Tips On Trips

Longing For Long Weekends? Enjoy Them Now

(NAPSA)—With many companies having a "use it or lose it" vacation policy, more and more employees are taking those left-over vacation days in the form of a long weekend.

Rather than a short trip in the family car, there are a number of low airfares available that allow travelers to book weekend getaways to just about anywhere conveniently and economically.

One airline that has become increasingly popular with long-weekend travelers is America West, which offers a variety of specially priced airfares and packages.

"America West is well-suited for travelers wishing to book endof-the-year weekend getaways," said Bernie Han, senior vice-president of marketing and planning for America West. "All our fare specials and opportunities to earn frequent flyer miles are of real value to customers."

Among the great destinations travelers might consider for a long weekend is a winter getaway to the Rocky Mountains or Canada for skiing. Others might want to escape the winter blues in Southern California or Mexico or enjoy the city sites of Washington, D.C., New York or New Orleans.

In addition to great Internet fares, through the end of the year, travelers on America West earn a bonus of 3,000 frequent flyer miles when travel is booked on the company's Web site (www.america west.com). With award travel available for only 20,000 miles, customers can earn free travel in as little as three trips.

America West Vacations offers low priced packages which include air and ground transportation as well as hotel reservations with only one phone call. From now through December 15, 2001, the



FLYING TO A DESTINATION for a long weekend is soaring in popularity thanks to low fares and discount packages.

airline is also offering a Kids Fly Free package, where every paying adult can take a child age two to 11 for free on the same itinerary to several Southern California destinations from select cities.

To make the most of long weekend getaways and get more value out of traveling, consider these travel tips:

- Many airlines offer lower airfares, weekly fare sales and last minute discounts on their Web sites. Customers can sign up for email notification of special sales.
- For additional discounts, keep a flexible schedule. Departing an hour or two earlier or later will sometimes make a difference in the airfare.
- To maximize frequent flyer miles, find out what hotels, car rental companies and restaurants partner with the airline. Taking advantage of these partnerships puts consumers on the fast track to earning a free ticket.

More information is available by visiting the airline's Web site at www.americawest.com or by calling the America West reservations line at 800-235-9292 or America West Vacations at 800-356-6611.