

Flights

- [Mass monitoring round trip flight prices using Google Flights](#)

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The most useful feature in [Google Flights](#) is this table called **Date grid** that shows you all the prices in a 7x7 grid - 7 days of outbound flights matched with 7 days of return flights. The prices shown are the cheapest round trip for that date pair. With this, I can monitor 49 round trip prices at once.



The screenshot shows the Google Flights interface with the 'Dates' tab selected. A 7x7 grid of round trip prices is displayed, with the departure date range set from Thursday, July 27 to Friday, August 18. The grid shows prices in Euros (€) for each date pair. The grid is bordered by a red line. The prices are as follows:

Thu Jul 27	Fri Jul 28	Sat Jul 29	Sun Jul 30	Mon Jul 31	Tue Aug 1	Wed Aug 2	
€3,994	€4,058	€4,168	€3,912	€3,994	€3,994	✱ €3,460	Sat Aug 12
€4,473	€4,678	€4,507	€4,019	€4,665	€4,019	€4,473	Sun Aug 13
€3,950	€4,248	€4,593	€3,950	€4,229	€3,950	€3,950	Mon Aug 14
€3,950	€4,230	€4,340	€3,950	€4,166	€3,950	€3,632	Tue Aug 15
€3,950	€4,248	€4,338	€3,950	€4,229	€3,950	€3,950	Wed Aug 16
€4,166	€4,230	€4,340	€4,084	€4,166	€4,166	€3,632	Thu Aug 17
€4,391	€4,421	€4,391	€4,537	€4,391	€4,391	€4,685	Fri Aug 18

Below the grid, the text 'Jul 27-Aug 18 €3,850 Round trip' is visible. The interface also includes navigation arrows and a 'Cheapest' indicator.

Assuming you have a target date range for your travel, you can then set your flights dates like this in Google Flights to control the Date grid boundaries.

Outbound flight: Earliest date plus 3 days, e.g. July 27 + 3 days = July 30

Return flight: Latest date minus 3 days, e.g. August 18 - 3 days = August 15

Now to monitor this and notify me when there are changes, I use this tool

<https://changedetection.io/> I self-host this for free but you can subscribe to their service for \$9 a

month.

This is how it looks like in ChangeDetection.io:

All travel uwiph					
#		Website ^	Last Checked	Last Changed	
1	 	BER MNL --- aug10-16 x aug19-25   	7 minutes ago	7 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
2	 	BER MNL --- aug3-9 x aug12-18   	14 minutes ago	14 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
3	 	BER MNL --- aug3-9 x aug19-25   	15 minutes ago	15 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
4	 	BER MNL --- jul13-19 x aug12-18   	14 minutes ago	14 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
5	 	BER MNL --- jul13-19 x aug19-25   	13 minutes ago	13 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
6	 	BER MNL --- jul13-19 x aug5-11   	10 minutes ago	10 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
7	 	BER MNL --- jul13-19 x jul22-28   	49 seconds ago	49 seconds ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
8	 	BER MNL --- jul13-19 x jul29-4   	7 minutes ago	7 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
9	 	BER MNL --- jul20-26 x aug12-18   	48 seconds ago	48 seconds ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
10	 	BER MNL --- jul20-26 x aug19-25   	15 minutes ago	15 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
11	 	BER MNL --- jul20-26 x aug5-11   	14 minutes ago	14 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
12	 	BER MNL --- jul20-26 x jul29-4   	14 minutes ago	14 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
13	 	BER MNL --- jul27-2 x aug12-18   	7 minutes ago	7 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
14	 	BER MNL --- jul27-2 x aug19-25   	7 minutes ago	7 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
15	 	BER MNL --- jul27-2 x aug5-11   	15 minutes ago	15 minutes ago	<button>Recheck</button> <button>Edit</button> <button>Diff</button>
Mark all viewed					Recheck all in "uwiph" 

For my planned travel, I have target ranges of dates for both outbound and return, and I divide them into 7 day segments. I create unique URLs in Google flights manually for each of these target dates. Example is

<https://www.google.com/travel/flights/search?tfs=CBwQAhovagclARIDQkVSagclARIDUVBQEgoyMDIzLTA3LTlzcgoIAxIJL20vMDE5NXBkKAlaL2oNCAMSCS9tLzAxOTVwZBIKMjAyMy0wOC0xNXIHCAESA0JFUnIHCAESA1FQUCgCcAGCAQslAUABQAFAAkACSAGYAQE&curr=EUR>

Use this URL <https://changedetection.io/share/YyFkaFF8brca> when creating a new change detection watch and just update the URL in the edit screen to match your preferences.

GeneralRequestBrowser StepsVisual Filter SelectorFilters & TriggersNotifications

URL

https://www.google.com/travel/flights/search?tfs=CBwQAhovagclARIDQkVSagclARIDUVBQEgoyMDIzLTA3LTlzc

Some sites use JavaScript to create the content, for this you should [use the Chrome/WebDriver Fetcher](#)
You can use variables in the URL, perfect for inserting the current date and other logic, [help and examples here](#)

Title

BER MNL --- jul20-26 x aug12-18

Group tag

uwiph

Organisational tag/group name used in the main listing page

There's a section "Trigger/wait for text" where you can input a regex that can detect if your target price has been reached. Mine is set at `/€[1-2],[0-9][0-9][0-9]/` which means notify me when round trip tickets are between €1,xxx to €2,xxx.

Another great thing about Google Flights is that it supports searching for flights from multiple airports to multiple airports. Example: I don't mind flying from Hamburg and Frankfurt too in addition to Berlin as they're both directly accessible by train. Same with going to Philippines, I don't mind if we land in MNL or CRK. Google Flights supports this, you just have to click the "+" button in there.

↔ Round trip ▾ 👤 1 ▾ Economy ▾

○ Where from? +

Select multiple airports

🔍 Search

After you've setup where to send the notifications, you can save the monitor and that's it.