

Double S Travel

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Double S Travel Worldchoice - Celebrating Twenty Four Years of service to the residents and businesses in the South Bedfordshire area 1985 - 2009

Factsheet for 24 February 2009

Stop Press

Eurostar is back to full capacity having introduced its normal timetable following the closure and subsequent repair of a tunnel as a result of the fire last year.

Today's Exchange Rates

Euro. Our tourist sell rate today:	£1 = 1.09741	better than last week
US Dollar. Our tourist sell rate today:	£1 = 1.39591	better than last week

Security Requirements at London Luton airport.

Checking-in time

Airlines advise as to what time they want you to check-in.

Allow enough time to go through security.

Turn up in good time – 2 hours prior to a short haul flight. Longer for a long haul flight.

Security does take time so don't check-in too late!

Once you have cleared security, and are air-side, you may purchase and take on board an aircraft, drinks, gels etc..

Security of the person

You will be asked to empty your pockets, remove your coat or jacket, remove your trouser/skirt/dress belt and remove your shoes. Loose items will be placed in a tray. These items will go through the x-ray machine with your hand-baggage and you will then proceed through a security-scanner arch yourself.

In brief: Hand Baggage.

One piece of hand baggage per passenger.

Lap-top computers count as a piece of hand baggage. They must be taken out of their case before screening.

Liquids are limited to 100ml and are to be carried in a clear resealable plastic bag.

In detail: Hand Baggage.

All liquids are to be contained within a clear resealable plastic bag no larger than 20cm x 18cm (8" x 7.5") - a 1 litre bag. This bag is to be sealed and presented separately at the x-ray machine. Liquids must not exceed 100ml each and must fit

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Proprietor: **SJ Pattenden TD, BA (Hons).** VAT Number 449 3040 53.

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withing the plastic bag. Liquids include **gels, drinks, lipstick, deodorant, toothpaste** etc).

Sharp objects such as scissors, cutlery, nail files and pocket knives are not allowed.

Thermometers containing mercury are not allowed.

Hand luggage dimensions depend on the airline and may be smaller than the maximum. The maximum dimensions allowable are 45cm x 56cm x 25cm (17.2" x 22" x 9.8"). Check with you airline as to what the maximum size allowable is. The clear plastic bag used for liquids must fit into your hand-baggage.

Lap-top computers are counted as your hand baggage.

The following lists have been taken directly from the London Luton Airport website at www.london-luton.co.uk and is only current as of today. Words in bold are items that I consider the ordinary holidaymaker/traveller needs to consider

Travelling with babies and small children.

Baby milk and baby food are considered to be essential and therefore you will be able to carry the milk in bottles containing more than 100ml if necessary. However you will be asked to taste the milk to prove its authenticity.

Baby food in a quantity sufficient for the duration of the flight may be taken with you in your hand baggage. **Jars are preferable to cartons** as the jars are easier to check and can be resealed.

Nappies and wet wipes are permitted but any creams, pastes, lotions or gels must be of no more than 100ml and place in a 1 litre re-sealable clear plastic bag as per the normal restrictions on liquids.

You may pack jars of food and prepared cartons of sealed formula milk in your hold baggage.

A **pushchair or buggy** may be taken through the security search. You will be asked to remove your baby for a few minutes as the buggy will need to go through the x-ray machine.

Items not allowed in hand-baggage.

Guns, firearms and weapons.

Pistols, revolvers, rifles, shotguns etc

Replica and **imitation firearms**

Component parts of firearms (excluding telescopic sighting devices and sights).

Air pistols, air rifles and pellet guns.

Signal flares and starter pistols

Toy guns of all types

Ball bearing guns

Industrial bolt and nailguns

Cross bows

Catapults

Harpoon and spear guns

Humane animal killers

Stun or shocking devices eg cattleprods, tasers

Lighters shaped like a firearm

Sharp objects and pointed/edged weapons capable of causing injury including:

Axes and hatchets

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Arrows and darts
Crampons
Harpoons, spears
Ice axes, ice picks
Ice skates

Lockable or flick knives

Knives, including ceremonial knives made of metal or any material strong enough to be used as a potential weapon.

Meat cleavers

Machetes

Open razors and blades (excluding safety or disposable razors with blades enclosed in cartridge)

Sabres, swords and swordsticks

Scalpels

Scissors with blades over 6cm in length

Ski and walking/hiking poles

Throwing stars

Tradesmen's tools that have the potential to be used as a pointed or edged weapon eg drills, drill-bits, box cutters, utility knives, saws, screwdrivers, crowbars, hammers, pliers, wrenches, spanners, blow torches.

Blunt instruments

Any blunt instrument capable of causing injury including:

Baseball and softball bats

Clubs, batons – rigid or flexible eg billyclubs, blackjacks, nightsticks, batons.

Cricket bats

Golf clubs

Hockey sticks

Lacrosse sticks

Kayak and canoe paddles

Skateboards

Billiard, snooker and pool cues

Fishing rods

Martial arts equipment including knuckle-dusters, clubs, coshes, rice-flails, num chucks, kubatons, kubasaunts

Explosives and flammable substances

Ammunition

Blasting caps

Detonators and fuses

Explosives and explosive devices

Replica or imitation explosive materials or devices

Mines and other military stores

Grenades of all types

Gas and gas containers eg butane, acetylene, oxygen in large volume, fireworks, flares in any form and other pyrotechnics including party poppers and toy caps.

Non-safety matches

Smoke generating canisters or cartridges

Flammable liquid fuel eg petrol, gasoline, diesel, **lighter fluid, alcohol, ethanol, aerosol spray paint, turpentine, paint thinner**

Alcoholic beverages exceeding 70% by volume (140% proof).

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Chemical and toxic substances

Any chemical or toxic substance which poses a risk to the health of passengers and crew or the security/safety of the aircraft or property including:

Acids and alkalis eg spillable wet batteries

Corrosive or bleaching substances eg **mercury**, chlorine

Disabling or incapacitating sprays eg mace, pepperspray, teargas.

Radioactive material eg medicinal or commercial isotopes

Poisons

Infectious or biological hazardous material eg infected blood, bacteria, viruses

Material capable of spontaneous combustion or ignition

Fire extinguishers

Items permitted in your Hand Baggage.

Duty free purchases of perfumes, spirits, wines, tobacco

Duty free purchases of hairsprays, toiletries, aftershave, deodorant

Medicines in pressurised containers (each item not exceeding 0.5kg or half litre – not exceeding 2kg or 2 litres total. (Bring medical prescription with you).

Smoking material – but not lighter refills containing gas or liquid fuel or lighter fuel not absorbed.

Small oxygen and carbon dioxide cylinders for medical use (prior airline approval must be obtained).

Up to 2kg of perishable goods in cabin only.

Further information from your airline.

Items that cannot be taken on an aircraft whether in hand or hold baggage

Flammable liquids or solids

Oxidisers such as bleaching powders

Tear-gas devices or gas cylinders

Infectious substances

Wet cell car batteries

Magnetrons

Instruments containing mercury

Instruments containing magnets

Fireworks

Non-safety matches, lighters, lighter fuel, paint, thinners

Poisons, arsenic, cyanide, **weedkiller**

Radioactive materials

Acids, corrosives, alkalis, caustic soda

Creosote, quicklime, oiled paper.

News in brief:

Thinking of going to New Zealand next year? Join my group! Call me on 01582 752752 or email me at steve@doublestravel.co.uk for details.

Interested in a cruise? Visit our cruise club website at www.upadeck.co.uk it contains details of over 20,000 cruises, port descriptions and ship details!

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Slovakia joined the Euro on 1st Jan this year.

Travelling to the USA? You need a visa (called an ESTA) in order to travel.

European Health Insurance cards have replaced the E111.

FlyLAL. Low-cost Lithuanian airline FlyLAL ceased trading on Saturday 17Jan09.

If you would like to join my emailing-list to receive offers and news, simply email steve@doublestravel.co.uk and put 'Mailing List' in the subject box.

Always:

- Check that your passport does not expire within six months of your return date.
- Ensure you have taken out good travel insurance and if going to Europe, take your EHIC card with you too.
- Put the 24hour UK Consular Assistance number - +44 020 7008 1500 into your mobile telephone – just in case you need emergency help.
- If hiring a car, don't forget to take both parts of your photo driving licence (the card and the paper sheet) with you. Some rental companies no longer accept the old style green paper non-photo driving licences.
- Ensure you have all the visas you need.
- If you have booked connecting flights, the baggage allowance may be smaller than your long haul flights. To avoid extra charges, pack to the lowest baggage allowance.
- Tell your credit card and debit card issuer where you are going and for how long otherwise you may find you cannot use your cards.
- Use public transport to get to the airport. Most insurance will only cover you for a missed departure if you used public transport.
- Take a photocopy of your passport with you. If you lose your original it is much simpler to replace if you have a copy available to you.
- Protect your money and your holiday by booking an ATOL protected holiday through a reputable travel agent. Even short-breaks using no-frills airlines can be covered if booked through and agent.
- Declare all medical conditions and hospital visits at the time of taking insurance and tell the insurer if you develop a medical condition before you travel otherwise they may not settle if you try to make a claim.

Remember, travel safely, protect your money by booking through and ATOL holder, but most of all - enjoy your travelling.

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Our aim is to be your most trusted dream provider

All the best,

Steve Pattenden.

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Acknowledgements. DG&G Gazetteers for much of the destination information.

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