

# The Connected Traveler

## Part 2

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01-03-2024



# Airline Reservations



asher

*"If you don't make this right, I'll never fly your airline again unless it's the cheapest option!"*



# Airline Reservations

- Aggregator sites: (They don't book tickets, but search other sites and compile results.)

<http://www.kiwi.com/>

-- includes bus and train connections in one search (sometimes)

<http://www.skyscanner.com>

Southwest doesn't appear in these – use its own web site



# Check discount carriers

- <http://www.ryanair.com>
- <http://www.easyjet.com>
- <https://www.eurowings.com/us.html>
- <http://wizzair.com>
- <https://www.flypgs.com/>





*"In case of a loss of cabin pressure, oxygen masks will drop down in front of you for two dollars."*

LEIGHTON

[9]



# Once you've booked your flight:

- Get a good seat:
- <https://seatmaps.com/>
  
- Check for delays:
- <http://www.fly.faa.gov/flyfaa/usmap.jsp>



# Rail travel:

- Rail passes:
- <http://www.raileurope.com>
- European train schedules:
- <https://www.bahn.com/en>



# Bus travel:

- Aggregator sites:
- <https://www.omio.com/>
- <https://www.flixbus.com/bus>
- <https://www.comparabus.com/en/>
- <https://www.busradar.com/>
- <https://www.balkanviator.com/en/>





# Bus travel (cont'd)

- Check individual bus station web sites for schedules
- Take bus schedules with a grain of salt – they change often



# Ferry travel:

- <https://www.directferries.com/>
- <http://www.ferrylines.com/>
- Check individual company sites
- Virtually all rail, bus, and ferry operators have booking sites



# Public transit

- Study transit system web sites
- Maps
- Journey planners
- How to buy tickets / passes
- <http://www.mta.info/>
- <https://tfl.gov.uk/>



# Public transit

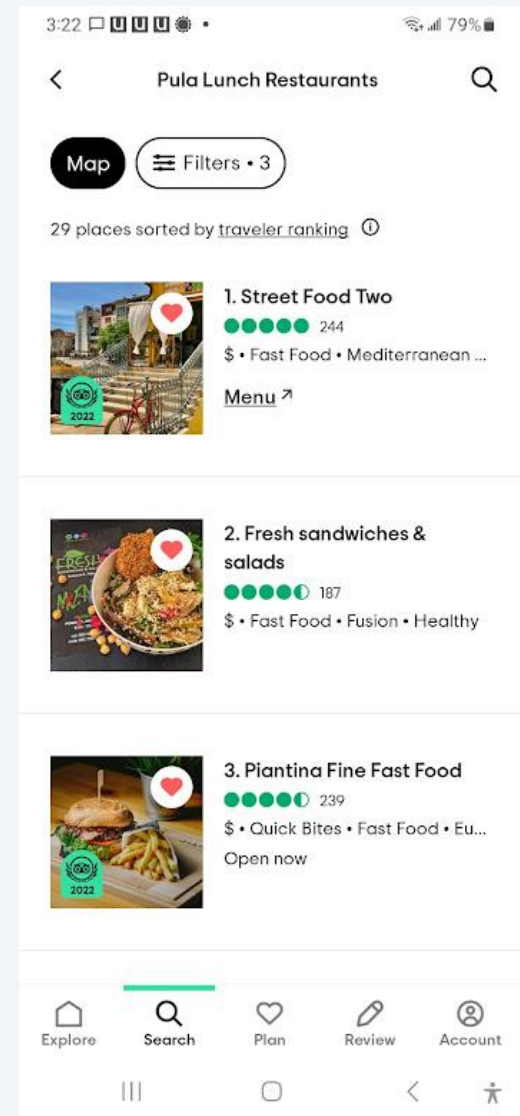
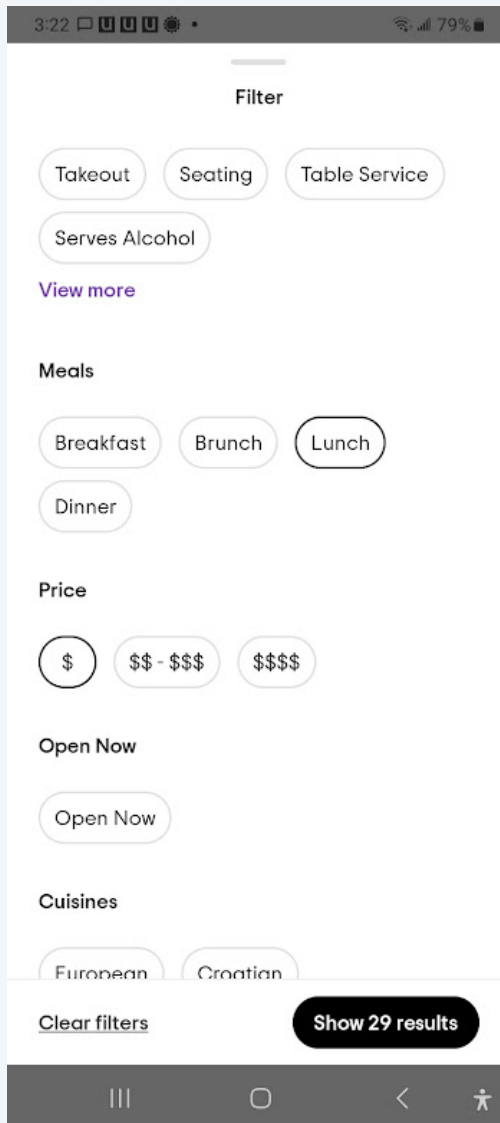
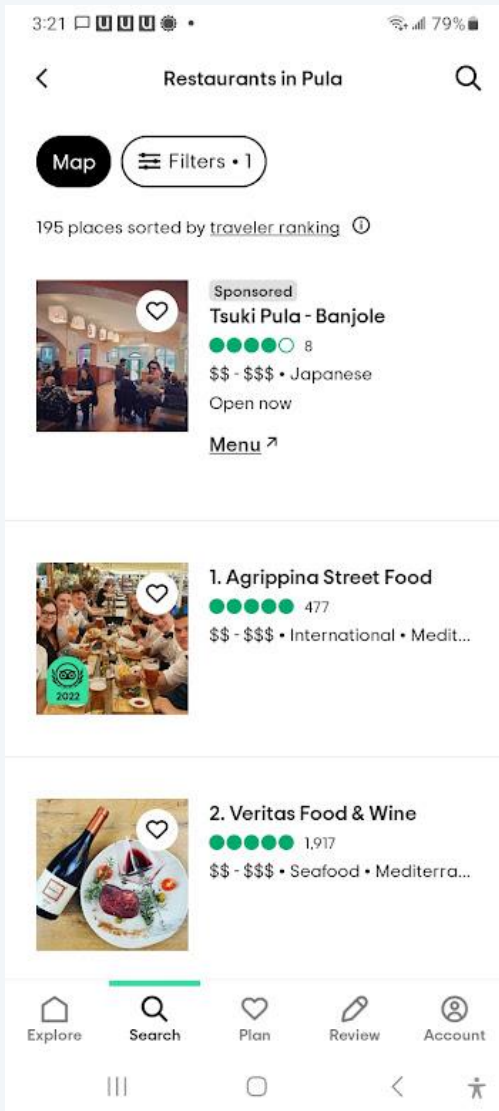
- <http://www.bvg.de/index.php>
- <http://www.actv.it/en/movinginvenice/movinginvenice>
- Use Google Maps for realtime transit directions (in most large cities)



# Ride hailing services

- Uber
  - <https://youtu.be/D8HI7Bg4Dqw>
- Lyft
  - <https://www.lyft.com/>
- Bolt
  - <https://bolt.eu/>





# Trip planning -- WanderLog

- <https://wanderlog.com/home>
- free and has no ads
- available on Android, iOS, and web
- allows sharing trip plans
- Paid version has a few more features



# Currency





# Currency

- [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)
- Android and IOS apps
- With credit/debit cards, always pay in local currency, not US Dollars to avoid excessive fees
- At ATMs, always select “Decline Conversion”



# Currency

- Whenever possible, use bank ATMs, not “Euronet”, “Travelex”, etc. which charge high fees
- Revolut debit card – online money app
  - Pays 3.25% APY
  - No fees at 55,000 ATMs worldwide
- Schwab Bank – no foreign transaction fee, and all ATM fees refunded in full



3:10 [Icons] 81%

### Convert

35 Last updated: 16 May 2023 15:09

USD	\$ 6.05	⋮
	1 PLN = 0.2420 USD	
EUR	€ 5.57	⋮
	1 PLN = 0.2228 EUR	
PLN ▾	zł 25.00	

+ Add currency      Mid-market rates ⓘ

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# Cost comparisons

- <https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/>



# Bonus Material -- How to fly for free (almost)

- Take advantage of “credit card churning”:
- <https://youtu.be/fsGOJelc700>
- Flights booked with miles are usually changeable or refundable



# How to fly for free (almost):

- Maximize use of points/miles:
- <https://thepointsguy.com/>
- <https://thepointsguy.com/credit-cards/credit-card-application-restrictions/>
- <https://www.walletflo.com/>
- Mileage savings account:
- <https://www.baskbank.com/products/mileage-savings-account>



# How to fly for free (almost):

- Award Travel 101:
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/awardtravel101/>
- AwardWallet:
- <https://awardwallet.com/blog/>
- [How to Churn Credit Cards Without Getting Penalized](#)
- How airlines quietly became banks:
- [https://youtu.be/ggUduBmvQ\\_4](https://youtu.be/ggUduBmvQ_4)

