

Planning a trip to Disney? We've put together some tips & tricks to navigating your vacation, & when it comes to Disney planning, you can never have too much information.

MONEY SAVINGS

- Buy discounted Disney Gift Cards at wholesale clubs or Target
- Check receipts from Quick Services Restaurants for extra savings at Disney Springs
- Bring a stroller or rent strollers & mobility scooters off-site
- Anyone can order off the kid's menu
- Purchase items like ponchos, reusable water bottles, & glow sticks before your trip

TIME SAVINGS

- Download the My Disney Experience App – manage your reservation, ride times, book dining, access photo pass, & more
- For Resort Guests -Order personalized magic bands which are your room keys, park tickets, payment methods & so much more. Also order Magical Express luggage tags to skip baggage claim
- Use Fast Pass – Schedule your first three passes for the morning, & then use the app to schedule your next three for the evening. Can schedule 30 - 90 days in advance.
- Riders Switch Pass – Allows one adult to wait with a non-rider child, & then switch places to ride without waiting in line twice
- Use Mobile Food Ordering – Skip the lines & use the app to pick up from specific windows

EXTRAS

- Pack a poncho – it rains a lot in Florida, but power through the rain because it comes and goes quickly
- Wear water-friendly, comfortable shoes– the average person walks 7-10 miles daily
- Purchase a Park Hopper Ticket - it allows you to visit all four parks on the same day * NOTE: Consider single day passes if you have younger children. Typically they run out of steam mid- afternoon so to avoid the 3:00 pm melt-down, it's best to wrap the day up and return to the hotel to rest and recuperate. If there is an evening activity you want to attend, visit the same park during the day - this will also save you money!
- PhotoPass Cast Members will take your photo for free with your camera – so you don't have to bug a stranger
- Use the MyMagic+ planning system to schedule your Disney character experiences

MANAGING CROWDS

- Use the Magic Guides Crowd Calendar - find least crowded times of year to visit, typically school year, holidays & vacations are most crowded
- Arrive before park opening - least crowded in the morning
- Stay away from Extra Magic Hours Parks - a great perk, but lines are long
- Skip the parade if you've seen it before – lines for attractions are shorter during this time

DINING

- Make dining reservations & book in advance, reservations are open 180 days before your stay
- Most reservations can be canceled up to 24 hours prior but be sure to cancel as needed; you may get charged a fee per person for no-shows
- If you have a large group, you may need to make separate reservations and ask to sit together (but no guarantees)
- Check OpenTable or call restaurants directly for additional reservations
- Book a character meal & bypass the lines – have breakfast, 1-1 time & take pictures for a stress-free experience

