

This Report is brought to you by...

# The WOW Experience

Overdelivery is our Specialty!

Where Vision and Value Go Hand in Hand with Information and Opportunity!



Other Companies Make Promises -- We Make Dreams Come True!  
We Offer QUALITY CONTENT in Every WAY, TYPE and FORM

- Exclusive WOW Private Label Releases
- Private Label Products
- Public Domain Products
- Master Resale Rights eBooks
- Master Resale Rights Software
- Bestselling Audio eBooks by Top Authors
- Non-Fiction Audio eBooks
- Exclusive WOW Affiliate Products
- Resale Rights Products
- Exclusive WOW Private Label Reports
- eBook to Audio Conversion Software
- Resale Rights Generation Software



And, of course, if you want it all tied up in a neat website package, with *all the work done for you*, we have our NEW [Niche Empire Builder Software](#) – the Niche Real Estate Business Builder's Dream Come True!

## Niche Empire Builder

The Complete Done-it-For-You Niche Real Estate Business Builder's Dream Come True!

[www.the-wow-empire.com](http://www.the-wow-empire.com)

## The WOW Content Club

Your Full Spectrum Content Provider

If Content Is King,  
The WOW Content Club is the Kingdom  
You Have Been Searching For!



[www.wow-content-club.com](http://www.wow-content-club.com)

## WOW Profit Packs

Help Yourself to Hundreds of Brand New, Blockbuster Products at Bargain Basement Prices!



[www.WOWProfitPacks.com](http://www.WOWProfitPacks.com)

Enjoy this Free Niche Report, compliments of WOW Enterprises  
For Many More Free Reports, simply click on the links below.

[www.TheWOWExperience.com](http://www.TheWOWExperience.com)

[www.NicheEmpireBuilder.com](http://www.NicheEmpireBuilder.com)

[www.WOW-Content-Club.com](http://www.WOW-Content-Club.com)

[www.WOWProfitPacks.com](http://www.WOWProfitPacks.com)

# **Travel Tips to Insure Terrific Trips for All Types of Travelers**

## **Topics Covered:**

Budget Busters – Five Easy Ways to Save Money When Traveling

Three Ways to Grab Those Cheap Travel Discounts

Time Share Travels – Four Reasons to Say Yes to Timeshares

Seven Tips to Choosing the Right Spa Vacation for You

Three Day Vacations– How to Plan a Getaway in Your Own Town

Travel Guide vs. Going Solo – Which Way to Go

Traveling by Train – A Different Way to See the Countryside

Vacationing With Your Pet – Seven Tips for an Enjoyable Pet Friendly Getaway

Souvenir Seekers – How to Shop for Your Mementoes

Honeymoon Haven – Four Most Popular Vacations for Honeymooners

Motorcycle Madness – The Hottest New Way to Spend Your Vacation

Pedal to the Metal – Have a Racecar Holiday Dream Come True

Cruising Kids – Three Most Popular Cruise Destinations for Kids

Destination Disney – The Best Way to Plan Your Vacation to See Mickey Mouse

Five Most Requested Vacations by Children

Kid-Friendly Travel – Ten Tips to Make Flying Easier with Kids

# Travel Tips to Insure Terrific Trips for All Types of Travelers

## **Budget Busters—Five Easy Ways to Save Money When Traveling**

Traveling can be expensive, it's true, but once you've got the travel bug, there's no way you'll be happy staying home in order to save money. Savvy travel addicts know that there are bargains to be found if you do your research and follow a few simple guidelines on how to reach your destination in the least expensive way possible.

First, don't go somewhere when everyone else is going there. You'll just end up paying much more for everything, including airfare and accommodation, as well as battling the crowds. Perhaps you've always wanted to see India in monsoon season or Scotland in the winter? Now is the time to let your adventurous spirit soar. Don't forget that the southern hemisphere is experiencing winter during the northern hemisphere's summer. Perhaps you can save your skiing vacation for your next summer vacation.

Even if you can't travel off-season, do everything you can to lower the cost of transportation. Air travel, for example, can consume a hefty portion of your budget, and bargain seekers are always looking for a way to fly cheap. Search the Internet for airline consolidators or auction sites. Sometimes fares go down after midnight on these sights, so look for a good price at different times of the day.

Fly in the middle of the week (Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday), in the middle of the day, and on holidays when less people are likely to be flying. Also, research bargain budget airlines instead of commercial carriers or out-of-the-way airports for discount fares. Finally, some people even find ways to travel free by allowing airplanes to bump them off of overbooked flights, by using a credit card to earn frequent flier miles, or by acting as an international courier.

While airplanes can be fast, convenient, and almost a necessity for international travel, it's time to get creative when traveling on a budget and consider airplane alternatives. Cruise ships and cargo ships offer one method of getting across the sea and some exciting deals can be found online and through travel agents for water journeys.

When traveling within the United States, taking a Greyhound bus is a surprisingly inexpensive, if time-consuming, way to travel, and you're sure to meet a lot of interesting people on your journey. Finally, rail passes in Europe and North America can also be purchased before your trip to save money if you plan to stop in multiple locations.

Many people also turn to airlines because of the skyrocketing fuel prices, but automobiles can still be an inexpensive way to travel within the United States if you learn about different ways to save money. First, carefully figure out when and where you will need to fill up your gas tanks. Different states have different fuel prices. Georgia, for example, is typically much cheaper than Tennessee, so stop and refuel before or after you cross state lines.

Also, never let yourself get trapped into price-gouging in rural areas where a gas station will try to charge as much as 50 cents per gallon extra because it's the only place around for fifty miles. Other expenses incurred by driving involve emergency repairs. Have your car serviced before going on a road trip, including an oil change. Have someone look at your tires, belts, hoses, and fluid levels. Make sure that your windshield wipers are working properly, as poor weather conditions coupled with improper maintenance could cause a safety hazard on the highways.

Finally, once you've flown, driven, or sailed to your destination, you'll need a place to stay. Extended stays at hotels at weekly rates are one affordable option. Even if you're staying for only one night, however, don't be afraid to bargain with hotels for cheaper rates. Empty rooms aren't making hotels any money at all, so they are looking to fill their rooms, even if it's at a much cheaper price.

Pricy business hotels, for example, will often offer deals on the weekend when they are more likely to have vacancies. In expensive cities, a Bed and Breakfast is likely to be less expensive and more charming than a hotel. Other cheap accommodation alternatives for adventurous souls include timeshares, home exchanges, house sitting, dormitories at universities (when school is out), retreat centers and monasteries, national parks, RV campgrounds, and hostels.

Every alternative has its own specific advantages and disadvantages, so choose based on your own needs and budget requirements. Just remember that traveling doesn't have to be cost-prohibitive if you do your research and are willing to be flexible and creative.

### **Three Ways to Grab Those Cheap Travel Discounts**

Every year middle class American families put off traveling because they're too busy or too tired or they just don't have enough money. And, in some ways, they're right. Traveling can be expensive. But by taking the time to learn about discounts readily available to everyone through the Internet, newspapers, and even the yellow pages, more families can venture off on vacations that will recharge their batteries, stimulate their minds, and create memories to last a lifetime.

Airfare can be one of the most costly and unavoidable aspects of travel. Air travelers are constantly in search of a good deal. Numerous methods exist to get discounts on your next ticket. First, leave or return in the middle of the week—Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday—and stay at least seven days to get reduced price fares. Check out alternate airports for departure or arrival to see if they offer cheaper prices, and if your plans are flexible, consider letting yourself get bumped for a cash reward or free ticket.

Search discount travel sites online, which seek out bargains for you in a variety of ways, and check fares on budget airlines, not just the major commercial carriers. You can also use reverse bidding sites like Priceline to find a deal. Finally, start earning frequent flier miles without even flying by filling out surveys, staying in certain hotels, or simply using a specific credit card.

Another expensive part of traveling is ground transportation. Whether you travel by bus, train or automobile, there are ways to save money. You can find deals on rental cars online, but

make sure you have a discussion with the rental car companies about insurance, roadside assistance, and other pertinent matters beforehand if you are unclear. You can also rent Recreational Vehicles at surprisingly low prices, especially when you consider that you won't have to spend money on a hotel. Experienced riders can find deals on motorcycles online as well.

If you plan to use mass transportation, buses are a surprisingly inexpensive, if time-consuming option, and deals can be found on subways, trains, and ferries online. Rail passes in Europe and North America can be purchased before your trip to save money if you plan to stop in multiple destinations.

Finally, once you've flown, driven, or sailed to your destination, you'll need a place to stay. Extended stays at hotels at weekly rates are one affordable option. Timeshares, home exchanges, house sitting, and hostels are other bargain options. Motel coupons can be found online, while a cheap bed and breakfast that doesn't have a presence online can be found in the yellow pages.

Some universities offer discount lodging in their dormitories. Retreat centers and monasteries also offer inexpensive ways for travelers to find rest and relaxation under certain guidelines. For more intrepid travelers, staying in national parks in tents, cabins, or RVs can be an inexpensive travel option, and if you plan to stay frequently or for an extended period of time, you can purchase a park pass to save money.

RV travelers can also stay in free campgrounds across the country and can buy a pass to save money on RV parks. Finally, some travelers who face a serious lack of funds sleep for free in airports, although rules regarding this lodging option have changed since September 11, 2001.

One of the best ways to find travel discounts on all of the aforementioned aspects of travel—from airfare to lodging—is through memberships in a variety of organizations. Have your kids ever roped you into buying one of those Entertainment books that cost anywhere from \$20 to \$50 but offer a variety of coupons and discounts?

Well, the next time you're offered one, buy it. Not only will your money go to a good cause, you can benefit from the discounts on everything from airplane flights to hotels to rental cars. Without even realizing it, you may also already have memberships that could save you money on your next trip. AARP, Costco, and the military are a few of the organizations that offer bargains. Even a student or teacher's ID can lead you to discounts. Use the resources you already possess to seek out the discounts necessary to make your next vacation a memorable and affordable event.

## **Time Share Travels – Four Reasons to Say Yes to Timeshares**

Timeshare resorts offer some of the nation's best vacationing. If you've never checked out timeshares or are not familiar with them, here's a basic primer. A timeshare is a resort where the property is owned by a group of people who wish to use the property for vacationing, and split the costs of ownership and maintenance, usually hiring a professional staff to maintain the

property. Owners are usually allowed a certain number of days of usage per year at no additional cost, or at a very modest price.

As an example, a popular timeshare in Branson, Missouri with an extensive campground charges the members one dollar a day for the space used, which includes electricity and sewer hookups and use of community bath houses and recreation facilities. This timeshare includes shuffleboard, a game room, tennis courts, disc golf, walking and nature trails, bike paths, bicycle rentals, an indoor swimming pool, an outdoor swimming pool, and two fishing ponds for the youngsters.

They also acquire for their owner members discount tickets to many area restaurants, music shows, and even the IMAX theatre located close by. Members at this resort are allowed to stay 21 days straight and then must leave for seven days before returning. This prevents people from actually making the timeshare their primary residence and keeping it as a vacation destination.

Many timeshares have joint usage agreements with other timeshares around the country, and even around the world. The Missouri timeshare owners can, for instance make use of timeshares in Hawaii or the US Virgin Islands if space is available. The same is true for members of other timeshares who can come and use the Missouri facility.

Many timeshares are sold with the stipulation being that the owner has one week of use per year at the timeshare. Others have more flexible arrangements. Many also allow owners to give their week of use to friends or family members, as long as yearly maintenance fees are paid.

Why would someone want to purchase and use a timeshare? A timeshare owner is an actual owner of the property, and everyone prefers to own rather than rent. Also a timeshare offers a guaranteed vacation location every year. Additionally the flexibility of being able to make an exchange offers variety. Add to that the variety of timeshares available, and it is easy to see why timeshares are popular.

The concept of the timeshare was introduced in the 1960's by the owner of a ski resort in France. His proposal was that owning a set amount of time per year was preferable to renting the resort. The concept caught on, not only in France but world wide, with timeshares enjoying increasing popularity in the U.S.

One owner of the Missouri timeshare we discussed above is retired now. He owns memberships in two different timeshares, one in Missouri and the other in Florida, and divides his vacation time between the two locations, living permanently in a 24 foot travel trailer, complete with a satellite dish, television, stereo, a rack on the trailer for his bicycles, and all the fishing tackle he can carry.

He is in fact so sold on the whole timeshare concept that he is considering buying a third membership in a Canadian timeshare company in order to spend time every year at Lake of the Woods, fishing for lake trout and muskie. He also plans to pass on his time share memberships to his children so that the family legacy can continue long after he is good, one of the benefits of timeshare ownership that he enjoys.

No matter what part of the country you live in, there are timeshare resorts available. Before making a purchase most timeshares will offer free tours and a free or reduced rate on a weekend stay to get a feel for the timeshare. This is a great way to make a determination on whether or not a timeshare is for you.

While using your trial period, talk to a few of the timeshare owners and see how happy they are with their memberships. That will help you with your decision on membership. Whatever you decide, timeshares are great family vacation assets, so check them out carefully.

## **Seven Tips to Choosing the Right Spa Vacation for You**

Are you looking for a vacation that will spoil you with body massages, facials, healthy meals, and wonderful beauty treatments? Spa vacations help you escape from the everyday pressures of life and relax in a beautiful and tranquil environment. Specific destination spa vacations are to educate men and women about their health while coordinating healthy lifestyles and physical fitness activities.

There are spa vacations that include your particular hobby. You can book a spa vacation for a biking adventure, canoeing, kayaking, ski adventures, walking vacations, and horseback and golf vacations. If you are looking for just a relaxing spa retreat, you will find stress management retreats, weight loss vacations, spiritual retreats, and yoga vacations. There is a vacation spa package to fit nearly every possible need. These spa vacations are professionally managed and teach the guests healthy habits that they will take home with them.

Which spa is best for you? Here are some tips on how to find the perfect spa vacation.

Choose a spa vacation that fits your needs. If you're looking for a spa to refresh your spirit, then choose a tranquil spot that will be most restful to you. That could be an oasis in the desert or a peaceful resort on the ocean. Choose one that is within your price range, so won't add to your already high stress level.

Choose one that you feel you can get to or afford easily. Remember the purpose of a spa vacation is to relax and de-stress, not add more. There are stress management spa resorts that will teach you techniques to lower your stress level and give you a better quality of life. They may teach you yoga or meditation so you can more easily control your stress. Stress can make you sick in body and in spirit.

If you are looking to be just pampered there are spas that will do exactly that. All you need to do is go and do what they tell you. This spa will pamper you with facials, massages, and manicures, the whole works. That could be exactly what you need for this time of your life.

Do you feel the need to lose weight? Then a spa that will specialize in weight reduction should be your choice. Most of these spas will provide you with healthy foods, personal trainers, aerobics, nutritionist, and therapists. They will work with you to change your lifestyle to not only lose the weight but to keep it off once it's gone. They will train you to make the right choices and continue your exercise routine when you return to your regular return. Sometimes

it's that little push that can give you the incentive to make permanent changes in your lifestyle for a healthier and happier you.

You may choose a spa vacation that will pamper you but also give you the opportunity to play nine holes of golf or take a private lesson. They offer all the same features of a regular spa but also include your favorite pastime to make it even more enjoyable.

Your choice might be a get back to nature spa. You can do that in some of the most beautiful spots in Southern California. The Spa Montage offers you a retreat on the ocean to reconnect with nature and you. It offers quiet, peaceful surroundings and therapeutic treatments.

You may choose to go to a relaxing spa by yourself, with a spouse or significant other or with a larger group. A spa retreat is a great idea for reunions and family gatherings, and corporate brainstorming sessions. Maybe you would love to go to a spa on your honeymoon. It could be one of the most restful trips you'll ever take together.

Regardless of what spa vacation you choose. You will come away with a renewed sense of serenity and peace, and a new awareness of your body and how its surroundings affect it. So, go for it, whether you take a solo trip, a trip with a spouse or best friend, or meet as a group, you will find the spa experience to be a welcome break in this hectic, stressful world.

### **Three Day Vacations—How to Plan a Getaway in Your Own Town**

Its wintertime and Christmas will soon be over, and then the winter blahs set in. You want to get away from it all, but will you have the Christmas bills to pay? You don't have money for airfare and you don't really have any more vacation time to take off from work. What's your solution?

How about a getaway in your own hometown? I bet there are activities in your hometown that you haven't taken advantage of. You know they are there; you often take them for granted. People from other areas come to visit the sites that you look past every day.

You take three days to take a breather from the hectic schedule you've been under and enjoy a three-day vacation right in your own hometown. If you have a little money to spend, why not get a hotel room in a hotel with an indoor pool, if you live in the part of the country that has snow and ice this time of year. Most hotels offer Continental breakfasts for their guests and you are already aware of the spots in town where you can eat for a reasonable price.

If you're really stuck for money, stay at home. Let the answering machine take all messages, don't turn on your computer and only carry your cell phone for emergency calls. You more than likely have voice messaging for that as well. You can relax in your own home and watch movies, eat popcorn and just enjoy the peace and quiet.

In my hometown, there is a place where you can take nature hikes through the woods and enjoy the beauty of the year. I also know that our area is rich in history because we are in the heart of Lincoln country. Some attractions in my area that highlight the early life of Abraham

Lincoln I regret not taking the time to visit.

Do you pass a historical home every day on your way back and forth to work? The best day I ever had was when my youngest son picked me up and took me to one of the historic old homes in my own hometown. There are still homes and sites I would like to visit. I didn't know for a long time that there is a very nice bed and breakfast. That would be wonderful for an overnight stay and there's basically no travel involved.

Do you have museums in your area? There are sure to be some in your town or nearby and only need a little research to uncover them. Thinking of that, I can immediately bring to mind at least five museums within a 50-mile radius that I haven't taken the opportunity to visit.

Have you taken the opportunity to explore all of your city's parks? I found that one of our parks has a beautiful bike and walking trail. Take advantage of free events. Your local paper would be a good resource to find out what is happening in your area. My city has a Local Arts Council that has activities going on all the time.

Have you checked out your local library? Why not take the kids for a visit there; it would be a good experience for them. Let them sit at a table and browse through the wonderful world of children's literature. My library also has exhibits during certain times of the year that are both educational and entertaining.

Search your area for attractions that are within a set radius from your home. Day trips are an easy and fun way to get away from it all and spend quality time with your family. You don't have to spend a lot of money; you can pack snacks and drinks in a cooler and just take off.

Come home at night, sleep in your own bed, and go again the next day. The important thing to remember is that you are getting away from your regular routine. It should be fun and not stressful. Choose attractions that you know your family will enjoy and give everyone in your family an opinion about what they want to do or see.

Three-day vacations can be a relaxing and refreshing time for a family. You just need to use a little imagination to make it a great family time and memory.

### **Travel Guide vs. Going Solo—Which Way to Go**

Is going solo in an unknown area the right way to go, or do you want a tour guide to show you the highlights? I think that you can combine the two ways in one trip and have the best of both worlds. One trip we recently took was to Washington D.C. The best purchase we made was for a bus tour that would take us around the capital and point out all the main sites.

Then allow us the next day to travel by foot to the ones we especially wanted to see. We knew ahead of time which Smithsonian building we wanted to see, if the Washington Monument was open to visitors and if you needed to get an advance ticket to take a tour of the White House or visit the Capital Building. It allowed us to plan our three days in the city and see all that we wanted to see.

Individual tours to such landmarks as Ford's Theater and Arlington Cemetery were tours we were glad we bought. The tour guides for these locations knew tidbits and items of interest that we would never have found out on our own.

Let's look at the San Francisco Bay Area which is another one of my favorite vacation spots and my family has many pleasant and happy memories of our visits to that area. Some areas are so familiar to tourists that it's possible to view the attractions on your own. That allows you to take your time and go at your own pace.

Fisherman's Wharf and Pier39 are good examples. Just by walking a few blocks you can tour Aquarium of the Bay, take a cruise of San Francisco Bay, visit the world famous Ripley's Believe It or Not Museum and spend some down time at the Riptide Arcade on Pier 39. The antique carousel is a beautiful site and an attraction for all ages.

If you're going solo on this trip, you could consider buying a San Francisco CityPass. This special buy will give you tickets to five attractions, unlimited rides on the Cable Cars and an option ticket to use at the Legion of Honor or Academy of Science & Steinhart Aquarium. You are allowed nine days from the date you first start using your CityPass to visit each attraction and seven days for unlimited Cable Car rides.

Some attractions are worth having a tour guide for. If you go to Alcatraz Island, you have a choice of going solo, having a live tour guide or being guided by earphones which trigger the points of interest as you arrive at them. I would recommend the live tour guides. I have gone all three ways, and I received more enjoyment by someone telling me items of interest I know I had missed on previous tours.

Chinatown Walking Tours are tour guided must see. It gives you a behind the scenes look of colorful Chinatown. The tour covers, history, traditions of the local people and culture that you probably wouldn't know or see by traveling alone. The lions at the entrance of Chinatown are awesome to see!

San Francisco also offers over 30 fun and free walking tours of San Francisco. For more information on these free tours, go to [www.sfcityguides.org](http://www.sfcityguides.org).

The same goes with Napa valley tours. It's possible to drive to the area and go solo, but you will want to take guided tours of some of the vineyards and wine tasting rooms. If you are driving and just taking your leisurely time, I would recommend this way to see the beautiful sights of the wine country.

Another driving tour that is popular is the 17-mile drive down the coast. It winds around giving you glimpses of beautiful mansions and spectacular views. It will take you to Carmel and to Pebble Beach Golf Club.

One of my most popular tours is the Winchester Mystery House. It's located in San Jose, an easy drive from San Francisco and Oakland and is worth the ticket cost. This unusual house can be toured many times and with each tour guide, you will learn something new about the eccentric Mrs. Winchester who believed the spirits told her to have the sound of continuing construction going on in her home to avoid death.

This led to many quirks and funny sights in the house since Mrs. Winchester served as her own architect. She kept crews busy 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for many years. I loved the stairs leading to nowhere, and the built in magnifying glass in the window looking out over the garden. I've seen it four times, and will probably go back. Rumor has it, there was a wine cellar that was boarded up and sealed away. I wonder if it has been found yet!

You can go solo to attractions or take a guided tour. It's your choice and you can choose whichever would give you the most memorable experience. I recommend both.

### **Traveling by Train – A Different Way to See the Countryside**

Traveling by train is a different and unique way of seeing the countryside that almost seems a part of an era long past. Back in the early part of the century train travel was the most common way of seeing the country, but in our era of cars and airplanes not as many people ride the train as once did. If you are one of the lucky ones that does ride the train, you'll appreciate the scenic beauty of the nation.

Imagine chugging along at 60 miles per hour in a comfortable coach car with padded seats, a cold drink in your hand and a soft pillow below your head. Imagine watching the cows in the fields as you pass by, and requesting another mint julep from the waiter as he comes on by. You will know that all the while, you'll travel in comfort until the next stop, and then have plenty of time to visit.

In the US Amtrak provides train service to most major cities. Using Amtrak allows a passenger to travel in comfort. In the US you can go from New York to California, from sea to shining sea, and all points in between, traveling in comfort. Adding cities and regions to your "been there, done that" list, like Boston, Chicago, Atlanta, Nashville, St. Louis, Kansas City, Dallas, New Orleans, Denver, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, Sacramento, Seattle, and San Francisco.

When visiting European locations, the train system is even more extensive. A favorite vacation method in Europe is purchase of a Eurorail pass, or Britrail if traveling in the UK. A Eurorail pass gives you unlimited travel on trains throughout all of Europe, and many college age kids fill up a backpack with a few clothes and canned goods, buy a Eurorail pass and hit the track.

Imagine taking a train trip to Paris, spending the day visiting the Eiffel tower and other tourist attractions, and then when evening comes jumping the train and sleeping, only to depart when you arrive at a destination. With luck and the right train, you will have arrived in the South of France, perhaps Nice, or St. Tropez or San Rafael.

Jump off the train, carry your backpack to the beach, claim a spot of sand and jump in the water of the Mediterranean Sea to cool off. You are on the legendary French Riviera where people pay thousands of dollars a week for vacation spots, but you've got a little piece of sand to sleep on for free, and a train to jump on when you get ready. Try swimming in the ocean or windsurfing and be sure to wear your sun tan lotion.

When done, hop the train again with your Eurorail pass and hit Amsterdam, the most famous city in Holland. Eat some of the famous Dutch croquettes and French fries served with mayonnaise, and take a walking tour of the city. You'll pass the famous Anne Frank house, and the Heineken brewery. Take a tour of each while you are there, and then try the famous museums, like the Reiks museum, and the Vincent Van Gogh.

After a few days in Amsterdam, then hit the train again and head to Germany, if possible down to the southern part, in Bavaria. Visit beautiful Munich. See the Olympic Village and if you are fortunate enough to have come at the right time of the year, visit a famous Bavarian beer fest. The most famous is Oktoberfest, but there are many small fests held at different times of the year. Try one and see why so many people enjoy Germany.

Take the train south to Augsburg and visit a city named after the Roman emperor Augustus, with narrow brick paved streets and friendly people. Go a little further south to Garmish Partenkirchen and visit the ski slopes in the winter, or go backpacking and hiking in the summer. Germany offers something for everyone.

Traveling by train offers a vacation experience, whether in America or Europe, that no other method of transport can match. You have all the comfort of home in your train car, wonderful meals served when you wish in the dining car, great friendly people to visit with, other cultures to get to know, and best of all, someone else does the driving. Try train travel for the best vacation ever.

## **Vacationing With Your Pet - Seven Tips for an Enjoyable Pet Friendly Getaway**

A recent survey from one of the nations leading pet care manufacturers asked Americans, if given a choice, would they prefer to travel with their pets? Over 70% of those Americans answered yes, they would prefer to travel with their pets. This is why many hotels, parks and other travel destinations are welcoming travelers with their companion animals. Before deciding to take your pet with you during your travel, make sure this is something your pet wants to do and not something that it is being made to do.

Take for instance, most dogs enjoy going for car rides and generally most cats don't. You would most likely take your dog camping with you than you would your cat. Dogs seem to make the best travel companions than a cat would, especially on long car rides. Of course, there are those exceptions. Bottom line is your pet would much prefer to be near you than in a kennel somewhere, but only if this is a good idea. You don't want to take a dog with you that has panic attacks in the car or one that will crawl all over you while you are trying to drive.

If you plan on traveling with your pet, consider these travel tips to make your trip as safe and enjoyable as possible.

1. Schedule your pet a check up with its veterinarian and ask for a certificate of health, along with proof of current vaccinations such as the rabies, distemper, and bordetella. It would also be a good idea to have your pet micro chipped, in case it should get lost. You would want to

have your pet returned to you as quickly as possible, especially if you are traveling out of state.

2. If your pet is on medication, bring plenty of it so you're not running out of medication when it's needed. It would also be a good idea to have your veterinarian contact information in case you lose the medication, so the vet can call in a prescription should the other get lost.

3. Is your pet well socialized? A well-socialized pet will travel more easily and tolerate the stress of traveling better than a pet that is not used to be in a car or around other people. You want the trip to be enjoyable for both you and your pet.

4. Is your pet well behaved? Although there are now many places that allow pets, no one wants to listen to a dog barking all night or during the day. You also want to keep your pet occupied so it's not chewing on the hotel furniture or going potty on the carpet. You don't want your hotel room to smell like a kennel and neither does the hotel staff or your next door neighbors.

5. Find out ahead of time that the hotel you make reservations at will accept pets. You don't want to assume that there is a pet friendly hotel in a town you intend to stay in and when you get there, you're turned away for having a pet or the one's that allow the pets are all booked up.

6. Make sure your pet wears a collar with tags. One tag should be a current rabies tag and the other tag should have the dog's name, your name, address, town, state, and phone numbers. If you have a cell phone, add your cell phone number to the ID tag.

7. Most people choose to travel with their pets by car. Airline travel can be very stressful for pets, because they are treated like cargo and not like living beings. If you choose to travel by airplane, then contact the airline and ask them what their policy is for pets. Some airlines will allow small dogs to be a carry on as long as you have the proper airline carrier that is found in most pet stores.

You should also consider bringing along your pet's food dishes, bed or pillow and a couple of its favorite toys. Having familiar items along for the trip can help ease the stress of traveling and make the trip more enjoyable for both you and your animal companion.

### **Souvenir Seekers - How to Shop for Your Mementoes**

There are literally hundreds of souvenirs and other novelties you can pick up while traveling. Usually during travels, people enjoy picking up small mementoes that have some special meaning to their trip. Whether you're traveling to another state or another country, many people enjoy collecting souvenirs and other mementoes to remind them of their travels in years to come. Many of these mementoes can also become valuable collectibles that may be worth some serious money in the years ahead. Most of all, it's just fun to collect souvenirs.

Usually when returning from a vacation, especially if you traveled out of the country, some of your friends and family might expect you to bring something back for them. Souvenirs make a nice thank you gift for those who watched your house while you were away or the babysitter

who often watches your children. People just like to be thought of and when you return home with a gift for them, whether it's a magnet, a baseball hat or a t-shirt with that state or country's namesake on it, they are very appreciative.

When you're out shopping for those little mementoes of your trip, remember all those you hold near and dear to your heart and even those who you know are just expecting something from you when you return. If you have a lot of children in your extended family or even the neighbors, be sure to have enough souvenirs to go around.

Also remember to buy extras so you will have an extra gift in case you happen to forget somebody, but always buy some for yourself. Even if you buy two or three of a particular memento to ensure you have one for yourself and one or two for gift giving.

The most popular and least expensive mementoes are those little refrigerator magnets in the shape of a particular state or with the state's image. There are also cigarette lighters, ashtrays, shot glasses, coffee mugs and travel mugs. You don't have to be a smoker or a coffee drinker to buy or receive one of these items; they all make nice knickknacks to display. It's best to have a particular person in mind when purchasing these items. Although you can give an ashtray to a person who doesn't smoke, you probably don't want to give one to a person who had recently kicked the habit.

Key chains, bumper stickers, window decals, miniature spoons, glass bells and miniature tea sets, all depicting the image or name of the state or country, will also make great souvenirs and gifts. These are items that make great gifts for relatives and neighbors. Some people own a fine collection of miniature spoons or tea sets and this can make a fine addition to their collection.

Most often appreciated souvenirs, which may often be more costly, are those that can be worn or used often, such as: t-shirts, sweat shirts, baseball hats, jackets, pens, stationary and coolers with the state or country's namesake imprinted on it. These make great gifts for yourself, your family, or for kids of any age.

If you are traveling out of country, such as beautiful Canada, check out their great collection of mementoes that you may not even want to part with. Some great souvenirs from Canada are Point Blankets. These are beautiful and warm blankets that were first offered for trade in the late 1600's by the Native Americans. The "points" (short lines) on the blanket is a historical reference to the number of beaver pelts that were to be traded for the blanket.

Then you can cozy up in your Point Blanket while wearing a Cowichan Sweater which is made out of wool with wooden buttons embossed with various depictions of nature. This sweater was first made by the natives of the Cowichan region on the west coast of Canada and to this day is an adorned piece of clothing and a great souvenir. Now these are great mementoes of a Canadian vacation and they also make terrific gifts that your family and friends will cherish.

In your travels and souvenir shopping, always be sure to buy plenty for yourself and remember those people in your life that you would like to reward with a special gift. Especially if you are traveling out of country, or to a place you may never be able to return to, it's a good idea to bring something back with you so you can have something special to remember your trip by.

## **Honeymoon Haven - Four Most Popular Vacations for Honeymooners**

After tying the knot, most couples enjoy embarking on a traditional honeymoon of sorts. Some honeymoons are given as a gift to the newly weds from the parents or family of the bride and groom, while others are planned well in advance. Honeymoons are normally a one to two week long vacation for the newly weds, intended as a beautiful beginning to the new life waiting for them.

There are many offers and travel packages available for honeymooners through travel agencies or the happy couple may decide to plan their own honeymoon without the help of a travel agency. With all the wonderful places in this world to go, the hardest part can be deciding between all of the beautiful and most romantic places in the world and choosing only one. Although there are many wonderful and romantic honeymoon locations in the US and even through out the world, here is a list of the most popular vacations for honeymooners in the US.

1. **Hawaii.** Ranking as the number one most popular, beautiful and romantic vacation destinations for honeymooners, Hawaii offers world class hotels, delicious cuisine, beautiful beaches, hidden coves, abounding water sports for those water sports enthusiasts and the perfect weather all year round. Imagine walking into an uncrowded, immaculate beach where the air is serene and touched with the fragrance of exotic flowers.

The water a pristine turquoise blue and the thick banyan trees bow their branches to such majesty. Visit Waikiki, Maui and many of the other islands during your stay and enjoy the Hawaiian culture. There is a large variety of hotels and resorts to choose from, such as Halekulani, Hyatt Regency and the Kahala Mandarin Oriental Hawaii. All hotels and resorts offer wonderful packages and benefits.

2. **Niagara Falls.** Ranking the second most popular and romantic vacation destination for honeymooners, the natural wonders of Niagara Falls is both popular and affordable and can be enjoyed from either the US or the Canada side. Along with the Niagara Falls attractions is the "Maid of the Mist" boat cruise with the enjoyable IMAX feature film of "Miracles, Myths, and Magic" relating to the history of Niagara Falls.

Nearby are attractions like the Guinness World of Records Museum, Mystery Maze, The Haunted House and The House of Frankenstein are simply a must-see while visiting the area. While visiting Niagara Falls, step into New York to sample the world's best theaters, restaurants and shops. There's a lot to do and see in and around Niagara Falls, with ample room to splurge.

3. **Florida.** Despite coming in third, Florida has plenty to offer from coast to coast. A warm festive atmosphere, beautiful sunsets and quelling beaches, Florida offers a little bit of something for everyone. The hardest thing for honeymooners with their heart set on Florida is deciding where to go.

With choices from Walt Disney World and all the wonders of Orlando, Palm Beach, Miami, Daytona and the Florida Keys, honeymooners can find a variety of havens in Florida. With all the entertainment, sightseeing, water sports and relaxation, there is also an assortment of hotels and resorts from which to choose, all with their own special accommodations.

**4. Las Vegas.** Although coming in fourth, because it can be a bit more costly, Las Vegas is still a favorite among honeymooners. This is a city that never closes its doors and with all the sightseeing, entertainment and hotel accommodations to choose from, many couples can tie the knot and celebrate their honeymoon in the same city. Known for gambling, celebrities and fast weddings, Las Vegas is an experience that must be lived at least once in your life.

Closely following the four most popular honeymooner vacations are these most popular honeymoon havens: California (Wine Country), Pennsylvania (Poconos), Louisiana (New Orleans) and all the Southern states of the Gulf Coast. There are many beautiful and romantic honeymoon havens to escape to after tying the knot.

These vacations can be bought in many different packages with a specific itinerary in mind or done at the spur of the moment. Either way, you don't have to leave the US in order to have a romantic honeymoon, there are numerous hot honeymoon vacation spots right here in the US.

### **Motorcycle Madness – The Hottest New Way to Spend Your Vacation**

Are you an adventurer? Do you have the spirit of a wanderer? If so, then the hottest new trend in vacation travel, a motorcycle vacation, may be just the ticket for you. Whatever countryside you enjoy, and whatever bike you ride, a motorcycle vacation promises great fun and entertainment.

Imagine a history buff that uses a motorcycle to explore old Civil War battlefields. Wilson's Creek in southwest Missouri, Pea Ridge in Northwest Arkansas, and the site of the battle of West Port near the Plaza in modern day Kansas City are all easily accessible by bike. Or, if exploring the west is more your thing, take a trek out west, starting in Sedalia, the scene of the first recorded cattle drive in history.

Then on your bike trace the other cattle towns of the old west like Wichita, Parsons and Dodge City in Kansas. Then keep heading west to Colorado the mile high state and visit Estes Park. Go a little south and visit Colorado Springs, park your bike for a day and take a tour of the Air Force Academy and look at the grounds of Cheyenne Mountain, home of Norad.

Still yearning for more western adventure, then you can ride your motorcycle to New Mexico and visit Lincoln County where Billy the Kid and his Regulators raised a ruckus in the 1880's. New Mexico has great camping in the mountains near Cloudcroft, so be sure to take the opportunity to visit and if you feel up to it, sleep under the stars, with your trusty motorcycle near you, like a cowboy's horse.

While in New Mexico the Apache reservation at Riodosa offers a chance to try your luck at slot machines and the wheel of fortune. Then a visit to a great Mexican restaurant and on to the town of Roswell, site of the 1947 UFO crash that some people say made history. When you get to Roswell you can either take your bike to a campground, or park it at a nice reasonably priced motor hotel so that you can spend some time in the UFO Museum and Research Center on Main Street. While there you can visit with some witnesses to the crash and hear some fascinating stories, and take a side trip out to the ranch outside of town where debris was found, and some

say small alien bodies were recovered. When you've seen all the UFO sites you feel like seeing, you can visit the Robert Goddard Museum next door to the Town's convention center. Goddard is the father of modern rocket science.

He performed many of his experiments in the desert near Roswell and the museum is great fun. When you get done in Roswell, then hop on the bike and go to Albuquerque near Holloman Air Force Base, and then on down to White Sands rocket test ground. New Mexico is full of interesting sites. If you head up north, be sure to hit Santa Fe and appreciate the Native American arts and crafts on display.

Next stop on your bike tour should be Las Vegas, Nevada. The most exciting town on earth is just a hop, skip and bike ride away. Here's a chance to really gamble, or if you don't like to bet, then just stop in at one of the casinos to try a very low priced, delicious buffet. It seems like all the casinos have great buffets and try to outdo each other. You'll enjoy them all. Remember too that this is a town made for entertainment. Try one of the shows on the strip, or a comedy club or magic act.

Now, after visiting Las Vegas, it may be time to go on to the one place that no motorcycle vacation can be complete without visiting, Sturgis. The town of Sturgis, North Dakota is legendary among those who ride motorcycles, and the town people know how to make a biker welcome. Stop in for a root beer and buy a T-shirt as a souvenir of your trip. You'll be glad you did, and you'll remember your motorcycle vacation for years to come. Hop on your big, be it hog or Honda, and enjoy the ride.

### **Pedal to the Metal – Have a Racecar Holiday Dream Come True**

If you're a racing fan, a racing holiday might be in your best interest. The speed, the exhilaration, the overwhelming desire to watch those famous races you've only heard broadcast on the television are all great reasons to make your next vacation one that deals solely with racing. There are a number of ways to accomplish this.

Consider visiting one of the great racing museums. Good tracks like Daytona have some wonderful museum facilities that will keep you entertained for hours on end. Not only do they have some of the most famous cars ever stored in these museums, they also have some of the most interesting information about drivers, races, and all other things related to racing. You might learn something interesting as you enjoy looking at racing memorabilia.

Another option is to book a trip with a sports travel agency. Many of them have racing vacations designed just for you. You can choose from Formula One vacations, NASCAR vacations, or a Grand Prix vacation. Most of these packages include hotel accommodations, tickets to take in a race or two while you're on vacation, admission to a local museum, track tours, twenty-four hour trip assistance and freebies like programs and souvenirs.

Others also include airline tickets and all sorts of optional packages you can add to your racing vacation. A famous one at Atlanta Motor Speedway includes a question and answer session with real NASCAR drivers. Others include the use of a hospitality tent before and after the race. This

tent usually includes free food and beverages, sometimes even those of the adult variety. You can even choose to rent a scanner so you can hear the race, the drivers, and the officials as you watch it live.

Perhaps the best option for a race vacation is to live the experience through a racing school. There are many different decisions to make once you've decided upon a racing school, though. First, you need to decide what type of school you wish to enroll in. You can choose any type of racing car you enjoy watching from Corvettes to Indy 500 cars. Second, you need to decide how long you want your racing school experience to be.

Basic courses can last anywhere from half of a day to three days. A basic one day course starts with a classroom session. Most of these sessions will cover the dynamics of the car, the dynamics of drivers, how to balance a car, how skids work, racing rules, and safety while you're on the track. All of these things are essential knowledge once you actually hit the track with your class and your instructor.

In most cases, you will be given a helmet, a uniform, and your own car. From there, your instructors will teach you exercises to build your skills and help you get used to the cars and the practice sessions that will follow.

In most of these schools, fully qualified driving coaches take you and your classmates, on a step-by-step basis, through a skill-oriented program to help you explore your interests. It might also help you develop your abilities as a driver. Don't worry, there's no pressure with most of these schools. Everyone out there is simply trying to have fun, and the racing school gets their money up front, so they could probably care less about your performance on the track.

It's not a situation like high school football where performance is everything. By the end of the day in racing school, you'll be driving one of your favorite racecars like a pro. Lapping the track by yourself at speeds you've only dreamed of as you make your commute to work can be great fun, and racing school can give you that. If you choose to enroll in a racing school, be sure you rest and eat well on the day before.

As much fun as it is, it can also be exhausting, so it's important to take care of your body before you actually visit the school. Also, you must have a valid driver's license to enroll in a racing school.

Choosing and planning a racing vacation can make your next holiday from your "nine to five" job the holiday of your dreams.

### **Cruising Kids—Three Most Popular Cruise Destinations for Kids**

Decadent buffets, VIP service, round-the-clock entertainment, and exotic shore excursions—it's easy to see why more Americans than ever before are shelling out big bucks for long, relaxing cruises on ships the size of small cities. Kids love cruising, too, on the right ships heading to the right places and parents are booking cruises for their family vacations. Everyone knows that if the kids aren't happy on a family vacation, then the parents aren't happy either. That's why it's

best for parents to do their research and figure out before they book an expensive cruise to New England whether or not their kids will be miserable with their decision.

Remember that cruising is as much about the experience at sea as it is about the outings and destinations. Finding cruise ships that cater to children young and old will help you relax between ports of call. Three cruise ships that are family friendly are Disney, Royal Caribbean, and Princess. As for destinations, the Caribbean, Hawaii and Alaska are perennial favorites for children and are reachable by the aforementioned ships that cater to children and offer family friendly shore excursions.

Disney's ships, Magic and Wonder, stop at various ports of call in the Caribbean, and they cater both their shore excursions and on-board activities to families. For longer 7-day cruises, families stay at a resort three days prior to boarding the ship and have an opportunity to visit theme parks in the area. Families are transferred by land to the ship, which docks in Port Canaveral, and visit a variety of ports, including St. Maarten, St. Thomas, Nassau, and Disney's own private island Castaway Cay.

The stop in Nassau, for example, offers both children and adults a number of shore excursions that explore the old historic town and the pristine blue waters and abundant ocean life. Children can sail through the water on a catamaran, powerboat, or glass bottom boat, cavort with sting rays or dolphins, or snorkel through the aquatic reefs. While adults take the opportunity to shop or gamble, kids can have their hair braided into dozens of tiny cornrows. Don't forget that, after late December 2006, all cruises to the Caribbean will require visitors to have a passport.

A cruise to Hawaii is another tropical adventure that kids will enjoy if the shore excursions are family friendly. Both Royal Caribbean and Princess cruise lines offer trips to the Aloha State that the whole family can enjoy. Cruises often stop at islands as diverse as Honolulu, Kona, Oahu, Hilo, and Maui. Kids can visit Waikiki beach, swim in Hanauma Bay, or see aquatic life in a submarine or a glass bottom boat.

They can swim with the dolphins, snorkel with the sea turtles, or go whale watching. On dry land, they can go horseback riding, learn about Polynesian culture, or witness volcanic geology firsthand, watching molten lava roll into the sea. Adults may even enjoy introducing their children to kayaking and sport fishing. The opportunities for adventure in Hawaii are as diverse as the island itself, but they can be pricey. Plan ahead what you would like to spend your money on, and consider the option of seeking excursions on your own while you are in port.

Alaska, the land of glaciers and ice, may not be quite the same as a tropical island in the Caribbean or Pacific, but, given the right ship, it offers unparalleled adventures for both children and adults alike. Both Princess and Royal Caribbean offer family friendly cruises to Alaska. Active families can kayak in Prince William Sound, bicycle around a glacier fed lake, or hike through an Alaskan rainforest.

For an educational experience, kids can visit a wildlife preserve for eagles, take a wildlife safari, or go on a whale watching excursion. As beautiful as Alaska is, however, younger children might not be able to appreciate the scenery, so keep your children's age in mind.

Whether you decide on a cruise to the Caribbean, Hawaii, or Alaska, it's important to be aware of a few simple suggestions to have the best shore excursion possible. Remember your children's strengths and weakness; don't book a catamaran ride or lengthy bus ride for children prone to motion sickness. Make sure the shore excursions aren't too lengthy, and remember to bring snacks along.

Finally, once you decide on the perfect excursion, book it as soon as possible, either online or right when you arrive, and don't forget to arrange babysitting beforehand for young children who may need to stay on board. Whatever your family decides to do, whether you pan for gold or take a horseback ride to a glacier, your kids are sure to have an once-in-a-lifetime experience.

## **Destination Disney – The Best Way to Plan Your Vacation to See Mickey Mouse**

Destination Disney, full speed ahead, Mickey awaits. Whether you are planning a trip to the original Disneyland in California or the Walt Disney World of Orlando, Florida, you are in for a very special treat at the house of the mouse.

Walt Disney and his brother Roy Disney founded Disney studios in 1923. Walt began to realize when traveling with his own children that there was a need for a fun family oriented park with the positive aspects of carnivals but minus the negative. People who visited his studio wrote letters expressing their enjoyment, and he became committed to creating the park, eventually buying 160 acres of land in Orange County, California.

Needing outside financing Walt created a TV show called Disneyland for the ABC television network, a show which lasted many years and is still in reruns today under the various names it held: Walt Disney's Wonderful World of Color, Walt Disney's Wonderful World, and World of Disney. The show always opened with a scene from Disneyland and the fairy, Tinkerbell, spreading fairy dust.

Opening day in 1955 included Walt's guests; Ronald Regan, Bob Cummings and Art Linkletter, and a massive crowd, with Disneyland quickly becoming the most popular theme park in the world. Disneyworld in Florida opened in 1971. It includes the Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Disney-MGM Studios and Disney's Animal Kingdom, as well as two water parks, six golf courses, a sports complex, an auto race track, over 20 hotels and many other sources of entertaining, shopping and dining suited for the entire family. Disneyworld in Florida is the world's largest theme park.

Disney originally envisioned his Florida property to be just a larger Disneyland that could expand without the land limits or the California Park. He also wanted to include EPCOT, the Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow. A true man of vision, Disney created the place to be a land of fun for the family, but Disney died in 1966 and wasn't able to see it completed. His brother Roy renamed it Walt Disney World in his honor.

When planning a mouse vacation in Florida, try to stay in one of the onsite properties to save time. They cost about the same as other hotels further away, but can save a tremendous amount of time for the family and are available for all budgets. These include several themed hotels, rental condominiums, cottages and even family friendly camping grounds.

An advantage to being on Disney property is the availability of free transportation to and from each of the theme parks within the complex. The Walt Disney World resort features four theme parks; Magic Kingdom, EPCOT, Disney-MGM Studios, and Disney's Animal Kingdom. Each park has definite must see attractions.

At the Magic Kingdom a visitor immediately sees a bronze statue of the partners, Walt Disney and Mickey Mouse. When entering Main Street a visitor will see a barbershop offering free haircuts, an Emporium with a variety of souvenirs, and Cinderella Castle.

This is followed by Adventureland, which includes the Swiss family Treehouse, the Enchanted Tiki Room (a musical show which includes characters from Aladdin and The Lion King, the Jungle Cruise, the Magic Carpets of Aladdin, and the Pirates of the Caribbean boat ride. Then Frontierland which features Splash Mountain log flume, Big Thunder Mountain Railroad roller coaster, Tom Sawyer Island, and the Country Bear Jamboree animatronic show with singing bears.

Always popular Fantasyland features "it's a small world", Peter Pan's Flight, Mickey's Philhar Magic, Cinderella's golden Carrousel, and a Dumbo the Flying Elephant ride. Fantasyland is capped off with tributes to Winnie the Poo, Snow White and the Mad Tea Party from Alice in Wonderland. This is followed by Mickey's Toontown Fair, a tribute to the mouse and his friends, and then Tomorrowland. Tomorrowland includes a simulated racetrack, Space Mountain roller coaster, the Astro Orbiter, the Carousel of Progress which debuted at the 1964 New York World's Fair, Buzz Lightyear's Space Ranger Spin ride, The Timekeeper, and Stitch's Great Escape.

When planning a Disney vacation, whether in California or Florida, the whole family will have a good time. And while there, be sure to get some Mickey Mouse ears as the best souvenir of all, from the mouse's house to your house.

### **Five Most Requested Vacations by Children**

Deciding where to go on your next family vacation can be a stressful, divisive process. You want to go to Alaska, while your children are longing to get their hair braided in the Bahamas. By figuring out where kids really want to go on vacation these days, (even if your own kids don't realize they have a preference), you can choose a kid-friendly destination that you will also enjoy.

Recent movies like "Madagascar" have children longing for adventure travel to exotic locales. While Madagascar itself may not be the most family-friendly destination, other options, such as Costa Rica or Kenya, can be surprisingly inexpensive and true cultural learning experiences. In Costa Rica, children can learn Spanish while exploring lush rainforests or erupting volcanoes,

and parents can listen to calypso tunes while sipping on some of the best coffee in the world.

Or in Kenya, the whole family can learn a bit of Swahili while watching and listening to the mass migration of the wildebeests in Kenya. Listening to the sounds of the rainforest or sleeping under the stars on safari is sure to be more interesting for both parents and children than a third trip to Disneyland.

Many children and adults also find trips to Eastern cities, such as Beijing, Seoul or Bangkok, true adventures, and travelers young and old are seeking the East in increasing numbers. Seeing the Great Wall or the Terracotta Warriors of Xian in person is ten times more memorable than a trip to Epcot, and children can learn about different cultures in person—experiencing first-hand different foods, different money, and a different way of life.

Trips to the East can be surprisingly inexpensive with the airplane flight usually being the most expensive part of the trip. Entry to the country, however, may require passports or a visa, so planning your trip well ahead of time is critically important.

European locales, such as Italy, are popular, if increasingly expensive, trips for children. Wealthy and industrialized Western European countries will certainly offer more family friendly discounts and amenities than more exotic destinations, such as Kenya or China, but children will still enjoy the opportunity to experience a different culture.

Families can explore Italy's history in the ruins of Pompeii, Italy's culture on a Gondola ride in Venice, or Italy's mouthwatering cuisine with a sweet Gelato in a park in Florence. Some families of Western European ancestry enjoy trips to countries like Italy because of the opportunity it offers both them to explore their ethnic roots.

Soaking up the sun, playing in the sand, and swimming in deep blue water, such activities hold immense appeal for many families. Reachable by either plane or ship, the Caribbean offers a number of island vacation options that will have sun, sand and water in blessed abundance. Jamaica, for example, possesses a natural beauty that can be breathtaking in its grandeur and magnitude.

From white sandy beaches to black volcanic mountains to deep red sunsets that fill the sky, the island's aesthetically pleasing nature and laid-back attitude appeal to a multitude of tourists, both young and old. Children can swim and hike to their hearts' content, while parents can listen to reggae and sip rum. Jamaica's national motto is "Out of Many, One People," and tourists to the island revel in the unique personality of the Jamaican people and Jamaica's environmental diversity.

American's fiftieth state, Hawaii, also offers sun, sand and water in abundance, and tourists young and old flock to the islands every year to sample some of the natural abundance. Hawaii offers every imaginable summer sport or water activity from surfing and scuba diving to whale-watching and swimming with the dolphins. Hawaii's unique volcanic geology offers both an educational experience for children and a breathtaking sight for the whole family; for example, families can hike on Kilauea Volcano and watch molten lava pour into the sea. Kids can even take some volcanic rock back home for a souvenir.

Wherever you decide to go on your next family vacation, don't limit yourself to the tried and true. Find a destination that will be stimulating and fulfilling for both you and your children. Finally, remember that even the most fascinating locale can be stressful or boring without proper planning, so do your research.

### **Kid-Friendly Travel—Ten Tips to Make Flying Easier with Kids**

As fuel prices sky-rocket, more and more families are finding traveling by plane to their vacation destinations a viable option. While taking to the skies will end up saving your family time in the long run, even a few hours with bored, hungry or uncomfortable children can feel like an eternity. Save your family the hassle of flying unprepared and learn some simple tips for making your next airplane ride a dream instead of a nightmare.

First, plan ahead. Book your flight as early as you can. The best deals can only be found months in advance. Six months, to be exact, should leave you plenty of time to shop around either online or with the assistance of a travel agent.

While finding flights online is fairly simple these days, a travel agent may know which airlines and airports are kid friendly. Some airlines, for example, provide activity packs and special meals for children. Also, some foreign airports lack certain amenities, such as dining choices, which may make traveling with children more difficult.

Finally, before you decide on a long-haul flight, which are the worst for jet lag, carefully consider arrival and departure times and layovers. When preparing for a flight from the east to west, a late evening departure may encourage your children to sleep, allowing you to rest as well. When traveling from west to east, try to arrive at your destination in late evening. The darkness may encourage sleep and lessen jet lag. A stopover in a foreign city may provide not only a chance to rest but also a chance to explore another location before you reach your final destination.

Once you decide to book a flight, make sure that your seats are located next to each other. Nothing's worse than having to beg, bargain and plead with fellow passengers to give up their seat when they're trying to get their families or themselves settled. If the airline you are traveling with doesn't assign seats until you check in, then be sure to arrive as early as possible. Also, book a child seat for small children, which act like a combination between a booster seat and a car seat and are more secure than the typical lap belt.

Finally, some airlines allow customers to print their boarding passes online a day in advance. If that's not an option, some airports have kiosks that will allow you to print them yourself when you arrive. Take advantage of these opportunities to save time and avoid painfully long lines.

Once the tricky and time-consuming logistics of airplane travel have been taken care of, it's time to focus on packing. Nothing can be worse than traveling ill-prepared or with too much baggage. Pack as light as you can, and make sure your baggage complies with airline requirement of not being too large or too heavy. If possible, combine your children's luggage with your luggage in order to decrease the risk of losing a bag.

As for carry-on luggage, which should contain essential items like medications and passports, back-packs are usually best for both children and adults because they are both spacious and hands-free. Smaller children find it easier to handle smaller backpacks, so make sure their carry-on is size-appropriate.

Let your children participate in packing. Allow them to pick out their favorite clothing and a few favorite quiet games, toys and books for the flight. A coloring book with crayons or a portable DVD player can keep them entertained in the air. Don't forget to pack extra batteries for electronic devices.

Finally, don't forget to add some essential items to your own carry-on. Children often tire of the toys they pack, so bring new reading books, coloring books or crayons in your own bag as a surprise. Also, unlike most adults, many children like to eat little snacks all day long, so pack some nutritious munchies like string cheese or apple slices in your bag. Extra drinks with straws can help prevent dehydration (without the possibility of spillage). Avoid sugary snack and drinks as they can cause agitation or increase dehydration. Hand wipes or simple baby wipes are also important for clean-up of sticky faces, hands, or seat trays.

Traveling with children can be both a challenge and a joy. Simple research, early preparation, and light packing can make your family's next airplane trip an enjoyable experience.

**You are invited to pass this report along to as many people as you like,** provided that you make no changes to it and that you give it away for FREE.

If you would like **your own Private Label Version of this report** and hundreds of others just like it on hot, high interest niche topics – all of which come complete with 5 custom cover graphics – [click here to visit our Niche Reports Resource](#).



**WOW: Where Vision and Value Go Hand in Hand with Information & Opportunity!**

Please click below to check out all of our entrepreneurial friendly sites and products.

=> <http://www.The-WOW-Experience.com>

Always something NEW on the horizon. Always something for YOU to use to grow your business!  
That's what WOW is all about. Your success is our ultimate goal and our reason for growth.