

General tips for flight bookings

The situation of the flight providers has been drastically changed in recent years. In the past, the national airlines are looking for the best way to get the most out of the world. The new providers, the so-called low-cost carriers, have re-mixed the market and the lowest prices with little service. You can do without service on shorter flights; the prices in the advertisements of € 1, 19 or even 0 are, of course, only runners and convey false notions. Only very few seats are available for this prices. This is logical, because the real costs of these airlines are much more than the offered runners. And these low rates must be compensated with higher prices for most of the travellers, e.g. for groups. This means that the individual booker might get a ticket for € 19; a group of 30 participants will not get it. Anyone who does not accept this logic will be disappointed.

Scheduled flights

Under the price pressure of the "low-cost carriers" there are also more and more often offers almost on the price basis of the "low-cost carriers", especially outside the high season. Advantages: Longer options possible, payments only a few weeks before departure, name changes sometimes possible.

Cheap flights - risk bookings

For a very long-term booking, the risk booking might be the most cost-effective way to book a flight with low-cost airlines. How does this work?

For individual bookings over the Internet, up to 9 persons can be booked. An immediate booking with passenger names and payment is required. If you book 4times 9 people, a group of 36 participants is secured. With each new access, however, the prices can go up, as a few "super offers" are valid only at the first access. Let us assume, for the four accesses, the prices are € 29/39/49/59. This gives an average price of € 44 and is probably more favourable than a group booking for the same airline.

Advantage: If you book early, you can reach low prices. Disadvantages: Prices are fixed for the next steps only after the active bookings have been completed; Passenger names are to be mentioned immediately and later name changes are subject to a charge; Costs are to be paid immediately; Cancellations are with charge; Additional bookings later become more expensive.

Basic planning

The most important moment is the first costs planning of the tour to inform your music group about prices. To do this, four cost blocks must be added:

- Travel expenses to the place of departure
- Basic Arrangement (from the brochure of music&friends)
- Coach rentals for the transfers during the event (from the brochure of music&friends)
- Flight price for both routes including all fees

On these approximate costs, you can ask the number of interested members before going on with further, concrete steps. If it is sure that the music group will participate at this event, a reservation should be made at music&friends to secure it. You can find the dates to which this reservation can be cancelled without obligation in the brochures. After the participants have paid down, the flights can be booked.



Links airlines (no claims of being complete):

- BMI regional: <https://www.flybmi.com/>
- Brussel Airlines: <https://www.brusselsairlines.com>
- Easyjet: <https://www.easyjet.com>
- Eurowings: <https://www.eurowings.com>
- Flybe: <https://www.flybe.com>
- Norwegian: <https://www.norwegian.com>
- Ryanair: <https://flights.ryanair.com>
- Smartwings: <https://www.smartwings.com>
- Swiss: <https://www.swiss.com>
- TUIfly: <https://www.tuifly.com/>

Errors excepted / 15.12.2018

