

# EVERYDAY TO BUT TO BUT



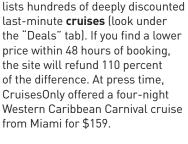
# the best gift of all

Holiday travelers should book Southwest, JetBlue or Alaska Airlines. If the airfare drops. they'll give you a credit for the difference, which you can use within one year.

Smart websites are making it easier than ever to find quick deals. So get online and get out of town—now! BY DAVID LAHUTA

FLY SMART. Using opaque websites like Priceline or Hotwire is a great way to score supercheap flights for impromptu trips, especially if your travel dates are flexible. Also check us.lastminute .com, which offers discounts of up to 70 percent on last-second travel packages—they sometimes end up being less expensive than the lastminute flights themselves.

JOIN THE CLUB. To join jetsetter .com, you need an invite from a member. That is, unless you're one of our readers! Sign up at jetsetter .com/register/promo/rachaelray and you'll be alerted to private sales, receiving 20 to 65 percent off luxury hotels around the world. At press time, a room in Manhattan's Hôtel Plaza Athénée was \$290. more than half off the regular price. **GO CRUISING.** Cruisesonly.com lists hundreds of deeply discounted last-minute cruises (look under the "Deals" tab). If you find a lower price within 48 hours of booking. the site will refund 110 percent of the difference. At press time, CruisesOnly offered a four-night Western Caribbean Carnival cruise





# procrastination is up

Fifty percent of bookings for Travelclick's global portfolio of hotels fall within the zeroto 10-day time frame—an increase of 11 percent compared to past years.







Our favorite spur-of-the-moment spots



### Miami

**GETTY IMAGES** 

ownhouse hotel, greg clark photography llc; palm trees, las vegas sign and drink, istockphoto.com; hollywood sign and skis,

Because Miami is a stopover for southern towns, you're bound to find a cheap flight; try hub American Airlines. As for hotels, target the art deco beauties like Circa 39 (doubles from \$111, circa39.com) or the Townhouse Hotel (doubles from \$125, based on limited availability for Every Day With Rachael Ray readers, townhousehotel.com). For discount theater tickets, go to culturalconnection.org. Club kids: Get your name on all the guest lists at cooljunkie.com.



#### Los Angeles

L.A. is home to five airports, so finding a last-minute flight is a breeze. If you're a sightseeing, museumgoing culture hound, consider dropping \$60 on the Go Los Angeles Card (golosangelescard.com), which gives unlimited access to 40 city attractions. Visit downtownla.com for promotions, up-to-date event listings and a Happy Hour Finder, which pinpoints nearby drink deals.



Las Vegas

This town requires no itinerary: You need just a few insider tips. Visit vegas.com for rock-bottom rooms (from \$35 a night at Excalibur) and access to reduced-price, Broadway-style shows. Another secret: Join your hotel's players' club (even if you don't gamble) and you'll get perks like dinner discounts and room upgrades. Don't miss freebies like the Fremont Street Experience Viva Vision, a nightly light and music show downtown.





These Twitter feeds will alert you to lastminute deals.

# @jetbluecheeps

Most Tuesdays—and the occasional random day of the week—JetBlue unveils superlow fares (like \$10 from L.A. to Salt Lake City).

# @airfarewatchdog

Sign up at airfarewatchdog .com to receive deals from your airport. Then follow its feed for unpublished airfares and last-minute sales.

# @smartertravel

SmarterTravel posts useful news and helpful travel strategies in addition to up-to-the-minute hotel and airfare deals. Sign up for the weekly e-mail (posting cheap weekend airfares) at smartertravel.com.

#### @lmttweets

It stands for "lastminute travel," and you can expect to find just that—hotels and vacation packages worldwide. For inexpensive last-minute cruises, follow its sister feed @lmcruises.



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