

Best Time to Book Southwest Flights: Month-by-Month Pricing Calendar 2026

 **Booking Timing Expert: +1 (844) 565-1867** (Find Your Perfect Booking Window!)

Quick Overview: When to Book

Travel Month	Book This Far Ahead	Avg Savings
January	3-4 weeks	40%
February	3-4 weeks	45%
March	6-8 weeks	25%
April	6-8 weeks	30%
May	8-10 weeks	35%
June	10-12 weeks	20%
July	12-14 weeks	15%
August	10-12 weeks	20%
September	4-6 weeks	40%
October	4-6 weeks	35%
November	8-10 weeks (avoid Thanksgiving)	30%
December	14-16 weeks (holidays)	10%

 **Your specific dates?** Call **+1 (844) 565-1867** for personalized booking window.

January Travel: Book in December

 **Best Booking Window: 3-4 weeks before**

Why January is cheap:

- Post-holiday slump
- Lowest demand of year
- Airlines clearing inventory

Sweet spots:

- Mid-January (after MLK Day): **Lowest fares**
- Late January: Still excellent deals

Price range:

- Domestic: \$89-\$180
- International: \$350-\$600

 **January deals:** Call +1 (844) 565-1867 in late December

February Travel: Book in January

 **Best Booking Window: 3-4 weeks before**

Why February is cheap:

- Continued low demand
- Valentine's Day bump (avoid Feb 13-16)
- President's Day spike (avoid Feb 15-18)

Sweet spots:

- First two weeks: **Rock bottom prices**
- After President's Day: Deals return

Price range:

- Domestic: \$95-\$190
- International: \$380-\$650

Exception: President's Day weekend = 30% higher

 **Skip holiday surges:** Call +1 (844) 565-1867 for off-peak dates

March Travel: Book in January

 **Best Booking Window: 6-8 weeks before**

Why March varies:

- Spring break (mid-March): **Expensive**
- Early/late March: Moderate prices

Spring break zones:

- March 8-22: Highest prices (+50%)
- Avoid if possible

Sweet spots:

- First week of March
- Last week of March

Price range:

- Non-spring break: \$140-\$250
- Spring break: \$220-\$400

 **Avoid spring break crowds:** Call +1 (844) 565-1867 for alternative dates

April Travel: Book in February

 **Best Booking Window: 6-8 weeks before**

Why April is moderate:

- Shoulder season
- Easter impact (varies by year)
- Weather improving = more demand

Sweet spots:

- Weekdays (avoid Easter weekend)
- After April 20

Price range:

- Domestic: \$150-\$260
- Europe: \$450-\$750 (great time!)

Pro tip: April = best month for Europe deals

 **Europe bargains:** Call +1 (844) 565-1867 for transatlantic rates

May Travel: Book in March



Best Booking Window: 8-10 weeks before

Why May pricing rises:

- Memorial Day weekend spike
- Summer season starts
- Popular vacation month

Sweet spots:

- First three weeks (before Memorial Day)
- Avoid May 23-27 (holiday weekend)

Price range:

- Domestic: \$180-\$300
- International: \$500-\$850

Memorial Day: Prices jump 40% (May 22-26)



Skip Memorial Day premium: Call **+1 (844) 565-1867** for early May deals

June Travel: Book in March/April



Best Booking Window: 10-12 weeks before

Why June is expensive:

- Peak summer starts
- School vacations begin
- High demand

Sweet spots:

- First week (kids still in school)
- Midweek travel (Tue/Wed)

Price range:

- Domestic: \$220-\$380
- International: \$600-\$1,100

Book early: June sells out fast



Summer planning: Call **+1 (844) 565-1867** by April 1

July Travel: Book in April/May



Best Booking Window: 12-14 weeks before

Why July is peak price:

- Highest demand of year
- 4th of July premium
- Family vacations

Sweet spots:

- July 5-10 (after July 4th)
- Avoid June 30-July 5 (+60% surge)

Price range:

- Domestic: \$250-\$450
- International: \$700-\$1,400

Independence Day: July 1-5 = most expensive week of year



Beat July prices: Call +1 (844) 565-1867 to book by May 1

August Travel: Book in June



Best Booking Window: 10-12 weeks before

Why August stays expensive:

- Still peak summer
- Last chance for family trips
- Drops after Aug 20 (school starts)

Sweet spots:

- Last week of August: **Prices fall 30%**
- Best deals Aug 25-31

Price range:

- Early August: \$230-\$420
- Late August: \$160-\$280

Hack: Travel Aug 26+ for summer weather at fall prices



Late August steals: Call +1 (844) 565-1867 for end-of-summer deals

September Travel: Book in August

 **Best Booking Window: 4-6 weeks before**

Why September is golden:

- **Best month for deals**
- Post-Labor Day drop
- Schools back in session
- Perfect weather

Sweet spots:

- Entire month (except Labor Day weekend)
- Avoid Sept 1-3 (holiday)

Price range:

- Domestic: \$110-\$220
- International: \$400-\$700

Pro tip: September = highest value month of entire year

 **Best annual deals:** Call +1 (844) 565-1867 for September bargains

October Travel: Book in August/September

 **Best Booking Window: 4-6 weeks before**

Why October is excellent:

- Shoulder season continues
- Beautiful fall weather
- Low demand (except Columbus Day weekend)

Sweet spots:

- All month except Oct 11-14 (Columbus Day)
- Mid-October: Best weather + prices

Price range:

- Domestic: \$130-\$240
- International: \$450-\$750

Europe in October: Great weather, fewer tourists, better prices

 **Fall travel:** Call +1 (844) 565-1867 for October specials

November Travel: Book in September

 **Best Booking Window: 8-10 weeks before**

Why November splits:

- Early November: Cheap
- Thanksgiving week: **Most expensive**
- Week after Thanksgiving: Moderate

Thanksgiving disaster zone:

- Nov 24-Dec 1: Prices spike 100-150%
- Book 12-16 weeks early if must travel

Sweet spots:

- First three weeks (before Thanksgiving)
- Dec 2-5 (after holiday)

Price range:

- Non-Thanksgiving: \$140-\$250
- Thanksgiving week: \$350-\$600

 **Avoid Thanksgiving surge:** Call +1 (844) 565-1867 for alternative dates

December Travel: Book in September/October

 **Best Booking Window: 14-16 weeks before**

Why December is challenging:

- Christmas/New Year = highest prices
- Early December (1-15): Good deals
- Dec 18-Jan 2: **Peak prices**

Christmas zone:

- Dec 20-26: Prices triple
- Book 16+ weeks early

Sweet spots:

- Dec 1-15: Great deals
- Jan 2-7: Prices normalize

Price range:

- Early December: \$150-\$260
- Christmas week: \$450-\$800

 **Holiday travel:** Call +1 (844) 565-1867 by September for Christmas flights

Booking Windows by Flight Type

Domestic Flights:

Short-haul (under 500 miles):

- Book: 3-6 weeks ahead
- Peak savings: 4 weeks

Medium-haul (500-1500 miles):

- Book: 6-8 weeks ahead
- Peak savings: 6-7 weeks

Long-haul (cross-country):

- Book: 8-10 weeks ahead
 - Peak savings: 8 weeks
-

International Flights:

Caribbean/Mexico:

- Book: 8-12 weeks ahead
- Peak savings: 10 weeks

Europe:

- Book: 12-16 weeks ahead
- Peak savings: 14 weeks
- Exception: Sept-Oct = 8 weeks

Asia:

- Book: 16-20 weeks ahead
- Peak savings: 18 weeks

South America:

- Book: 12-16 weeks ahead
- Peak savings: 14 weeks

 **Your destination?** Call **+1 (844) 565-1867** for specific booking window

The 21-Day Price Drop Pattern



Why It Happens:

Exactly 21 days before departure:

- Southwest's algorithm adjusts pricing
- Unsold seats get discounted
- Often 20-40% price drop

How to use it:

- Set alert for 21-day mark
- Check prices that day
- Book if dropped

Doesn't work for:

- Holiday travel
- Peak summer
- Already low-priced routes

 **Track for you:** Call **+1 (844) 565-1867** - agents can monitor pricing

Day of Week Booking Matters



Best Days to Book:

Tuesday 3 PM EST: Sweet spot (airlines match competitor sales)

Wednesday morning: Deals continue

Sunday late: Some flash sales launch

Worst days to book: Friday-Saturday: Weekend premium pricing (15-20% higher)

Holiday Booking Timeline

Holiday	Book By	Price Surge Period
MLK Day	4 weeks before	Jan 16-20
Valentine's	6 weeks before	Feb 13-16
President's Day	8 weeks before	Feb 15-18
Spring Break	10 weeks before	Mar 8-22
Easter	8 weeks before	Varies (check calendar)
Memorial Day	12 weeks before	May 22-27
July 4th	14 weeks before	Jun 30-Jul 5
Labor Day	10 weeks before	Aug 30-Sep 2
Thanksgiving	16 weeks before	Nov 24-Dec 1
Christmas	16-20 weeks before	Dec 20-26
New Year's	16-20 weeks before	Dec 27-Jan 2

 **Holiday booking:** Call **+1 (844) 565-1867** for guaranteed lowest rates

Seasonal Pricing Patterns

Winter (Dec-Feb):

Cheapest months: January, February

Book: 3-4 weeks ahead

Exception: Christmas/New Year (book 16+ weeks)

Spring (Mar-May):

Mixed pricing: Moderate
Book: 6-10 weeks ahead
Watch out: Spring break spike

Summer (Jun-Aug):

Most expensive: Peak season
Book: 12-14 weeks ahead
Pro tip: Late August prices drop

Fall (Sep-Nov):

Best value: September-October
Book: 4-6 weeks ahead
Exception: Thanksgiving (book 16 weeks)

Price Tracking Tips

How to Monitor Prices:

1. Google Flights Price Alerts

- Set for your route
- Get notified of drops
- Free and reliable

2. Hopper App

- AI predicts best booking time
- "Buy now" or "wait" recommendations

3. Southwest Fare Calendar

- Shows month-wide pricing
- Spot cheap date patterns

4. Call Southwest Directly +1 (844) 565-1867 - agents can set internal alerts

Mistakes That Cost You Money

Booking Too Early:

6+ months out for domestic = overpaying

Exception: International or holidays

Booking Too Late:

Under 2 weeks = panic pricing

Last-minute rarely cheaper

Weekend Booking:

Fri-Sun bookings 15% more expensive

Book Tue-Wed instead

Ignoring Nearby Dates:

±3 days can save 30-50%

Be flexible when possible

 **Optimize timing:** Call +1 (844) 565-1867 for best booking date

Advanced Booking Strategies

Strategy 1: The Split Booking

For round-trips with different demand patterns:

- Book outbound when optimal (e.g., 8 weeks)
 - Book return when optimal (might be different)
 - Sometimes saves \$50-\$150
-

Strategy 2: The Placeholder Trick

If unsure about dates:

1. Book refundable ticket at good price
 2. Use 24-hour window to finalize
 3. Cancel free if plans change
 4. Locks in price while deciding
-

Strategy 3: The Calendar Shift

If flexible:

- Search ± 3 days from target
- Price difference can be huge
- Wed/Sat often cheapest

Example:

- Friday departure: \$380
- Wednesday departure: \$210
- **Savings: \$170**

 **Find cheapest dates:** Call +1 (844) 565-1867 for ± 7 day comparison

Month-by-Month Action Plan

January Actions:

- Book February/March travel (3-8 weeks out)
- Monitor summer sales (rare but happen)
- Use post-holiday deals

February Actions:

- Book April/May travel (8-10 weeks)
- Start watching summer prices
- Best month to book Europe for fall

March Actions:

- Book June travel NOW (12 weeks)
- Lock in July if traveling peak summer
- Spring break prices normalize after March 22

April Actions:

- Last chance for affordable June
- Book July/August (12-14 weeks)
- Europe deals for summer travel

May Actions:

- Book August travel (10-12 weeks)
- Start monitoring fall prices
- Memorial Day weekend = expensive

June Actions:

- Book September travel (4-6 weeks)
- Monitor Thanksgiving prices
- Summer prices peak

July Actions:

- Book October travel (4-6 weeks)
- Watch for fall flash sales
- Highest prices of year

August Actions:

- Book November travel (8-10 weeks)
- September deals abundant
- Late August prices drop

September Actions:

- Book December (non-holiday) travel
- START booking Christmas NOW (16 weeks)
- Best deals month of year

October Actions:

- Book Thanksgiving ASAP if haven't
- Book Christmas/New Year NOW
- Book January travel (3-4 weeks)

November Actions:

- Last chance Christmas booking
- Book February/March (3-8 weeks)
- Avoid Thanksgiving week prices

December Actions:

- Book January (cheapest month coming)
- Start spring planning
- Avoid Dec 20-Jan 2 for booking

 **Monthly strategy:** Call **+1 (844) 565-1867** for current month's best moves

Quick Reference Guide

When to Book for Specific Events:

Spring vacation: 10 weeks before

Summer trip: 12 weeks before

Fall getaway: 4-6 weeks before

Winter escape: 3-4 weeks before

Holiday travel: 16+ weeks before



BOOK AT THE PERFECT TIME

Don't guess—get expert timing advice:

 **Call +1 (844) 565-1867 and say:**

"I want to travel to [destination] in [month]. When should I book for the lowest fare?"

Agent will:  Check historical pricing patterns

 Identify optimal booking window

 Set price alerts for you

 Notify you when it's time to book

 Reserve at best price when ready

Average savings with perfect timing: \$100-\$300 per ticket

Southwest Booking Timing Experts: +1 (844) 565-1867



Month-by-month guidance



Optimal booking windows



Price drop alerts



Guaranteed best timing

Call now—book smarter!