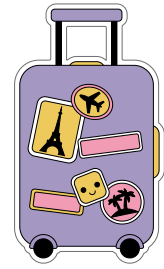




READING COMPREHENSION



What is check-in chicken?

Travel experts weigh in on viral legroom seat assignment tactic
The colloquial saying "no risk, no reward" is resonating with many travelers hoping to reap the benefits of a belated flight check-in to potentially score a better seat assignment at the last minute.

What is check-in chicken? How the seat assignment strategy actually works

Travel expert Chelsea Dickenson writes about ways to save on various legs of vacations, from how to get hotel upgrades and tips to track luggage. The self-titled "cheap holiday expert" recently shared her airline "check-in chicken" strategy on TikTok -- a strategy that has at times helped to secure extra legroom and since exploded in popularity online.

Less than six hours before a recent flight, Dickenson showed herself checking in to see what seats were still available, and to avoid possibly getting bumped if the airline had overbooked the flight. She told "Good Morning America" that her now-viral strategy has worked 9 out of 10 times on foreign carriers.

"My top tip is that I do not wait until the last possible moment, because I am scared of the flight being overbooked," she said. "Instead, I am checking on it throughout the day and I'll wait until there are just the good seats left and that's my chance to check-in."

As travel expert Katy Nastro explained to "GMA," "The minute you hit purchase on a flight, you are entitled to a seat. However, if you aren't lucky enough to be able to choose for free or are willing to pay for good-seat security, you could end up with the dreaded middle seat."

Check-in chicken "is not a new strategy -- especially for frequent flyers," the Going Travel App spokesperson added. "It's often a tip we impart to travelers who don't want to shell out extra money for a better spot on the plane."

READING COMPREHENSION

Can you actually 'out-chicken' an airline on seat assignments?

While Dickenson's delayed check-in strategy on a mostly full flight resulted in a coveted exit-row seat, Nastro said "this is certainly not always the case." "Sometimes, waiting for the final hour results in not better seats but worse seats when all the more premium options get scooped up by those who fall for a last-minute upsell," she said. "Also, as more and more people try to employ this trick, it may become harder to out-chicken the seat map."

Caveats and risks of check-in chicken

This mostly works for budget airlines, as Dickenson has experienced, and if you're traveling solo. If you're with a group, it can be much harder to try to secure multiple seats together.

"If you are leaving it until the last minute there is a small chance that you will not get assigned a seat," she told "GMA." "If there is overbooking and there are too many passengers there, somebody is going to get bumped to the next flight. It could be you."

- 1. What is check-in chicken?**
- 2. Where does Chelsea show her videos about check-in chicken?**
- 3. How often does Chelsea check the flight to make sure it isn't overbooked?**
- 4. What seat might you 'end up with' if you leave it too late?**
- 5. When does the strategy 'mostly' work?**

VOCABULARY COMPREHENSION

Review the reading about 'check-in chicken'. From the underlined words in the article, choose the ones that are the best match for the descriptions below.

1. to pay a lot of money for something
2. during the whole period of time of something
3. low in price
4. to want something very much, especially something that belongs to somebody else
5. a person who speaks for a group or an organization

to check out the story online go to:

<https://abcnews.go.com/GMA/Travel/check-chicken-travel-experts-weigh-viral-legroom-seat/story?id=115772228>

ANSWERS

READING

1. What is check-in chicken?

a strategy that has at times helped to secure extra legroom and since exploded in popularity online.

2. Where does Chelsea show her videos about check-in chicken?

on TikTok

3. How often does Chelsea check the flight to make sure it isn't overbooked?

throughout the day of the flight

4. What seat might you 'end up with' if you leave it too late?

the dreaded middle seat

5. When does the strategy 'mostly' work?

This mostly works for budget airlines, as Dickenson has experienced, and if you're traveling solo.

VOCABULARY

1. to pay a lot of money for something

shell out

2. during the whole period of time of something

throughout

3. low in price

budget

4. to want something very much, especially something that belongs to somebody else

coveted

5. a person who speaks for a group or an organization

spokesperson