

These tech gadgets make traveling much easier (according to flight crew members) by Nicole Lee (Yahoo News)

Traveling soon? You probably already double-checked that you have your passport, clothes and toiletries at hand. And that's all you would need to have a fabulous trip anywhere in the world, right? Wrong. For a truly comfortable and stress-free journey, we highly recommend investing in some top-rated travel tech. Whether you are taking a flight or going on a great road trip, these pieces come highly recommended by seasoned travelers and travel industry insiders.

Be it noise cancelling headphones or a battery pack to juice up your phone, bringing a few problem-solving tech accessories along for the ride is always a good idea. And who would be better to recommend travel tech than flight crew personnel, who have made frequent travel their profession? We talked with a flight attendant and scoured the internet for flight-crew-recommended products, and here are our findings.

Apple AirTag, 4-pack – Apple AirTags are great not just for keeping track of your keys and wallet but also for making sure your luggage won't get lost. Most frequent travelers will tell you that the easiest way to prevent lost luggage is to bring it as a carry-on; but, that just isn't realistic for everyone. To help make sure your luggage doesn't get lost, try using an Apple AirTag. "I put one in my flight attendant bag whenever I have to check it," said one five-star reviewer. "These are super easy to use and definitely worth the money." (\$79 at Amazon)

Portable Mini Humidifier – tired of arriving at your destination with parched, papery skin? Here's a fix...A flight attendant for Cathay Pacific for six years told Yahoo Life that a humidifier is a must after a long flight. "I absolutely need a humidifier for my skin after a long plane ride" he says. He recommends this particular brand and model due to its size. "This small one makes it very easy to pack." It operates via USB, comes with two spray modes, plus there is a night-light LED. (\$9 at Amazon)

Google Pixel Buds Pro – An alternative to Apple's AirPods, these noise cancelling earbuds reach up to 31 hours of battery life with the charging case. While Apple AirPods are popular, the Google Pixel Buds Pro are preferred. "The Pixel Buds are a must-have when taking a nap during a shift break" said the flight attendant. They are compact, they have excellent battery life, and they use Active Noise Cancelling to greatly reduce outside sound. Plus, you can ask Google for directions, to answer calls and to control your music, keeping everything hands free. (\$140 at Amazon)

Anker PowerCore 13000mAh Portable Charger – Never worry about your phone's battery running out again with this handy Anker portable charger. You will likely be using your phone a lot on your trip, which will certainly drain the battery. A power bank is a must. This one's a favorite with Amazon reviewers, and some of the crew members. "As a flight attendant I always need power on the go," said one. "I bought this to replace an older Anker power bank I had left on a plane. This battery is perfect

for me. This battery charges my phone incredibly fast and holds around four full charges for my iPhone X. My only complaint is the shape. I wish it were a tad slenderer – when held against my phone it sticks out on the sides making it hard to hold. Otherwise, a great fast battery pack and easy to stow for travel.” (\$34 at Amazon)

Universal Travel Adapter – Traveling abroad? Keep in mind that outlets vary by country. This will keep you plugged in from Stockholm to Shanghai, and all points in between. A universal travel adapter helps continue to charge your electronics like your phone, tablet or laptop. This all-in-one model includes four USB-A connectors and a USB-C. “Bought this for our nephew who is prepping for his first trip to Europe” said one travel pro. “This travel adapter is all in one piece and very sturdy; I am getting a couple for my husband and I as we are flight attendants. Not having to worry about missing pieces is great.” (\$23 at Amazon)

Universal Travel Adapter, Voltage Converter – Do you have more robust electronic needs? This universal travel adapter comes with a 110-to-220V converter, which is useful for appliances such as curling irons and fans. If you plan on bringing appliances such as hair dryers and electric toothbrushes, then you might want to get a universal travel adapter that has a voltage converter. “As a retired international flight attendant, I have had every kind of converter for overseas travel, and the Bestek converter was the best I have ever purchased. With phones, iPads, curling irons, computers, etc., the converter makes it so easy to charge it all up at the same time. I had a mini-curling iron that I thought would not work with the converter, but it heated it up perfectly. Loved it.” (\$38 at Amazon)

Hot Logic Mini Portable Oven – Not every hotel room has a microwave, which is a pain if you want to heat up leftovers or breakfast. Enter the Hot Logic Mini Portable Oven; an electric food-warming tote that has become something of a cult hit among flight-crew personnel. One reviewer said it’s a must have for flight crew: “I absolutely love it. I have been a flight attendant for a really long time, and this is my second one. I mostly do turns (day trips), but even on those I take this with me just in case we don’t make it home and have to stay overnight somewhere...outside of North America, microwaves in hotels are almost impossible to find. The Hot Logic works great with converters as well. Just keep an eye on how hot it may get when using a converter.” (\$35 at Amazon)

Bubm Electronic Organizer – Errant cables and plugs can make an already chaotic experience (travel) even chaotic-er but corralling your accessories like this makes at least packing a breeze. And it’s waterproof! Though not quite a tech gadget, an electronics organizer like this one from Bubm is a travel tech essential because it helps keep all of your cables and plugs in one place. “I love this bag. I am a flight attendant and I carry three iDevices, two chargers (both cylindrical) and wireless headphones. Obviously, I need lots of cables and plugs and to charge and recharge and this carries them all neatly with room for spares.” (\$11 at Amazon)