

# North Star Camp

## 2017 Air Travel Details



Though camp may still be months away, it is time to start thinking about travel to camp. Whether this is your first time sending your son to camp or if you're a North Star veteran, we hope this answers any questions that you have on this matter. We ask that even seasoned veterans read this over as the travel industry changes regularly and we do our best to pass along updates to you.

While travel can be a hassle, we do our best to make this easy for you and more importantly for your son. As long as you follow our recommendations, you'll be able to send him off at the gate at your hometown airport, and we'll have our excellent staff members in a North Star shirt waiting to greet him as he gets off the plane in Minneapolis.

We ask that all campers flying on our main travel dates travel to and from the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP). If your son is arriving late or departing early, please contact us before booking his flight as we may ask that you use an alternative airport that is closer to camp or we may ask you book a specific flight.

### Flying as a Unaccompanied Minor

Each airline has an Unaccompanied Minor (UM) program. Rules and fees vary by airline. The only way that you will be able to escort your son to his gate, and the only way that we can guarantee that our staff will be able to meet him at the plane in Minneapolis is if you sign him up for the airline's UM program.

Here are a few notes and tips on the UM programs but again, note that these policies vary by airline

- A few days before your son's travel date we will email you details about who will pick up your son at the airport in Minneapolis. Airlines will require this info when you check your son in at the departure airport.
- Minors under 15 are able to fly with an escort (such as a sibling or friend) provided that escort is 18 years of age or older. In these instances, the minor will not be required to enroll in the UM program.
- Some airlines allow different families to bundle minors together on one UM form and pay the fee once as a group. Please note, however, that the airline may require that all the minors traveling on the same UM form are under the same reservation. We recommend that you coordinate your initial booking with other families from your city. Please let us know how we can help in this.
- When you pay the UM fee, please pay it round trip if possible. This will ensure that we can check your son in easily for his return flight. Make sure you request a receipt or some type of confirmation number for the return UM charge. We have been told numerous times by the airlines that the fee has not been paid, only to find out that it had been and the airline was wrong. Attempting to recoup that fee from the airline is not an easy task.

Each airline has its own Unaccompanied Minor rules and fees, and they change regularly.

As of writing this, here are a few examples that we wanted you to be aware of:

- Southwest Airlines will not allow UMs on connecting flights (where a plane change is required). They also do not allow UMs that are over 12 years of age even if you are willing to pay their fees.
- United Airlines will not allow UMs on connecting flights. United requires individuals 15 and under participate in their UM program.

Please check with the airline to review their unaccompanied minor policy **before you book the plane ticket**. We want your son to have a smooth sendoff on his first day of camp, but we do not run the airlines. We don't want you to find some unexpected surprises when you show up at the airport.

### Booking a Flight

On the next page we have provided a list of recommended flights for most cities that we have campers flying from. We understand that many families have preferred airlines and may use airline miles to book a ticket. When possible, we do ask that you use the flight we have recommended. If you are going to use another airline or flight we ask that incoming flights to camp arrive between 9am and 1pm (preferably in the 10 or 11am hours) and flights to home depart between

#### Travel Dates

##### 1st Session:

To Camp: June 19th

To Home: July 15th

##### 2nd Session

To Camp: July 16th

To Home: Aug. 11th

##### 8 Week:

To Camp: June 19th

To Home: Aug. 11th

1:00pm and 4:00pm (preferably in the 2 or 3pm hours).

If we have not listed a preferred flight for a city where your son is flying to or from, please use our time blocks to determine what flight to book. **If there is not a flight available during that time or if there is a different flight that you would prefer to book, please contact us to make sure that your preferred flight is feasible.** We will do our best to accommodate your needs, but there are times when it just isn't possible for us to do so.

In the spring, you will be asked to enter your son's travel details into the North Star Campintouch (online form) system. This will provide us all the details that we need to coordinate everyone's travel and ensure that we have a seamless camper pick-up.

### Recommended Flights

Below are our recommended flights for the summer of 2017

City	Airport	To Camp Flight	Dep Time	Arrival Time	To Home Flight	Dep Time	Arrival time
Atlanta	ATL	DL 2282	8:55am	10:30am	DL 2286	3:00pm	6:25pm
Austin	AUS	DL 5683	6:30am	9:23am	DL 1999	5:50pm	8:35pm
Baltimore	BWI	DL 1301	8:45am	10:26am	DL 1426	1:00pm	4:28pm
Bozeman	BOZ	DL 1203	6:00am	9:18am	DL 1163	11:30am	12:57am
Charlotte	CLT	DL 2945	6:30am	8:15am	DL 53 & DL 565	3:30pm	10:19pm
Cincinnati	CVG	DL 3495	9:40am	10:44am	DL 3462	3:25pm	6:17pm
Cleveland	CLE	DL 3975	9:45am	10:45am	DL 3897	3:10pm	6:02pm
Columbus	CMH	DL 3741	11:10am	12:14pm	DL 3502	3:30pm	6:25pm
Dallas	DFW	DL 5692	8:00am	10:33am	DL 869	1:00pm	3:33pm
Denver	DEN	DL 1175	9:25am	12:21pm	DL 2641	2:30pm	3:32pm
Detroit	DTW	DL 1569	8:35am	9:30am	DL 22	1:30pm	4:15pm
Fort Lauderdale	FLL	DL 827 & DL 987	6:45am	12:30pm	DL 22 & DL 2119	1:30pm	10:58pm
Houston	IAH	DL 4754	6:00am	8:52am	DL 3811	1:25pm	4:19pm
Los Angeles	LAX	DL 1262	6:15am	11:46pm	DL 1541	2:35pm	4:40pm
Miami	MIA	DL 1488	7:30am	10:32am	DL 2546	5:30pm	10:13pm
Nashville	BNA	DL 3877	8:00am	10:18am	DL2110	1:15pm	3:35pm
New York	JFK	DL 2134	8:05am	10:20am	DL 1567	2:47pm	6:32pm
	LGA	DL 121	8:20am	10:31am	DL 2062	1:10pm	4:55pm
Omaha	OMA	DL 4831	8:53am	10:08am	DL 4556	1:35pm	2:38pm
Phoenix	PHX	DL 1668	7:00am	12:10pm	DL 2587	2:15pm	3:30pm
San Diego	SAN	DL 1864	6:15am	12:06pm	DL 2821	5:55pm	7:48pm
San Francisco	SFO	DL 1847	6:30am	12:06am	DL 959	5:50pm	8:02pm
					SY 395	3:00pm	5:05pm
Seattle	SEA	DL 1768	7:00am	12:15pm	DL 1477	2:30pm	4:05pm
St. Louis	STL	DL 396	9:10am	10:45am	DL 1083	1:00pm	2:34pm
Tampa	TPA	DL 1872 & DL 987	6:30am	12:30pm	DL 2284 & DL 2881	1:15pm	7:01pm
		AA 1881 & AA 713	5:10am	11:17am	AA 1384 & AA 1159	2:16pm	10:16pm
Washington D.C.	DCA	DL 2063	8:45am	10:34am	DL 1994	3:15pm	6:39pm

#### Airlines

AA = American DL = Delta SY = Sun Country

### Dealing with Luggage

Prior to camp, we will be sending information regarding luggage. We ask that campers flying to camp ship luggage to and from camp. In 2016, most camper families sent their luggage via FedEx. The process was seamless and all campers had their luggage waiting for them in their cabin ahead of their arrival. Some of our campers who sent luggage on the airlines had their bags either lost by the airline or picked up by other camps. The costs for shipping tend to be comparable or even cheaper than the rates charged by most major airlines.

Again, you will receive more info on travel to camp in the spring, but we wanted to give you a head start on making plans. As you likely know, airfare fluctuates greatly and some tickets which are inexpensive now will only go up in price, while others are more expensive and will decline.

Please contact us at any time and we'd be happy to help with the travel arrangement process.

