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Apps to make your spring break a snap

BY WINTEK

Look at that, Boilermakers. You're this close to spring break! All of us at Wintek hope you'll enjoy some rest and relaxation. Whether you're vacationing, staycationing or headed back home for a week-oning, there are plenty of apps to help you be organized, save money, find fun and stay connected!

BEFORE YOU LEAVE

TripIt / Trip Scout

Let's face it: Even the best-kept inbox sometimes becomes a bottomless hole. Don't lose important info on flights, hotels and such to that abyss. Apps like TripIt or Trip Scout build a master itinerary of everything in one place — with sync, share and offline-search capabilities. Upload PDFs, photos, boarding passes and digital passport QR codes, see neighborhood safety scores, and more (paid options also available).

Packing List Checklist

Don't get drained by leaving your chargers (or anything else) behind. Use the Packing List Checklist and choose from categories like Essentials, Beach, Clothing, Electronics, Healthcare and more.

WHILE YOU'RE GONE

AllTrails

No matter where you are, there's always a fun new hiking, biking or running trail to

discover. If you're riding high or laying low over spring break, AllTrails can help you find popular spots and hidden gems.

Roadtrippers

If you're winging it on the road, this app can help you find nearby attractions like cool diners, scenic points and national parks along your route. The free version limits the number of stops you can plot, but you can get more with a paid option.

GasBuddy / SpotHero / ParkMobile

Every fun road trip still requires the basics like gas and parking. GasBuddy will help you find the least-expensive fuel when you need it, SpotHero lets you prepay for primo parking spots in big cities should you need them, and ParkMobile allows you to pay for applicable metered spots from your phone and extend your time with a tap rather than digging for quarters.

WiFi Finder + Map

Wintek's blazing-fast internet is great for finalizing all of your spring-break plans and details. Unfortunately, you can't pack it along with all of your stuff. This app can help you find Wi-fi wherever you are and, if you're planning ahead, download Wi-fi maps for offline use. Of course, remember the basic rules of using public Wi-fi: Don't share any personal information, don't access banking sites or pay bills, and always completely log out of any applicable sites.



How to break safely this spring

BY EXPONENT
ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT



The annual pilgrimage to places not local — also known as spring break — is upon us. Follow these tips to stay safe.

* **Avoid theft.** Spring break draws big crowds every year. Keep your belongings and money safe by always locking doors and windows when leaving the hotel. Try to go to the ATM machine with friends in groups during daylight hours and always be aware of who is watching while you withdraw cash. If you feel unsafe, go to another machine.

* **Be cautious in the car.** Be especially careful while driving. Many spring-breakers drink excessively and then get behind the wheel, making for dangerous driving. Always be on the lookout for reckless driving and steer clear of danger. If driving to your spring break location, take turns sharing time behind the wheel with others to avoid growing tired on the road. If you are planning to imbibe, take a ride share service or a cab.

* **Drink responsibly.** Most spring-breakers drink to some extent while on vacation. If you drink, pace yourself and don't make daily intoxication your goal. Alcohol poisoning is more common than many students know. In addition, the sun can increase the effects of alcohol, so keep this in mind if you're spending ample time on the beach. Stay hydrated with plenty

of water.

* **Swim safely.** When heading to the beach, always choose a spot on the sand with a lifeguard on duty nearby. Even a very experienced swimmer can be swept up in a rip current.

* **Always have a buddy system.** Whenever going out, be sure you do so with friends and be certain to come home with friends. You can collectively watch out for one another and make sure no trouble ensues.

* **Recognize not everyone is overindulging.** Overindulgence might seem the norm at spring break, but not everyone is engaging in excessive or risky behavior. You never have to do something that makes you feel uncomfortable. Again, this is where the buddy system can help protect you in certain situations.

* **Be especially careful abroad.** When traveling overseas, it's important to realize that not all of the rules and regulations you're used to will be the same. Some countries have very strict drug and alcohol laws, and zero tolerance for smuggling. Don't let your spring break trip turn into a legal nightmare by doing something foolish. Also, do your homework before traveling to any foreign destination. Be aware that there are also native residents who know vacationers can be easy scam targets.

Spring break has the potential to make positive memories that last a lifetime if revelers act responsibly.

On the road again: Ready your car for spring travel

BY EXPONENT
ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT

The return of warm weather marks the return of road trips for millions of motorists across the country. Whether going to the beach or heading off to parts unknown, hitting the open road with the windows down is a time-honored tradition for drivers of all ages.

But such road trips can prove disastrous if drivers don't take the right steps to prepare their vehicles for spring and summer travel. The following are a few ways motorists can ensure their car is ready to tackle the open road.

* **Tighten things up.** Loose parts, such as exhaust clamps, license plates, and interior trim panels, can create rattles and cause parts to get damaged or fall off. What's more, rattling sounds can be a noisy nuisance for drivers and passengers. Permatex Threadlockers can be used to keep the nuts and bolts from coming loose and save parts replacement costs. They also have a threadlocker for plastic fasteners, which vehicle manufacturers have grown to rely on more and more.

* **Wash your car.** A newly washed car looks good, but it's often much safer as well. Take your car to a car wash a few days before the trip and have the vehicle thoroughly cleaned. A thorough cleaning will remove dirt and grime from the vehicle's undercarriage, not to mention unsightly bird droppings and water spots or salt stains leftover from winter.

* **Fix foggy headlight lenses.** Many spring and summer road trippers travel at night so their days can be spent soaking up some sun at the beach or lake. Before heading off for parts unknown, motorists should inspect their headlight lenses to reduce risk of accident. If the lenses are yellowed and foggy, that's likely because salt, ozone and road debris has dulled them to a point where vision can be impaired, placing drivers and their passengers at risk. But foggy lenses don't mandate an expensive headlight replacement. In fact, The Permatex Lens Renew Kit makes it easy to clean up and polish dull headlight

lenses and restore them to like new condition, improving your car's lighting and driver visibility.

* **Check the battery.** Over time, battery terminals and cables will start to corrode. Such corrosion will eventually eat away at the battery's parts, creating a bad connection that sooner or later will require the battery be replaced. Check the battery before your trip and remember to clean the battery periodically as part of routine vehicle maintenance.

* **Address windshield nicks and bullseyes.** Nicks and chips in the windshields are a common problem regardless of the season. But such damage is most prevalent in the winter because of the extra debris that's on the road. These nicks and cracks need to get fixed as soon as possible to prevent them from spreading and resulting in the need for a windshield replacement. Oftentimes, motorists can address nicks and bullseyes in their own driveways in a matter of minutes. For example, the Permatex Bullseye Windshield Repair kit is tailor made for do-it-yourselfers, requiring no heating or mixing while ensuring each repair is virtually undetectable.

• **Check oil and change if needed.** Driving with dirty oil and dirty filters can damage your car and cause it to break down, making for expensive repairs later.

• **Check tires.** If your tire pressure is low or uneven, it could be a sign that you have a slow leak or that your tires are ready to go flat. Make sure tires have a healthy pressure and tread before you hit the road.

Beck's Auto Center in Lafayette, Indiana offers a convenient online scheduling system so you can have a vehicle check-up before spring break. Book today at <https://becksautocenter.com/> or call or text 765-447-9459.

