



[home](#)
[about](#)
[contact](#)
[airnews](#)
[waypoint](#)
[travelers](#)
[gate blogs](#)



(basic)

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[email an invite](#)

[quick search](#)

[go](#)

edit

[profile questions](#)

[account details](#)

manage

[private messages](#)

[personal connections](#)

[profile comments](#)

[image documents](#)

[posting comments](#)

airnews

reporting takes flight

turkey in terminal two:
improvising thanksgiving at
o'hare international airport

by claire zulkey

if you're planning to fly through
chicago's o'hare airport this
holiday weekend, there is good
news. with the combination of
favorable weather forecasts,
prepared airport personnel and a
little bit of luck, you will be spared
any delays, cancellations, or
general airport rage.

however, as one of the busiest holidays
of the year meets one of the busiest
airports in the world, some chaos might
be inevitable. if you find yourself stuck
at ord for thanksgiving, don't distress!
you can still make a decent holiday out
of the experience.

thanksgiving dinner

you might miss mom's home cooking,
but o'hare provides a wide selection of
meal options, so you can easily piece
together a thanksgiving meal. for



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starters, go green at the salad works at terminal one, voted "best greens at o'hare international airport by chicago's magazine," which is a winning endorsement if there ever was one. then stop by o'brien's restaurant and bar in terminal three, where they can serve you up a deli-style turkey sandwich. you might not be able to find canned cranberries, but the grove in terminals one and two provide an array of dried fruits and nuts. mashed potatoes, meanwhile, are so cliché. get your spud fix at the fox sports sky bar, in terminals two and three, and order the chili fries. finish it off with desserts from cinnabon, corner bakery or eli's cheesecake in terminal one.

television

another thanksgiving tradition involves sitting on the couch and catching the game, and you can still find your favorite tv broadcasts in the airport, only without the la-z-boys. many gate waiting areas feature ceiling-hung tvs, and even a few sets at security are tuned to non-airport television. meanwhile, ask nicely at any of the airport bars and the bartender might switch the tv to your favorite team. you've hit the jackpot if you've got benefits at the admiral's club or red carpet club, and you can enjoy a drink, large television and comfy seating, all at once.

family

it wouldn't be the holidays if you didn't tie one on and spend quality time with the family, but unfortunately (wink, wink) that might not be the case if o'hare is backed up. never fear. o'hare offers a wide variety of beverage choices, from the berghoff café in terminal one to the prairie tap in terminal three to the aptly named the bar, in terminal five. get to know your drinking buddies and soon enough they'll be asking why you don't

visit more often or why you're not as successful as your brother. just like family.

aftermath

you might miss out on the leftovers, but if you do, in fact, have a wonderful thanksgiving at the airport, you can give thanks at several nondenominational chapels. and if your host or hostess doesn't forgive you for missing out on the meal, a gift from the leather folks at wilsons or the field museum shop in terminal one can say, "i'm sorry i had more fun at the airport than i did spending time with you."

contest! thanksgiving on the go

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