



News

Message Board Topics:

- General Trip Planning
- Where to Eat & Sleep
- Pin Trading & Collecting
- Disney Vacation Club
- Kids View
- Countdown to Magic
- Great Disney Deals
- Trip Reports
- Disney Cruise Chat
- Disney Scrapbookers

Notice

Please note that Disneyzone is not affiliated with Disney in any way. We are a group of Disney World enthusiasts who want to assist you in making the most of your next Disney World vacation.

FUN DISNEY FACTS

According to Disney, there are almost 1500 marriages held at Disney World each year. That averages to about 125 marriages each month!

A Disney Vacation on a Budget

By Dave & Linda

Here are some great ways to have a great vacation on a budget, but not feel like you are on a budget.

- Go in the off-season. You can a better price on rooms during late August through September, and in November, as well as January and February. Even just saving a few dollars here and there can help.
- Take advantage of travel discounts from AAA or other organizations. They can sometimes get you cheaper rates on flights, rental cars or hotels. Always ask what discounts are available when calling.
- Don't get two rooms just because your teen doesn't want to sleep together with a younger sibling in a bed. Get a roll away bed for your teenager. At \$10 a night or whatever it is, its much cheaper than getting 2 rooms.
- Bring a large cooler, or rent a refrigerator. The price of the refrigerator will be made back easily if you actually use it to hold foods for breakfast and lunch. By eliminating the meal out for those 2 meals, you can save tons of money. Also bring snacks that will fit into backpacks. With drinks costing \$3 each and popcorn \$2.50, that adds up quite quickly. Plan to return to the hotel and have lunch each day, and relax by the pool or take a nap.
- Buy the refillable mugs at the resorts. They are \$8-\$10 and are worth their money. You figure you will spend at least that much each day on drinks, and you can refill them as much as you want at your resort.
- Plan to spend some of your time exploring your resort, and other resorts, instead of paying for admission to parks every day of your stay. Many people don't visit a theme park their day of arrival or departure. Don't buy tickets for those days. Plan non-park activities for those days instead. Visit the resort playgrounds, pools, workout rooms, and shops. A monorail ride through the Magic Kingdom resorts is nice, too.
- Collect the tourist publications at the airport, restaurants, hotels. They offer many discounts that few take advantage of.
- Do your own laundry. Bring baggies with pre-measured detergent, and bring your own dryer sheets, too. At \$1 a pop, it will save quite a bit to have brought your own.
- Eat at the expensive restaurants while the lunch menu is still offered, this saves quite a bit of money, and the food is quite similar in choices and portions. For example, a lunch at Tepanyaki at Epcot is almost half the price of a dinner, and you still get more than enough food! Eating at 3pm could save you quite a bit of money, versus eating at 5pm.
- Stick to your souvenir budget. Give each child a predetermined amount and let them buy their souvenir towards the end of the trip, allowing them to shop beforehand to see exactly what they want.
- Check the airline sites often for the best prices. Flight prices vary widely from day to day, week to week. Start watching a few months prior and buy when the prices seem to have lowered. Delta and Southwest offer some good prices.
- Check out Disneyzone often for tips on saving money.

Traveling Twosome

Tips from Lars and Grandma Jeannie

My grandson Lars and I traveled to Disney World towards the end of the summer. This trip was more perfect than I "imagineered" thanks to the tips, trip planning and trip reports from the DisneyZone Forums and two guidebooks, The Unofficial Guide by Schlinger and Disney with Kids by Wiley. Although I have been to Disney 14 times including October 16, 1971, so much changes all the time that I wanted to plan well for what to do with a young child. About a month before we left I got the burning idea to fly from Tallahassee to Cincinnati to swoop down and pick up Las to celebrate his sixth birthday in the most magical way. Over the next three months I will write a column with several topics. I will first cover Preparation and General Information. Next it will be Hotels and Parks and then will be Restaurants and Miscellanea. Many of the tips are geared towards a traveling twosome, an adult and child, but some are for any type of group configured for a Disney adventure.

Preparation

About a month before leaving I kept packing and repacking a small backpack. I wanted my hands free to hold hands with Lars and I did not want to be weighed down with a lot of stuff I didn't need. The items that remained after several repackings were:

1. plastic ponchos
2. a 17" x 26" terry cloth towel
3. Camera
4. Snacks
5. band aids and mole skin
6. small tube of sun screen and aloe vera
7. wash and dry towelettes in individual packets
8. 3 X 5 colored note cards
9. 3 to 4 pens
10. a small flashlight
11. several sandwich bags
12. a couple of wastebasket sized plastic bags

This is all I ever carried into the parks except when I put in an extra change of clothes for Lars to play in the fountains at Donald's Boat in the Magic Kingdom and the ones at Downtown Disney. When I travel with my husband I carry a water bottle (or more honestly he carries it most of the time). I did not want the extra weight of a water bottle with my backpack so I used a tip from the DisneyZone Fo-

ums. We stopped at every water fountain. Lars began to spot them ahead of me. It became a fun game.

I have several plastic Mickey ponchos from earlier trips but if you don't have one, you can find them easily at any park. They do the job and they are inexpensive. It only rained once for us but we felt secure running from the Studios to our bus back to the hotel staying dry and warm (even in August!) with our ponchos on. The towel, the size of a kitchen towel I used to dry Lars off after he played in the fountains. It came in handy during the rainstorm for comfort as well as cleaning up messy snacks.

Sometimes if I didn't want the extra weight, I left my camera in the hotel room. I carried it to all of the character meals and when I knew we would see some characters at special places (like Buzz and Woody at the Studios) I made sure to carry it that day.

Snacks, of course are important elements for this age group and for a senior guest like me. We didn't rely on them much since we could buy so many snacks along the way, but just in case I packed Nutri-grain bars, pretzels, and gum.

Band-aids and moleskin were the first items to go into my backpack. I remember past trips where I had blisters and I was miserable. I also remember a past trip when my son, Paul, was Lars' age. He cut his hand on a waterslide at a hotel outside of the park and needed band aids the whole trip. I sure didn't want to experience

that again and I didn't want any blister or cut to ruin Lars' fun. I cut the moleskin to various sizes at home so it was ready for immediate use. Luckily, we needed neither, but it felt good to be prepared.

The sunscreen and aloe vera were backups to the large bottle in my suitcase. If we were in the sun more than four hours I put some on both Lars' face and mine for extra protection. We never burned so I did not need the aloe vera, thank goodness.

Individually packaged wash and dry towelettes are a good item for messy fingers after ice cream and popcicles and a handy way to cool off one's neck and face in the Florida sun. (Be sure to apply more sunscreen to your hands, neck and face.)

The 3 X 5 colored notecards were used for Autographs - I will explain in detail in a future article. I carried extra pens for autographs out of fear of losing one or two so I loaded up on more than I needed. (You don't need a pen for Buzz and Woody. They *stamp* their autographs! After all, they *are* toys and toys don't write their names.)

The flashlight was for exploring the caves on Tom Sawyer's Island and the caves in Honey I Shrunk the Adventure Zone. And finally the plastic bags were for holding dry clothes and then wet ones and the bigger bags for protection on Splash Mountain in the Magic Kingdom and Kali River Rapids in Asia.

Next time... Getting Prepared Physically!

Renting a Car

It is not necessary to rent a car while visiting Disney World, but it can be worthwhile to have. We rented a car, mostly because my husband felt better with a car for our use. We drove it many times, but also felt that at certain times it was more of a hindrance. We drove it from our resort to other resorts, because the bus rides to these destinations take a long time, and you have to change buses. For DisneyQuest at Downtown Disney there is a long walk to the bus stops!

You can get some great deals on rental cars in Orlando, but you have to watch for them.

Dollar www.dollar.com

Hertz www.hertz.com

Budget www.budget.com

Alamo www.alamo.com

National www.nationalcar.com

Enterprise www.pickenterprise.com

Checking the deals on the websites is a great way to get a lower price!

Like airfares, the fares for rental cars will vary. Don't wait too long to reserve a car, they do sell out of certain classes of vehicles!

October Chat Room Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Weds.	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
1 Chat with Shannon 7 PM EST	2	3 Disney Chat with NHMickey 9 PM EST	4 Disney Chat with Genii 9 Pm EST	5 Chat 11am Pin Chat with Wiyaka 9 PM EST	6	7
8 Chat with Shannon 7 PM EST	9	10 Disney Chat with NHMickey 9 PM EST	11 Disney Chat with Genii 9 Pm EST	12 Chat 11am Pin Chat With Wiyaka 9 PM EST	13	14
15 Chat with Shannon 7 PM EST	16	17 Disney Chat with NHMickey 9 PM EST	18 Disney Chat with Genii 9 Pm EST	19 Chat 11am Pin Chat With Wiyaka 9 PM EST	20	21
22/30 Chat with Shannon 7 PM EST	23/31	24 Disney Chat with NHMickey 9 PM EST	25 Disney Chat with Genii 9 PM EST	26 Chat 11am Pin Chat With Wiyaka 9 PM EST	27	28

Disneyzone Guests are the Best—Come meet others who enjoy DZ in one of our moderated chats

Try it, you'll like it!

www.disneyzone.net/chat.htm

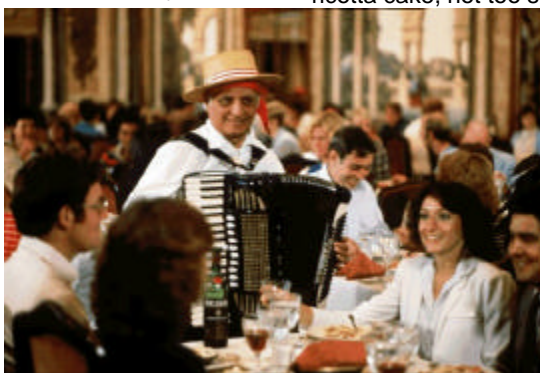
What do you like about Disneyzone? What don't you like? Is there anything you think we should add, delete or change? Please send comments to:

Info@disneyzone.net

THANKS

Adam visits Alfredo di Roma Ristorante

L'Originale Alfredo de Roma Ristorante is located in Epcot World Showcase in Italy. This is my favorite restaurant and I want everyone to try it at least once. The prices are not bad, and the food is fantastic. If you like Italian food even a little bit, you will love it here. The chefs cook the food in a Mediterranean style, but they are original Italian dishes. The atmosphere is very Italian, the décor is too. You really feel like you have traveled to Italy for dinner. Even though the tables are very close together, and the restaurant a bit on the small side, and the noise level was high, we had the best meal! Service was superb, The waiter came around and asked if we needed anything many times. If your water was low, they'd fill it up, and all in all were very attentive.



Some of our favorite meals are the fettucini alfredo, spaghetti marinara and the veal parmigiana. My daughter is the spaghetti queen of the world and she rates Alfredo's spaghetti as the best she has had. They have an incredible drink called the Café Alredo—it is Kahlua Brandy and espresso with whipped cream on top. It is potent but just what you need after a day chasing your kids around the parks. For dessert we like the Tirimisu, which is one of their specialties I think. We also like the ricotta cake, not too sweet.

At Alfredo's they make their fettucini noodles daily and you can really taste the freshness. The prices for entrees run from about \$15 to \$30. Not cheap but worth the money. Make your reservations ahead of time so you can walk right in and enjoy your meal. Without reservations your wait could be quite a while. This restaurant is one of our favorites, hope you enjoy it too.

Travel Poll

There is a Poll on the DZ Resort Biographies Page on the site. In September it asked how many trips you've taken to Disney World

Here are the results :

- First Trip: 28%**
- 1-2 trips: 17%**
- 3-5 trips: 23%**
- 6-10 trips: 14%**
- More than 10: 18%**

We'll have a new Poll for October! It is fun to see what others say.

Newsletter and content Copyright © 1999 & 2000 Disneyzone - Please do not alter or copy any or all of this material, or use it on a website, or printed media without prior written permission, from Disneyzone or the article's author..

Visit www.disneyzone.net

www.disneyzone.net

Have questions about this newsletter, or about anything regarding Disney World, please visit the site at:

www.disneyzone.net/contact.htm

Tell your friends about Disneyzone!

They can get their own copy of the Disneyzone News emailed to them each month, all they have to do is go to the site and register. They will automatically be put on the list. If you would rather, you may print it out or forward it.

The Friendly Disney World Vacation Planning Resource!

Kids' Views of Disney World

By Lindsey

Here's some ideas how not to get lost at Disney World. Before you go to the park think of a place where you could meet if you get separated from your parents. Don't pick a real popular place because there will be too many people. Also wear bright colored clothes so your mom or dad cant miss you. Stay close to your parents.

If you do get lost, go the special meeting place you decided on. If you didn't set up a meeting place, go try to find someone wearing a nametag, someone that works there, and tell them you are lost. For little kids you should have a business card or something that has your mom and dads pager number or cell phone number on it. Then you give that card to someone who works at the park. Try not to cry or panic, because that will make it harder to think.

Hey Kids...

Complete this sentence: **My favorite thing about a vacation at Disney World is.....**

Send your short replies to us, and some of them will be included in the next, and future newsletters!

Send your replies via e-mail to kids@disneyzone.net

By Allison Grant

My family went to disney world 4 weeks ago and we already miss it allot. I wanted to write in this newsletter so we could remember how much fun we had. I am 13 years old. I loved disney world. We stayed at the Wilderness Lodge and had a view of the trees. We liked that hotel. We went to all the theme parks and to each of the water parks. I loved Blizzard Beach. The slides were awesome. I met some friends there too. The best roller coasters were Space Mountain and Rock'in Roller Coaster. I rode them both a few times. The best show we saw was the Lion King Show at Animal Kingdom. The costumes and music were wonderful. I am a dancer and I know how hard it is the things they did. We ate at many good restraunts but the one I liked the most was Prime Time 50s Café. I loved how they treat you there. And I like all the old style furnishings. My dad got in trouble for spilling his drink and that was hilarious. Disney world is a great place for a family vacation.

Fun Contests

Last month we had a Simple Contest. All that was required was to list 5 sections or pages of the Disneyzone Site that you find the most useful!

Many people participated and one lucky winner won a great prize!

Our winner won a Disney Days Desk Calendar!

A new contest will be starting SOON—so check the site often!

Contest Page:

www.disneyzone.net—
click on the contest link!

***Please Don't miss out on
winning a great prize!
Come play today!***

All prizes for the contests are donated. A sincere Thank You to the generous contest sponsors. We are depleting our supply, so

**If you would like to donate a prize, for a future DZ contest please contact us via e-mail at:
info@disneyzone.net**