

## **GETTING AROUND THE ORLANDO AIRPORT (MCO)**

If you are flying into Orlando, and are unfamiliar with the terminal facility, the following will be helpful in finding your way around the airport.

### **Arrival:**

Your airline flight will arrive at one of the remote gates some distance from the main terminal. As you deplane, you will be directed to either Baggage Claim A, or Baggage Claim B, to get your flights' checked baggage. It all depends on your airline and the group of baggage carrousel where that carrier usually delivers its checked bags. Since you will be at a remote gate, there will be a shuttle tram to take you to the main terminal. Just follow the signs to "Baggage Claim" and you will get to the shuttle.

You will exit the shuttle tram and enter the main terminal. There will be signs indicating which side to go for Baggage Claim A, or Baggage Claim B. You will be going past the departure security area as you leave the tram and head for Baggage Claim.

You are now on the main departure level of the airport terminal. This level has the ticket counters for the various airlines, and is where departing passengers arrive. It is important to remember that there is only ONE terminal with 2 sides, A and B. If you accidentally went to the wrong side, you simply walk across to the other side through the center section.

For Baggage Claim A, or B, you must follow the signs and take the escalator down to the next lower level. There are elevators available also. When you get to the Baggage Claim level, you will turn left or right to get to the baggage carrousel where your flights bags will be delivered. This may take some time and be aware that the carrousel may be changed.

If you are being met by a friend in a private vehicle, you can stay on the same level and meet them outside of baggage claim. They can't park, so tell them which side (A or B) of baggage claim you are and which airline so you can find each other.

If you are taking other ground transportation to the hotel, first get your bags and then go down one more level to the ground transport level. There are escalators and elevators available. On this level will be cabs, busses and rental and parking lot shuttle vans, such as Hertz, Avis, etc. This is also where the Mears hotel shuttle will be located. There are information counters on both the baggage claim and ground levels to assist you in finding where the hotel shuttle is parked. You will notice that the parking spots are numbered, and you may be directed to go to "B 42", or "A 12", as an example, depending on which side of the terminal you are on. Once again, there should be people to assist you on each terminal level.

(Over)

### Departure:

There are 2 main entrances to the Airport, one from the North and one from the South. The North entry is from the direction of the city, and is the most used. Upon entry to the Airport, there will be signs for Terminal A and Terminal B, along with which air carriers are at each terminal. We already know that there is only ONE terminal with sides A and B.

If you are being dropped off by a friend, or are returning a rental car on the airport, you should be following the signs for the terminal side your airline is located. If you are dropping off a rental, the rental return signs are clearly marked just prior to arrivals and departures. If your party is dropping you off, he will do so on the departure level in front of your airline.

If you are arriving on a van, bus or cab, you will be dropped off on the lower ground transportation level. This is where the Mears hotel shuttle will leave you. You will have to take your bags up to the departure level by escalator or elevator. There should be sky caps, or at least carts, to help you with your bags.

If you already have a Boarding Pass, you can use curbside check-in, or, if not, go inside for the ticketing counter, or kiosk, for your airline. Once you check bags and get your Boarding Pass, you follow the signs to your departure gate.

First, however, you undergo the joy of passing through security. You will need your Boarding Pass and a suitable picture ID. Follow the screening procedure and when you are cleared, you will find yourself in front of the shuttle tram to take you to your departure gate area.

When you get off the tram near your departure gate, you will find a food court and numerous restroom facilities. When you ultimately reach your flights departure gate, there should be adequate seating until you are asked to board.