

# Traveling With A Portable Oxygen Concentrator

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## No Place Is Off Limits To Oxygen Patients Anymore!

A prescription for medical oxygen no longer means a sedentary lifestyle. A portable oxygen concentrator can take you anywhere you want to go!

## So hit the road, take off, or set sail!

Use this travel guide from www.1stclassmed.com to help make a vacation with oxygen as convenient and stress free as possible. **Bon Voyage!** 

## Involve Your Doctor In Your Trip Planning!

Here are a few things to consider and discuss with your doctor:

Is the weather at your destination different than what you're used to at home? Does humidity effect your condition? If so, what measures should be taken?

Carry Copies of Your Prescription

#### How high is your destination?

Know your concentrator's altitude rating. Discuss how higher altitude might change your dosage requirements.

#### What season is it where you're going?

Are seasonal allergies a concern? If cold or heat affect your condition, be aware of any precautions that you may need to take.

#### How will the air quality be?

Are you going to a densely packed city where pollution might be a problem? Are particulates an issue?

## Involve 1st Class Medical In Your Planning Too!

Need to know what your concentrator's altitude rating is or how humidity might affect your zeolite sieve bed? All concentrators purchased from us come with free phone tech support for life so call 1-800-269-0722 and our certified technicians can assist you.

The SeQual Equinox has an altitude rating of 13,140 feet. One of the highest available! It also weighs just 14 pounds and offers 9 pulse settings or up to 3 LPM continuous!

## All Concentrators From www.1stClassMed.com Are FAA Approved!

Portable Oxygen Concentrators are becoming more and more prevalent so boarding with a concentrator should be easy as more airline personal become familiar with them.

Airline Travel A Portable

Oxygen

**Concentrator** 

**Note:** The FAA only governs flights originating in the United States so if you are travelling internationally contact that airline to find out what their particular policies are regarding portable oxygen concentrators.

## **Preparing for your Flight**

Each airline has its own regulations. Check out the website or phone the airline you will be flying if you have any questions.

#### Notify your airline that you will be traveling with a Portable Oxygen Concentrator.

Notify them as soon as possible after booking. Some seating restrictions may apply. You can arrange for gate transport at this time as well.

#### Get a copy of your prescription from your doctor.

The prescription should detail dosage requirements and usage times.

#### Obtain a verification letter from your doctor.

Many airlines have a specific letter to download and have your doctor fill out. Others will let you know what information they need. Be sure it is filled out in full.

#### Find out from your doctor how you should adjust your dosage at cruising altitude.

Cruising altitude is roughly 30,000 feet. The pressurized cabin is equivalent to roughly 8,000 feet. Most concentrators have an altitude rating of 10,000 feet or more so you should have no problems but some dosage adjustment might be necessary.

#### Make sure you have plenty of battery power.

Have enough batteries to last for your flight time plus at least 3 hours to account for delays. Consider scheduling a layover if you are concerned about charging. Call **1-800-520-5726** for assistance with batteries.



More and more airlines are providing seating with power supplies but it is not on every plane so ask about the specific plane you will be on.

**The OxLife Independence** fits securely under the seat in front of you! It is one of the most medically robust easily transportable oxygen concentrators available! It provides up to 5.75 hours of battery life on a pulse setting of 2. The Independence can provide up to 3 LPM continuous or a setting of 6 on Pulse Flow. All of the portable oxygen concentrators that we sell at 1st Class Medical are FAA approved for airline travel. The first thing to keep in mind is that the FAA only governs flights originating in the United States so if you are flying internationally be sure to speak to the airlines about your return flight and what additional materials you may need to ensure that you can get back with your concentrator. Also, if you are taking any short commuter flights as parts of tours while on vacation, make sure that you speak to the local airlines to see if they have additional restrictions or requirements.



The following is a list of some of the most popular airlines with contact information and links to their info pages about traveling with oxygen.

American Airlines 1-800-433-7300 <u>Special Assistance Oxygen</u>

United Airlines 1-800-228-2744 Portable Oxygen Concentrators

British Airways 1-800-247-9297 Flying with Oxygen

Delta Airlines 1-800-228-2744 Oxygen Information

Air Canada 1-800-228-2744 <u>Traveling with Oxygen</u>

Jet Blue 1-800-538-2583 Oxygen Requirements

Spirit Airlines 1-801-401-2222 Taking Oxygen Onboard Southwest Airlines 1-800-435-9792 Oxygen Permission Form

Frontier Airlines 1-800-228-2744 <u>Medical Oxygen Onboard</u>

Allegiant Air 1-702-505-8888 Respiratory Device Requirements

Hawaiian Airlines 1-877-426-4537 Oxygen Regulations

Alaska Airlines 1-800-503-0101 Oxygen Accessibility

Virgin American 1-877-359-8974 Oxygen Information How You Pass Through Security Depends Upon Whether You Can Disconnect From Your Concentrator.

TSA has set up a hotline for travelers with medical needs. Call 1-855-787-2227 with any questions

## Notification Card

I have the following health condition, disability or medical device that may affect my screening:

(optional) I understand that presenting this card does not exempt me from screening. Going Through Airport Security With A Portable Oxygen Concentrator

When you approach the screening machine inform the agent of your condition and if you can or cannot disconnect from your concentrator.

Write out the details on this card if it's more comfortable for you.

## If You Can Disconnect from your Concentrator.

Place your concentrator on the conveyor belt and it will be screened like any other electronic device.

## If You Cannot Disconnect

You will receive a pat down screening. This screening will take place in a private area but you may have your traveling companions present if you wish. Inform the agent right away if you have mobility problems or if there are areas of your body that are painful when touched. Your concentrator will be subject to visual inspection and tested for explosives.

The best travel companions are always quiet and travel light! The AirSep Freestyle 5 is the lightest concentrator that goes up to a 5 pulse flow. It's also one of the quietest machines available. Call 1-800-520-5726 for the lowest guaranteed price.

The Road To Freedom Starts With A Portable Oxygen Concentrator from www.1stClassMed.com

## **Rules of the Road**

- Carry your prescription at all times.
- Keep your unit upright and secure.
- Extremes in temperature are bad for the sieve bed so never keep your concentrator in the trunk.
- Don't let anyone smoke near the concentrator.
- Plug your concentrator into the D/C outlet when driving to preserve battery life.

• Don't leave a concentrator plugged into the D/C outlet when the car is turned off as it may drain the car battery.

Never worry about running out of oxygen again, no matter where you are! Charge your concentrator with any A/C outlet, plug it into the D/C outlet of a car, or use long lasting batteries while you're out exploring!

#### The LifeChoice Activox

Up to 12 hours of Battery Life! Sleep Technology makes it a great 24 Hour a Day Oxygen Solution especially for travel.



Amtrak requires 12 hours notice that you will be traveling with a portable oxygen concentrator. For more info call: 1-800-USA-Rail or visit their website at www.amtrak.com If traveling by train, check in with your specific carrier. All trains in the US prohibit smoking inside but other countries may be different so be sure to verify you are in a non-smoking car. Many trains have seats with power ports so that you can recharge your concentrator while in transit. Ask when you book your ticket. As when traveling by plane, trains often require a physician's letter establishing your need for medical oxygen.

When booking your ticket, ask for directives from your bus line. Most carriers require at least a 48 hour notice that you will be traveling with a Portable Oxygen Concentrator.

If you are travelling on Greyhound you can reach their Customer Service Line at: **1-800-752-4841** 



Cruise lines, like airlines are becoming increasingly used to passengers travelling with Portable Oxygen Concentrators. Each line has their own set of regulations regarding oxygen travel so be sure to ask when booking your passage.

Ships always have their own doctors on board as well so be sure to carry a copy of your prescription and contact the doctor once on board to inform them of your condition and oxygen needs so that they will already be familiar with your situation if there is an emergency.

Your state room will most likely have a 110 outlet for charging and using your concentrator. There are also probably outlets throughout the ship that can be utilized while you're on board.

For day excursions off the ship, be sure to carry plenty of batteries. Plan for at least 4 additional hours than your planned time away in the event of an unexpected delay.



#### The InogenOne G3

This handy travel backpack would be perfect for cruising. It carries the concentrator and any other extra accessories you may need. Your hands are free for shopping or participating in activities and you are sure to have everything you need!



Have fun exploring without the worry of running out of oxygen!

## Important Info about A/C, D/C Power:

It is essential that you know the capabilities of your concentrator. Some concentrators can operate on any setting with D/C power and others are limited so be sure you know what your concentrator is capable of before you set out on your journey.

When travelling internationally keep in mind that power outlets in other countries are different than those in the USA. Plugging a concentrator into these unregulated outlets can damage your machine and in most cases will void the warranty. D/C power on the other hand, is universal so a concentrator plugged into a car in any country should be fine.

## From SeQual!

A Universal Power Supply Safe for International Travel!



## **Battery Tips:**

• Extreme temperatures are detrimental so always store at room temperature and never leave in a trunk.

- Store at 50% charge.
- Don't let batteries sit. Rotate batteries if you have multiples.
- You don't have to wait until a battery is completely empty to charge it.

Call 1-800-520-5726 To Order Yours Today!

1st Class Medical has been in the business of trying to make the lives of oxygen patients easier and more independent for the past 30 years. Whether you need a concentrator, 24/7, just at night, while exercising or are looking for a portable for your dream vacation, our respiratory specialists will be happy to answer any questions and assist you in finding the perfect concentrator for your needs. 1st Class Medical is the largest distributor of oxygen concentrators in the world and we pass our premium pricing on to our customers. Give us a call today at 1-800-520-5726. We can assist you with financing or finding a used unit as well.

# **1-800-520-5726**