



Trip to Disney World: 11 useful tips



EXCERPTS FROM ULYSSES' GUIDE DISNEY WORLD, JANUARY 31, 2010

A trip to Disney World is to live a supreme experience. Here are 11 tips to help you enjoy your trip!

Who does not dream of one day visiting Walt Disney World? The Orlando area in Florida is probably the most popular travel destination in the world. If you are one of those who think that the forces of supply and demand has transformed the Orlando area in a luxury experience that you cannot afford, you're wrong.

1. Planning your trip to Disney World

The first step in making a trip to Walt Disney World is planning. The Orlando area in Florida is not an easy destination. There are multiple activities which require numerous travels while spending opportunities are endless. A little planning will make your family vacation to Disney World a lot more enjoyable, and this rule applies to all members of the family. Parents can take cognizance of the set up plan and the attractions of each theme park in order to avoid confusion and hasty decisions once on the site. Tweens and teens who want to go around by themselves must necessarily learn to go about this large environment, and young children can, in turn, prepare (and get fired up) by reading the tales of Disney and by viewing its' most important animated films. They will become familiar with the characters and the rides they will find once on the site.

 $_{\text{Page}}1$



TRAVEL TIPS

2. Cost of your trip and when to go to Disney World

Many factors can affect the cost of your trip. First, you get to choose the time of year you wish to realize your trip. Some periods are more economical than others. Low season is from early January to late February and early September to mid-December. Besides enjoying discounts on flights and promotions from Disney, you will enjoy lower traffic and therefore more reasonable line up.

You should know that the period from mid-August to October period is often ignored by visitors because of the risk of hurricanes. This possibility is often frightening for travellers but in reality, a simple check of the weather statistics "Central Florida Hurricane Center" shows clearly that the risk of having to change your travel plans are negligible. The most likely reason for the low volume in September is that it is back to school for millions of North Americans.

Once you have determined your travel dates, you must choose the means to get there. You have the choice between the car or plane. The more you are, the better it is to opt for the car, because the cost of a plane ticket from Quebec is at least \$ 400 per person. If you buy your tickets sooner, you may obtain substantial discount. If you choose to travel by car, you should figure at about \$ 600 the expense for gas, which could be shared by each passenger and possibly two nights at the hotel, unless you decide to make the journey of 28 hours nonstop.

You can also opt for a compromise between the two. If you're ready to go to the United States by land, it is possible to take a flight from Plattsburgh airport and take advantage of attractive discounts.

On its immense domain Walt Disney World has introduced an efficient transport system. A bus service, monorail and boat will allow you to move freely throughout the area of Walt Disney World. In addition, if you live in one of the Disney hotels and you've chosen to get there by plane, Disney will take care of your transport from the airport to your hotel free of charge. If you choose to get there by car parking costs are free throughout the area for visitors who stay in a Disney hotel. For visitors staying outside the site, it costs about \$ 10 per day.

3. Accommodation

For accommodation, there are also ways to save. With the emergence of many motels in the vicinity of Orlando, Walt Disney World has built on his estate various "value" hotels to meet the needs of its less fortunate visitors. They are





TRAVEL TIPS

beautifully decorated hotels and competitive price that you can get

a glimpse at the following address: "Disney Hotels." In addition, living in the Disney area, you will save on your travel costs.

If you are a group or a large family, there is possibility to rent, at a reasonable price, houses of 2 to 7 bedrooms in the Orlando area. This is a much cheaper alternative than renting two or three hotel rooms. Regularly groups of friends or families decide to save money by staying under the same roof while visiting parks in smaller groups.

4. Cost of meal

A significant expense during a trip to Walt Disney World is the food you eat. While it is true that trip or not you have to eat, the cost of meals in the parks is much higher than it would normally cost. In this regard, here are some options.

If you reside in a Disney hotel, you will be able to choose a formula called the "meal plan." The prepaid option will ensure you eat well at a relatively reasonable cost.

Although Disney has improved the quality of its meals in recent years, if you are ready to consume more fast food you can save a bit more compared to the meal plan.

If you live outside the complex interesting possibilities may be available to you. If you have a kitchen you can make a grocery. You can enjoy a large breakfast before your departure and limit yourself to snacks for dinner. You may also choose to have lunch in one of the restaurants around Disney are generally less expensive and where they accept coupons received in tourist offices.

In many periods of the year, the climate in Florida is very hot. It is very important to stay hydrated. The cost of purchasing bottled water in the parks can rise very quickly. Imagine a family of four, each consuming three bottles of water per day at a cost of about \$ 2.50

You quickly spend \$ 30 only to rehydrate. If you live off-site, go into a grocery store and buy bottled water in large quantities. Carry them in a backpack or a belt that you wear around the waist. If you can, freeze them, so they stay cold most of the day.

Page



TRAVEL TIPS

5. Access to rides : avoid disappointment



Children should know that they will be denied access to certain rides if they have not yet reached the legal height. Theme parks enforce these standards to the letter if your kids are not tall enough for some rides, it is better to inform them before you go.

6. Clothes to take to Disney World

Remember one thing when you pack your bags for your vacation to Disney World: plan light and comfortable clothes. Unless you were planning to dine at the most exclusive restaurants, everything you will need can be enumerated as follows: shorts, light shirts or polo shirts, summer pants, a bathing suit and something to wear over your bathing suit once out of the water, and a moderately relaxed outfit in anticipation of any event that would require a more formal appearance.

7. Essentials items

Spend the rest of the available space in your luggage for a few essentials, like a good hat, good quality sunglasses and good insect repellent. Make also ample supply of sunscreen, as even the most clouded winter days can burn your skin and give you that ruddy appearance so characteristic of misguided tourists. A light jacket and a raincoat are also essential, the most practical are those who have a hood which, once folded in their envelope can easily be carried in the hand; they can be found in pharmacies for a few dollars, while at Disney World and other theme parks they will cost several times the price.

8. Organize your time

There are good and bad ways to organize your time at Disney World. First, arrive early (at least 30 minutes before the official opening time). Secondly, take a hearty breakfast before arriving, and later in the day, break up with your dining habits earlier or later than usual. Third, have a clear idea of the sequence in which you expect to visit the various attractions. Also keep in mind that







children (and adults!) want to go back more than once on board

their favorite rides, so allow more time for "reruns". Finally, do not zeal. Decide what you really would like to see and cut it in half.

9. Puchasing thcket

Whatever theme park you plan to visit, the best advice we can give you is to get your tickets in advance. If you arrive with your tickets on hand, you can indeed avoid long queues, and in all honesty, who wants to start the day with a delay of 20 minutes or more?

10. Reduce waiting with the Fast Pass

In the four major theme parks of Walt Disney World, a strategic use of Fast Pass can be an effective way to save time. These tickets, which allow you to jump the queue at a specified appointed time, are available for the most popular rides. They are obtained, free of charge, by sliding your entrance ticket in the appropriate automated machines. Then you return to the selected ride or attraction at the time shown on your Fast Pass without having to wait in line.



11. Take advantage of promotions

Everyone can get discounts at Disney World. The best thing is to visit regularly the Walt Disney World website (www.disneyworld.com), on which promotions of various kinds are frequently put forward, from periodic discounts on admission price to theme parks special packages prices including accommodation and access to parks.

When you travel to Disney, it is important to be well prepared. It always costs more when we have to improvise. Discussion forums on the Internet can be very useful. You can interact with people who have visited Walt Disney World, they will be able to give you their advice, tips and tricks.

For this purpose, you can consult the "Forum Walt Disney and Universal Studios" in the "Travel around the world" site. A good travel agent who knows Walt Disney World and its region will be also very useful. He can advise you based on your needs





and of course save you money.

BON VOYAGE !

