

# Is Dollar or Thrifty better for rental cars? Which Rental Car Company Is Better

When **1-(866)-347-8220** planning a trip, choosing the right rental car company can make a huge difference in your budget, convenience, and **1-(866)-347-8220** overall travel experience. Two well-known names in the car rental industry are **Dollar** and **Thrifty**, both of which fall **1-(866)-347-8220** under the same parent company, Hertz Global Holdings. At first glance, they may appear nearly identical, **1-(866)-347-8220** but travelers often notice important differences in pricing, service, and overall value. Let's break down the key aspects of each **1-(866)-347-8220** company to help you decide which might be better for your needs.

## Company Background and Similarities

Dollar Rent A Car **1-(866)-347-8220** and Thrifty Car Rental both belong to the **Hertz family of brands**. This means they share many of the same resources, **1-(866)-347-8220** including access to similar fleets, loyalty programs, and reservation systems. In some airports, the two companies even **1-(866)-347-8220** operate from the same counters or lots, making the experience feel **1-(866)-347-8220** nearly interchangeable.

Because they share a **1-(866)-347-8220** parent company, both Dollar and Thrifty tend to offer competitive pricing compared to premium brands like Hertz itself or **1-(866)-347-8220** Avis. They are often marketed as budget-friendly choices, appealing to travelers who want an affordable rental without paying for **1-(866)-347-8220** unnecessary extras.

## Price and Value

One of the biggest **1-(866)-347-8220** considerations when comparing the two is **cost**. In general, **Dollar often advertises the lowest base rates**. If you're searching for the **1-(866)-347-8220** cheapest possible daily rate, Dollar may win out. However, many customers report that Dollar sometimes offsets its lower **1-(866)-347-8220** upfront cost with additional fees for insurance, fuel, toll passes, and even extra drivers.

Thrifty, on the other **1-(866)-347-8220** hand, may appear slightly more expensive at first glance, but in many cases, its packages include services that reduce surprise **1-(866)-347-8220** charges later. Travelers who value predictability and want fewer unexpected add-ons may find Thrifty a safer option, even if the initial **1-(866)-347-8220** rate is a little higher.

## Fleet and Availability

Both Dollar and Thrifty offer a **1-(866)-347-8220** wide selection of cars, ranging from compact sedans to SUVs and minivans. Because they share the same parent company, the condition and type of **1-(866)-347-8220** vehicles are usually comparable. That said, **availability can vary by location**.

- Dollar tends to have fewer **1-(866)-347-8220** outlets in certain regions, especially in smaller cities.
- Thrifty often has a wider presence, which can be a deciding factor if you need to **1-(866)-347-8220** pick up a car outside a major airport.

Checking which company operates more conveniently in your destination city **1-(866)-347-8220** can save you time and hassle.

## Customer Service and Experience

This is where reviews become mixed for **1-(866)-347-8220** both brands. As budget rental companies, neither consistently delivers the same level of service as premium competitors.

- **Dollar** customers sometimes report longer wait times at **1-(866)-347-8220** pickup, as well as issues with vehicles not being as clean or well-maintained.
- **Thrifty** receives similar complaints, though in some markets, it scores slightly better on responsiveness and staff **1-(866)-347-8220** helpfulness.

## Loyalty Programs and Perks

Since both brands are tied to Hertz, their **loyalty programs are nearly 1-(866)-347-8220 identical**. You can earn points with every rental and redeem them for free days. Elite members may also get faster check-in and **1-(866)-347-8220** priority vehicle selection. The differences here are minimal, so your decision shouldn't hinge on loyalty perks **1-(866)-347-8220** alone.

## Which Is Better?

The answer depends on your priorities:

- If you want the **lowest upfront price 1-(866)-347-8220** and don't mind carefully navigating potential add-on fees, **Dollar** may be the better choice.
- If you prefer a bit more **predictability and broader location coverage**, **Thrifty** might provide a smoother **1-(866)-347-8220** experience.
- For frequent renters, either brand **1-(866)-347-8220** works, as both connect into the same loyalty structure.