

Southwest Airlines Baggage Fees: What You Need to Know Before You Fly

Understanding Southwest Baggage Policy and Costs

📞 +1/844/565/1867 Packing for a trip requires knowing the baggage rules to avoid unexpected fees at the airport. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Southwest Airlines has specific guidelines for checked bags, carry-ons, and special items. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Understanding these policies helps you budget properly and pack efficiently. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Many passengers wonder about current baggage allowances and associated costs. 📞 +1/844/565/1867

Carry-On Baggage Allowance

📞 +1/844/565/1867 Southwest allows one carry-on bag and one personal item per passenger at no charge on most flights. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Your carry-on must fit in the overhead bin and not exceed 22 x 14 x 9 inches. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Personal items include purses, laptop bags, or small backpacks that fit under the seat. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Basic Economy passengers may have different allowances depending on the route. 📞 +1/844/565/1867

Checked Baggage Fees for Domestic Flights

📞 +1/844/565/1867 For domestic travel within the Southwest States, the first checked bag typically costs a fee that varies by route and ticket type. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 The second checked bag has a higher fee. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Bags must weigh 50 pounds or less and measure no more than 62 linear inches. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Overweight or oversized bags incur additional charges. 📞 +1/844/565/1867

International Flight Baggage Allowance

📞 +1/844/565/1867 International flights often have more generous baggage allowances. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Many international routes include one or two free checked bags, depending on your destination and fare class. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Weight and size limits may differ from domestic flights. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Premium cabin passengers usually enjoy higher baggage allowances. 📞 +1/844/565/1867

Who Gets Free Checked Bags on Southwest

📞 +1/844/565/1867 Several passenger groups qualify for waived baggage fees. 📞 +1/844/565/1867 Southwest Rapid Rewards Medallion members receive complimentary

checked bags based on their status level.  +1/844/565/1867 Active US military personnel traveling on orders can check bags for free.  +1/844/565/1867 Southwest Rapid Rewards credit card holders often receive free checked bag benefits.  +1/844/565/1867 Passengers in premium cabins like First Class and Southwest Comfort+ enjoy complimentary baggage allowances.  +1/844/565/1867

Special Item and Sports Equipment Fees

 +1/844/565/1867 Southwest accepts special items like golf clubs, skis, surfboards, and bicycles with specific fees and size restrictions.  +1/844/565/1867 Musical instruments can be brought as carry-on items if they fit size requirements or purchased a seat.  +1/844/565/1867 Mobility devices and medical equipment typically travel free of charge.  +1/844/565/1867 Each type of sports equipment has different handling requirements.  +1/844/565/1867

How to Avoid or Reduce Baggage Fees

 +1/844/565/1867 Pack light and use only carry-on bags when possible.  +1/844/565/1867 Join the Rapid Rewards program and work toward elite status for free bag benefits.  +1/844/565/1867 Consider applying for a Southwest Rapid Rewards credit card that includes baggage fee waivers.  +1/844/565/1867 Prepay for baggage online before arriving at the airport to potentially save money compared to airport counter fees.