



Global Beats

TRAVEL TIPS NEWSLETTER

For Educators, Students and Friends

Greater competition and cheaper flights? The Skies have opened across the Atlantic!

A vision 6 years in the making, the month of April starts with the “Open Skies” agreement between the US and the European Union officially in effect! Prior to the agreement, airlines were restricted to taking off and landing only in their native countries. The new pact makes it easier for U.S and E.U airlines to fly anywhere they want to across the Atlantic.

London’s Heathrow airport will be impacted the most by the new agreement. March marked the opening of their new Terminal 5 allowing U.S. carriers which were previously locked out of Heathrow the ability to offer new flights there.

More routes are expected to open and European carriers are likely to compete more aggressively with each other across the continent. There is the potential for a new market of routes from smaller US cities to European hubs, creating endless possibilities of open-market competition. In 2002 the Brattle Group consulting firm estimated that an open skies agreement between the United States and the European Union would generate a 10% increase of passenger traffic in formerly restricted markets, which could reduce fares 4 to 10 percent. However, with the price of fuel at an all time high, we don’t expect to see these type of reductions just yet.

APRIL 2008



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Airlines Charging for 2nd Bag

Northwest Airlines, United Airlines and US Airways have announced that they will start charging a \$25 fee for checking a 2nd bag on **DOMESTIC FLIGHTS**. Make sure you know your airline's baggage requirements and restrictions before heading to the airport!



Students in Biarritz, France

MORE STUDENTS ARE STUDYING ABROAD ***“American Students Studying Abroad at Record Levels: Up 8.5%”***

Eager to learn about different countries and acquire global skills, U.S. students are studying abroad in record numbers, according to a survey released in November 2007. Study abroad increased by 8.5% to a total of 223,534 according to the Open Doors report, published annually by the Institute of International Education with funding from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The number of American Students receiving academic credit for their study abroad has increased 150% in the past decade, from fewer than 90,000 students in 1995/96.

These increased numbers reflect a growing recognition by students and educators that an international experience is important to students' future careers.

*For additional statistics and analysis, see:
www.opendoors.iienetwork.org*



Tips: Traveling with Children

- Check-In and print out boarding passes online 24-hours in advance to avoid check-in lines
- If you are traveling on an airline that allows your child of a certain age to fly for free, bring a their birth certificate as proof of them meeting the age requirements. Research using the “Baby B’Air Flight Vest”, an FAA approved harness-style restraint for your baby that fastens to the parents seat belt during flight. www.babybair.com (for use in-flight only. Not approved for use during take-off and landing)
- Pack a change of clothes and activities for your children in their carry-on. Bring a bottle of bubbles for entertainment during long lines.
- If traveling to the beach, pack some inflatable beach toys. They are easy to pack and cheap enough that you don't mind leaving them behind. Oriental Trading Company is a great source to purchase these: www.orientaltrading.com
- Create a packing list: <http://www.independenttraveler.com/resources/packing.cfm>



Destination **FRANCE**



DID YOU KNOW?

The Marseillaise, the French national anthem, was first sung in Strasbourg, not Marseille. It was composed in 1792 by Claude-Joseph Rouget de Lisle, and made the national anthem in 1975.

French and English are the only two languages spoken natively on five continents: Europe, Asia, North America, South America, and Africa.

There are over 300 kinds of cheese made in France.

French people have the highest female and third highest male life expectancy in the European Union.



Spring into France: April's Festivals and Events

Grandes Eaux Musicales de Versailles, ongoing

An elaborate show where 50 fountains of the Versailles Palace's gardens are choreographed to music. <http://www.chateauversaillesspectacles.fr/gem.htm>

32nd Paris Marathon, April 6th

<http://www.parismarathon.com/marathon/2008/us/index.html>

Foire de Paris, April 30th—May 12th

<http://www.foiredeparis.fr/>

17th Annual Festival des Jardins, April 30th

30 specially designed gardens will be showcased at the Clauumont Castle

Jazz Sous Les Pommiers (Jazz Under The Apple Trees), April 26—May 3

<http://www.jazzsouslespommiers.com/>

Europa Jazz Festival, April 1—May 11

<http://www.europajazz.fr/>

Crepe Suzette: French Pancake w/ Orange Liqueur

- 3/4 C Milk
 - 3/4 C Water
 - 3 Egg Yolks
 - 1 C Sugar
 - 1 C Flour
 - 1/2 lb unsalted butter
 - 2 Orange Peels
 - 1/2 C Orange Juice
 - 4 tbs Orange Liqueur
1. Put 1/2 C sugar and orange peels in a processor. Blend for 1 minute. Add 4.5 oz of butter and process. Slowly add 1/2 C of orange juice, add 3 tbs of orange liqueur.
 2. Cover and refrigerate
 3. Prepare the pancake mixture. Place milk, water, egg yolks, 1tbs. Orange liqueur and 5 tbs butter in food processor. Blend for 1 minute on high. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hrs.
 4. Grease a skillet with butter and heat over moderate temperature. Cook one pancake at a time in the skillet.
 5. Place orange mixture in saucepan over heat for 1 minute. Pour mixture into pancake skillet. Place pancakes in skillet, one at a time. Fold in half, then half again. Continuing with each pancakes.
 6. Heat 2 tbs Cognac and orange juice in saucepan. Pour over pancakes. Ignite cautiously with a match and serve immediately!

<http://www.cuisine-france.com/recipes/crepe-suzette.htm>

MOVE YOUR CLASSROOM TO FRANCE!

Accepting enrolments in our **BIARRITZ, FRANCE** program.

Encourage your students to study abroad and participate in a college-credit language immersion program!

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SPI STUDY ABROAD

TEACHERS WANTED

We are currently looking for teachers to serve as assistant directors on the following summer 2008 programs:

San Sebastian, Spain Summer 2: June 26 - July 13
Queretaro, Mexico Summer 2: June 28 - July 12
Biarritz, France Summer 2: July 10 - August 3

Becca Smith
Program Director



START PREPARING FOR SUMMER 2009!

SPI has made it even easier to travel with your students on our immersion programs. Starting this spring teacher will be able to download and manage their personalized immersion program ONLINE!

Learn More: www.spiAbroad.com/teachers.asp

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