

Wheelchairs, VPNs, and SIM cards

This sheet could be easily renamed as Safety, Security and Speed



Here's why.

Travel by wheelchair, is a blast. You have your own personal trained 'pusher' who knows how to get from A to B fast using pathways through the airport hidden from other passengers. He (or she) will sail you and your companion through security areas where you will avoid any lines or holdups. Once you get to your gate, you have a choice to stay with your wheelchair or say 'good bye' to it. When the flight boards, you will be pre-boarded. No waiting in line for you and your companion(s).

The rules are here: <https://www.ncesc.com/what-qualifies-as-a-disability-for-airlines/>

The cost? It's almost free. We usually tip the 'pusher' with a \$5 bill.

VPN, what's that?

When travelling, there are so many public Wi-Fi connections, it's hard to pick one that is safe. In fact, it's really impossible. But there is a solution called VPN, virtual private network. With a VPN active on your phone, you are safe. Some are free and some not so free. They are really easy to use and essentially seamless. This link explains it all: <https://www.uponarriving.com/best-vpn-for-international-travel/>

And SIM cards?

Inside your cellphone is a tiny removable chip called a SIM card. This is what makes the phone yours. It is the identifying device between you and your phone carrier. Domestic carriers like AT&T, Verizon, and T-Mobile do not automatically provide service to other countries. You can pay extra for their international service. It's not cheap but will give you access to your messaging and phone number.

A better and cheaper way is to change or add a new SIM card. Most phones today can do that easily with an e-SIM card requiring no fumbling with that tiny chip. It's just downloaded to your phone. I paid \$10 for mine, saving me almost \$100.

This link will let you know if your phone is a candidate for an eSIM. Some phones only accept a SIM card. <https://www.cnn.com/cnn-underscored/travel/esim-for-travel>