

# BUDGET STRETCHING TRAVEL IDEAS

## Managing Expenses To Maximize Experience ㊦

(NAPSA)—Successfully preparing for and executing a trip can be a daunting task for even the most experienced traveler. Just staying within your budget can be a feat. Whether you're going on a week-end road trip or a long European vacation, planning ahead and following a budget will help prevent any post-trip sticker shock.

Here are some tried-and-true tips for keeping a handle on your travel expenses while ensuring your trip is one to remember:

- **Scope out your destination.** Traveling to a new locale can be both exciting and intimidating. To make the most out of your trip, get to know your destination beforehand. Read up in travel books or do your research online—the local convention and visitor's bureau Web site is a great place to start. Recommendations from locals can help you avoid the higher-priced tourist traps and have a more authentic experience. If you are planning a trip abroad, also research local customs, the local currency and accessibility to ATMs or banks.

- **Budget, budget, budget.** Develop a realistic budget. Outline what you want to accomplish during your trip and take into consideration your budgetary limitations. Even the best budgets can go off course when you forget to add in spending money for things such as guided tours,

equipment rentals, souvenirs and the occasional latte or ice cream. Make sure your savings plan accounts for spending money so you can fully enjoy your trip.

Prepaid cards such as Visa TravelMoney® are a smart way to travel within a budget, and they provide a safe, convenient alternative to cash and traveler's checks.

- **Be prepared.** Scout wisdom extends beyond the wilderness as unforeseen surprises can foil travel plans anywhere. Avoid turning your vacation into a cautionary tale by securing some backup for you and your family. Visa TravelMoney's travel and emergency assistance services provide cardholders with emergency cash disbursement, lost luggage reimbursement, 24-hour translation services and medical and legal referrals. Visa-branded cards are also protected by Visa's Zero Liability policy, which means you're not responsible for any fraudulent charges.

- **Start Planning Your Next Vacation.** Take advantage of last-minute travel opportunities by maintaining a vacation nest egg that you add to regularly. With a successful, stress-free vacation under your belt, you'll be the go-to travel expert for family and friends.

For more information, go to [www.visa.com/travelmoney](http://www.visa.com/travelmoney).



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