

# TRIP SMART 2012

**Annual Guide to More Efficient &  
Budget-Friendly Summer Roadtrips**



 **AutoZone** 

Gas prices shouldn't keep you from enjoying a summer vacation with your family and friends. To help ease the pain at the pump, **AutoZone** and **Mobil 1** have compiled **gas-saving tips** as well as **budget-friendly travel recommendations** to get you to your destination safely and efficiently.

## Gas-Saving Tips

Did you know that taking a few minutes to perform proactive maintenance and checks on vehicles can actually help improve efficiency and enhance engine performance? Here are a few recommendations:

### Keep Your Vehicle Maintained

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, getting a **tune-up when needed can improve a vehicle's gas mileage by up to 4 percent, depending on the maintenance needed.**



**Checking and maintaining the levels on all fluids can prevent engines from overheating.** These fluids include engine oil, transmission fluids and antifreeze/coolant.

Using **Mobil 1 Advanced Fuel Economy™** motor oil is one of the most important steps a consumer can take to help save fuel.



**Mobil 1 Advanced Fuel Economy™** fully synthetic motor oils are engineered to deliver outstanding engine protection and provide improved fuel economy. For the everyday driver, Mobil 1 Advanced Fuel Economy™ oils deliver up to 2 percent or almost \$0.08 per gallon of fuel.\*\*

And remember that retailers such as **AutoZone** offer free oil recycling.

## Budget-Friendly Vacation Destinations\*\*\*

Now that you've taken care of your vehicle and prepared for summer driving, where should you head to? Here's a list of both budget- and family-friendly destinations for you to enjoy this summer.

### Las Vegas, NV



Although Las Vegas is known for its nightlife, the city is also the perfect family vacation destination. Red Rock Canyon, a beautiful national conservation area, is close by for those who enjoy mountain climbing, hiking and biking. The swimming pool cabanas and shallow wading pools at most hotels are ideal for young children, and most hotels offer an impressive complimentary breakfast—a great way to save! Catering to families, certain hotels even have Wii systems in the lobby and DVD players in every room. Don't want to pay to have the dog boarded? A number of Vegas hotels allow dogs for a minimal daily fee.

For more information and a list of family-friendly attractions, [visit \*\*visitvegas.com\*\*](http://visitvegas.com).



Red Rock Canyon

Las Vegas has a number of hotels that offer perks such as **children under 17 stay free with a parent or guardian, and "Suite Savings"—at least 20% off room rates on Fridays and Saturdays** when a guest checks in on those days. Other common specials include fourth night freebies.



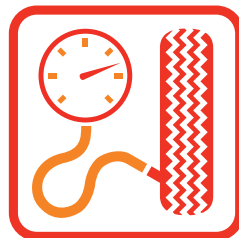
# New Orleans, LA

2

This beautiful and one-of-a-kind city offers something for everyone! The Central Business District—a three-block walk or fun trolley ride away from the famous **French Quarter**—has **room rates as low as \$89 a night**, complete with many amenities (rooftop pools, delicious and authentic restaurants on site, etc.).

If you're looking for something romantic, there are plenty of couples' rates on room and event packages that won't cost a fortune. Many city/ghost tours and great, cheap food will surely leave everyone in the family happy. And, don't forget to visit the nearby swamps to see an alligator up close!

For more information, [visit neworleans.com](http://neworleans.com).



## Gas-Saving Tips

### Keep Your Vehicle Maintained

Improve your gas mileage by **up to 3.3 percent or up to \$0.12 per gallon by keeping your tires inflated at the proper pressure.\***

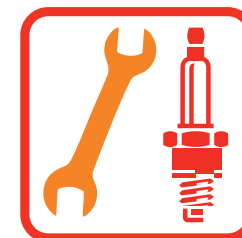
# Philadelphia, PA

3

The city of brotherly love...and great savings! Philadelphia is one of the nation's largest and oldest cities, full of fun things to see and do—especially in the warmer summer months. Independence Park is a good option for kids and history buffs, with the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall right across the street and the Reading Terminal Market and China Town just a short walk away. Hotels in the area offer specials starting at 15% off your entire stay.

If something a bit fancier is what you want, you can find that on a budget too. Many Philadelphia luxury hotels are offering two full night stays free when you purchase a multiple night stay. The finer things for a finer price!

Check out [visitphilly.com](http://visitphilly.com) for more ideas and information.



## Gas-Saving Tips

### Keep Your Vehicle Maintained

For maximum performance, power and fuel efficiency, **replace spark plugs as recommended by the manufacturer.** Spark plugs can affect fuel efficiency, emissions and economy. As spark plugs wear, they do not burn fuel as cleanly, which is why it is important to change spark plugs at the proper intervals.

If your owner's manual has been lost, many websites, such as the National Car Care Council's website ([www.carcare.org](http://www.carcare.org)), offer a recommended maintenance schedule for vehicles.



# Portland, OR

4

When thinking travel destinations, Portland may not jump to mind, but the city offers a little bit of everything! For the avid biking family or couple, Portland offers 300 miles of bike lanes, trails and special low-traffic streets. Certain hotels even offer special “biking packages,” and there is no shortage of guided biking tours. Pedal your heart out!

Also, certain area hotels give the option to stay for three or four nights and receive your last night free, or stay six nights and your last two nights are free!

Visit [travelportland.com](http://travelportland.com) for complete listings of attractions and tourist information.



## Gas-Saving Tips

### Be Cautious of Your Driving Style

Efficient driving practices, such as observing the speed limit and eliminating excess weight, can help get the most out of your tank.\*

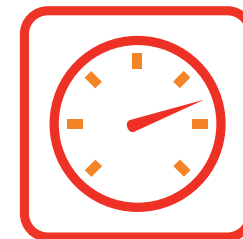
# Charlotte, NC

5

A variety of enjoyable tourist attractions, a simple Southern charm and great rates make Charlotte the ideal destination in the South! Home of Michael Jordan and its own unique brand of barbecue, there is more to Charlotte than meets the eye.

A number of hotels are just a short walk from the heart of the city, and offer a one-night stay for the regular rate and the next night 40 percent off! Of course, a great deal of Charlotte’s exciting entertainment options are free! Plus, a strong live music scene boasts every musical style, and there is a festival for every occasion—try Taste of Charlotte!

Learn about Taste of Charlotte and more by visiting [charlottesgotalot.com](http://charlottesgotalot.com).



## Gas-Saving Tips

### Be Cautious of Your Driving Style

Gas mileage usually decreases rapidly at speeds above 60 mph. Each 5 mph you drive over 60 mph is like paying an additional \$0.31 per gallon for gas.\*



# Chicago, IL

6

The perfect place to visit for any family, couple or single with countless attractions and enticing pricing! Hotels can be found right in the heart of Chicago's downtown, no more than a 15-minute walk from most sightseeing, shopping and eating destinations. With already modest rates for their location, many hotels are also offering up to 40 percent off the second night. Alternately, others sweeten the deal with an offer to stay three nights and get the fourth up to 40 percent off!

Find out what else there is to love about Chicago at [choosechicago.com](http://choosechicago.com).



Navy Pier, the Magnificent Mile, deep dish Chicago-style pizza... what is there not to love about Chicago? Grant Park offers free concerts every week during the summer months and some of the best fireworks displays on holidays. And, there is a new neighborhood festival every weekend—many culturally and nationally inspired.

# San Francisco, CA

7

You will truly leave your heart in San Francisco after you visit! San Francisco offers many free attractions such as Pier 39, the walk down famous Lombard Street and a stroll through Ghirardelli Square. For those who want a taste of wine country, Napa Valley and Sonoma are only about an hour away. For the foodie, San Francisco also offers a wide variety of cuisine. Make sure you try some clam chowder while you are there!

For hotel and other tourist information, visit [sanfrancisco.travel](http://sanfrancisco.travel).



## Gas-Saving Tips

### Be Cautious of Your Driving Style

An extra 100 pounds in your vehicle could reduce your mpg by up to 2 percent. The reduction affects smaller vehicles more than larger ones.\*



# Mobile, AL

8

A family- and wallet-friendly beach vacation everyone will love. With a history as rich as its delectable seafood dishes, Mobile offers gorgeous scenery and a laid-back vibe that are a breath of fresh air.

The famous Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail, Alabama Battleship Memorial Park and Original Mardi Gras celebration are all at your fingertips in Mobile—and Gulf Shores is a short drive down the road! The multitude of low-ticket attractions and reasonable accommodations make Mobile a memorable getaway that won't break the bank.

For more information about Mobile and other Alabama destinations, visit [alabama.travel](http://alabama.travel).



## Gas-Saving Tips

### Be Cautious of Your Driving Style

Aggressive idling can use a quarter to a half gallon of fuel per hour, depending on engine size and air conditioning use.\*

# San Antonio, TX

9

One of Texas' and the nation's best-kept travel secrets. Its proximity to Mexico gives it a truly unique flavor, and there is no shortage of enticing activities. The Alamo, River Walk restaurants and cruises, and a string of famous theme and water parks give San Antonio an edge over the competition.

Get everything you need to plan your vacation at [visitsanantonio.com](http://visitsanantonio.com).



There are many affordable vacation packages built around these attractions—a great way to see the sites without having to take the time and energy to build your own itinerary. Just sit back and rely on the experts to do that! Nearby outlet malls, Six Flags and Sea World make San Antonio the perfect family fun spot!



# Branson, MO



The perfect getaway for those of you too far from the beach or the big city to make the trip, but still seeking adventure. In the midst of the glorious Ozark Mountains, the outdoorsmen and -women will be in their element. If nature is not your thing, no problem: there are plenty of live shows, sporting events and shopping destinations for you to enjoy.

Book your trip and check out more attractions at [explorebranson.com](http://explorebranson.com).



## Gas-Saving Tips

### Be Cautious of Your Driving Style

Aggressive driving—speeding, rapid acceleration and braking—can lower your gas mileage by 33 percent at highway speeds and by 5 percent around town.\*

\*Source: [fuelconomy.gov](http://fuelconomy.gov). Cost savings are based on an assumed fuel price of \$3.87/gallon.

\*\*Comparison based upon 2% potential fuel economy improvement obtained by switching from higher viscosity oils to a 0W-20 or 0W-30 grade. Actual savings are dependent upon vehicle/engine type, outside temperature, driving conditions and your current engine oil viscosity. Check your fuel savings at [www.mobiloil/usa-english/motoroil/home/fuel\\_calc.html](http://www.mobiloil/usa-english/motoroil/home/fuel_calc.html).

\*\*\*Hotel rates and discounts not guaranteed. For up-to-date information, visit the websites listed in the article.