

Hey, Georgia Tech Traveler!

# Terms to know before you go

## Basic travel terminology, brought to you by Southwest<sup>®</sup>.

For both first-time and seasoned travelers, understanding the world of flight terminology can be confusing. The mix of excitement and anxiety that comes with travel is understandable, and so is the need to easily understand the essential travel terminology that airlines use. Whether you're embarking on a domestic trip within the U.S. or exploring international destinations, these commonly used terms will hopefully be a helpful resource.

**Add-ons:** some airlines offer extra services, like in-flight WiFi and extra baggage, for an additional cost.

**Airline kiosk check-in:** a standalone computer that helps travelers check in for their flights without having to go through the traditional check-in process at the ticket counter. This can be done by entering confirmation numbers, names, etc. and allows you to print boarding passes and luggage tags if needed (bag drop is still required in order to check bags).

**Airline mobile app:** an airline's mobile apps gives travelers access to many functions such as checking flight schedules, viewing standby lists, and receiving notifications for flight delays and gate changes if opted into these notifications.

**Arrival hall:** the area where Passengers disembark after a flight.

**Baggage claim:** where you collect your checked-in luggage upon arrival.

**Boarding and departure times:** pay attention to these times, as they indicate when you should be at the boarding gate and the flight's scheduled departure. The time when the Passengers are scheduled to begin boarding the plane is known as boarding time. The time when the plane is scheduled to leave the gate of the airport is known as departure time. Boarding time is followed by departure time.

**Boarding gate:** the spot where you'll wait before boarding the flight.

**Boarding pass:** a crucial document, your boarding pass is your way to board the flight. Make sure you download it and carry a printed copy to the airport or download it to your mobile phone.

**Carryon bag:** a smaller bag that you're allowed to take with you or "carry on" on to the airplane with a specific size and weight limit.

**Checked baggage:** this is the larger suitcase you hand over to airline staff at the check-in counter with a specific size and weight limit. It's tagged with your details and loaded onto the aircraft.

**Check-in counter:** this is where you drop off your checked baggage and may receive your boarding pass.

**Electronic ticket (e-ticket):** your ticket for the trip. It can be sent to your email or phone, providing access to your boarding pass and travel itineraries on your mobile device. It has helpful info like your confirmation number, travel dates and times.

**Lost luggage office:** in case your bags go missing, you can report it here.

**Personal item:** in addition to your carryon, airlines typically allow you to bring a small personal item, like a purse or backpack, which must fit under the seat in front of you.

**Security gate:** the checkpoint where a traveler's government issued identification and boarding pass is reviewed by a TSA security officer and where a traveler's carryon bags and personal items are screened, and other security checks are conducted.