It's a miracle the war is over, but travel experts say the war that's tak- ing place more than 4,200 miles from Boston could impact you this summer as you budget for your vacation. Sinking fuel prices will not only add exposure to mask-denied road trips, but could po- tentially mean increases in airfare. After two years of cautious COVID-19 travel, this is not welcome news to those who are itching to pack a suitcase and (hope- fully) enjoy a vacant-free summer in the sun. Before we dive into the gloom, here's one silver lining. Not everyone in the travel sector is convinced that fall- ing crude oil prices, which have re- cruised to nearly $5.15 a barrel this week from $64 a barrel a year ago, will strike the entire industry with the same sever- ity. Airlines, still in the early stages of recov- ery from a COVID punch in the gut, may not take fares with the same tenac- ity as oil companies. But the advice for travelers thinking of a summer escape is to book sooner rather than later.

Let's start with the went of it, which is where you'll feel the biggest vacation pinch on your purse. The jarring en- crease that consumers are seeing every day at the gas pump are not expected to wane in the coming months. According to a forecast released by Boston-based GasBuddy on Monday, prices will con- tinue to rise through the spring and summer, peaking at $4.50 a gallon na- tionally by August, before finally drop- ping under $4 a gallon in November. In California, that prices could go as high as $5.

He proposed they take the family excursion to celebrate his 84th birthday. 'I've always wanted to go there,' he said. 'We need to do it before I get old.' And so off they went, all six of them.

By Julie Hatfield and Timothy Leland
Globe correspondents

He wanted to take his kids and their spouses, as well. "Where to?" the wife asked, mildly interested. "Death Valley," he replied. "Death Valley?" she said, her biking days were over. "Incredible, this is all," she said, she didn't want to go on any more of those glorious guided bike tours they've been on for years together. After- wing a day and a recent bike accident bad convinced her that she couldn't handle another journey. But the very next morning the husband un- announced a surprise: He had signed them up for "just one more bike trip."

It would be a grand occasion, he said. It would be the perfect way to celebrate his 84th birthday.

A sculpture outside a ghost town.

He paused at the sign reading:

"We feel alive to the very bone and every shred of person sitting in the shade for one day can lose 2 gallons of

It's better for the future of Yellowstone if tourists spread out their visits. Here's how and why to go in winter.

Inside
THE VR LOUNGE
Concert venue promoter Josh Bhatia says he can hear St. John calling his name when its time to vacation.
by Nathan Diller

We'll see them in our inbox: Southwest's 469 flights 

Biking through 'a very special place'

DEATH VALLEY, Calif. (AP) – Take on his 84th birthday: “I’ve always wanted to go there.” So we told him to do it before he lost his last leg.

And we went, all of us.

Biking in Death Valley is like biking nowhere else — unless perhaps you’ve biked on the surface of Mars. The terrain is rough, the air is thin, the sun is brutal, and the nights are cool.

There are no bird sounds. No motor sounds. No road sounds. Only the sound of your own footsteps. You feel like you’re on the moon, on another planet.

That’s not true. It’s 94 degrees on our first day.

At night, the ground cools and you look around you and see stars of powerful geological transformations. The rich colors of the rocks tell stories of the immensity of nature, of magic, of time.

So, do you think about escaping from it all? For us, the lure of Death Valley was too much to resist.

We biked through the arid, treeless desert floor as far as the dunes. We saw the jumbled mounds of black volcanic brash spreading out like vines, as you make your way through this seemingly endless expanse.

It gets to be very low, single digits,” he said.

If you’re not able to get the fare to go, but you’re told it’s worth looking at flights while a promo is going on, Grif said that while your trip might not fit the parameters laid out in the fine print, airlines will often dis
count other fares at the same time —

“Just think of it as a service fee,” said Grif, “and that service fee should be paid for something useful.”

However, there are few other ways to ensure you’re getting the best deal for your money. One way is to be flexible with your travel dates and travel-by-date,” he said.

“Leak beyond advertised deals

Key said the best deals for travel

even the ads themselves can be misleading. “The ads tend to all look the same,” he said.

“There are no bird sounds. No motor sounds. No road sounds. Only the sound of your own footsteps. You feel like you’re on the moon, on another planet.”

That’s not true. It’s 94 degrees on our first day.

At night, the ground cools and you look around you and see stars of powerful geological transformations. The rich colors of the rocks tell stories of the immensity of nature, of magic, of time.

So, do you think about escaping from it all? For us, the lure of Death Valley was too much to resist.

We biked through the arid, treeless desert floor as far as the dunes. We saw the jumbled mounds of black volcanic brash spreading out like vines, as you make your way through this seemingly endless expanse.

It gets to be very low, single digits,” he said.

If you’re not able to get the fare to go, but you’re told it’s worth looking at flights while a promo is going on, Grif said that while your trip might not fit the parameters laid out in the fine print, airlines will often dis
count other fares at the same time —

“Just think of it as a service fee,” said Grif, “and that service fee should be paid for something useful.”

However, there are few other ways to ensure you’re getting the best deal for your money. One way is to be flexible with your travel dates and travel-by-date,” he said.

“Leak beyond advertised deals

Key said the best deals for travel

To book on the market, Key’s Scott’s Cheap Flights, Google Flights, Google alerts, trip app Hopper, Skyscanner, and oth
er seamless allow-users to set up price alerts so they’ll know when there’s a deal.

“The best way to take advantage of these deals is to be using a tool that’s monitoring for them so that you know when you’re available on the routes you’re actually interested in,” said Key
nberg, Hopper’s head of price intel

Grif suggested that travelers look for a desirable fare when they see it, as prices

We’ll see them in our inbox: Southwest’s 469 flights 

Biking through 'a very special place'

DEATH VALLEY, Calif. (AP) – Take on his 84th birthday: “I’ve always wanted to go there.” So we told him to do it before he lost his last leg.

And we went, all of us.

Biking in Death Valley is like biking nowhere else — unless perhaps you’ve biked on the surface of Mars. The terrain is rough, the air is thin, the sun is brutal, and the nights are cool.

There are no bird sounds. No motor sounds. No road sounds. Only the sound of your own footsteps. You feel like you’re on the moon, on another planet.

That’s not true. It’s 94 degrees on our first day.

At night, the ground cools and you look around you and see stars of powerful geological transformations. The rich colors of the rocks tell stories of the immensity of nature, of magic, of time.

So, do you think about escaping from it all? For us, the lure of Death Valley was too much to resist.

We biked through the arid, treeless desert floor as far as the dunes. We saw the jumbled mounds of black volcanic brash spreading out like vines, as you make your way through this seemingly endless expanse.

It gets to be very low, single digits,” he said.

If you’re not able to get the fare to go, but you’re told it’s worth looking at flights while a promo is going on, Grif said that while your trip might not fit the parameters laid out in the fine print, airlines will often dis
count other fares at the same time —

“Just think of it as a service fee,” said Grif, “and that service fee should be paid for something useful.”

However, there are few other ways to ensure you’re getting the best deal for your money. One way is to be flexible with your travel dates and travel-by-date,” he said.

“Leak beyond advertised deals

Key said the best deals for travel

To book on the market, Key’s Scott’s Cheap Flights, Google Flights, Google alerts, trip app Hopper, Skyscanner, and oth
er seamless allow-users to set up price alerts so they’ll know when there’s a deal.

“The best way to take advantage of these deals is to be using a tool that’s monitoring for them so that you know when you’re available on the routes you’re actually interested in,” said Key
nberg, Hopper’s head of price intel

Grif suggested that travelers look for a desirable fare when they see it, as prices

We’ll see them in our inbox: Southwest’s 469 flights 

Biking through 'a very special place'

DEATH VALLEY, Calif. (AP) – Take on his 84th birthday: “I’ve always wanted to go there.” So we told him to do it before he lost his last leg.

And we went, all of us.

Biking in Death Valley is like biking nowhere else — unless perhaps you’ve biked on the surface of Mars. The terrain is rough, the air is thin, the sun is brutal, and the nights are cool.

There are no bird sounds. No motor sounds. No road sounds. Only the sound of your own footsteps. You feel like you’re on the moon, on another planet.

That’s not true. It’s 94 degrees on our first day.

At night, the ground cools and you look around you and see stars of powerful geological transformations. The rich colors of the rocks tell stories of the immensity of nature, of magic, of time.

So, do you think about escaping from it all? For us, the lure of Death Valley was too much to resist.

We biked through the arid, treeless desert floor as far as the dunes. We saw the jumbled mounds of black volcanic brash spreading out like vines, as you make your way through this seemingly endless expanse.

It gets to be very low, single digits,” he said.

If you’re not able to get the fare to go, but you’re told it’s worth looking at flights while a promo is going on, Grif said that while your trip might not fit the parameters laid out in the fine print, airlines will often dis
count other fares at the same time —

“Just think of it as a service fee,” said Grif, “and that service fee should be paid for something useful.”

However, there are few other ways to ensure you’re getting the best deal for your money. One way is to be flexible with your travel dates and travel-by-date,” he said.

“Leak beyond advertised deals

Key said the best deals for travel