Salt Lake City Airport

Flights originating outside the United States whose first stop in the United States is Salt Lake City will always use the International Terminal because that is where customs and immigration agents are located. Delegates from other countries who enter the United States at some other city will clear customs and immigration at that entry city before boarding a domestic flight to Salt Lake City. Domestic flights arrive at Terminal 1 or 2, depending on the airline. Terminal 1 has two concourses. Concourse A serves the following airlines: American, Frontier, Jet Blue, and US Airways. Concourse B serves United, Delta, and Southwest. Terminal 2 has Concourse C and only serves Delta Airlines.

There are walkways between the terminals after you are inside the security zone (shown in blue in the diagram above). By coming out of the security zone and going outside the terminals at ground level, you can also walk between the terminals.
Taxis are available outside each terminal building. A taxi ride from the airport to the city center will cost approximately $22 – 25 and take 15 minutes.

Alternatively, you could use the new TRAX light rail system to get from the Salt Lake City airport to downtown. The TRAX Station is at the southern end of Terminal 1 (see map) through double glass doors. The one-way fare is $2.50 and the ticket machines take cash or credit cards. Trains leave every 15 minutes from 05:42 hrs to 23:27 hrs. The trip takes 20 minutes. Get off TRAX at the Temple Square Station. The hotel is a 1 block walk away.

We found a short (3 minutes) video on how to use the TRAX. See the link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cByY6V-xNMs

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**TRAX Surface Rail System Free Fare Zone**

The TRAX surface rail system has a “Free Fare Zone.” Passengers do not need to purchase a fare card if they begin and end their trip within the zone. But passengers coming in from the airport will need to purchase a $2.50 fare card because the trip from the airport begins outside of the zone.

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**Visa Arrangements**

Many of our delegates will require visas to enter the United States. Visas are issued by the U.S. State Department and information can be found at: [http://travel.state.gov/visa/](http://travel.state.gov/visa/)

If your country participates in the Visa Waiver Program, you are not required to obtain a visa prior to your visit. Currently, 38 countries participate in the Visa Waiver Program – please see [http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/english/visit/visa-waiver-program.html](http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/english/visit/visa-waiver-program.html)

Even though you do not need a visa if you are from one of these countries, you must be authorized under the Electronic System for Travel Authorization. Further information and the application may be found at [http://cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/id_visa/esta/](http://cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/id_visa/esta/)
Obtaining US Dollars or Exchanging Foreign Currency

The simplest way to obtain US Dollars is to use an Automated Teller Machine (ATM). There are more than 10 ATMs at the Salt Lake City Airport (inside the security zone near gates B6, B10, C6, and D5; and outside the security zone in the baggage claim areas). Before leaving home, delegates are encouraged to notify their credit card issuer of the dates that they will be visiting Salt Lake City, Utah, in the United States. ATM computers sometimes refuse cash withdrawals if the card issuer has not been notified that the cardholder will be in a location different from their home country or region.

Foreign currency can be exchanged at the Zion’s Bank at two locations: Headquarters at the corner of South Main Street and South Temple Street; or Airport Office in Terminal 2. Both are open from 09:00 to 17:00 on Monday to Friday. Travelex Currency Services also has an office at 170 South Main Street and is open from 09:00 to 17:00 on Monday to Friday. Zion’s Bank handles about 80 different currencies, Travelex a smaller number of currencies.

Weather Information

Salt Lake City is in a cold, semi-arid steppe climatic zone. The average temperatures in early October are daytime highs of 65°F/18°C and nighttime lows of 46°F/6°C. Temperatures in the mountains on field trips may be 25°F/15°C colder, so bring some warm clothing for the In-Congress field tours. There is a 2-5% chance of snow up to 2 inches/5 centimeters in Salt Lake City, but if it occurs, it will melt quickly. However, there are higher probabilities of snow in the mountains and there it may stick longer. Sunrise will be 07:40 hrs, with an extended dawn because the sun must rise from behind the mountains lying east of the city. Sunset will be at 19:00 and dusk comes quickly.

The elevation of Salt Lake City is 4,300 feet/1,300 meters above sea level. Delegates who live near sea level may experience some mild, temporary symptoms of altitude sickness for the first day or two after they first arrive. Common symptoms include shortness of breath, headache, dizziness, loss of appetite, not sleeping well. People exercising strenuously the day they arrive may experience some of these symptoms more acutely. But they normally disappear in a day or two.

Electricity and Converters

The United States operates on 110 volt, 50-60 cycle electricity. The typical outlet takes a two-bladed or three-bladed plug. Note that the left-hand slot in the photo is slightly taller than the right-hand one, so if you are having difficulty inserting a two-bladed plug, check to see which of the plug’s blades is larger and put it into the larger slot.