

Autumn Vacations Popular with North Dakotans

The summer travel season is now over, yet many North Dakotans are not ready to put their luggage away. A new AAA Consumer Pulse™ survey reveals more than half (56%) of North Dakota residents are planning at least one trip sometime from September through November.

When are they traveling?

(Travelers could select more than one)

- October 31%
- September 27%
- November 18%

Top 4 Reasons North Dakotans Prefer Autumn Travel

(Travelers could select more than one)

- The weather is cooler (47%)
- Prices are normally lower than peak summer season (47%)
- Smaller crowds at popular attractions (46%)
- See fall foliage/colors (35%)

“Whether you travel domestic or internationally, there are many advantages to a fall vacation,” said Gene LaDoucer, North Dakota spokesman for AAA – The Auto Club Group. “The weather cools off and students are back in school, leaving smaller crowds at popular attractions. As a result, travelers can find more availability and competitive pricing on airfares, hotels and rental cars. This is why Americans love to travel this time of year.”

Type of Destination

- Domestic (37%)
- Beach destination (13%)
- International (9%)
- Theme park (8%)

Gas Prices

The 53 percent of autumn travelers planning to take a road trip should find lower gas prices. AAA forecasts the average gas price will drop to \$2.70 per gallon. That is 14 cents lower than today’s average price at the pump.

Vacation Protection

The early weeks of September are often the most active time of hurricane season. Major storms can cause a ripple effect of travel delays and cancellations affecting American travelers nationwide. Nearly one-fifth (16%) of North Dakota travelers now say they are likely to purchase travel insurance for their fall trip due to the threat of hurricanes this year.

“You shouldn’t wait until a major storm develops to start researching travel insurance,” said LaDoucer. “Once a storm is named, it’s too late to purchase a new policy. The best advice is to talk with a travel agent, research weather patterns in your travel destination during the time of your visit, and consider purchasing a policy when booking your trip.”

Hurricanes aside, Americans should still consider travel insurance for their next vacation. A delayed or cancelled flight can cause missed reservations or excursions -- many of which are often non-refundable. Those and other out-of-pocket expenses can be offset by travel insurance. In addition, there are policies that allow you to cancel your trip before your departure date for a variety of reasons, such as falling ill. If you get sick or injured during your trip, there are policies that would cover medical expenses.

Learn more about [Travel Insurance](#).