

# Travel Tips: Three Historical Colonial Towns You Need to Visit



By [Mara Miller](#)

It's time to take a step back in time and explore preserved colonial towns in the U.S. Though you can find groups of colonial homes built in the 16th and 17th centuries in both Alexandria, VA and Philadelphia, PA, there are some colonial towns are still mostly preserved with one-lane roads and homes that date back to original settlers. Consider taking our [travel advice](#) and visiting gems like this, which are located in the original 13 colonies.

**Check out our travel tips for three close-to-original towns you may want to explore that were a part of the original colonies!**

**1. Strawberry Banke, NH:** Strawberry Banke was one of the first settlements in America north of Massachusetts. In the 17th century, it was a safe-haven for those fleeing from religious prosecution. Later renamed Portsmouth, The Treaty of Portsmouth was signed in 1713. In 1774, Paul Revere took a ride—and although this one is much less famous than the one he made four months later, it is still pretty neat to realize how significant this settlement was during the American Revolution when colonists chose to separate from England. The settlement has been left relatively untouched, with Pitt Tavern, Stoodley's Tavern, and Sherburne House being the oldest

buildings in Strawberry Banke.

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**2. Deerfield, MA:** Deerfield is a town that time forgot by the 19th century. It was one of the earliest major inland settlements in New England, nestled between English, French, and native territory. The town was destroyed by a marauding army under the French in 1704. However, it was later rebuilt and eventually forgotten by the time of the American Revolution. Being a town that time forgot was a blessing, however, because it is nearly pristine to this day with highlights like the Hall Tavern (1760), and the Allen, Ashley, and Williams houses that were built in the 1730s. Some buildings are private residences, however, so keep that in mind when you visit!

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**3. Williamsburg, VA:** Popularly called Colonial Williamsburg, it was founded as the village of Middle Plantation in 1632. It replaced Jamestown as the colonial capital by 1698. Williamsburg was the first town to be fully planned in America and the second to have a college. Today, it is seen as one of the world's largest living museums. You can interact with those who dress as they did in the 1700s and rent a room on-site at an inn or at one of the Colonial Houses and experience historic reenactments. It is generally considered one of the best living museums in America. (They even have a romantic getaway package!)

**Are there any well-preserved must-see colonial towns we missed? Let us know in the comments below!**

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# Travel Tips: Pocket Friendly U.S. Travel Destinations



☒ The United States has consistently ranked at the top of many tourists' bucket list, and it is no surprise that it houses some of the most visited travel destinations around the world. From Hollywood to the Statue of Liberty to exotic beaches, the U.S. has it all!

Many times, first-time travelers are worried about the expenses they will incur on trip to the U.S., however, worry not! We've got you covered. However, if you've saved some [money from that jackpot win of yours, check out these other holiday destinations](#) as well!

**Check out our list of top cities in the U.S. which are tourist-friendly as well as light on the pocketbook.**

## **San Antonio, TX**

Every year, around three million tourists make it a point to visit [San Antonio](#), Texas for the extremely famous River Walk. In addition to this, you can also visit the Alamo, the King William Historic Area, and the San Antonio Missions National Historic Park. There are multiple options for local travel while there, but for the best experience, you should hire Greyhound buses which will show you the Mexican culture of the city. In the River Walk district, you will find accommodation starting from \$20 per night for one bed.

## **San Diego, CA**

San Diego is a kid-friendly travel destination for many reasons. To begin with, the temperature is pleasant throughout the year, which compliments the clear water beaches like Mission Beach and Pacific Beach. Afterward, you can hire a ferry to reach the Coronado Ferry Centre, which will allow you to access the local markets for taking back small goodies, or to visit the San Diego Harbour Excursion.

Flights to San Diego will be your only major expense. Once you reach the city, you can find rooms for an average price of around \$120, and if you're a solo traveler, make that amount \$30 for a bed in a hostel.

## **Kansas City, MO**

Kansas City has topped the list of most affordable travel destinations in the USA several times. Infused with rich art, culture and culinary cuisines, the barbecue joints will definitely impress all the foodies out there.

Many places like the Boulevard Brewing Company and the Harley-Davidson Plant offer guided tours which provide a unique experience. Art lovers will enjoy the Crossroads Art District, which hosts a plethora of art galleries.

A hotel room in Kansas will cost you little over \$100. Since the city is located in the center of the country, accessibility isn't an issue. For travelling in and around the city, you can rent a car or use the bus service, although the bus routes are restricted to the inner parts of the city.

## **Atlanta, GA**

Famous for hosting the 1996 Olympic Games, Atlanta has innumerable outdoor activities on offer. The city landscapes will charm you with their scenic beauty. Stone Mountain Park is among the most visited sites in the city, where you can go

hiking.

Furthermore, Atlanta's airport is counted among the world's busiest, thus alleviating all your worries about traveling to the city. Accommodation is available in multiple parts of the city at reasonable rates, and we suggest that you stay in the area that you want to explore.

**What are some other affordable cities to consider as your next travel destination? Share your thoughts below.**

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## **Travel Tips: Top Five Romantic Spots in the Bluegrass State**



 By [Mara Miller](#)

We've got some fun [travel tips](#)! Are you looking for the next place to take a [romantic vacation](#)? Rich in nature and history, Kentucky is the frontier pioneer Daniel Boone explored, home to the Wildcats basketball team, and has an illustrious equine industry. A number of A-list celebrities have come from the Bluegrass State, too! Backstreet Boys member Kevin Richardson went to high school in Estill County. [George Clooney](#) was born in Lexington. [Jennifer Lawrence](#), Billy Ray Cyrus, and Johnny Depp are all from Kentucky, too!

**Check out these travel tips to have**

# the most romantic trip to the Bluegrass State!

**1. Cumberland Falls:** Cumberland Falls has more to it than just a waterfall. It's a state resort park nestled in the Daniel Boone National Forest and has been voted one of the most romantic getaways in Kentucky. Known for the Moonbow, a rare event that happens once a month during the full moon, the waterfall is hard to turn away from in person. There are even trails you can hike on!

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Learn Your Rights as an Airline Passenger](#)

**2. Castle Post:** We're talking about a real-life castle that was built in Versailles, Kentucky. In 1969, a couple started the construction of the castle, but later divorced in 1975. It was then purchased by Thomas R. Post, who resumed construction. Now also called the Kentucky Castle, it opened in 2008 as a luxury bed and breakfast. But, to most locals, it's just "the castle on the hill."

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**3. Kentucky Horse Park:** We can't mention romantic places in the Bluegrass State without mentioning the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington. A fun fact about the park: It has had horses on its land for more than 200 years. The park hosts a series of events such as the Southern Lights Holiday Festival and Breyerfest. And while you're in Lexington, you can check out some local coffee shops and explore wineries.

**4. Seelbach Hotel:** This hotel is a historic hotel in Louisville. Many famous Americans have come to this hotel throughout the years, including Scott F. Fitzgerald, who took inspiration from it for *The Great Gatsby*. It's a popular place

for a romantic evening and still has a doorman and bellhops to carry your luggage. And, while you're there, don't forget to sip on your bourbon (as long as you're 21 or older)!

**5. Red River Gorge Cabins:** Why not rent a whole cabin with your honey near the Natural Bridge? Red River Gorge Cabins is family-owned and located in the forest. Some of the cabins have wifi, but don't expect to get much cell service. Rent either The Honeybear Love cabin or The Love Shack, and take a soak in a hot tub!

**Are there any other romantic must-sees in Kentucky? Let us know in the comments below!**

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# Travel Tips: Learn Your Rights as an Airline Passenger



Interview by [Mara Miller](#)

It's important to know your rights as an airline passenger when you fly frequently. Even A-list passengers run into unpleasant situations when jetting off on [celebrity vacations](#). In some situations, you may be traveling with pets or run into restroom issues on the plane. You may even be denied boarding. In these travel tips, we have partnered with AirHelp to get some answers to our questions.

# Check out travel tips from AirHelp on how to make the most of your passenger rights:

## 1. Many airline passengers aren't aware of the rights they have when they fly. What are your rights if you are denied boarding?

In a recent survey, AirHelp found that 92% of U.S. travelers don't know their rights, which extend to when they are traveling abroad. Specifically, passengers' rights if they are denied boarding are dependent on their situation, but the main regulations that protect passengers in these instances are EC 261 and U.S. National law.

EC 261 is a European law that covers travelers flying to Europe on an EU airline, or out of Europe on any airline, including for U.S. citizens. In cases of denied boarding, passengers can be eligible to claim up to \$700 each, as long as they did not volunteer to give up their seat in exchange for vouchers or perks.

Under U.S. national law, U.S. travelers are entitled to compensation for up to \$1,350 if denied boarding as a result of an overbooked flight, depending on the value of the ticket fare and ultimate delay in arrival to their final destination. If travelers find themselves in situations like Mayim Bialik, where she was denied boarding on a domestic flight and did not volunteer to give up her seat, they may be eligible for compensation, in addition to re-routing to their destination on an alternate flight.

In all situations at [AirHelp](#), we recommend holding onto boarding passes and other travel documents, and immediately requesting compensation. You should also hold onto receipts for expenses incurred because of the disruption. You may be



eligible for reimbursement from the airline.

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## **2. If an airline loses your luggage, what do you do? Are you entitled to compensation?**

Earlier this year, [Matt Damon](#) made headlines when his luggage was lost and he had to borrow someone else's suit. Additionally, last summer, [Rihanna's](#) makeup artist lost her luggage and her [celebrity beauty](#) supplies. In these situations, and for many other passengers who experience similar issues, travelers can file for compensation from the airline.

In the United States, travelers are protected by two laws when it comes to luggage problems, including U.S. national law and the Montreal Convention. U.S. national law covers travelers on domestic flights, and the Montreal Convention covers travelers flying internationally. In either case, the amount of compensation is based on the value of the baggage and should be negotiated with the airline. Under U.S. national law, the maximum compensation is \$3,500 and under the Montreal Convention, the maximum is \$1,525. Airlines will work to keep costs down by paying depreciated value for things and not covering certain types of items at all like jewelry and electronics, so it is important for passengers to know that they are entitled to compensation by law, and not just based on an airline's goodwill.

A passenger's right to compensation extinguishes if they don't bring an action within two years under the Montreal Convention, but there are also other time constraints passengers should be aware of. Damages to luggage need to be reported within seven days of receipt, and we advise travelers to take photos of their luggage before leaving the airport to prove that damages happened while the luggage was in an

airline's care. Complaints about delayed luggage should be filed within 21 days, and passengers must notify the airline if their luggage is missing before leaving the airport and fill out a Property Irregularity Report (PIR) detailing the contents of their lost baggage. If a passenger's luggage doesn't arrive within 21 days, it is considered lost, so after this period there is no time limit for complaints.

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### **3. If your flight turns around mid-flight and doesn't make it to its destination, what are your rights?**

If your flight does not make it to its final destination, your rights to compensation are dependent on the circumstance. If your flight is eligible under EC 261, as long as your flight isn't turned around because of "extraordinary circumstances" like weather, terrorism, air traffic control restrictions, or political unrest, you could be entitled to up to \$700 in compensation per person if you arrive at your destination with delays of more than three hours. This means that if your flight turns around like [Chrissy Teigen's](#) did and it was eligible, you could claim compensation.

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### **4. A broken toilet on a plane can be a huge inconvenience. What can you do as a passenger if this happens?**

If a broken toilet causes a flight disruption, travelers should check for eligibility under EC 261. Specifically, if a delay is caused by a broken toilet, passengers are entitled to compensation under EC 261 as this is considered a technical error. However, in cases when toilets become unusable just before takeoff, such as if they are caused by a sick passenger, it is often beyond the airline's control, and therefore travelers aren't eligible under EC 261.

## **5. What are your rights when it comes to traveling with pets?**

Animal lovers don't have to skip their vacations, as long as they make themselves familiar with individual airlines' pet rules. This is especially important in light of recent tragedies. If you wish to travel with your furry best friend, at AirHelp, we advise you to research the airline's rules. For example, some airlines only allow assistance or guide dogs to travel in the cabin. Others base their paw fees on your pet's size and weight, plus their carrier's measurements. When making the decision of whether to bring your pet along, you should consider: the size of your pet; the pet carrier; pet/dog carrier fees; the temperament of your four-legged friend; and the airline's overhead bin space availability.

## **6. Are there different rights for disabled passengers? What are they?**

Airlines cannot refuse to accommodate passengers with disabilities; in fact, they are required by law to make sure accommodations are available. This is because of the Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA), a law which makes it illegal for airlines to discriminate against passengers because of their disability. Airlines are also required to provide passengers with disabilities many types of assistance, including wheelchairs or other guided assistance to board, deplane, or connect to another flight; seating accommodation assistance that meets passengers' disability-related needs; and assistance with the loading and stowing of assistive devices.

## **7. When it comes to frustrating delays, what are some useful hints that passengers can apply?**

Below are some tips that travelers should consider when flying to have the best chance of a smooth, disruption-free experience:

- **Fly during off-peak days or times to avoid the largest crowds at airports.** The late night flights are often the

least crowded, which means that your flight may be less likely to be overbooked, and your wait time at security will be shorter.

- **Use the free AirHelp app to check for compensation eligibility and flight disruptions while on-the-go.** The app provides travelers with information about compensation eligibility when travelers enter their information.
- **Leave extra time for traveling to and from the airport.** No matter when people are traveling, they should anticipate traffic near the airport. Schedule extra time for driving, and be sure to leave ample time to get through lines at security in case of large crowds. If it is easy, travelers can also consider public transportation to eliminate parking fees and cut costs.
- **Pack light or only use a carry-on to skip baggage claim.** With larger flights, waiting for luggage can take a lot of extra time at the airport. For short trips, travelers may consider using only a carry-on item, as long as all items fall under TSA requirements.
- **Bring chargers and extra entertainment for the airport.** Sometimes, flight disruptions are inevitable, so consider packing an extra phone charger and book to take on the flight.
- **Know your rights for flight disruptions, as you could be eligible to claim compensation.** If you are flying within the U.S. and you are denied boarding due to an overbooked flight, you may be eligible to claim 400% of the one-way fare to your destination in compensation, of a value up to \$1,350. Also, for flight cancellations or lengthy delays, if you're flying to the EU on an EU airline, or departing from an EU airport, you may be eligible to claim up to \$700 per person in compensation under European law EC 261.

## **8. Is there a time limit on submitting a claim?**

Under EC 261, passengers can file claims for up to three years after the disruption.

**Have you had any disruptive flight experiences? Let us know in the comments below!**

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## Travel Tips: Travel Solo



By [Lauren Burczyk](#)

Traveling alone can be a totally different experience than traveling with a companion. Whether you're traveling for business, haven't found that special someone, or simply need some time to yourself, this [travel trend](#) can make for an awesome excursion. When you travel alone, you travel on your own terms, which can make for a really unique experience. If you ever have the opportunity to go off and explore on your own, we highly recommend it. Take our [travel advice](#) – travel solo and love every part of your adventure!

**Here are some [travel tips](#) for traveling solo:**

**1. Decide on your destination:** You might have a dream destination in mind, or you may need some help deciding on where you're going to take your first solo trip. Consider a destination where you can do many day excursions without having to frequently change hotel accommodations

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**2. Book solo-friendly hotel accommodations:** There are several accommodations that suit unaccompanied travelers. Try booking a hostel, homestay, B&B, or small inn, so you have the chance to meet other independent travelers.

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**3. Consider packing light:** Since you'll be completely on your own, it's best to take only what you'll need to survive while you're traveling. You need to make sure you can handle all of your luggage by yourself. If you have a hard time deciding what to bring and feel the need to take your entire wardrobe with you, make sure to check out some [luggage brands](#) that are durable and light to make life easier when you travel.

**4. Stay somewhere with free Wi-Fi:** You'll want to make sure that you can stay in touch with family and friends while you're away. Try finding accommodations that offer free Wi-Fi service so you won't lose touch with people you care about during your travels.

**5. Relax during mealtime:** While you're dining out, take this time to reflect on your journey. Use this time to plan out the next part of your trip, identify anything you've missed, and decide if there's anything you'd like to revisit.

**Can you think of any other tips for traveling solo? Comment below.**

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## **Travel Destination: 5 Tips**

# for Traveling to Iceland



By [Courtney Shapiro](#)

The name may be deceiving, but Iceland is actually full of volcanoes, greenery, and hot springs. It's the perfect place to get away and explore. Get ready to sight see and make your [travel destination](#) in Iceland worthwhile by checking out our [travel tips](#).

## Here are five travel tips for your Iceland excursion:

**1. Rent a car:** If you're visiting, you should definitely invest in a rental car. A lot of the spots to see aren't super close to each other and it will make your trip easier if you have your own mode of transportation.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: 5 Pointers for Traveling by Train in Europe](#)

**2. Plan ahead:** Like any country, there are tons of things to do and see on your trip. Unfortunately, you can't see everything, so plan in advanced the main excursions you want to visit. It'll save time once you're actually on vacation and you can spend more time touring!

**Related Link:** [Travel Destinations: Top 5 U.S. Spots for Spring flowers](#)

**3. Don't take out too much cash:** It is important to take some cash to convert, but you don't need tons of money. Just like in the U.S. you can pay for most things with a credit or debit card. Bring a small amount of cash, and make sure to tell the bank your traveling, so you can use your card.

**4. Pack appropriately:** Make sure you pack clothing and other items for all types of weather. Even if you look at the weather forecast ahead of time, something might change when you are actually there. Also bring clothing in-case you go out to a formal dinner or are just relaxing for the day.

**5. Take advantage of guided tours:** It can be exhausting to plan the whole trip by yourself. Plan a couple of guided tours and let the experts show you what the country has to offer.

**Have you ever traveled to Iceland? Share your travel tips with us in the comments!**

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## **Travel Tips: Top 5 Things to Do in the Sunshine State**



 By [Mara Miller](#)

We've got some [travel tips](#)! Are you thinking about a road trip to the Sunshine State? We've entered the Spring, but in a lot of areas of the country, it hasn't quite warmed up yet. Florida is the answer! Or if you're planning a family summer vacation, you might want to add one of these places to your must-visit list.

**Travel Tips: Florida is a big state and has a lot of fun amusement**



# parks, museums, and resorts, so we've picked the top five things to do in the Sunshine State:

**1. Harry Potter World:** Need we say more to fellow Potterheads? Embrace your inner wizard at Universal Studios Orlando. Dine at The Leaky Cauldron, get your own wand, and let yourself be chased by the dragon in the bottom of Gringotts. You can even taste butterbeer!

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Avoiding Timeshare Scams](#)

**2. The Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum:** Are you a fan of literature? Located in Key West, the Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum is a great place to visit for your trip to The Sunshine State. Ernest and his wife, Pauline, moved to Florida from France in April of 1928. It was in Key West that he wrote *A Farewell to Arms* in three weeks. While you're there, give love to some of the cats that still live on the property. That's right, there are about forty kitties at this museum. They're descendants of Ernest and Pauline's two six-toed cats.

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**3. The National Aviation Museum:** Located in Pensacola, this museum is dedicated to protecting aircraft from the United States Navy, Marine Corps, and The United States Coast Guard. It holds a collection of more than 150 aircraft such as the Que Sera Sera and Curtiss NC-4. Most of the aircraft is on loan to the museum from the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. Here you can learn about the birth of naval aviation and its role in aerospace research. It's sure to be fun, and you get to look at some really old planes!

**4. Legoland Florida:** Designed for kids 12 and under, take your kids for a fun day of activities in Legoland if you're on a

family trip. Kids can learn how the lego bricks are made and let their creativity go crazy at this resort. There is a water park and kids can get breakfast with their favorite Lego character. You and your family are sure to have a creative, fun-filled day. (Just be sure to guard your feet if you get them a box of Legos to play with in the shop!)

**5. Walt Disney World:** How can we NOT mention Disney World? Head to this famous theme park with your kids. You don't even need to be a parent to have a reason to want to go to Disneyland, either. If you and your honey are fans, this is the perfect place for a romantic getaway too. But more specifically, you should visit the Magic Kingdom park, where Cinderella's infamous castle resides. Or, if you're feeling brave, hug a Stormtrooper and meet Chewbacca in the Star Wars Launch Bay!

**Florida has a LOT of places to explore since it's such a large state. What are some places to visit that are on your top 5 to visit in The Sunshine State? Let us know in the comments below!**

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# **Think Outside of the Chocolate Box: Your Guide to an Adventurous Valentine's Day**



 By Rob Tischler, Co-Owner of [Allstar Coaches](#)

Valentine's Day calls to mind pictures of ornate flower arrangements, expensive gifts, and costly dinners all in an attempt to show your loved one how much you care. What if this Valentine's Day, instead of splurging on the latest tech gadgets, you planned a date that truly encompasses what the holiday is all about – romance AND quality time?

**Think outside of the chocolate box this year, and give the gift of adventure by planning an unforgettable road trip.**

First, rethink your view of a road trip, because I'm not talking about simply hopping in the car and booking a hotel. To make this experience truly unique, you're going to want to book an RV – a hotel and car in one – or grab your tent for a camping expedition. Except for the cost of gas, both RVing and camping can be less expensive than typical weekend getaways, can allow for greater freedom by packing up and going whenever you're ready, and they offer a front-row seat to Mother Nature's beauty – allowing you and your loved one time to truly sit back, relax, and return home feeling refreshed.

If you've never thought of an RV or camping experience as romantic, think again! This type of road trip, regardless of which you choose, shifts the focus from material items to experiences, bringing couples together. Not only do you act as a team to navigate the roads, ideally you're also unplugged from technology to allow for deeper connection. Plus, you're untethered to outside demands like check-out times, reservations, and tour schedules – the world is your oyster. Besides, what could be more romantic than snuggling under a warm blanket while you gaze at the stars? If you're ready to go off the grid for a romantic Valentine's Day, here are some tips to planning an unforgettable adventure:

## **Set the Mood**

To make your Valentine's Day road trip adventure truly epic, set the stage and make sure everything about the trip says romance from the start:

- A romantic location can set the mood for the rest of your getaway. Start with booking a lake-front or beachside campground or RV park, and check to see if there's an adult-only section on the premises.

- This trip isn't only about romance, it's about adventure. Whether it's a visit to a national monument, going horseback riding, hiking a new area, or exploring that quaint seaside town near the campsite, build a lasting experience as a couple by doing or seeing something new.

- Just because you're in an RV doesn't mean that you can't pamper yourselves. Some RV parks offer massage and spa packages, check in advance to see if this is available. Or, bring the spa to you by packing your RV with amenities like good linens, comfy robes, plush slippers, massage oils, and champagne.

- The opposite of romance is watching your partner stare at their phone while you watch the sunrise. Put the phone down – better yet, turn it off – and reconnect with each other and the scenery around you. Instagram will be there when you return to civilization.

## **Date Night Ideas**

You've set the mood by following the tips above, now it's time to plan some activities for your road trip. Try these intimate ideas:

- Make a 5-star dinner on the campfire. There's no shortage of campfire recipes available on the internet. Plus, cooking creates an effortless teamwork experience as you work together

to make sure the steak doesn't burn.

– Sit back and enjoy the stars. Leaving city life behind has its perks. Grab a warm blanket and cuddle as you search for the Big Dipper or the star of Venus – the Goddess of Love.

– Watch the sunrise. There's something so peaceful about enjoying a warm cup of coffee amidst the stillness that comes just as the sun rises. The only thing that could make it better is when you take in this occasion with your loved one.

– Bring the wine tasting to you. You don't need to go on a winery tour to have a wine tasting event. Start with a theme, like Pinot Noir grapes, grab a few bottles on your way to the campsite, pick up some complimentary cheese and crackers, and voila! You've got yourself a wine tasting.

– Go on a scavenger hunt. Simply create a list of things you can find in your location and then get out there and find them! To make this event extra romantic, set a rule that you and your significant other must share a kiss each time an item is found.

– Get competitive with a game night. No matter how old you are, there's something about busting out your favorite board game and earning bragging rights through a friendly competition with the one you love.

At the end of the day, Valentine's Day allows an extra moment to show our partners just how much they enrich our lives. I say forget the chocolate and flowers – or bring them along – and gift an unforgettable adventure. Trust me, you'll both be glad for the experience.

To make the most of your Valentine's Day excursion, check out these additional [travel tips](#).

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# Travel Tips: Avoiding Timeshare Scams



Content provided by [RedWeek.com](https://www.RedWeek.com)

A timeshare can be a solid investment if you're planning to [travel](#) for vacation. Unfortunately, these days there seem to be more timeshare scams in the news. Whether you're renting, owning, or intending to buy, here are some [tips](#) from [RedWeek.com](https://www.RedWeek.com) that help you know what to expect and can help make these scams easy to avoid for a worry-free vacation.

**If you are renting or buying, there is less of a risk for timeshare scams because there is typically a membership or fee involved. But, you can still protect yourself in two ways:**

**1. Use a credible escrow service which can hold onto your money.** It's highly recommended to use First American Title for both renting and buying. Using an escrow is the only real way to be sure your money will be returned if the week isn't what was agreed on.

**2. Get any important expectations of your purchase in contract form.** If the owner promises you a guaranteed view or amenity that you expect, make sure it is in the contract. Even with

escrow, a dispute is not valid unless it is specifically detailed in the contract. Verbal promises, and even the ad itself are not sufficient.

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**If you are a timeshare owner:**

The timeshare resale market is not an easy thing for sellers and that makes owners more vulnerable to scams – from companies claiming that they’re able to take the timeshare that’s become a burden off your hands. It’s easier to relax because Feds are cracking down on these scams, but they are still out there.

These scammers often borrow the name of an established brand to convince you of their legitimacy. They claim to have a buyer for your timeshare, or to be able to easily find one. They ask for money either to cover closing costs or advertising. Many actually go so far as to send you a check (which will later bounce), and ask you to mail the overage elsewhere.

**Related Link:** [Beware of Sweetheart Scammers This Valentine’s Day](#)

**There are four ways you can protect yourself:**

1. Never agree to send any money to anyone without doing your research.
2. To research, do the following things:
  - Conduct a Google search on the company name and reviews, add the word “scam” – Often you will find others online who’ve shared their experience with the company even if there hasn’t been an official complaint filed yet.
  - Search the RedWeek.com forums – there are many examples of any company that should be avoided.

- Search for the company's name with the Better Business Bureau, and your attorney general's office.
- If the company looks legit, it's essential to call or e-mail the company directly – do NOT use the number they gave you during the solicitation. This will guarantee you're doing business with the actual company.

3. Never send money to anyone who sends you a check that is more than the purchase price.

4. Report any cases of fraud to RedWeek, as well as your state's attorney general to help protect other owners.

There is always something that tries to ruin your well-deserved vacation days, but if you follow these tips it won't be a timeshare scam. All that's left now is to plan your getaway and some fun activities, and you'll be relaxing in no time.

**Do you have any tips to avoid vacation scams? Comment below!**

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## **Loews Hollywood Hotel: A Location That Delivers a True Hollywood Experience**



 By [Lauren Burczyk and Courtney Shapiro](#)

Take your next [romantic getaway](#), Hollywood-style, to L.A. and stay at the Loews Hollywood Hotel. Overlooking Hollywood Hills, this luxurious four-star hotel boasts an attractive address at the prestigious corner of Hollywood Boulevard and



Highland Avenue. The hotel offers 628 exquisite rooms and suites with an unprecedented view of Los Angeles. You can even book a room with a view of the renowned Hollywood sign. This is the perfect for couples to stay if they want to enjoy everything the city has to offer. Find out why in our [travel review](#) below.

**Loews Hollywood Hotel is the perfect place to fulfill your celebrity needs. Find out why you should choose this elegant establishment as your next romantic destination!**

Loews Hollywood Hotel will meet all of your needs. Whether you are vacationing, on business, or just looking for a fun Hollywood experience, this hotel will not disappoint. During her stay, our founder, Lori Bizzoco, realized she forgot her laptop on the plane. One concierge in particular, Ana Morales, went above and beyond calling the airport's lost and found nearly every day. She was consistently keeping everyone informed about the situation and it made the time there so much more enjoyable knowing that the staff members were helping out. "I was consistently impressed with how friendly and welcoming the staff were to the guests," said Bizzoco.

The hotel is great for relaxing in the sun. You can leave all your worries behind by the heated rooftop pool or take a nap in one of the chic poolside cabanas. Loews Hollywood Hotel offers a range of amenities from a bellman service to a valet service as well as a business center, for those that need a place to work.



One of poolside locations the hotel has to offer. Photo credit: loewshotels.com

**Related Link:** [Resort at Pedregal: Celebrity Couples Love This Romantic Getaway in Cabo](#)

The hotel is located virtually next door to the famous Dolby Theatre, and while we were there, we caught a glimpse of the Pre-Oscar set up and activities taking place. There is no hotel that rivals the Loews Hollywood when it comes to catching a glimpse of your favorite actor or actress walking the red carpet. This is also a great location for shopping, with Hollywood and Highland center a few hundred feet away. If that's not enough, you and your partner can take a stroll on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, see a Lakers game, or check out the Grauman's Chinese Theatre. The Loews is the perfect hotel for sightseeing. You and your partner just might feel like a [celebrity couple](#) after all.

**Related Link:** [Product Review: Travel Essentials](#)

Additionally, the hotel is home to many fresh flavors right in the heart of the city. Dine, drink, and have a romantic night with your partner without having to step foot off of the premises. With four different restaurants including Preston's, H2 Kitchen and Bar, Bodega, and Wolfgang Puck's, there are plenty of choices to satisfy your food and beverage needs.

The Loews Hollywood Hotel is a destination you certainly don't want to pass up!

Check out some of our other [product reviews](#) for more recommendations!

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## Travel Tips: 5 Pointers for Traveling by Train in Europe



By [Courtney Shapiro](#)

Traveling in a foreign place can be scary. If you don't speak the language in the place you are exploring, getting from one place to another can be even more intimidating. Every country has their own transportation system, and a common method of getting back and forth in Europe is the train. Don't get left behind at the station, and check out our [travel advice](#) for traveling by train.

**Here are a few travel tips for using the train in Europe:**

**1. Obtain a rail pass:** The rail passes in Europe are available

for a single country as well as for traveling to multiple countries. The single pass is good for travel across that whole country while the multiple pass allows you to jump from country to country.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: 5 Ways to Live Like a Nomad While Traveling Abroad](#)

**2. Find someone who can translate if need be:** Whether it's someone you travel with or someone you meet, it can be helpful to have someone speaking the language you need. It might be hard to take the rail system if you aren't sure where to get on and off the train. Don't be afraid to ask for help. Or, use Google Translate from your phone to help!

**3. Plan your trip accordingly:** Maybe the type of trip you planned doesn't require too much transportation. Use the train only when necessary so your trip is less stressful. If you do have to take the train, use a map and plan from point A to point B.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Find the Perfect Hostel](#)

**4. Find popular trip routes:** The best case scenario as a tourist is that tons of other people are trying to see the same things you are. Find a group of people or ask people at the station how they can get to their destination with the least amount of worry or stress

**5. Become familiar with the central stations:** Like Penn Station in New York, each country probably has a main train station. Find these stations first and then branch out to the smaller ones. This will help because the bigger locations have trains that go to various destinations.

**What are some of your travel tips for using the train system in Europe? Share with us below!**

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# Travel Tips: 5 Ways to Live Like a Nomad While Traveling Abroad



By Lauren Burczyk

Traveling abroad is an exciting experience, but this [travel trend](#) can get very costly. Visiting another country or multiple countries can require a great deal of time off of work and an array of travel expenses. While many people believe that they will never be able to take their dream vacation around the world, it can be a lot easier than they think. Cupid has some [travel tips](#) on how to travel abroad and live like a nomad.

## Travel Tips: 5 Ways to Live Like a Nomad While Traveling Abroad

**1. Save your money:** It's important to start putting your money away as soon as you have any thoughts of traveling abroad. You've got to be prepared for an extended time off from work and the expenses that traveling the world requires.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Live Like a Local](#)

**2. Avoid procrastination:** Traveling the world can seem daunting since its outside of the norm for most people. It's easy to say you'll "do it when the time is right," so make now the right time and schedule your plans to travel abroad.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Find the Perfect Hostel](#)

**3. Plan ahead:** Start a travel journal so you can plan accordingly. The travel journal can include tasks that you have to get done before leaving along with tips that others have given you from their travel experiences.

**4. Set your goal and stick with it:** Decide on your travel goals such as where, how, and when you want to travel. You must set your sights on these key aspects and keep your goals in mind until the big day arrives.

**5. Work abroad:** If you're planning to travel for several months at a time, it might be a good idea to find work while you are away. See if your current job has any remote positions available, this would be a great way to still remain active with your employer and keep money flowing as you're traveling.

**Do you have any tips on how to live like a nomad while traveling abroad? Let us know! Comment below.**

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# Product Review: Travel Essentials



By Bre Gajewski

The winter is one of the busiest times of the year for travel. Whether you are driving across the country to visit your family or jetting off for a little warm getaway, you will definitely benefit from these products!

# Product Review: These products are great for winter travel!

JumpSmart from Limitless Innovations, \$120



JumpSmart from Limitless Innovations

What could be worse than breaking down in the middle of nowhere on a long, holiday road trip? Breaking down and not being able to jump start your car! This is why you need the JumpSmart from Limitless Innovations.

This device can jump-start 4 and 6 cylinder engines up to four liters. It even has a flashlight function in case you break down in the car. Non only does it act as a power source for your car, you can also use it to charge any of your devices with a USB port, which will definitely come in handy on those long car rides.

Skinnies Sungel SPF 30, \$33



Skinnies Sun Gel SPF 30

If you are escaping to warmer weather, or even if you are just going to be spending a lot of time outside, you definitely need sunscreen. If you are from a colder climate and haven't been outside much the past few months, your skin is not at all prepared for UV Rays. You need a strong and reliable SPF to protect you.

We love the Skinnies Sun Gel in SPF 30. This sun gel is totally revolutionary. It is not made with water like a typical sunscreen so it is better for the Earth and you only need a small amount to last you all day long!

[Pure Biology's Total Eye – Complete Anti-Aging Eye Cream, \\$18](#)





## Pure Biology's Total Eye Complete Anti-Aging Eye Cream

Traveling is exhausting and can wreak havoc on your skin. No matter what form of transportation you are using, you are trapped in a confined space with lots of people and recycled oxygen, talk about an aging experience! On top of that, how often do you get somewhere and actually have time to take a nap, rest and rejuvenate before doing anything? Never? So then you end up looking even more tired!

This is why you need Pure Biology's Complete Anti-Aging Eye Cream. This product provides both immediate and long-lasting benefits. "Fision Instant immediately begins to improve the appearance of the under eye area while Baobab Tien promotes long-term benefits and encourages healthier-looking under eye skin." You can purchase this on Amazon Prime for just under \$18 and have it on your doorstep before Christmas!

[EarPlanes](#), Adult & Child, \$9 each



## EarPlanes

EarPlanes are the product you didn't realize you were missing out on until you try them! One of the most frustrating thing about plane rides is that horrible ear discomfort you get from the altitude change and cabin pressure. This product takes all of that irritating pain away and prevents your ears from popping! They even help to reduce loud noises too (I'm looking at you screaming baby).

Make sure to check out the Cupid's Pulse [product review](#) page for more recommendations!

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# Travel Destinations: 5 Secret

# Spots to Visit in Paris



By [Ivana Jarmon](#)

Paris is full of beautiful mainstream attractions and destinations you see in many itineraries and blog posts, but that shouldn't be the only part of Paris you see. Paris is full of hidden secrets hidden in plain sight known to the locals and the bravest and most inquisitive foreigners. Cupid has five secret spots to consider making part of your [travel destination](#) in Paris!

## Here are five secret spots to include on your travel destination in visit in Paris:

**1. Rue Cremieux:** This is one of the happiest streets in Paris. Rue Cremieux is a small pedestrian street lined on both sides with beautiful rainbow colored houses. Come here on a sunny day, and capture the beautifully lit houses. It's definitely one of the best kept secrets in Paris.

**Related Link:** [Travel Destinations: Top 5 U.S. Spots for Spring flowers](#)

**2. The Balcony of the Musée D'orsay:** The Musée d'Orsay is one of the best museums in all of Paris, covering the Impressionist and Post-Impressionist eras. Come here on an early morning or evening and take a step outside onto the terrace to catch an amazing view of the Seine and of Montmartre.

**Related Link:** [Vacation Destination: Plan a Trip to Cuba](#)

**3. Rue Mouffetard:** This is one of the best market streets in Paris, which gives off a medieval look and feel with its cobblestone lane that winds its way up Place de la Contrescarpe. You'll find a few farmers markets, fruit and vegetable shops and a few restaurants.

**4. The Terrace at the Printemps department store:** Le Printemps is one of the most iconic Parisian department stores since 1865, which is no secret. But, only a few shippers know that the store has a terrace that gives you a panoramic view of Paris. Go to the top floor via elevator or escalator to Café Déli-Cieux, and step outside. Make sure you have your camera.

**5. Parc Des Buttes-Chaumont- Northeastern Paris:** If you fancy a walk or picnic with your family, Parc Des Buttes is one of the best parks in Paris. The park is located in Northeastern Paris, and the main feature is their towering rock rising from a central lake.

**Where are some secret spots to visit in Paris? Share your thoughts below.**

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## Travel Tips: How to Find the Perfect Hostel



 By [Ivana Jarmon](#)

Staying in hostels is one of the hottest [traveling trends](#) right now. Hostels are more about making a connection with the people you meet than the actual place. They are one of the best ways to save money. But, finding a good hostel isn't always easy. It's also really easy to get sucked into the

first reasonable accommodation that appears, which can be risky. Cupid has some [travel tips](#) on how to find the perfect hostel.

## Travel Tips: Find Out How to Find the Perfect Hostel!

**1. Do your research:** Before you go, you will want to research the discount lodging card options for your destinations. One of the most common discount cards is the (IH)card International Hostelling, acceptable at any YHA hostel worldwide. There are many countries where hostels are at the top of the market, such as New Zealand and Australia. By checking the cards and packages offered, you may save a lot on your lodging.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Plan Your First Getaway Together as a Couple](#)

**2. Check your accommodations:** When you're staying at a hostel, you have to remember it isn't like a hotel, meaning the things that you would normally get aren't necessarily available. Also, hostels are usually shared rooms with others, which means you may have to share unless you specifically booked a single room. You will want to ask yourself, what are your must-haves? What are you willing to give up? Do you require lockers that you can rent, free internet, washer and dryer, irons, etc?

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Live a Local](#)

**3. Set your budget:** There are a lot of hostel websites that have a filter feature that allows you to filter hostels based on your budget. Remember expensive hostels aren't necessarily a good thing and vice versa with cheap ones. Prices can differ from city to city. So be wise with your choice in a hostel.

**4. Read the fine print:** Before booking your hostel, make sure you read everything available. Certain hostels have curfews and check-in and check out policies. Make sure you know exactly what you're paying for so that you can get your money's worth.

**5. Make your reservation:** When you book your hostel, go to the direct website first because some airport sites have booking fees attached when buying your ticket. Check out websites such as Hostelworld or Hostelbookers. Staying at a hostel is always an interesting experience. Even if you only try it once, it's worth it!

**What are some tips on how to find the perfect hostel? Share your thoughts below.**

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# Travel Tips: How to Plan Your First Getaway Together as a Couple



 By [Courtney Shapiro](#)

Taking a trip together as a couple is a big step forward in your relationship. There are several aspects that need to be planned out before going on vacation. Check out our [travel advice](#) for you and your partner's first trip together.

**Here are a few travel tips to plan**

# your first getaway as a couple:

**1. Come up with a budget or payment plan:** Obviously any vacation you and your partner take is going to cost money. Figure out how much you want to spend, and how the two of you are going to take care of your travel expenses.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Live Like a Local](#)

**2. Decide what you both want to see:** Your idea of a vacation might be different from your partner's. Pick a place that interests both of you, and figure out what you can see while you're there so each of you can be satisfied.

**3. Figure out what type of trip you're planning:** Are you planning a tropical getaway, a strenuous exploration, or something in the middle? Discuss what the best option would be for you as a couple, and decide the best way to spend your time together.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Plan a Debt-Free Vacation](#)

**4. Do something special for the two of you:** No matter where you end up on vacation, you should plan something that will be memorable for your future. The whole vacation could be special to you and your partner since it is just the two of you, but maybe you could take it to the next level and give yourselves a special night out.

**5. Try something new:** Going to a new place with your partner could be the perfect time to try something different. Be adventurous together and eat a new food, or share an experience that you probably would not have normally done.

**What are some your travel tips for a couple's first getaway? Comment below.**

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# Travel Tips: How to Live Like a Local



By [Ivana Jarmon](#)

Most travelers spend their time ticking off every bar and restaurant, going on tours, and going to the best clubs; there's nothing wrong with that! But, there is another way. We hear it all the time in the [travel advice](#): live like a local. It's great advice, but if it's your first time traveling or you're in an unfamiliar city, it's easier said than done. Acting like a local in a new city means behaving like you would if you were at home. If you want to make your trip unforgettable, you'll need to think like a local.

## Here are a few travel tips to live like a local:

**1. Ditch the travel guide:** Travel guides are wonderful, but they don't tell you about all of the hidden gems within a city. Change it up and go to a random restaurant you walk by, or take the train and get off at a random stop and see where it leads you.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Plan a Debt-Free Vacation](#)

**2. Forget the hotel:** Locals don't sleep in hotels, so why should you? Try renting a home from services such as AirBNB, or try out a hostel.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: 5 Activities for the Most Unusual](#)



## [and Fun Holiday in the UK](#)

**3. Learn the lingo:** Communication is always key. Interacting with the local people in an unknown country relies on one thing and that's you. If you are proactive traveler and ignore your linguistic failings, you will always meet a variety of interesting people. Also, the more time you spend time with the locals, the more fluent you become in their language.

**4. Embrace every offer and talk to everyone:** Traveling you meet people keen to show you their city. (However, be cautions.) Such invitations often lead to the most wonderful travelling experiences. Deviating from the usual tourist hub may lead you to interesting local joints. Remember to chat to everyone, because it's a great way of practicing the language and a way to help them learn English.

**5. Just enjoy yourself:** Don't try to hard just focus on enjoying yourself. There are definitely urges to try and blend in and experience the less touristy parts of the city. But it's ok to fall into the occasional tourist trap. Find what works for you, stay on the beaten path or get off. It's up to you, you are a tourist after all. Mix up your trip. Live like a local and a tourist. If you're in Paris for the first time, don't ignore the Eiffel tower because you're too focused on living like a local.

**What are some your travel tips to live like a local? Comment below.**

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# Travel Tips: 5 Activities for

# the Most Unusual and Fun Holiday in the UK



The Tower of London, Buckingham Palace, and British Museum are all fascinating places that you definitely should see when you get a chance. However, if you want to make your holiday in the UK truly unforgettable, you'll need to get off the beaten path. And that doesn't mean simply going to explore the gorgeous Devon beaches, though that's a good plan for the next time.

## Here are five unusual things to do on a holiday in the UK:

**1. Spot the puffin:** Puffins are adorable and nothing more needs be said about these amazing little birds. You can make sure of it yourself by going on the so-called 'UK safari' that will take you puffin spotting. The season for this adventure is the summer as puffins come to the British cliffs in late April-May and remain there until the middle of August. Discover Wildlife lists the hottest puffin spotting places in the UK so you can find which are best for your planned route. But be sure to remain respectful and stay a bit away from the birds. Modern cameras will allow you to document the adventure without disrupting the lives of these tough little creatures that face hardship every day.

**2. Visit all the best pubs:** Any holiday in the UK must have a few pub visits in the itinerary. The British have all the best pubs with delicious food, great beer, better company, and lots of traditions and atmosphere. Every city, town, and village in the UK has at least one special pub with some fascinating stories, so you should be on the lookout for those wherever

you go. Some of them are historic places with decades of history, like The Crooked Pub near Birmingham. London has the greatest number of interesting places that are both traditional and modern. To explore the most fascinating of those you should go on a [Camden pub crawl](#). That neighborhood houses some of the best pubs and bars in the UK. It definitely is the most fun to explore if you are looking for a place to party. This is a great experience for students and everyone who is looking for an evening of drinks and meeting new people.

**3. Visit the Mental Health Museum:** Mental Health Museum stands out from your regular museum list for a holiday in the UK. However, it's a good thing because the place is most fascinating and will provide you with many stories to tell. As the matter of mental health garners more attention from in the modern society, it will be fascinating to see how people suffering from depression, delusions, psychoses, and other mental conditions used to be treated years ago. Note that some of those stories and exhibits are worryingly reminiscent of horror shows. However, seeing this bit of history will help you understand why the stigma of mental illness is so hard to shake even in the progressive world of today.

**4. Stay the night at the zoo:** Visiting the renowned London Zoo doesn't seem like an unusual thing to do. However, did you know that you can actually spend the night there? You can stay at the Gir Lion Lodge and even witness the after-dark feeding. Going through the zoo at night is a totally different experience to a day tour. The memories of this adventure are sure to be some of the brightest from your holiday in the UK.

**5. Take a look at the greatest collection of neon signs:** God's Own Junkyard is an apt name for a place that makes the streets of Las Vegas seem dull. This is a piece of an actual salvage yard littered with handmade neon signs. There's also a café where you can get a much-needed drink after witnessing the kaleidoscope of neon colors.

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# Travel Tips: 5 Best Motorcycle Trips in America



 By [Ivana Jarmon](#)

There's nothing like getting on your motorcycle and heading out on the road. Any biker can tell you that the moment a person gets on their bike, their senses are brought to life. Bikers all share the restless, passionate love for the open road. These [travel tips](#) make for a perfect motorcycle trip.

## Check out our travel tips for the top five motorcycle trips a biker should take:

**1. Texas:** Texas has a grouping of great motorcycle roads in the Texas Hill Country nicknamed the Twisted Sisters. The actual names of the roads are Ranch Road 335, 336, and 337. These roads aren't meant for amateur riders, as they take you on a 100-mile loop of Texas ranches, valleys, and hills providing you with a panoramic view of the curve around canyons and rises with few guardrails. Attractions that can be visited along the way include the Frio Canyon Motorcycle Stop, the Lone Star Motorcycle Museum, and the Lost Maples State Natural Area.

**Related Link:** [Travel Destinations: Top 5 U.S. Spots for Spring Flowers](#)

**2. Montana:** There is a road that cuts through Montana's

Glacier National Park called Going-to-the-Sun. The road stretches 50 miles and lasts roughly two hours without stops. Five of the National Park's campgrounds are located along the road.

**Related Link:** [Travel Destinations: Top 5 Castles To Visit In America](#)

**3. Georgia:** The road known as Skyline Drive attracts over two million visitors every year due to the changing leaves. Black bears, white-tailed deer and wild turkey can be seen along the road. Skyline Drive is 105 miles long and runs north to south as the only public road through Shenandoah Park. The park is left intentionally un-mowed, so wildflowers can grow year-round giving visitors a magical feel.

**4. Big Island (HI):** The Big Island is interwoven by a web of roads that cuts through a variety of terrains and a lush rain forest. Saddle Road offers a route through the heart of the island; it's full of roller-coaster like twist and turns with smooth roads, making you want to come back for another visit.

**5. Los Angeles (CA):** Near the heart of the city, there are a variety of rural roads. Look no further than the Angeles Crest Highway near Flintridge or the winding canyons in Malibu. Also, try the Hollywood area. It will give you a peak of the coastal front.

**What are some motorcycle destinations you are excited to visit? Comment below.**

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# Travel Tips: How to Plan a Special Mother-Daughter Vacation



By [Ivana Jarmon](#)

What's more special and memorable than taking your mom on a special mother-daughter trip? There is something about taking a vacation and experiencing new things that creates a special travel bond between you and your mother. We have the perfect [travel tips](#) so you can plan a special mother-daughter getaway.

## Checkout out travel advice on how to plan a special mother-daughter vacation!

**1. Be realistic:** If you're mother-daughter trip rookies, be realistic in the kind of vacation you plan. If you and your mom aren't the type to drink wine, Napa Valley wouldn't be the place for you. Consider your likes and dislikes, and make a list of destinations that fit into both your desires and budgets.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Make the Most of Time on Your Vacation](#)

**2. Pick a meaningful destination:** Make a list of dream destinations. Make sure it's a destination that is on both of your bucket lists. Perhaps you want to see where your parents got engaged and your mom would love to see it again, too. That's perfect, because there's meaning behind it.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Indulge in a Romantic Getaway in Tuscany](#)

**3. Research:** Research, research, research! Before you leave, you should know the ins and outs of you're going to do. This means everything from how you're going to get there to where you are staying to (at least loosely) what your plans are while you're there.

**4. Budget:** There are good deals out there! This trip may be special, but you don't want to blow a hole in your wallet. Also, there's no secret that the mother-daughter dynamic may involve an unspoken power struggle. It might be easy and fun to allow your mom to pay for everything at first, but that may come with strings attached. First: There are a lot of websites that have inexpensive plane tickets. Also, there are often times deals that come with buying these tickets in a package, like 20% off your hotel stay. Second: Instead of your mom paying for everything, split the cost. This way you're not bickering on who paid for what and there aren't any unexpected attached strings.

**5. Compromise:** Embrace change, and try something your mom wants to do. A good option is to choose places you both want to visit and then also have places you want to go on your own respectively. It's good to spend time together, but also make sure you take breaks from each other!

**6. Above all have fun:** Take pictures, try new experiences, and eat lots of new foods! Enjoy each others' presence, and just have fun!

**If you have any more tips on how to plan a special mother-daughter vacation, comment below!**

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# Travel Tips: How to Plan a Debt-Free Vacation



By [Jessica Gomez](#)

Most of us love traveling and have a list of places we wish to go to before we kick the bucket. Making a bucket list with all the places you wish to visit is a great first step. Traveling can be such an amazing experience when you're not stressing out or breaking the bank. Therefore, we all wish to take a vacation that is debt-free, but how? Planning accordingly is your answer. Below are our [travel tips](#)!

## Here are five steps in the form of travel tips to take toward a debt-free vacay!

**1. Create a budget:** In order to be able to plan a vacation where you spend the least money and avoid debt, you need to know how much you can and are willing to spend. Do a financial assessment. Calculate your total take-home income, how much all your expenses are (including the amount you wish to save for non-travel related reasons), and lastly – how much you have left that you're willing to save without bending backwards.

**2. Plan your vacation as detailed as possible:** It's all about planning, and planning requires tons of research. Look up the place/s you want to visit on your next vacation, and plan what you want to do there. Plan everything from flights and stay, to activities and food. After that, it's time to put a price on everything. Once you know how much the whole vacation will



cost, you know whether it is possible for you to afford it or if you have to exclude a thing or two – sometimes more.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Make the Most of Time on Your Vacation](#)

**3. Use apps & sites to find cheap flights:** There are many apps and websites that cut you deals on flights, and hotels also. However, when it comes to your stay, you should decide whether a hotel, an all-inclusive resort, or an apartment/house rental is the best option for you. The good news is that finding cheap travel won't be difficult. Websites like Jetcost.com will compare the flight prices of many websites, showing you the most affordable price for you. Just make sure to always use a private tab when searching up hotel and flight prices in order to avoid cookies and sudden price fluctuations (the increasing kind aka the unwanted kind).

**4. Save money over time:** After planning and calculating, you should have a lot covered. Now you must plan to save a little each week. Of course this will depend on how soon you plan to take your trip. Planning as soon as possible is essential so that you can save as much money as possible.

**Related Link:** [Romantic Getaway: Travel in The Deep Blue Sea](#)

**5. Be open to change:** Sometimes after planning your vacation, things don't go accordingly – and that's okay. Be prepared for change and stay motivated. The more you plan, the easier change can be because you already have the information you need in-hand. Be open to having to change your vacation destination, or having to change the time, or other parts of your trip. As long as you follow the guidelines above, you should be okay when planning any trip.

**Enjoy, we know that vacation is much needed! What destination are you planning on traveling to next?**

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# Travel Trend: Norway



By Rhodesia Williams

Life is about exploring different lands and cultures. If you are thinking of traveling to a country you haven't visited before, but don't know where to go, give Norway a try. The latest [travel trend](#) has people exploring lands all over Europe. Although the weather can be on the cooler side, with so many things to do, you won't even notice. Breathing in the fresh air and taking in the sights will have you ready to see just what Norway has to offer.

**With so many fun things to explore in Norway, why not take a trip? Here are a few things to check out on your Norwegian getaway.**

**1. Nature:** Interested in exploring all that Norway has to offer? With so many long roadways and plenty of mountains to hike, experience exploring a whole new land. Traveling through Norway won't be hard since islands are connected by bridges and roads. While the summer months are the warmest, it doesn't get truly hot in Norway, making your adventures comfortable.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Make the Most of Time on Your Vacation](#)

**2. History:** Want to learn about Norway? The country is filled with different historical sites as well as museums. Explore

the famous Viking ship that can be found in Norway's capital of Oslo. Learn about the people and culture of Norway. There are so many things to experience like their food and music. Pick up a few quick lessons on their language, too.

**Related Link:** [Romantic Getaway: Travel in The Deep Blue Sea](#)

**3. Good eats:** Norwegians are known for using their own natural ingredients to cook. Using what is native to their land, it's safe to say their cuisine will be fresh and tasty. Norway, with their specialty in seafood, has been nominated for having one of the best top 50 restaurants in the world.

**What are some places you would like to visit? Share below.**

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# Celebrity Travel: Bring Your Family on a Cruise



By [Haley Lerner](#)

Finding a good [vacation destination](#) to bring your family on can be pretty tough. If you have a big family, it can be tough finding something that your whole gang can enjoy. Luckily, we've got the perfect [celebrity travel](#) idea for you: a cruise. Bringing your family on a cruise trip is an awesome idea because there are so many activities to keep your whole family busy, in one contained (but huge) space. We've got some [travel tips](#) on why yoFinding a good [vacation destination](#) to bring your family on can be pretty tough. If you have a big family, it can be tough finding something that your whole gang can enjoy. Luckily, we've got the perfect [celebrity travel](#) idea for you: a cruise. Bringing your family on a cruise trip is an

awesome idea because there are so many activities to keep your whole family busy, in one contained (but huge) space. We've got some [travel tips](#) on why your next family vacation should be on a cruise. ur next family vacation should be on a cruise.

## Check out our travel tips on why to bring your family on a cruise!

**1. It's easy:** A big reason why going on a family cruise vacation is such a good idea is that it's super easy to plan and do. You pay for everything in one price and don't have to worry about any trip planning or separate bills. Food, drinks, accommodations, entertainment and more aer all covered under the same price. You also are getting a good value for your money, especially since many cruises have group discounts when you have more people on your trip.

**2. Fun for everyone:** Cruises are a great family vacation option because there is something for people of all ages to do on them. Almost all cruise ships have kids' facilities that are split by age so all your children can have fun on their own, meet other kids and feel independent. Adults can spend their time hitting up the pool bars and relaxing at the spa. All ages have something to do on the trip and you don't have to worry about struggling to plan an activity that will satisfy everyone.

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**3. Excursions:** One of the best parts of being on a cruise is that you get to travel to beautiful destinations. Several days of your cruise will be spent getting to hop off the ship and explore an island or city. Bring your whole family for sight-seeing and wild adventures like scuba diving and surfing. You can plan your cruise around different destinations you want to

hit up. Go for a tropical trip around the Caribbean or a romantic, historic trip around the coast of Europe.

**4. Tons of activities:** Even for the days where you stay on the ship, there are plenty of activities for the whole family to get involved in. Cruises can have pools, waterslides, rock climbing, circus shows and plays, movie theaters and more. You'll never get bored exploring everything your cruise ship has to offer.

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**5. Great service:** Another great aspect of going on a cruise is that they have incredible service. You'll be sure to get top service with housekeeping, food, entertainment and hospitality staff. Everyone working on cruises are experts in their fields and are there to make your time the best it can be.

**Have any other reasons you should take your family on a cruise vacation? Comment below!**

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## Vacation Destination: Plan a Trip to Cuba



 By [Haley Lerner](#)

Looking for a hot [vacation destination](#)? Cuba is the perfect place for you to take your beau for a [romantic getaway](#). After many years of United States citizens not being allowed to travel to the small country, it is now open for visitors. We've got some [travel tips](#) for some of the best things for you to do on your vacation to Cuba.

# Check out our travel tips for your perfect vacation to Cuba!

**1. Wander around Old Havana:** One of the best parts of Cuba is the beautiful, colorful buildings that litter the streets of Havana. In the capital, take a stroll and shop, get a bite to eat and soak in the history the city has to offer.

**2. See live music:** Cuba is a country full of music. Whether it's listening to music in the street or going a jazz club, you can find great live music to listen to all over Cuba.

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**3. Go to the beach:** Cuba is surrounded by water, so there are plenty of beautiful beachfronts to visit in the country. Go with your beau and spend a romantic day by the shore, soaking up the sun and swimming in the clear blue ocean water.

**4. Ride in a vintage car:** Cuba is famous for its colorful, vintage cars. What's great is it's actually really easy to take a ride in one. Taxis in Cuba are these vintage cars, so take one for a ride around the city and enjoy the old car and some fantastic views.

**Related Link:** [Travel Trend: Shangri-La's Villingili Resort & Spa in the Maldives](#)

**5. Go to a museum:** Cuba has a rich history, so hit up one of the country's many museums. Whether it's the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, the national art museum, or the Museum of the Revolution, you'll be sure to be in awe of the fantastic content you'll discover.

**Have any more tips on what to do in Cuba? Comment below!**