



SPRING BREAK 2026 – SPECIAL REMINDERS

With Spring Break 2026 travel, along with NCAA activities in play in Indianapolis, passengers will want to prepare for a busier-than-usual period at the Indy airport through March – and be prepared to arrive at least two hours before boarding.

With a partial government shutdown affecting federal-government employees like TSA, arriving early for security check points is even more crucial than usual.

Also, please see the information in the Preparing for Spring Break travel tips below on Confirm ID and fees, important information for those travelers who have not yet secured a Real ID.

BY THE NUMBERS

TSA anticipates approximately 623,000 passengers will be departing out of the Indy airport between March 10 – April 13.

The busiest days for Spring Break 2026 are anticipated to be:

- March 12 – 16
- March 20 – 23
- March 27 – 30
- April 2 – 7
- April 13

The busiest time of day during these dates will be between 4 a.m. – 8 a.m.

Airlines have increased their seat capacity* for Spring Break 2026 -- making March 2026 the second -highest capacity month in the Indy airport's history. Second only to IND's record-breaking October 2025.

In addition, airline seat capacity out of IND is up 2.7% for 2026, compared to Spring Break travel last year.

**Seat capacity is the potential number of seats available on an aircraft through a designated schedule period.*

PARKING ALERT

In light of the anticipated heavy passenger traffic, travelers may want to consider alternative forms of transportation to the airport, such as Uber and Lyft or having a friend or loved one drop them off and pick them up at the terminal. For help determining parking options at IND, visit <https://www.ind.com/parking>

PREPARING FOR SPRING BREAK TRAVEL

With Spring Break season upon us, it's expected to be a busy few weeks of air travel -- and it's important for travelers to be prepared before arriving at the airport. Plan ahead, pack smart, and get to the airport early.

Hoosiers can process through either TSA checkpoint and proceed to their gate in either concourse using the concourse connector. TSA PreCheck is only available on checkpoint A. Airline ticket counters' opening times vary, but generally, they open two hours before flight departure.

It's important for travelers to ensure they have their government-issued identification on hand and ready to show to TSA personnel.

Real ID -- On May 7, 2025, U.S. travelers must be REAL ID compliant to board domestic flights and access certain federal facilities. Learn more at <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id>
The Indy airport also strongly encourages travelers to consider the following travel tips below, and to **sign up for TSA PreCheck** at <https://www.tsa.gov/precheck> for a smoother screening process, which eliminates the need to remove shoes, belts, 3-1-1 liquids, laptops or light jackets.

ConfirmID -- For passengers who are unable to provide the required acceptable identification, such as a passport or REAL ID, they can pay a \$45 fee to use TSA ConfirmID. TSA will then attempt to verify their identity so they can go through security; however, there is no guarantee TSA can do so. Using TSA ConfirmID is optional. If a passenger chooses not to use it and they do not have an acceptable ID, they may not be allowed through security and may miss their flight. Passengers can use TSA ConfirmID at <https://www.tsa.gov/tsaconfirm-id>.

Before leaving for the airport

- Always check flight status with the airline prior to arriving at the airport
- Arrive a full two hours ahead of the departure time to get checked in, through security, and to the gate in plenty of time before boarding call
- Download the airline's mobile app for all pertinent travel update
- Use a mobile boarding pass or print boarding passes ahead of time
- Download the [MyTSA app](#) for 24/7 access to the most frequently requested airport security information, including helpful tips for preparing for security, including a searchable database of items that can and can't go in checked or carry-on bags
- Pack smart – check for prohibited items and follow the 3-1-1 liquids rule. Learn more at: <https://www.tsa.gov/travel/travel-tips/refresh-your-memory-liquid-rules>

Plan ahead for parking

- For help determining parking options at IND, visit <https://www.ind.com/parking>
- The Economy Lot is a convenient and cost-effective option for travelers <https://www.ind.com/parking/economy-lot>
- For a contactless parking experience at IND, register for the free parkIND plus program <https://www.ind.com/parking/parkind-plus-program>
- Valet parking offers the closest proximity to the pedestrian walkway to the terminal. To learn more, visit <https://www.ind.com/parking/valet>

At the terminal

- Bring your own reusable water bottle and fill up at the numerous water bottle filling stations located throughout the terminal

- New restaurants are now open at IND offering a local flavor, see all available dining options and their operating hours at <https://www.ind.com/dining-shopping-services/dining>
- Use the Concourse Connector to explore available dining options in both concourses, no matter which one you are flying out of
- Explore new artwork throughout the terminal from local artists, and the KIND Gallery space. Learn more at: <https://www.ind.com/publicart>
- When picking up friends or family, use the Cell Phone Lot to wait, then proceed to the drive for pick-up or park in hourly parking and meet your guest inside