



TOP 10 TIPS FOR WALT DISNEY WORLD WITH KIDS



1. LET EACH PERSON CHOOSE ONE THING PER DAY TO EXPERIENCE

There is so much to experience in each of the Disney parks. From headlining attractions to hidden gems, snacks to try, characters, shows and fireworks, there are enough things to keep you busy for weeks. Simply put, you will NOT be able to see and do everything. When you allow each person to choose one thing as their "number one" for the day, you will know exactly what is important to each person in your family. One person might choose a show, while another chooses a top ride and still another chooses a certain snack that they have been dying to try. If you have babies and toddlers, you will get to choose their "one" for them whether it is riding "it's a small world" or going on the monorail. Each person choosing a

"number one" builds excitement for all the special things you will be able to do. It also helps children to prioritize their most important thing for the day and to vocalize it –which encourages your whole family to work together to make sure that everyone gets their "one" accomplished. Yes, you will be able to do a great number of other things–so be sure to have a list of "these would be great to experience if we can" attractions. A great place to start is with my detailed itinerary planning so you can tour the parks with the least amount of wait and effort.



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2. GET TO THE PARKS EARLY AND TAKE AN AFTERNOON BREAK

This tip is for every single guest: from babies to adults and everyone in-between. The majority of Disney guests arrive at the park of their choice an hour to an hour and a half after the park opens. Whether they are sleeping in, taking their time eating breakfast or driving through traffic, they aren't there before the gates open.

This leaves you with a great opportunity! While *THEY* are all slowly making their way to the parks, you can zip through the parks with minimal waits and see your 'best of the best' choices. You'll also have the time you need for the afternoon break. If you sleep in—you stand in long lines, minimize your attractions, and end up staying all day.

The first hour of park open-

ing is the best time to do some of the attractions that will later have much longer waits.

Speaking of "busiest time of the day," THIS is the perfect time to take an afternoon break. The busiest (and often hottest) time of the day is typically between 2 and 4 pm.

You can back to your resort for a nap or a swim or even take a boat ride across the lagoon.

Just do something to get out of the park and rest your feet for a while. If your kids are little, this is the perfect time for a nap. I can not stress enough how refreshed you will feel after your break. Then you can head back to the park for dinner and more fun.

If your schedule and budget allow, it is also a great idea to have a rest day in the middle of your vacation. You can relax at your resort, play mini-golf, visit

Disney Springs or even watch an outdoor movie at your resort.

If a full day of rest is not an option, that's fine! Along with helping you select which days are best to visit each park, I can also help you decide which nights are best to stay out late and which days to take it easy based on your family's needs.

If you are tired, you cannot make happy memories!



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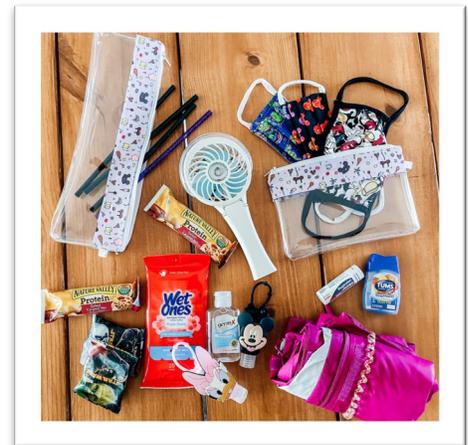
3. TAKE SNACKS AND OTHER ESSENTIALS INTO THE PARKS

Did you know that Disney allows you to bring your own snacks and drinks into the parks? Be sure to have a selection of snacks for your kids to enjoy while waiting in lines or if they just need something to get them through until the next meal. Our family likes to take things like cuties, sliced apples, baby carrots, fruit chews and peanut butter crackers. By ordering groceries (see tip #9) we can take healthy snacks that we know our kids will actually eat.

You can also take granola bars or other breakfast items with you if you don't have time to eat before you leave your resort. Please note that alcohol, glass bottles and large coolers are not allowed. Baby food is allowed.

My "park" bag or backpack has only what I need for each day.

- The lighter the better.
- Small travel size sun screen
- Hand sanitizer
- Pre-made snacks
- Water bottle
- rain ponchos (brought from home...\$1 or less) I do not recommend umbrellas
- Small bottle of pain reliever
- 2-3 bandaids / moleskin—take care of any "hot spots" on the feet immediately
- Zip bag with several wet wipes
- A few empty zip lock bags for things that get wet or things you don't want to get wet.
- Small flashlight
- Phone Charger



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4. FIND THE BABY CARE CENTERS

If you have babies and toddlers, Baby Care Centers are a GEM. At each park, there is a baby care center where you can go to feed, change or just let your baby play for a little bit. Each center varies as far as size and accommodations, but they are all such a nice break for babies. There are places to warm food and feed a baby as well as nursing mom rooms. There are also changing tables, baby supplies for purchase in case you forgot something and oftentimes a play area. There are times when little ones just need a break from the crowds, heat and sensory overload. There is something very soothing about being able to just sit on the floor and color or rock in a dimly lit room. By taking some time to relax and “press pause”, your little one and you will be able to be rejuvenated and ready for more adventures.

The **Magic Kingdom** park location is between Crystal Palace and Casey’s Corner off the hub in front of Cinderella’s Castle.

Hollywood Studios Baby Care Center is the smallest of the locations and is housed within Guest Services. When you enter,, Guest Services is immediately to the left. The Baby Care Center is located inside.

The **Epcot** park location can be found in the Odyssey Center building which is located between Test Track in Future World and the Mexico Pavilion in the World Showcase.

The **Animal Kingdom** park location is located to the left of the Tree of Life immediately before the bridge crossing over into the Africa section of the park.



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5. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF RIDER SWITCH

This handy feature allows adult Guests to take turns waiting with youngsters or Guests unable to ride.

If Guests in your party can't or don't want to board an attraction, you don't have to miss out!

If a child does not meet the height requirement or a Guest does not wish to board a particular attraction, no problem! With Rider Switch, one adult can wait with the non-rider (or riders) while the rest of the party enjoys the attraction. When the other adult returns, they can supervise the non-riding Guests, and the waiting adult can board the attraction without having to wait in the regular line again! Rider Switch is available at select attractions at all 4 Walt Disney World Resort theme parks.

Check with the cast member at the entrance of the ride to get your rider switch set.

Rider Switch is available for these attractions:

Magic Kingdom Park

The Barnstormer
Big Thunder Mountain Railroad
Seven Dwarfs Mine Train
Space Mountain
Splash Mountain
Tomorrowland Indy Speedway

Epcot

Frozen Ever After
Mission: SPACE
Soarin'
Test Track

Disney's Hollywood Studios

Alien Swirling Saucers
Millennium Falcon: Smugglers Run
Rock 'n' Roller Coaster Starring

Aerosmith
Slinky Dog Dash
Star Tours®
Twilight Zone Tower of Terror

Animal Kingdom Park

Avatar Flight of Passage
DINOSAUR
Expedition Everest - Legend of the Forbidden Mountain®
Kali River Rapids
Na'vi River Journey

The best part is that the *Rider Switch* pass will allow 3 people to ride the attraction again!



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6. HAVE A SELECTION OF THINGS TO KEEP YOUR KIDS BUSY WHILE WAITING

There are going to be a lot of opportunities to practice patience during your trip. There are times for attractions, waiting for food and getting from here to there. That's why is SO important to have things for them to do while waiting. Disney does a GREAT job of having fun interactive things for kids and kids at heart to do in many of the lines. However, there will be lines that are not as engaging. At these times, you can pull out some sanity savers! Some of my favorite things to keep in our park bag are small books. Water Wow! water reveal pads (made by Melissa and Doug), a pen and notepad and one small car or doll. Mad Libs are a lot of fun! If your children need some ideas, suggest they draw a

picture of their favorite thing from the day. They could write a note or draw a picture for a character. Tic-tac-toe, the dot game and mad libs are all ways that you can get in on the fun of "practicing patience" with your kids.

For older children, Turn wait time into play time with **Play Disney Parks**, a mobile app that connects family and friends to the theme parks with unique experiences and activities that bring surrounding environments to life. The more you explore, the more there is to discover—download the new app through the App Store and on Google Play!

There are also Enhanced Adventures in Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge Interact with droids, take on jobs and much more

as the app guides you through this all-new land.



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7. TAKE IT EASY ON ARRIVAL DAY

It's so tempting to head straight to the parks as soon as you check in. After all your Disney vacation as officially started-and what better way to kick it off than with a stroll down Main Street USA?!

HOLD THAT THOUGHT.

By waiting to go to the parks until the next morning, you will be able to really enjoy getting acclimated to Walt Disney World. Many kids get overwhelmed if they are introduced to too much too quickly. They also LOVE finding adventures in things that adults might overlook.

So why not take some time to explore your resort? Maybe take a dip in the pool or a stroll around the grounds to see what fun things you can

find. Let them play at the playground or pick a snack from the food court.

If you arrive early, consider a trip to Disney Springs after you've enjoyed your resort for a while. Disney Springs is Walt Disney World's shopping, dining and entertainment district-and no park admission required. There are so many fun shops to browse along with countless dining options.

If you are tired, you cannot make happy memories!

Go to bed early.

You want your family well rested for a fun-filled day in the parks when they wake up.

You can't see it all in one trip.....

Quality is better than quantity.

Repeat after me.....

"See the best of the best; don't worry about the rest!"



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8. PLAN ATTRACTIONS AND SHOWS YOUR KIDS ARE READY FOR

For starters, I will provide you with a detailed list of attractions and shows that include height requirements if any, organized by park.

Beyond that...how can you know whether they're ready? Well, the best way is to gauge their reactions or what they say when they approach an attraction.

As for what attractions are best for kids, that depends on the kid. You know your child(ren) best. To get an idea of what your kids will like in advance, try watching YouTube attraction ride through videos; just search for the attraction name plus "ride through" and you should find plenty of results. You might even watch these with your kids so you can see their reaction to specific

attractions (they may be scared by things that surprise you and they may like things that you thought would've scared them).

The videos are also a great way to get your children excited about the trip! One of our family favorite things to do before a Disney vacation is to watch some of the stage shows, fireworks and attraction videos from time to time. Not only does this help them get excited for the trip, but it also helps the ride, show etc. be familiar to them once you get to the parks.

We love making the most of the excitement when we visit Disney World with kids. There's no easier way than letting them watch all of their favorite Disney, Star Wars and Marvel films, from classics to new ones!



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9. ORDER GROCERIES ONLINE

When traveling to Walt Disney World you may want to consider having groceries delivered. Even if you won't be cooking meals it may still be nice to have diapers, wipes, baby food, formula, cases of water, snacks, fresh fruit, muffins, bagels, milk, etc delivered directly to your resort.

Each Disney resort room is equipped with a mini fridge and a single cup coffee maker. You will also have access to a microwave and toaster in the food court at your resort. Villa's have fully equipped kitchens. Studios and Family Suites have a mini kitchen equipped with a mini fridge, single cup coffee maker and a microwave.

Or maybe you have someone in your group with die-

tary restrictions or who's a picky eater. So what do you do? Order some groceries to get delivered to your Disney resort, of course!

This can greatly cut down on your food costs during your trip, and it allows you to have all of your favorite items – including those you can't find anywhere on Disney property (Cheerios! Pepsi! Greek yogurt!).

Garden Grocer is easily one of the most recognized Disney World grocery delivery services and is typically at the top of everyone's list. They've been delivering to Disney World for over 10 years, and they deliver right to the bell service of your resort.

You might also check out Walmart Grocery Delivery, Instacart, We Go Shop, Amazon Prime Now, Shipt and Dizzy Dolphin Delivery.



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10. KEEP YOUR FAMILY IN MIND WHEN PLANNING YOUR VACATION

When you start to tell people that you are planning a trip to Walt Disney World. EVERYONE will have tips to give you—even if they haven't been in 20 years. Where to stay, what to do, where to eat, what to skip. If you try to abide by everyone's tips, you will quickly become overwhelmed. Many of these things might not be relevant to your family at all! Just because Susie-down-the-street stayed at such-and-such-resort doesn't mean it will be a good fit for your family. And just because Joe-from-work's kids loved trying African food doesn't mean that your picky eater will take more than one bite.

to stay and what you want to do, plan things that will make sure YOUR family has the best time possible.

I LOVE talking with clients about their family's personal preferences and hopes for their vacation. It is so important as we begin to piece together what your trip will look like. Walt Disney World-like everything else in life-is not one size fits all. While it's good to take note of friends and family's suggestions, be sure to weigh them against your family's unique needs and wishes.

YOU know YOUR family.

So when it comes time to talk about where you want



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I truly love planning Disney vacations as much as actually taking them. My passion shows in each package I create. For over 14 years I've had the pleasure of helping others create their perfect vacation with personalized itineraries, expert suggestions, as well as fast pass and dining reservations for a hassle free trip.

I look forward to sharing the magic with you!

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