected to be raised. Most likely a 'vaccination passport' of some sort will be used. The state of New York has already introduced its 'Excelsior Pass' for attendance at some domestic events. Several European countries are already allowing fully vaccinated Americans to enter. These include Greece, Iceland, Ireland, and Croatia. As far as I know, those who can prove vaccination or a negative test would not be required to quarantine upon arrival.

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