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Rising Gas Prices Resulting in Travel Incentives

jennifer on August 19th, 2008



Nationally, gas prices are averaging just under \$3.80 a gallon and just two weeks ago, those filling up at the pump were paying more than \$4.00. This unpredictable commodity has caused travelers to change their travel plans this summer and have resulted in travel suppliers and hotels offering incentives to encourage visitors.

A recent [AAA survey](#) reports that 95 percent of AAA auto travel managers say high gas prices will cause travelers to alter their vacation plans this summer. Travelers taking trips closer to home, taking fewer trips, and reducing the number of vacation days traveled are ways reported in the survey that Americans will adjust their travel plans this summer.

“As gas prices skyrocket across the nation, travelers everywhere are left feeling the pinch for summer vacations,” states Greg Miller, president of PMHS. “‘Tanks for Staying’ was inspired by the knowledge that the added costs for a summer vacation are estimated to have increased \$50 for the average family using their car to arrive to their destination. With such high costs at the pump along with rising food prices, we believe our guests deserve immediate help to salvage the family summer vacation.”

To ensure travelers do not miss out on vacation opportunities, numerous travel partners have created incentives stemming from high gas prices. NOTE: These are just a few available incentives...be sure to ask your travel partner to inquire what specials might be available.

Gas Prices Fueling Travel:

Bed & Breakfasts Offer One Tank Trips: Don't let the price of gas tank your getaway plans. Find great savings for your next vacation at [BnBfinder.com](#). [Bed and breakfast inns](#) are offering special discounts and packages that won't leave you with an empty wallet or an empty gas tank. Receive a gas credit for your fill up or choose from the available One Tank Trips from major cities. The exact amount of the refunds and gas cards varies by region and inn, but you can see a complete list of participating inns on our [gas savings specials page](#). Currently more than 140 inns are participating in the program.

Red Roof Inn Beach Locations: Travelers heading to the beach get money back for gas. Spend three consecutive nights at select [Red Roof](#) beach locations and receive a gas credit for \$25. Spend four consecutive nights and it's doubled to \$50! Please refer to VP+® Discount Code 542192 to receive your gas credit. Rooms must be booked online at [redroof.com](#) or 800.RED.ROOF (800.733.7663). Red Roof Inn beach locations offering this gas incentive are located in Florida, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, and Virginia. For complete locations, visit: <http://www.redroof.com/promotions/gascredit.asp>

Kimpton's [70 Park Avenue Hotel](#) - New York City, New York: With \$4-a-gallon prices threatening to put the brakes on many vacation plans, 70 park avenue hotel's [Road Warrior Package](#) offers to offset the record prices of gas by including a \$20 gas card, complimentary parking, special accommodation rates starting at \$289/night, and more amenities. *Package available until 9/2/08, subject to change.* Additionally, Kimpton hotels across the country offer hybrid car incentives. Guests arriving at a Kimpton hotel in a hybrid car receive parking and hotel discounts, and promotions vary depending on the property.

The Millennium UN Plaza New York: Guests who drive to the [Millennium UN Plaza hotel](#) in a car will receive \$50 off the price of their hotel stay, while those driving SUVs will receive a \$75 credit. With the Drive In and Save package, the money guests' spend on gas can now go directly right back into their wallets. Rates at the Millennium UN Plaza Hotel start at \$249 per night. *The Drive In and Save package is valid through September 7, 2008.* Blackout dates apply. For more information or to book a stay at the Millennium UN Plaza, please call 1 (877) 866-7529 or visit www.millenniumhotels.com and use the promo code "SAVE".

Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa - Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico: Situated in the hills above the lush Rio Grande Valley in New Mexico, this pueblo-style [resort](#) is offering a "Gas Promotion" that includes a \$25 Gift Card for two-night stays and a \$50 Gift Card for three-night stays; all the more reason for guests to enjoy championship golf, a world-class spa, horseback-riding, and more. Summer rates start at \$235 per night. *Valid now through September 30.* Call (800) 554-9288 and reference offer code GASCR. www.tamaya.hyatt.com

Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Golf Resort, Spa & Marina - Cambridge, Maryland: An extraordinary Eastern Shore experience awaits guests who book the "[Chesapeake Bay Experience](#)" package, which includes overnight accommodations, a \$25 gas card, s'mores kit, a kite for the beach, pass to Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, and 15% off at the resort's Orvis clothing store. Guests driving a hybrid vehicle will also receive an *additional* \$50 gas card. Summer rates starts at \$239 per night. *Valid now through December 31, 2008.* Call (800) 633-7313 and reference offer code CBEXP8. www.chesapeakebay.hyatt.com

Hyatt Regency McCormick Place - Chicago, Illinois: Following a recent multi-million dollar renovation, this 800-room [Chicago hotel](#) is now offering a "Gas Saver" package, which includes a \$25 gas gift certificate upon checkout, complimentary self parking for one car each day, and complimentary one-way shuttle service to the Magnificent Mile, museums and other attractions. Rates start at \$199 plus tax. *Valid now through September 6, 2008.* Call (800) 233-1234. www.mccormickplace.hyatt.com

Hyatt Regency Dallas - Dallas, Texas: Located in the heart of downtown Dallas' historic district, the AAA Four-Diamond [Hyatt Regency Dallas](#) has created a "Gas 'n Go" offer, starting at \$99 and including overnight accommodations and a \$25 gas card. As an added bonus, guests who drive a hybrid vehicle will also receive free parking. *Valid now through September 1, 2008.* Call (800) 233-1234. www.dallasregency.hyatt.com

The Curtis Hotel - Denver, Colorado: A member of Sterling Hotels™, The Curtis hates rising gas prices, so park your gas guzzler and receive \$50 to fill up your tank. The package includes a \$50 gas card and rates start at \$155 weekday, \$195 weekend. A two-night minimum stay is required during the week. For reservations and additional information please visit www.thecurtis.com or call (800) 525-6651.

Eldorado Hotel & Spa - Santa Fe, New Mexico: El Dorado Hotel & Spa, a member of Preferred Hotels & Resorts, is coming to the aid of travelers with the "Santa Fe Gas Rebate". Guests, whether they travel by train, plane or car, will receive a \$50 food and beverage credit when they present a dated gas receipt or rental car contract that corresponds with the date of check-in. *The Santa Fe Gas Rebate requires a two-night stay and is valid now through September 6, 2008.* Rates start at \$219 per night. For reservations or information please visit www.eldoradohotel.com or call (800) 955-4455 and mention Santa Fe Gas Rebate when booking.

French Lick Resort - French Lick, Indiana; West Baden Springs Hotel - West Baden Springs/French Lick, Indiana: The French Lick Resort, a member of Historic Hotels of America, and West Baden Springs Hotel, a member of Preferred Hotels & Resorts, are both offering a valuable Gas Rebate Package this summer. The more nights you stay, the bigger rebate you earn! A two-night minimum is required, which earns a \$40 rebate. Stay up to five nights and earn as much as \$100. *The offer is good thru December 31.* For more information or to make a reservation please visit www.frenchlick.com or call (888)936-9360 and mention code GS0808.

Boston Harbor Hotel - Boston, Massachusetts: Don't let the rising costs of fuel ruin your summer vacation. Get "Mobil" and drive your cares away for a summer of fantastic fun. Book a two night stay at the Boston Harbor Hotel, a member of Preferred Hotels & Resorts, and receive a \$50 Mobil gas card, complimentary valet parking and luxurious overnight accommodations. Let the kid's frolic by the pool as you relax and recharge your batteries with a scintillating spa treatment or take in one of our Summer Series Movies while we help refuel your gas tank. Rates start at \$455. *Available June 19, 2008 - September 7, 2008 Thursdays - Sundays.* Visit www.bhh.com to book online or call 617-439-7000.

Hilton Indian Lakes Resort - Bloomington, Indiana: The [Hilton Indian Lakes Resort](#) knows that travelers are hurting when they make it to the gas pump, which is they have put together a Gas Card Promo to help ease the pain. The Gas Card Package includes overnight accommodations, breakfast for two in Master's Clubhouse and one \$25 gas card per stay. *This*

package is only available on Fridays and Saturdays up until August 31, 2008. The package starts at \$125/night. Travelers can go to www.IndianLakesResort.com for more information.

Lowes Coronado Bay Resort - San Diego, California: With gas prices rising at record rates and the expectation that increases will continue throughout the summer, [Loews Coronado Bay Resort](http://www.loewshotels.com) offers weary travelers a little relief from the pump with the debut of its “Money for Miles” package, which includes deluxe accommodations at the premier San Diego resort, complimentary self-parking and a list of the least expensive gas stations in the area. In addition, guests can submit their gas receipts to the front desk at the end of their stay for a credit of up to \$50 off their hotel bill. The Money for Miles package ranges from \$289 to \$429 per night, based on availability. Gas receipts must be dated one day prior to the guests’ arrival or sometime during their stay. *Valid until September 1, 2008.* Reservations may be made by calling 619-424-4000 or 800-81-LOEWS. Visit www.loewshotels.com.

I-95 Packages with Marriott, Hilton, Starwood & Choice Hotels: [PM Hospitality Strategies](http://www.pmhs.com) (PMHS), a leading [hotel management company](#) with Marriott, Hilton, Starwood and Choice hotels operating along I-95 in the Mid-Atlantic, has a solution to soaring costs stemming from unexpectedly high gas prices. PMHS has developed a creative summer promotion entitled, “Tanks for Staying” designed to give traveling families some relief from [gasoline prices](#) with a \$50 gas card as well as a variety of additional incentives at PMHS properties throughout Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey. *The promotion is available for stays through September 30, 2008 through www.pmhs.com or by calling participating hotels directly.*

“We all know there is a tremendous pinch at the pump right now with soaring gas prices throughout the nation,” said Kathleen Cochran, general manager of [Loews Coronado Bay Resort](http://www.loewshotels.com). “We’re hoping to relieve a little of that pain and keep summer travelers on the road with this extra incentive.”

What other travel incentives are you seeing? Stay tuned for destinations reachable only via air or sea which are offering free air incentives to help combat the tight economy travelers are feeling.

NOTE: These offers were valid at time of publishing on August 19, 2008. Prices and availability are not guaranteed by Travel-Advocate magazine.



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