



Booking Guide

FOR CLIENTS TRAVELING TO
DISNEY WORLD PARKS

Welcome!

Disney World can be overwhelming.... That's where this guide comes in!

The purpose of this guide is to provide a basic overview of the decisions you'll be making as you plan a Disney World Vacation. This includes things as like explaining the resort categories, exploring dining plans, and transportation options. The main goal is to make you feel confident in your selections when you become ready to book your trip.



*If you're here,
it probably means one thing:*
**You don't just want a good vacation.
You want a meaningful one.**

Our number one goal is to make planning a Disney vacation fun and easy!



Hi, We're Rachel & Jim

We're your friendly neighborhood Disney Adults, favorite foodies, and Travel Advisors specializing in Disney Destinations. We're here to help to help you plan your first, once in a lifetime, or annual Disney vacation.



We've assisted hundreds of families and groups plan vacations that truly fit their needs. Not just what the internet tells them they should be doing. We plan with intention, and that's exactly what this guide (and we) aim to do!

Want Help Planning Your Next Disney World Package?

We work one-on-one with clients to help curate the perfect resort, tickets, and dining plan!

[Click here to request a complimentary quote](#)



Important Dates

at a Glance

There's several key dates to keep in mind as you plan your vacation

1

FINAL PAYMENT DUE

Your final payment is due 30 days prior to arrival. If you would like to make payments prior to that, you're welcome to do so. When you work with us, we process payments on your behalf. You simply email in with the amount you'd like to pay, and we do the rest! This can help make budgeting easier.

2

DINING RESERVATIONS

One of the most important parts of our planning process will be creating your dining schedule. You will be able to create your dining reservations 60 days prior to arrival at 6am EST. This is a service I provide for my clients, so in the weeks leading up to your date, we will connect to discuss your food preferences!

3

ADD MEMORY MAKER & ENCHANTING EXTRAS

45 days prior to departure, we will want to be sure that any Enchanting Extras your family wishes to add to your reservation are officially added. Memory Maker can be added up to 3 days prior to arrival. You end up paying more for Memory Maker if you decide to add it while in the parks, than if you had added it ahead of time.

4

DISNEY MAGICBANDS

MagicBands add a touch of magic to your vacation by unlocking special surprises, personalized just for you, throughout the Walt Disney World Resort. Disney MagicBands can be customized and ordered up to 10 days before your check-in date.

5

FINAL TRIP CONSULTATION

This vacation is a big deal for your family, and I like to treat it like one! 7 days prior to your departure, we will connect via phone or Zoom for a final consultation. This will be our chance to go over the final details of your trip and answer any questions you may have.



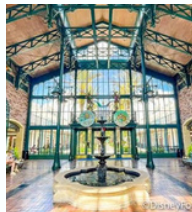
Where You'll Stay

Disney World offers multiple options for stays. What does each designation mean?



Value Resort Hotels

These resorts are the most budget friendly on-property accommodations. These rooms typically cost between \$150 to \$300 per night for a standard room. What's fun and unique about value resorts is the over-the-top theming. These resorts are especially magical for littles who will enjoy seeing their favorite characters all over the resort. These resorts offer basic amenities like pools (without slides), food court dining options and arcades.



Moderate Resort Hotels

These mid-tier resorts offer a balance between cost and comfort, offering better amenities than value resorts, but a lower price point than a deluxe. These resorts offer immersive theming, pools with slides, and sit-down dining options. These resorts tend to be the most popular among guests.



Deluxe Resort Hotels

Deluxe resorts are the top-tier of luxury, and the most expensive options on property. But the cost does come with benefits. These resorts offer the best quality accommodations, superior amenities, larger rooms (usually with interior corridors), and multiple dining options including themed dining and signature dining experiences. These resorts are closest to the parks (less time spent on the bus). Deluxe resorts often come with exclusive benefits such as multiple transportation options and extended evening hours.



Good Neighbor Hotels

These hotels are third-party hotels, not owned by Disney. However, they have been audited by Disney to meet high standards for quality, comfort and proximity. These hotels, while not on property, are typically located within 2 to 14 miles of the parks. These hotels offer a wider range of accommodations, like kitchenette suites. These tend to be the most budget friendly, but should be considered against the perks of staying on property such as inter-resort transportation.

Disney World Booking Guide



Park Tickets

Disney® theme parks offer several types of tickets, each designed to cater to different preferences and needs of visitors. The main differences lie in factors such as duration, flexibility, and additional perks. Here are some common types of Disney® park tickets:

1

Single-Day Tickets

Single-Day Tickets allow entry to one of the Disney® theme parks (e.g., Magic Kingdom®, Epcot®, Hollywood Studios®, or Animal Kingdom®) for a single day. They are ideal for visitors who have limited time or want to visit just one park.

2

Multi-Day Tickets

Multi-day Tickets offer entry to one park per day for multiple days. They usually provide better value compared to single-day tickets, especially if you plan to visit the parks for several days.

3

Park Hopper Tickets

Park Hopper Tickets allow visitors to hop between multiple Disney® parks on the same day. This flexibility enables visitors to experience more attractions across different parks in one day. Park Hopper tickets typically cost more than single-park tickets.

4

Park Hopper Plus Tickets

Park Hopper Plus Tickets include all the benefits of Park Hopper tickets, with additional admissions to other Disney® attractions such as water parks (like Disney's® Typhoon Lagoon and Disney's® Blizzard Beach), miniature golf courses, ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex, and more. These tickets are suitable for visitors who want to explore a variety of Disney® experiences beyond the main theme parks.

5

Special Event Tickets

Disney® occasionally hosts special events like Mickey's® Not-So-Scary Halloween Party or Mickey's® Very Merry Christmas Party, which require separate tickets for admission. These events offer unique experiences such as exclusive entertainment, character meet-and-greets, and themed attractions.



Your Recommended Ticket Strategy

To make the most of your time in the parks, we get to know you, your travel group, and your vacation goals. From there we build out a recommended ticket strategy that meets your needs.



Complimentary Park Transportation

how to travel to and from disney parks



- **Monorail Transportation**

The Walt Disney World Monorail System has 3 separate beams that travel throughout Walt Disney World Resort and make the following stops: Magic Kingdom, Grand Floridian Resort, Contemporary Resort, & Polynesian Village & Villas

- **Disney Skyliner Transportation**

Glide across the sky on this grand, state-of-the-art gondola system, conveniently connecting Disney's Hollywood Studios and the International Gateway at Epcot to the following Disney Resort hotels: Art of Animation, Caribbean Beach, Pop Century, & Riviera Resorts

Travel to Disney's Parks

- **Bus Transportation**

Guests of select Walt Disney World Resort hotels can take advantage of complimentary bus service to and from all 4 theme parks, Disney Resort hotels, and the Disney Springs Area.

- **Water Transportation**

Guests of select Disney Resort hotels can enjoy complimentary boat service to and from Magic Kingdom, Disney's Hollywood Studios, Epcot, and throughout Walt Disney World Resort.



Dining Plans

an overview of prepaid dining options

Experience the Ultimate Dining Convenience on Your Vacation

Elevate your vacation with Disney's exclusive dining plans, designed to make your dining experience stress-free and flexible. Say goodbye to the hassle of budgeting for meals at every turn. With a diverse selection of over 200 dining options, there's a mouthwatering delight to please every palate.

You're in the driver's seat when it comes to dining. Redeem your meals and snacks at your convenience during your stay. Any unused meals and snacks smoothly carry over each day and only expire at midnight on your checkout day.

For 2026, children dining plans (ages 3–9) are free when buying full priced adult dining plans. Just another way Disney is making the classic vacation more attainable for today's families.

But is the dining plan worth it for your trip?

Option 1: Disney® Quick-Service Dining Plan: 2 Quick-Service & 1 Snack credit per night

For 2026, the price is \$60.47 per adult and Free per child under 10, per night.

Option 2: Disney® Dining Plan (Quick Service AND Table-Service): 1 Quick-Service, 1 Dining, and 1 Snack credit per night

For 2026, the price is \$98.59 per adult and Free per child under 10, per night.



Ride Height Guide

for walt disney world attractions

Magic Kingdom

- Barnstormer - 35"
- 7 Dwarves Mine Train - 38"
- Big Thunder Mountain Railroad - 38"
- Space Mountain - 44"
- Tiana's Bayou Adventure - 40"
- Tomorrowland Speedway - 32" to ride, 54" to Drive
- TRON: LightCycle Run- 48"

EPCOT

- Mission Space - 40"
- Soarin' - 40"
- Test Track - 40"
- Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind - 42"

Animal Kingdom

- Avatar Flight of Passage - 44"
- Expedition Everest - 44"
- Kali River Rapids - 38"

Hollywood Studios

- Alien Swirling Saucer - 32"
- Millennium Falcon - 38"
- Rockin' Roller Coaster - 48"
- Slinky Dog Dash - 38"
- Star Tours - 40"
- Tower of Terror - 40"

Typhoon Lagoon

- Bay Slides - 60"
- Crush 'n' Gusher - 48"
- Humunga Kowabunga - 48"

Blizzard Beach

- Chair Lift - 32"
- Downhill Double Dipper - 48"
- Slush Gusher 48"
- Summit Plummet - 48"
- Tikes Peak - 48"



All other rides are great for any height!



Enchanting Extras

To enhance & personalize your vacation

Memory Maker

Get everyone in the photo without the stress of having to bring your phone to every icon and attraction! Save money by adding this to your package ahead of your trip.

Droid Depot

Build your own droid, one of the galaxy's most indispensable sidekicks!

Savi's Workshop – Handbuilt Lightsaber

Build your own custom lightsaber and continue the way of the Force.

Drawn to Life – Cirque du Soleil

Watch in wonder as the beauty of Disney animation blends with the thrilling spectacle of Cirque du Soleil!

Magic Kingdom Fireworks Dessert Party

End your Disney day in a magical way—with tantalizing treats and fantastic fireworks.

Disney VIP Tours

Create your Disney dream day & explore the parks with an official VIP Guide. Prices vary.

Ferrytale Fireworks: Dessert Cruise

Delight in desserts, drinks, and views of fireworks aboard a ferryboat.

Capture Your Moment

Commemorate your celebration with a photo session including a view of iconic Cinderella Castle.

Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique

Behold a royal transformation as kids become elegant princesses and shining knights—right before your eyes!

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Disney Vacation Success Tips

from your disney expert



Set up a My Disney Experience Account and download the accompanying app



Do not rent a car. Each Disney hotel has free transportation to the parks!



Know how to use crowd calendars to determine how busy the parks will be each day



Take the time to read and learn about each ride so you have a plan!



Always fly into Orlando International Airport (MCO) for the easiest hotel transfer



Learn about height requirements and rider switch to make the most of your time.



Book Your advance dining reservations 60 days prior to arrival



Be aware of Lightning Lane options and Magical Extras



Are you ready to take the *Next Step?*

Now that you've read through the guide, you're prepared for the choices you'll need to make to build your dream Disney World vacation package. But the fun doesn't stop there! Do you want expert advice while navigating these decisions from frequent Disney travelers and Travel Advisors specializing in Disney destinations? Do you want help discerning the right moves to make?

That's where we come in.

We're Rachel and Jim Travel, a husband and wife team, who have planned just about every kind of trip imaginable. We'd love to be a part of planning your next getaway. Reach out to us today for a no obligation quote!

Your trusted Travel Advisors,

Rachel & Jim Travel



This guide is not affiliated with the Disney brand in any official way. All information is subject to change.

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