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## Cleveland Hopkins offer Christmas travel tips for a happy holiday

*Cleveland, Dec. 21, 2009* — Cleveland Hopkins International Airport (CLE) officials want travelers to start their Christmas travel with the spirit of the holiday season. Unlike Thanksgiving where travel is packed into a weekend, airport officials expect to see a steady flow of passenger traffic leading into Christmas and throughout the remainder of the year.

“Traveling during Christmas is less frantic than Thanksgiving because you basically have two or three weeks for travel,” said Airport Director Ricky Smith. “That doesn’t mean it is less stressful. That’s why we like to remind travelers of some easy and simple tips that will make flying less stressful.”

Passengers should expect longer lines at the ticket counters and the three CLE Security Checkpoints – A, B and C. Travelers should arrive at least 2 hours before your scheduled departure to allow time for parking, checking in and going through the checkpoints.

Once travelers are past security, they can enjoy the many new concessions now open in the CLE AIRMALL, including Dunkin Donuts, Cheeburger Cheeburger, Subway Sandwiches, McAlister’s Deli and more.

CLE is now offering a 50 percent discount for parking in both the hourly/daily garage and the long-term garage through January 15. CLE parking is fast, easy, convenient and more importantly on-site. Visit the airport’s Web site at [www.clevelandairport.com](http://www.clevelandairport.com) and click on the Holiday Garage Special to download your parking coupon. **Travelers must present the coupon to the attendant in order to receive the parking discount.**

For more helpful travel tips, airport officials recommend the following:

- Travelers have five separate on-site parking options, including Curbside Valet \$18 per day, located on the upper roadway near the Delta Air Lines and US Airways ticket counters; the hourly/daily garage \$14 per day; long-term parking garage \$10 per day; the economy shuttle parking lot \$7 per day and a new economy parking lot for \$8 a day located next to the long-term parking garage.

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- Picking up friends and family at the airport and you don't want to circle around the airport until they arrive? Meeters and greeters can now wait in the new 50-space CLE Cell Phone Lot just off Jackson Road behind Concourse D. The cell phone lot opens on Tuesday, December 22 at 12:00pm.
- Before you leave for CLE, be sure to look through your luggage to ensure that prohibited items are not in your bags.
- Consider using your airline's website to do advance check-in to print your boarding pass up to 24-hours before departure. Even travelers with bags to check can save valuable time by checking-in on-line as many airlines have separate check your bag only lines that are quicker than the regular check-in lines.
- Before leaving home, contact the airline to check the status of the flight, or visit the airport's Web site at [www.clevelandairport.com](http://www.clevelandairport.com) and click on the "flight information" link.
- Check traffic and weather conditions before leaving home, as these conditions can add to travel time to the airport.
- Always have a government-issue ID ready to present at the airline ticket counter and security checkpoint.
- Remember 3-1-1 rule for carry-on items. Three ounces per container, in a clear one-quart bag, one per passenger.
- Knives, scissors with pointed tips, pepper spray and other such items are prohibited as carry-on items. For a comprehensive list of banned and permitted items, visit the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Web site at [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov).
- Carry-on luggage is restricted to one bag and one personal item per person. A personal item includes a purse, briefcase, or laptop bag. Keep in mind that most airlines now charge at least \$15 for the first bag for each passenger and more for additional bags.
- Do not wrap presents as they may have to be opened during security inspections.
- For more airport information, call (216) 265-6030 or visit the airport's Web site at [www.clevelandairport.com](http://www.clevelandairport.com).

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***Cleveland Hopkins International Airport is Ohio's Premier Air Service Gateway offering over 260 daily departures to 80 nonstop destinations including 6 international markets.***