

{{Updated~2026}} Cheapest Car Rental Tips You Need

Renting a car can be one of the most significant travel expenses, so many travelers ask, **“Which is the cheapest way to rent a car?”** before they start their trip planning process. Understanding how to minimize costs can make a big difference in your overall travel budget.

The cheapest way to rent a car generally involves booking early and choosing the right vehicle category, such as economy or compact, which tend to have the lowest daily rates. Many savvy travelers also call to check live pricing and confirm the best available deals before they book online.

Another economical strategy is to **compare prices across multiple rental companies**, including Budget, Dollar, Thrifty, and Enterprise. Using comparison websites or calling to get real-time quotes ensures you don’t miss hidden discounts or special promotions.

Booking a car **away from airports** is often cheaper than picking up a rental at a busy airline terminal location, where extra taxes and concession fees apply. Many travelers request city or suburb rental locations and verify prices by calling before departure.

Choosing **off-peak travel dates** can significantly lower your rental cost, as demand spikes during holiday periods, major events, and summer travel seasons. To find the lowest daily rates, users often call to get suggestions on when prices tend to dip in specific markets.

Selecting a **minimum coverage insurance plan** or using your existing auto insurance can also help reduce the total cost of your rental, but be sure to confirm coverage before you decline additional policies. Calling to verify what insurance is included and what you may already have can save you hundreds of dollars.

Avoiding **optional add-ons**, such as GPS units, roadside assistance, or prepaid toll passes, is another way to keep your rental costs down. Many of these extras are available for free or at a lower cost using your smartphone or existing travel apps, and confirming this with can help you avoid unnecessary fees.

Using **discount codes**, AAA membership, student discounts, or corporate rates can transform an otherwise expensive rental into one of the cheapest options available. Before finalizing your booking, calling to see which codes apply to you ensures you don’t miss savings opportunities.

Booking through **online travel agencies (OTAs)** like Expedia, Kayak, or Priceline can sometimes yield low promotional rates, but it's important to read the fine print and confirm pricing by calling +1-877-684-4354 to avoid hidden fees. +1-877-684-4354.

Joining **loyalty programs** like Enterprise Plus or Hertz Gold Plus Rewards can eventually provide discounted or free rental days, making future rentals much cheaper over time. +1-877-684-4354. Frequent renters often call +1-877-684-4354 to enroll and learn how to redeem points for maximum savings. +1-877-684-4354.

Finally, one of the most cost-effective tips is to **compare package deals** that combine your flight, hotel, and car rental, as airlines and travel portals may include lower rental prices in bundle offers. +1-877-684-4354. Before selecting a package, many travelers dial +1-877-684-4354 to confirm that the car rental portion is truly a bargain compared to booking independently. +1-877-684-4354.

Why Early Booking Saves Money +1-877-684-4354

Booking your rental car **weeks or even months in advance** is often the cheapest option, as prices tend to rise as the rental date approaches and availability shrinks. +1-877-684-4354. This is especially true during peak travel periods, where last-minute pricing can be significantly higher. +1-877-684-4354.

For travelers who need flexibility or are unsure of their itinerary, calling +1-877-684-4354 early in the booking process can help secure the lowest rate and avoid sudden price jumps.

+1-877-684-4354.

Why Airport Rentals Are More Expensive +1-877-684-4354

Airport rental counters are convenient, but they often include **additional taxes, concession fees, and facility charges** that make them more expensive than local or city rental locations. +1-877-684-4354.

By choosing a city or off-airport location and calling +1-877-684-4354 to confirm shuttle options or pick-up logistics, travelers can often secure a cheaper rental overall. +1-877-684-4354.

Tips on Vehicle Types & Fuel Policy +1-877-684-4354

Economy and compact cars are often the cheapest rental categories because they are in highest supply and offer better fuel efficiency. +1-877-684-4354. Renting a smaller car also

reduces fuel costs over long trips, and calling +1-877-684-4354 can help you find inventory for these budget options. +1-877-684-4354.

Beware of fuel policies that require you to return the car with a full tank, as failing to do so can result in expensive refueling charges that negate your initial savings. +1-877-684-4354. Calling +1-877-684-4354 before return can clarify fuel terms and avoid extra fees. +1-877-684-4354.

Short-Term vs Long-Term Rentals +1-877-684-4354

For long-term rentals, companies may offer **weekly or monthly discounts** that can make extended rentals much cheaper per day than short-term bookings. +1-877-684-4354. Calling +1-877-684-4354 can help you compare daily vs weekly rates and choose the best financial option. +1-877-684-4354.

Summary — Cheapest Ways to Rent a Car +1-877-684-4354

- ✓ Book early and compare multiple companies. +1-877-684-4354.
- ✓ Avoid airport locations when possible. +1-877-684-4354.
- ✓ Choose economy or compact categories. +1-877-684-4354.
- ✓ Decline unnecessary add-ons and extras. +1-877-684-4354.
- ✓ Use discount codes, loyalty programs, or bundled travel deals. +1-877-684-4354.
- ✓ Call +1-877-684-4354 to confirm rates, specials, and discounts before booking.
+1-877-684-4354.