
air travel

Posted by WGibson - 2006/05/16 18:59

A few years ago, 2002, if memory serves, shaking head and letting rust dust dribble out of my ears....

I flew from Toronto to SF and then back again. At Toronto, I was asked to open camera backs, show light streaming through all of my lenses. A very thorough job. I had a three camera rig: Canon G2, Nikon FM2 and a CV Bessa R, several lenses for the Nikon and two lenses for the R.

Curiously on the way out of SF, nothing was checked. My bag was viewed and passed through.

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Re:air travel

Posted by FrankG - 2006/09/14 13:31

Back in the 70's I never had a problem with carrying a camera and shooting. I think today, though, all has changed; not only with carrying, checking and so forth, but with all types of security and the subjects. People freak out more often these days when they see a camera pointed at them or nearby. It's just not the same anymore.

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Re:air travel

Posted by rogerchristian - 2008/08/23 22:09

Traveling with photo equipment is a minor nuisance these days, but I have come up with a plan which works flying out of Cedar Rapids, and then on return trips from Ft Lauderdale, SFO, Portland OR, Detroit, etc.

I put my Bessa in a ziplock plastic bag, and the lens(es) in a separate bag as well. I do the shoe thing, and pull out my CPAP medical device, and camera equipment, put them in a basket, and send them through the scanner.

I have never had any problem when using this procedure, and, oddly enough, my film shield bag goes through w/o a hitch, I use an Optech bag which should be reasonably 'opaque'. Why they don't pull the bag out and search it I don't know. Maybe they can see through it, but at any rate, never a problem.

Oddly enough, though the CPAP unit is pretty clearly a medical device, about one in three times, they pull it aside, and run a bomb residue wipe down on it.

I think, like most things these days, you get along if you go along. Being pro-active on showing the equipment seems to be a big help.

One other thing, I go through 'naked', no watch, coins, wallet, etc. Just my tickets and ID. Everything is in my waist pouch in my backpack, so there is very little I have to worry about. Nearly forgot my watch one time when I pulled it off to get through the walk through scanner, so I decided it all goes in the pack. Never a problem after that.

Packing sure is a pain these days though, it now takes me a couple of hours to make sure everything is 'just right', that and lists. Lots of lists.

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Re:air travel

Posted by Brian - 2008/08/24 07:03

I get the bomb residue wipe down every time...nothing I can do about it. I have 10 screws and a metal plate in my right leg and have to wear a special shoe and OA kneebrace when I walk.

"I'm sorry officer, but I *can't* take off my shoes and walk through the metal detector."

My dad has it worse...he carries a nitroglycerine spray around for his heart condition and on occasion it will accidentally go off in his bag LOL

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