

THE BEST AIRPORTS FOR STOPOVERS

Back in October, German National Heinz Muller made international headlines after spending 13 days camped out inside an airport in Campinas, Brazil.

Muller might have been better off catching a flight home to Germany and camping out in Munich Airport, where travelers can enjoy everything from Botox treatments to miniature golf, a movie theater, a health club and spa and a visitor's park that features a man-made mountaintop for viewing landings, several historic airplanes and a playground for kids. Even travelers with limited time between flights can enjoy one-euro-a-minute massages to work out any cramped muscles.

And Munich is by no means the only airport offering ways for travelers to do more than merely pass their time while waiting for their connecting flight (though it is currently the only airport that boasts its own brewery, serving Airbrau beer). Shops and restaurants are common sights at many international hubs, and health clubs or spas are becoming more and more common, already available at airports in Las Vegas, Miami, San Francisco, Boston and many others.

Hong Kong and Singapore are regarded as the top airports in the world, with reputations as destinations in their own right. Among the amenities you'll enjoy at a stopover in Singapore International Airport are an indoor orchid garden, rooftop swimming pool and a free sightseeing tour for those who have at least five hours prior to their connecting flight. Hong Kong offers a gamut of shopping, dining and entertainment, and has recently added a nine-hole golf course.

Getting outside the airport and exploring the surrounding city is possibly the best way to make use of your time if you're in town for more than a few hours: Venture outside the airport and make your stopover destination part of your itinerary. After all, each destination has its own sites that make it a place worth getting to know.

This is one area in particular where it helps to book your trip with a travel agent. A travel agent might already know a few good sights to see over the span of a few hours, or will certainly be able to research some for you. They'll also be able to arrange car rentals, transfers and tickets for whatever you want to see. Most importantly, they'll make sure you're prepared with the necessary visas and documentation to make the most of your time between connecting flights.

Need to book a stopover in one of these airports, or another? Contact a Liberty Travel Vacation Expert by calling 1.877.Liberty or enquiring online at libertytravel.com.

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