

# North Star Camp

## 2018 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 one of 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

We know that sending your son to camp can be a bit scary and the idea of putting them on an airplane alone isn't easy. Most of our campers are coming from cities where there are other North Star campers or campers from other camps. If this is the case, we can help coordinate so that campers sit next to each other when possible. Additionally, most airlines have an Unaccompanied Minor (UM) program. While there is a fee associated with them, the UM programs ensure that you can escort your son to his gate and that an airline employee is keeping track of your son while on the plane. Upon arriving at the gate in Minneapolis, an airline employee will escort your son off the plane and hand him off to our staff members.

Rules and fees for UM programs vary by airline. Each airline has its own Unaccompanied Minor rules and fees, and they change regularly. All of this info is available on the airline's website. Please check this out as we don't want you to find some unexpected surprises when you show up at the airport. Southwest Airlines, in particular, has UM policies that you should research before you book through them. Some airlines will not allow UMs on connecting flights. We recommend Delta Airlines, in part, because their UM program is most helpful and accommodating for camps and children!

A few days before your son's travel date we will email you details about who will greet him at the airport in Minneapolis. Airlines will require this info when you check your son in at the departure airport.

### Helpful Tips

- Some airlines allow different families or even individuals traveling together as part of a "group" 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 with 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.

### 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 12:30pm (preferably in the 10 or 11am hours) and flights to home depart between 1:00pm and 4:30pm (preferably in the 2 or 3pm hours). If your city is not listed, please contact us so we can coordinate flights that work for you.

### Travel Dates

#### 1st Session:

To Camp: June 18th

To Home: July 14th

#### 2nd Session

To Camp: July 15th

To Home: Aug. 10th

#### 8 Week:

To Camp: June 18th

To Home: Aug. 10th

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.

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.

In the spring, you will be asked to enter your son's travel details into the North Star Campintouch (online form) system.

### Recommended Flights

Below are our recommended flights for the summer of 2018

City	Airport	To Camp Flight	Dep Time	Arrival Time	To Home Flight	Dep Time	Arrival time
Atlanta	ATL	DL 1866	7:25am	9:01am	DL 1715	3:15pm	6:53pm
Austin	AUS	DL 2740	6:15am	9:02am	DL 1653	5:55pm	8:56pm
Baltimore	BWI	WN 2250	8:15am	10:05pm	WN 3962	1:45pm	5:05pm
Bozeman	BOZ	DL 1203	6:00am	9:16am	DL 1231	2:20pm	3:53pm
Charlotte	CLT	DL 1239	8:15am	10:03am	DL 2999	5:45pm	9:32pm
Cincinnati	CVG	DL 3585	9:00am	10:07am	DL 4693	3:00pm	5:58pm
Cleveland	CLE	DL 846	7:00am	8:09am	DL 2220	3:00pm	5:55pm
		DL 3897	9:40am	10:44am			
Columbus	CMH	DL 2738	7:05am	8:15am	DL 3791	3:15pm	6:14pm
		DL 3801	9:36am	10:45am			
Dallas	DFW	DL 4748	8:00am	10:25am	DL 4939	12:45pm	3:15pm
Denver	DEN	DL 1175	9:00am	11:58am	DL 1609	2:45pm	3:50pm
Detroit	DTW	DL 1569	8:25am	9:18am	DL 22	2:20pm	5:04pm
Fort Lauderdale	FLL	DL 1927 & DL 1553	7:45am	12:03pm	DL 1055 & DL 2054	3:30pm	11pm
		AA 1756 & AA 713	6:35am	11:17am	AA 2596 & AA 2641	12:43pm	7:10pm
Houston	IAH	DL 4799	7:45am	10:42am	DL 3372	11:31am	2:32pm
Los Angeles	LAX	DL 2116	6:15am	11:50am	DL 1298	2:25pm	4:15pm
Miami	MIA	DL 1488	7:30am	10:21am	DL 1493	5:45pm	10:34pm
Nashville	BNA	DL 4580	8:18am	10:39am	DL 3531	3:30pm	5:39pm
New York City	EWR	DL 4701	8:25am	10:32am	DL 3980	3:15pm	7:04pm
	JFK	DL 459	8:05am	10:14pm	DL 42	2:46pm	6:45pm
	LGA	DL 1469	10:00am	12:19am	DL 1469	1:00pm	4:50pm
Omaha	OMA	DL 2475	9:04am	10:25am	DL 3548	3:25pm	4:55pm
Phoenix	PHX	DL 1668	6:55am	12:06pm	DL 899	3:00pm	4:15pm
Pittsburgh	PIT	DL 2897	7:00am	8:12am	DL 4681	3:00pm	6:06pm
		DL 3296	9:25am	10:45am			
San Diego	SAN	DL 1864	6:25am	12:14pm	DL 1728	11:15am	1:00pm
San Francisco	SFO	DL 1847	6:15am	11:57am	DL 1593	3:00pm	5:04pm
Seattle	SEA	DL 1453	6:45am	12:00pm	DL 1560	2:30pm	4:10pm
St. Louis	STL	DL 870	9:09am	10:45am	DL 3538	1:15pm	2:47pm
Washington D.C.	DCA	DL 1817	8:30am	10:15am	DL 1664	3:15pm	6:51pm

#### Airlines

AA = American DL = Delta UA = United WN = Southwest

### 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 2017, 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.

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