



Spirit Airlines Halts Operations Amid Rising Jet Fuel Costs

Description

Spirit Airlines is shutting down, which will impact thousands of flights and employees. The budget airline has cancelled all flights and announced an immediate shut down of operations.

In a statement, Spirit informed customers that flights have been cancelled and customer service is no longer available. The airline expressed pride in its low-cost model and had hoped to continue serving passengers for many years.

Spirit has struggled financially since the Covid-19 pandemic and was trying to recover from its second bankruptcy. This plan was interrupted by rising jet fuel costs due to conflicts in the Middle East. The airline said that increasing oil prices and other business pressures made its financial situation difficult. Without more funding, Spirit had to begin shutting down.

Last month, Spirit had asked the White House for financial help. Although there was initial support, talks broke down, leading to the shutdown announcement. Spirit's President, Dave Davis, expressed disappointment at the outcome.

Although no flights were in the air when the closure took effect, many passengers are affected. Spirit will process refunds for directly purchased tickets, but those who booked through agents must request refunds from them. Passengers will not be reimbursed for extra costs due to cancellations.

The Transportation Secretary has advised ticket buyers to seek refunds through their credit cards and announced measures to help Spirit's passengers find new flights. Major airlines, like American and JetBlue, are offering discounted fares for those needing rebooked flights and job opportunities for Spirit's employees.

Vocabulary List:

1. **impact** //ˈɪm.pækt// (noun): a strong effect on something or someone
2. **budget** //ˈbʌdʒ.ɪt// (adjective): made to cost very little money
3. **cancelled** //ˈkæn.səld// (verb): stopped and will not happen as planned
4. **bankruptcy** //ˈbæŋ.krəp.si// (noun): when a company cannot pay its debts
5. **funding** //ˈfʌn.dɪŋ// (noun): money given to pay for something
6. **reimbursed** //ˌriː.ɪmˈbɜːst// (verb): given back money for costs someone paid

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. What has Spirit Airlines announced?
 - Option: Expansion of services
 - Option: Shutting down operations
 - Option: Opening new routes
 - Option: Increasing flight frequencies

2. Who is the President of Spirit Airlines?
 - Option: Dave Davis
 - Option: John Doe
 - Option: Michael Smith
 - Option: Jane Johnson

3. What financial struggles has Spirit Airlines faced?
 - Option: Losing market share
 - Option: Rising jet fuel costs
 - Option: Increased customer demand
 - Option: Successful recovery from bankruptcy

4. What did Spirit ask the White House for?
 - Option: Regulatory changes
 - Option: Financial help
 - Option: Reduction in taxes
 - Option: Increased subsidies for airlines

5. Which airlines are offering discounted fares for Spirit's passengers?
 - Option: Delta and United
 - Option: American and JetBlue
 - Option: Southwest and Frontier
 - Option: Alaska and Horizon

6. What is no longer available for Spirit's customers?
 - Option: Online ticket purchases
 - Option: Loyalty points
 - Option: Customer service
 - Option: Baggage handling



True-False

7. Spirit Airlines has been financially stable since the Covid-19 pandemic.
8. Passengers can request refunds from Spirit for extra costs due to cancellations.
9. Spirit Airlines expressed pride in its low-cost model.
10. The Transportation Secretary advised customers to seek refunds through cash payments.
11. Spirit Airlines cancelled all flights prior to shutting down operations.
12. Spirit is offering new job opportunities to its current employees.

Gap-Fill

13. Spirit Airlines has cancelled all flights and announced an immediate shut down of operations on _____ .
14. The airline has struggled financially since the _____ pandemic.
15. Without more funding, Spirit had to begin _____ down.
16. Although there was initial support, talks broke _____ , leading to the shutdown announcement.
17. Passengers will not be reimbursed for extra costs due to _____ .
18. Many passengers are affected, but no flights were in the air when the _____ took effect.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Shutting down operations 2. Dave Davis 3. Rising jet fuel costs 4. Financial help 5. American and JetBlue 6. Customer service

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. True 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. October 2023



14. Covid-19 15. shutting 16. down 17. cancellations 18. closure

CATEGORY

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Date Created

2026/05/03

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