

# HOLIDAYS & TRAVEL

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Ještě nevíš, co budeš dělat po úspěšném složení zkoušky? Přijď se za námi bavit a studuj jazyk se **statusem studenta**. U PELICANA navíc získáš ISIC a druhý jazyk zdarma. Více informací i přihlášku k **pomaturitnímu studiu** najdeš na stránkách [www.skolapelican.com](http://www.skolapelican.com).



Transportation can be defined as the movement of people and goods from one location to another. Transportation systems and the routes they use have greatly influenced both how and where people live. Reliable transport allows people to travel throughout a country's territory and to live comfortably in remote areas far from factories and farms. Transport is very important to a nation's economy. The transportation industry is one of the largest industries in the world. It includes the manufacture and distribution of vehicles, the production and distribution of fuel and the provision of transportation services.

## REASONS FOR TRAVELLING

It's believed that travelling broadens your mind but people travel for different reasons. Some people have to commute on a daily basis in order to get to work or school because they don't live within a walking distance from their school or workplace. Other reasons for which people travel every day might be shopping or visiting friends and family. Less frequent journeys might include medical appointments, going out with friends and family for a drink or meal, going to the theatre or cinema, going to a music festival or doing sports (e.g. hiking in the mountains, kayaking, skiing, etc.). Once or a few times a year people might go on a holiday/vacation in their home country or abroad. Students might find a summer job further away from their hometown (e.g. fruit picking, au-pairing, etc.) or attend a language course in a different country to improve their language skills. Unfortunately, there are also people who have no choice but to flee their country due to a natural disaster (e.g. floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, tornadoes, volcanic eruptions, etc.) or for political reasons (e.g. persecution due to religion, sexuality, race, etc.)

## TYPES OF TRANSPORTATION

Transportation can be divided into several types: private or public, personal or freight and water, land or air. Private transport is the act of transporting an individual by means of a vehicle usually operated by the individual. Generally, personal transportation vehicles have limited capacity as the intention of the vehicle is to transport the operator and sometimes one or more passengers. Conversely, public transport is available for use by the general public. It is typically managed on a schedule, operated on established routes and passengers are usually charged a set fee for each trip. The responsibility for providing public transport is often shared between government and private companies. When it's not people but goods that are being transported, the term used is freight transportation. On water you can travel by: vessel, ship (cargo ship), submarine, ferry, motorboat, boat, yacht, ocean liner/cruise ship, steamboat, hovercraft, canoe, kayak, etc. On land by: car, bus, tram, train, trolleybus, bike, motorbike, scooter, lorry/truck, underground, coach, taxi, etc. In the air by: plane, helicopter, glider, balloon, airship, air shuttle, (air) shuttle, cargo aircraft, etc. For passenger transport, reliability, speed and convenience are primary goals. Last but not least, recent innovations in technology have been motivated by a desire to find safer, faster and more reliable means of transport.

## COMPARING DIFFERENT MEANS OF TRANSPORT

- **plane:** taking a flight is the fastest, safest mode of transport. You are able to travel a huge distance in a relatively short time. Passengers are able to order food and drink onboard or beforehand. You can use the toilet after take-off and before landing. On long-distance flights, there is a screen where you can watch films and sometimes even a Wi-Fi connection. Travelling by plane is relatively comfortable. However, it requires a lot of planning (valid ID documents, luggage in line with the measurements, getting to and from the airport, etc.). On the contrary, plane tickets can be quite expensive, especially for long-distance flights. Airports are not everywhere, so when you add the check-in time, it can be quite time-consuming. Luggage can get lost and some people feel sick at take-off or during turbulences. To book a flight you usually need an Internet connection. Furthermore, it's not a very environmentally friendly mode of transport.
- **coach/bus:** bus tickets are generally cheap and you can buy them at a ticket office at a bus station, at a bus stop from a ticket machine, from the bus driver or online. Bus services are available in almost every village, town or city and the routes. Bus times are usually very frequent. Passengers are not as limited when it comes to luggage allowance. Some buses and coaches have Wi-fi, screens for watching films and a toilet. Some even sell refreshments. Nevertheless, travelling by bus can get uncomfortable and it's difficult to fall asleep during an overnight journey. Some people get nauseous, often due to broken air conditioning. It's also not a very fast mode of transport.



- **car:** When it comes to travelling by car, the biggest advantage is that you can go pretty much anywhere and anytime you like. You can choose the passengers and you can stop whenever you want. If you have a bigger car, you can fit quite a lot of bags and suitcases in the boot. You can listen to music while driving and chat with the other passengers. If you are too hot, you can switch on the air conditioning as much as you like, and if too cold, the heating. One inconvenience is that most traffic accidents happen on the roads. Your journey can take longer than expected due to traffic jams, therefore it's best to set off early and not during rush hour. You must have a driving licence and observe the highway code. You must be responsible and not drive under the influence (alcohol or illegal substances). Driving can be quite exhausting at times and car maintenance can be expensive as well as fuel.
- **train:** travelling by train is usually very pleasant and comfortable as it's easy to stretch your legs and you can walk around the different carriages and compartments. Usually, it's possible to buy food and drinks and surf the net. Train stations are often in town and cities but not so much in villages. Travelling by train is quite fast and relatively safe. If you're a student, you can get a discount when travelling by train in some countries. Train tickets are cheaper if you book well in advance, online or at the ticket office. The fare is also less expensive if you're not travelling first-class. The disadvantage is that some trains are dirty and delayed and not very frequent, so you can't afford to miss them.

## TRANSPORTATION & THE ENVIRONMENT

In the late 20th century people became more aware of how transportation systems affect the environment. For instance, the burning of petroleum-based fuels for motor vehicles creates pollution that can be harmful to human health. Other environmental effects of transportation systems include impacts on noise levels, water quality, hazardous materials, natural habitats and wetlands. Many governments require that before a new transportation project is begun, a detailed study called an environmental impact assessment must be prepared to predict how the project will affect the environment. Moreover, many big cities across Europe, such as London, Paris, Barcelona, Milan and Berlin, have introduced measures to reduce pollution in the city. Its citizens are encouraged to take public transport instead of driving a car or getting a taxi and to cycle to get around the city. Lastly, electric vehicles are becoming more and more popular, which will hopefully lead to a carbon-free future.

## TYPES OF HOLIDAYS

A city break is the perfect choice when you want to go sightseeing and do some shopping. For those who want to can get a tan while sunbathing, relax and choose from different water sports such as surfing, windsurfing, scuba diving or snorkelling, a beach holiday is the answer. An activity holiday would usually involve something like rock climbing, horse riding or hill walking. A cruise is usually the type of holiday favoured by older generations as it doesn't require too much physical activity. Going on a safari can be quite expensive but people who like watching the wildlife can always go on a camping holiday in the countryside. Sleeping in a tent can be quite adventurous. You can get some peace and quiet and see the stars at night. Work and travel holiday is a good idea if you want to see nice places but also make some money, which is why this type of holiday is so popular with students. Package holidays are ideal for those who want everything to be taken care of by a travel agency rather than having to book the transport, accommodation, different trips or activities and catering separately themselves. Many families buy package holidays. If you can only go away for a limited amount of time you can opt for a weekend trip. A business trip is a form of travel undertaken for work or business purposes, as opposed to leisure purposes.

## TYPES OF ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation can range from relatively inexpensive to luxurious. If you want to get a good deal search for and book accommodation in advance and compare prices online or in different holiday brochures. Sometimes you can find tips for where to stay in a guidebook. These tips can include hotels, campsites, hostels or youth hostels. Some property owners offer private accommodation at a house, villa, chalet or yacht. Particularly popular websites are currently Airbnb, which is an online marketplace for lodging, primarily homestays for vacation/holiday rentals, and CouchSurfing, a global hospitality exchange service. In terms of catering, the options usually are: bed and breakfast, half-board, full-board, all-inclusive or self-catering (e.g. if you stay in a tent, hire a caravan, or at a holiday home).