Deal alert: Make a winter escape to Florida for less than \$200 round-trip

(Courtesy of Mike Avila, The Points Guy Newsletter)

It's no secret Florida is a popular destination during the winter. The warm weather makes the Sunshine State an enticing option for people seeking an escape from the cold weather that envelops the rest of the United States this time of year.

This new deal is going to make it really hard to not book that Florida trip you think about every time you step outside wearing a coat, hat and gloves. Prices are discounted for travel from a number of U.S. cities to Tampa, Fort Lauderdale and Fort Myers, which is one of the gems of Florida's gulf coast with beautiful beaches and a great vibe.

We first heard about this deal from our friends at Scott's Cheap Flights, who sent it out first to their <u>Premium members</u>. Non-members can still take advantage of the low fare prices by using <u>Google Flights</u> and searching for your desired routes and dates. As is always the case with these bargain fares, being flexible with your travel always helps.

Deal basics

Airlines: Alaska, American, Delta, Southwest.

Routes: BUF/ORD/BOS/DTW/LIT/JFK/LAS/LAX/LGA/PDX and others to FLL/MCO/TPA/RSW among other

cities.

Cost: Starting at \$128 round-trip for select routes.

Dates: January-March 2022; availability varies depending on the route.

Pay with: The Platinum Card® from American Express for 5x on airfare booked directly with the airline or through American Express Travel (on up to \$500,000 on these purchases per calendar year), the Citi Prestige® Card for 5x on airfare, the Citi Premier® Card (3x on air travel), Chase Sapphire Reserve (3x on air travel), the American Express® Gold Card for 3x on airfare when booked directly with the airline or through Amex Travel, or the Chase Sapphire Preferred Card for 2x on travel.

The information for the Citi Prestige Card has been collected independently by The Points Guy. The card details on this page have not been reviewed or provided by the card issuer.

Routes

Sample round-trip fares in this deal include:

- Chicago (ORD) to Orlando (MCO) starting at \$128.
- Chicago (ORD) to Fort Lauderdale (FLL) starting at \$151.
- Seattle (SEA) to Fort Myers (RSW) starting at \$171.
- Portland (PDX) to Tampa (TPA) and Orlando (MCO) starting at \$191.

Let's start with some options for people in the great city of Buffalo, who would certainly appreciate a post-holiday getaway to warmer climes.

American has economy round-trip fares, which come with a free carry-on and seat selection, from Buffalo (BUF) to Fort Lauderdale (FLL) for just \$169. With a bustling restaurant scene and nice beaches which aren't as crowded as Miami's, Lauderdale is a great option for people looking to relax.

You can get a Delta economy seat from Portland (PDX) to Tampa (TPA) for a January trip that will cost you just \$191. Delta economy fares get you a free carry-on bag, but you don't get to pick your seat. This itinerary also includes a three-hour layover in Los Angeles (LAX).

It's worth pointing out that we found the majority of the best prices for this route in January.

If you live in Cincinnati and are thinking of planning a Disney World trip when the crowds are a bit more manageable, start ordering those matching Mickey T-shirts. You can fly Delta from Cincinnati (CVG) to Orlando (MCO) in February for just \$115 round-trip. That's for a basic economy fare, which comes with a free carry-on, but no seat selection and you board the plane in the last group. You can bump up to Main Cabin for \$165 which allows for free changes to the itinerary, so if that is appealing to you, consider that you would still be paying almost 50% less than the typical ticket price.

We really like this January economy fare from American we found from Seattle (SEA) to Fort Myers (RSW). It's more than 50% off the typical price for this ticket. It does have a layover in Dallas, but you also get the free carry-on.