NOT YOUR AVERAGE TRAVEL HACKS: EXPERT TIPS FROM FREQUENT FLYERS

London, 7 August 2024 - With millions of Britons taking to the skies this summer, the question isn't just where to go, but how to travel smart. From ingenious packing tips to must-have gadgets, seasoned travellers share the inside scoop on making every journey smoother and more enjoyable.

To mark the launch of the new online <u>Caxton Travel Shop</u>. The payment firm surveyed 625 frequent flyers who revealed their top and some unique travel hacks from the versatility of dental floss to the wonders of baby powder!

Travel Security: Peace of Mind on the Go

Uncertainty has become the new norm in travel, from global airport disruptions and lost luggage to heightened security concerns, frequent flyers are not leaving anything to chance. The Caxton survey found 15% use luggage tracking, 27% RFID-blocking wallets, 12% GPS tracking devices, 4% travel door alarms, and 2% portable safes. Some respondents also travelled with a personal alarm for extra peace of mind.

Innovative products such as the PacSafe Bag Protector protects valuables from slash-and-run theft, whilst the Tile Mate Bluetooth Finder tracks items on all platforms are among the essentials available at the <u>Caxton Travel Shop</u>.

Airport Lounges and In-flight Comfort: Essentials for a Smooth Journey

With Brits travelling to diverse and multiple destinations, carry-on luggage essentials are a priority in case of delays, lost luggage and reducing travel fatigue. 55% of our frequent flyers carry on tablets/e-readers, 35% noise-cancelling headphones, 33% socks, 20% sleep eye masks, 19% travel pillows, and11% scarves. Some also pack spare clothes, including swimwear, so they don't lose even a day at the pool or beach due to lost luggage!

Staying Connected and Powered UP: Tech Essentials

Today's travellers are tech-savvy and take multiple devices abroad. Caxton survey found that the most popular tech gadgets beyond mobile phones are portable charges (70%), tablet and e-readers (55%), noise-cancelling headphones (35%), Smartwatches (30%), digital cameras (25%), and travel-friendly power strips (9%). To ensure connectivity some respondents also took their MiFis abroad.

Recommended Travel Apps

Frequent flyers suggested a variety apps and sites for every type of trip and destination.

- Route planners: Komoot, Google maps and Waze
- **Guides**: Tripadvisor, GetYourGuide, Viator and polarsteps

- Language aides: Google Translate which translates up to 133 languages
- Getting around: Ouigo, Italo, Trainline, Citymapper, Rome2Rio and Uber
- Currency: <u>Caxton currency card</u> app to help manage your travel money and international payments
- **Special Diet**: Zabiha for local halal eateries and businesses and Happy Cow for vegetarian restaurants
- Other useful apps: Living Earth for weather, Flightradar24 which tracks flights over 150 countries, and Gatwick airport app which gives you 10% off parking and upto 60% cheaper with advance bookings.

Alana Parsons, Chief Operating Officer, Caxton Payments commented: ""Over 30 million Brits will travel abroad this summer, driven by an exceptional season of global sporting events. As a frequent flyer, I'm always on the lookout for travel hacks to navigate the unexpected, keep me connected and safe, explore destinations, and reduce travel fatigue. We launched the Caxton Travel Shop to offer travellers a one-stop shop with a curated guide and Amazon store for key travel essentials, from tech and luggage to beauty and clothing accessories, simplifying the shopping experience for travel."

Offbeat Travel Hacks from Frequent Flyers

Here are some unique hacks from our seasoned travellers:

- **Dental floss:** Doubles up as a clothesline and repairing glasses
- Baby powder: Brilliant for removing sand from feet
- Shower caps: Great shoe covers at the end of your trip
- **Doorstop:** Prevents anyone from entering the room when your inside
- Mini wearable waist fan: Keeps you cool when on the move with adjustable speeds
- Mobile luggage scale: Avoids those hefty excess baggage fees
- Hangers and hooks: Extra plastic hangers and re-usable wall hooks handy for long clothes
- Ribbon for Luggage: Easily identify your luggage with a brightly coloured ribbon.
- Excess luggage hack: Consider specialist courier services for your luggage and sports equipment like Send My Bag, Sherpr, and Luggage Mule
- **Fuel hack**: Use a pre-paid travel card instead of a bank card to avoid long reservation holds

For more tips and to explore essential travel products, visit the Caxton Travel Shop online.

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Notes to Editor:

About Caxton

Caxton is an award winning fintech payments company which processes tens of millions of international and domestic transactions each year. A pioneer in the payments industry, Caxton is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and upholds stringent security standards to create easier, faster, and more client focused payment technology. Offering a proprietary API as well as indepth currency expertise, Caxton has maximised currency value and minimised risk for clients and card customers since 2002.

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