



D TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2009
THE TENNESSEAN

**ENTERTAINMENT
NEWS ON YOUR CELL**



Text **TNENTERTAINMENT** to 44636 (4INFO)
for entertainment news headlines as they happen.

DAILY CRAVE
Today's Top 5 deals 2D

Airfares plunge, even for popular locations

By Marilyn Adams
USA TODAY

This summer could be one of the cheapest in recent memory to fly.

Airlines are aggressively slashing ticket prices to fight a falloff in travel caused by the recession.

Data analyzed by giant Internet travel site Travelocity.com show fares over the Memorial Day holiday weekend — the start of the summer season — are down sharply from last year.

The average domestic round-trip airfare booked for the holiday on Travelocity as of last Monday is \$295, down about 10 percent from a year ago.

Fares booked to many popular destinations are down even more. The average fare to Washington, D.C., over Memorial Day weekend, for instance, is down 18 percent year over year.

The average Travelocity-booked fare for international flights over Memorial Day weekend is \$610 round trip, down 14 percent from \$713 last year and down 16 percent from 2007. The fare to London is down 20 percent; Paris is down 33 percent.

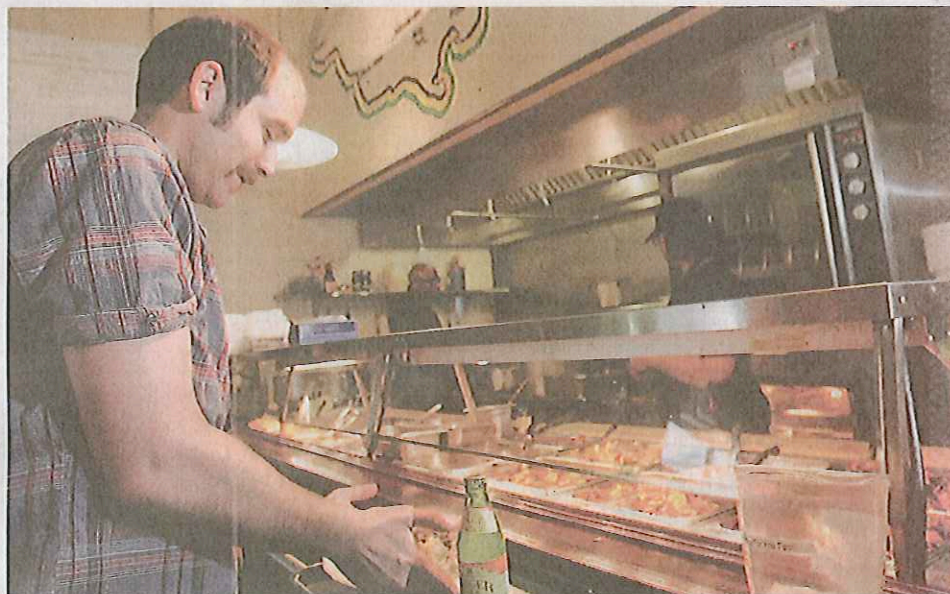
Year-over-year comparisons may be exaggerated because higher jet fuel prices last year drove up spring fares. Still, the reductions are "remarkable," says Genevieve Brown, senior editor for Travelocity. "For the last few years, we have seen increase after increase. But this is a peak travel weekend for the airlines, and they have to get people in these seats."

Average fares industrywide may be even lower than the data show. Travelocity does not market flights for Southwest Airlines, which carries the largest number of passengers in the USA. Southwest sells tickets only via its Web site or reservations agents.

Southwest has an unusually generous sale for flights through mid-August, with fares from \$49 to \$99 one way, plus taxes, if tickets are bought by Monday. Its comparable sale last year offered those fare levels only for flights taken on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This year's sale applies to flights every day except Friday and Sunday. Competing airlines have to match those fares.

"We want to make sure we get our share of travelers," says Dave Ridley, Southwest's senior vice president of marketing and revenue management.

Tom Parsons, CEO of travel Web site BestFares.com, predicts the economy will force airlines to cut fares for flights in August, September and October even more and suggests that fliers wait to buy if they are traveling then.



Tandy Wilson, chef at City House restaurant, enjoys lunch at Jamaicaway. Wilson orders his favorite dish, curried goat. **BILLY KINGSLEY / THE TENNESSEAN**

Chefs step out for a bite

Find out where they go when not in their own kitchens

By Jennifer Justus
THE TENNESSEAN

Unless they work in an open kitchen, the chefs at many Nashville hotspots appear briefly and elf-like, before slipping back behind the stove to work more culinary magic.

But what about those times when the knives are down? Where do chefs go to get out of their kitchens and have a bite to eat on their days off?

In many cases, their answers weren't the white-linen, foodie-filled havens one might expect. They seemed to go for consistency and comfort — where the company is familiar and the food comes tasty but without too much fuss.

Contact Jennifer Justus at 615-259-8072 or jjustus@tennessean.com.



BILLY KINGSLEY / THE TENNESSEAN

TANDY WILSON CITY HOUSE

His pick: Jamaicaway Restaurant & Catering, 900 Rosa Parks Blvd., 255-5920

"They have a curried goat there that's absolutely fantastic," Wilson said of the mother-and-son-owned restaurant inside the Nashville Farmers' Market. "And the jonny cakes are fantastic," he said.



DIPTI VAIDYA / THE TENNESSEAN

MERIJAY LANTZ RUCKER

SALUD! COOKING SCHOOL AT WHOLE FOODS MARKET

Her pick: Pueblo Real, 1340 W. Main St., Franklin, 794-3232

"They do great food, and they do some great sauces that you can request from the back," she said. "The truth is I'm just a big Mexican food fan. I just really like good food in general and tend to not go out to fancy-schmancy places."



MANDY LUNN / THE TENNESSEAN

BOBBY BENJAMIN

THE GOVERNORS CLUB

His picks: City House, 1222 Fourth Ave. N., 736-5838 or Eastland Cafe, 97 Chapel Ave., 627-1088

"I just enjoy both the chefs," he said. "I enjoy their creativity and their passion for food. They just do everything well from beginning to end."

INSIDE More chefs share their favorite restaurants and dishes. **ON 8D**

Local chefs share their favorite places to dine out



Server Aor Duangkaew serves F. Scott's chef Will Uhlhorn a dish of red curry duck, his favorite item at Gold Thai, where he has lunch with his wife, Damar Uhlhorn, right, and friend Charmion Gustke. BILLY KINGSLEY / THE TENNESSEAN

WILL UHLHORN

F. SCOTT'S RESTAURANT AND JAZZ BAR

His pick: Golden Thai, 73 White Bridge Road, 615-353-9411

"They have really, really, good curry — Red Curry Duck," he said. Uhlhorn said he makes a trip to Golden Thai about three times per month.



DIPTI VAIDYA / THE TENNESSEAN

JEREMY BARLOW

TAXYST

His picks: Calypso Cafe, 2424 Elliston Place (among several other Nashville locations) 321-3878, and his home.

"Sunday nights we always cook at home and have a family meal," he said. While it's "nothing fancy," the important part for Barlow is getting back around the table as family.

"And then at least two or three Mondays a month we do Calypso," he said.



JASON LOVE / THE TENNESSEAN

JASON LOVE

OMBI

His picks: Margot Cafe and Bar, 1017 Woodland St., 227-4668 and Caffe Nonna, 4427 Murphy Road, 463-0133

"For a first date, I've never not taken someone to cafe Margot," he said.

Love also enjoys Caffe Nonna in Sylvan Park.

"I've eaten over at Daniel's (Maggipinto) place probably, gah, over 20 times," he said. "And I've never had a bad meal over there."



JASON LEE / THE TENNESSEAN

TYLER BROWN

CAPITAL GRILLE
AT THE HERMITAGE HOTEL

His picks: Eastland Cafe, 97 Chapel Ave., 627-1088; Las Maracas, 3935 Gallatin Pike, 262-9699; Martin's Barbeque Joint, 7215 Nolensville Road, Nolensville, 776-1856

"All of them just represent comfort for me," he said. "I know that I'm going to be satisfied and fill a hankering, if you will."



GAYLORD OPRYLAND RESORT

FORREST PARKER

CASCADES SEAFOOD RESTAURANT
AT GAYLORD OPRYLAND RESORT
HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER

His pick: Miss Saigon, 5849 Charlotte Pike, 354-1351, among others

"Locally, a bowl of Mi Hoang Thanh — roast pork, shrimp and dumpling soup with egg noodles — at Miss Saigon or Kien Giang on Charlotte are favorites," he said.

Parker said he also loves the Woodlands for Southern Indian food such as Rava Masala Dosa, a crispy lentil crepe with dry curry potato and onion filling, and Palak Paneer, curry spinach greens with firm cubes of yogurt cheese.

Farther afield, he said he enjoys Kleer-Vu Lunchroom in Murfreesboro. "I love meat-and-threes," he said.



MANDY LUINN / THE TENNESSEAN

GUERRY MCCOMAS

THE YELLOW PORCH

His picks: Siam Cafe, 316 McCall St., 834-3181 or La Hacienda, 2615 Nolensville Road, 256-6142

"I probably eat on Nolensville Road more than anywhere," he said. "A couple of my high school buddies own homes over here and we joke that La Hacienda is our neighborhood restaurant."

"I like comfort food — food that's been prepared with care. I think service is a very important part of it — places that you frequent often. When you walk in, they make you feel like you're home."

McComas said spending so much time in a kitchen with fine food keeps him from eating it.

"I rarely go out and dine like that."



SANFORD MYERS / THE TENNESSEAN

JAKE STEARNS

FLYTE WORLD DINING AND WINE

His pick: Taqueria Express, the taco stand at K&S World Market, 4225 Nolensville Pike, 832-8881

"I do enjoy the taco stand at K&S," he said. "Just the chicken tacos are my favorite. . . ."

"Marche is also a place where I eat on my day off," he said.

"I've never had a bad experience at Marche."