

Disney says it's "the happiest place on earth." With days and days of action, dreams really do come true. Read and take this Inside Scoop with your documents; it's packed with tips to help "happy up" your holiday.

travel: delighting in the spirit of adventure • a vacation from home to explore places that are not your home • knowing life is different, knowing this is a joy of travel • enjoying the journey, not just the destination • a privilege best used with patience, humour and curiosity • fun • coming home with great tales •

Take a Safety Net

It's common for Canadians to assume health care in the US is similar—but there's a big difference. It's a business, charging you for even the tiniest bandage. We strongly recommend LeGrow's Travel medical and cancellation/interruption insurance. **Leaving?** Do room sweeps for belongings. As 11am is check-out time for Disney hotels, pack what's needed for a few hours and check luggage at the hotel. Check-out times differ among Good Neighbor hotels.

Your Counsellor

Our knowledge and experience help turn dreams into first-rate vacations. Ask your counsellor about any details, including:

- advance information/tickets for theme parks/attractions
- all Disney-related info
- handling onsite car rentals
- maps & information.

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A Maritime Travel Company

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Inside Scoop: Disneyland

Anaheim, California

Know before you go: travel isn't just your destination, it's also the journey

There's only one "problem—deciding what to do because there's so much to enjoy.

Whether you aim to enjoy key attractions or completely cover **Disney California Adventure Park, Disneyland® Park or Downtown Disney District**, planning ahead will not only help you budget, it will be kinder to your feet and your sanity. Plan ahead for benefits such as passes, seat selection, discounts and customized maps. Also

- We know you want value for money in balancing choices and amenities with your budget. No matter what, relax and enjoy. Special requests are requests only for such upgrades as room type. For families, upgrading to a suite gives you extra privacy.
- Check with your provider for cell phone packages. Internet access is widely available.
- The numerous local banks easily change money and accept Canadian debit cards: To reduce withdrawal fees, ask your bank for affiliated banks not charging an ATM fee, i.e. Scotiabank's is Bank of America. Log dates you're away with your credit card company.
- Parks have maximum capacities and close when full. Go early or after 3pm, especially in high seasons (summer and Christmas).

BIG Tip: No matter how dorky you (or your kids) think you look, wear comfy walking shoes! Travel with a positive attitude—patience and a spirit of adventure will carry you through any experience!

Plan Ahead to Save \$\$ & Time

There's so much to see here that appeals to people of all ages and budgets. In planning ahead, save money by purchasing excursions and packages ahead. Ask your counsellor about super VIP tours and the time-saving free FastPass+ for specific rides. Park passes of 3 and 4 days are available (3 most popular, usually all the time needed).

While you might book a Good Neighbor hotel, <http://disneyland.disney.go.com/help/hotels>, the 3 onsite Disney hotels have onsite services. Book a wake-up call from a Disney character (let your kid answer) and on certain days, enjoy Magic Morning entry before parks open. <http://disneyland.disney.go.com/faq> Many rides have minimum heights; 40" (102cm), 42", 48" or 51", kids up to 48" (122cm) needing an accompanying rider 14 years or older. Rides for kids also have minimums; often 34" or 35" so to reduce tears, measure beforehand.

Pack Strategically

Airports are overrun with black bags: put coloured tape or ribbon on your luggage to spot it quickly. Put your name outside and inside, remove old tags. In carry-on, pack valuables such as jewellery, over-the-counter and prescription drugs in original containers with a list, dosage and doctor's tel number. Pack liquids/lotions/gels in checked bags (inside plastic bags). With carry-on restrictions, the maximum size container is 100ml(3.4oz): all must fit in 1 clear/resealable plastic bag, no more than 1 litre (often at airport screening). You may take baby formula, food or milk if a child 2 years of age and under (0-24 months) travels with you.

Items regular travellers pack: notebook/pens, hand wipes, munchies (no fruit, meat or veg over borders). Permitted in carry-on: cell phones, disposable razors, laptops, canes and nail clippers. Items you can't take on include corkscrews and sports gear such as golf clubs, baseball bats and racquets. Check with your airline for their restrictions. Most hotels provide hair dryers so save that room for souvenirs. For young kids, bring an umbrella stroller (or buy there). Save \$\$, pack snacks for the park.

They Won't be Teens Forever...

Two words parents don't usually like to see together are "teens" and "hi-octane," but where else does that likely not mean a hospital visit? Guaranteed thrills: **The Incredicoaster**, the **Splash Mountain** log flume ride, the **Golden Zephyr** (not right after lunch) and **Guardians of the Galaxy**. For tweens, **Autopia** is fun; no driver's license needed. **Tip:** go on popular rides at meal times (4 to 6pm) or book rides via your FastPass+. Eats? **Hungry Bear Restaurant, Tiki Juice Bar** and **Storytellers Café**.

What's New?

The new **Pixar Pier** has four lively neighbourhoods, **Pixar Pal-A-Round** attractions and the **Pixar Promenade** including **Inside Out** and **The Incredibles** (Edna Mode and Jack-Jack aren't tall enough to ride the Incredicoaster). Smell cookies? You should because the scent is pumped into the coaster with **Jack-Jack's Cookie Num Nums** on the way out. Between that and **Toy Story**, check out the cleverly designed water wall between the sites.

Your Airline

Although John Wayne Airport, Orange County is closest, then Long Beach, many visitors fly through Los Angeles or San Diego: Confirm with your counsellor. As your plane might be coming in from elsewhere and delayed, confirm you flight's departure. CATSA can prohibit items as security risks www.catsa.gc.ca/home and note, "Travellers should arrive at the airport earlier than usual, exercise patience and **contact their airline for further information on their flight(s).**" Airline staff are on duty some 2-3hrs prior: due to staffing/security, check-in (and bag-check) closes 1hr before departure. If late, you're not entitled to board (or a refund). Unless booked ahead, seats are first-come first-served.

Baggage: Size/weight restrictions for checked and carry-on varies: check with your airline. **Entry & Departure:** Everyone must have a valid passport www.cic.gc.ca/english/passport. Keep a copy of ID pages or snap a cell picture. Coming back, know your limits and exemptions, www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/travel-voyage/bgb-rmf-eng.html such as on duty free alcohol.



Get Packing Checklist and General Planning & Packing Tips

www.legrowstravel.ca/inside-scoops

- ☐ Your sense of adventure & humour!

California Adventure Park

Always check the day's schedule and new attractions. **Turtle Talk with Crush** (*Finding Nemo*) is a perfect diversion. **Monstropolis** is a scream away at **Monsters Inc.** Mike & Sulley to the Rescue. Play **Toy Story Midway Mania**, enjoy breathtaking landscapes **Soarin' Around the World** (all ages). Climb into a raft for **Grizzly River Run** rapids. See the world from the perspective of a bug, based on **A Bug's Life** and hop on the **Heimlich Chew Chew Train** caterpillar. Immerse yourselves in **The Little Mermaid-Ariel's Undersea Adventure** (without getting wet). Disney takes PhotoPass pictures at attractions: You don't have to buy them but if you want to order later, those memories will there for use on mugs, blankets and, of course, as printed pictures.



Websites and emails in blue are hyperlinked; just click!

Canadian citizens: Emergency

See <http://travel.gc.ca/assistance/emergency-info>, call Global Affairs 1-800-387-3124 or 1-613-996-8885 (collect if needed), sos@international.gc.ca.

At the entrance to **Disneyland Park**, **Main Street USA** makes for a nice stroll. Ride on a vintage vehicle (rest your feet) in **Fantasyland** just past **Sleeping Beauty Castle**. Spin in a tea cup, fly over London with **Peter Pan** and see **Tomorrowland's** future's innovations. The ever-popular **Space Mountain** still thrills. Sail off in the **Pirates of the Caribbean** and enjoy a taste of the tropics in the **Enchanted Tiki Room**.

A terrific way to get situated and spot what to visit is by taking the **Disneyland Train**. **Pirate's Lair on Tom Sawyer Island** brings that classic tale to life. Keep an eye out for characters all along the way. When the park opens, head to popular rides: at **Dumbo** and

Mickey's Toontown, lineups form quickly. Eavesdrop on park happenings by finding the **Police Phone**. The **Clockenspiel** is super fun to watch; it goes off every half hour. An adult has to wait with a younger child while the others ride? Ride switch—tell the attendants as they'll let you switch when the others come off (and stay with the child).

Big news! **Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge** is to open in 2019. See teasing drone footage of some of the 14 acres of that new land, <https://disneyland.disney.go.com/destinations/disneyland/star-wars-galaxys-edge>. Can't wait? Watch this fascinating construction footage, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-Wrcod3Xuk> (1:06mins).

Park Tips

- Warn younger kids about the size of characters; tiny on tv, life size can be scary.
- Dining plans offer good value with flexibility. If celebrating a special occasion, let them know. Pre-booking some meals lets you choose what's best for your schedule/preferences, from fast food to gourmet meals (with fine wine). Take a break adults: Disney hotels offer babysitting/childcare.
- Character experiences include special greetings, meals and attraction meetings. Say hi at **Mickey's House**, eat **Breakfast in the Park** with Minnie & Friends (Plaza Inn, Main Street). When possible, reserve most experiences 3 months in advance <http://disneyland.disney.go.com/characters>. Princess sightings are best at **Fantasy Faire** and **Royal Hall** (Fantasyland); turn your princess into one at **Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique** (Sleeping Beauty Castle). Meet Tinker Bell and friends in **Pixie Hollow** or don a robe in the **Jedi Training** where kids are picked (ages 4 to 12) from the audience.
- In staying at a Disney hotel, most purchases and meals can be billed to your room; if you give kids access (or a parent kid), set limits. Or buy Disney gift cards with set dollar amounts. Before going, talk about buying items—trading pins and t-shirts (characters can sign with markers) can get expensive. Yes, you're on holiday but a splurge might soon be in a yard sale; discuss what can be shared (autograph book? snow globe?).
- Reduce hassles by planning ahead how to get to the park: From airports: Disney Resort Express (reservations not needed) and SuperShuttle (select airports. For rental car (note where you park), valet parking can be worth it. See driving routes at <https://disneyland.disney.go.com/guest-services/getting-here/by-car>
- Visitors tend to start at the front of the park so for shorter lines and waits, start at the back and head up. Know that you likely won't be able to see everything (or might be disappointed if an attraction is closed for refurbishment). Check for extended hours—many visitors go when the parks open, return to hotels in the afternoon for a swim or nap and go back for evenings and fireworks.
- With the excitement, parents and kids can get separated. At each park, pick a spot to meet or instruct your child to go to a Cast Member (employee with a nametag). Plans depend on a child's age but ensure your child knows your name (not just "mom"), hotel and cell number or pin that info inside their clothing (tell them it's there). Have pictures of them and they of you.
- A great time to go on rides is during parades—see it once (plan an escape route as it's congested) then get to missed rides (or want to do again) when others are at the parade.
- There's always something new—attractions are based on recent and popular movies so get each person's top picks. Before you go, plan routes <http://disneyland.disney.go.com/maps> and make time to wander.
- Bring sunscreen as shade is limited; bring hats and plastic rain ponchos (from dollar stores); umbrellas are cumbersome. Take refillable water bottles as water at the parks gets expensive. All food concessions will give you cups of water when asked.

Our 24/7 Emergency Service

We constantly survey airlines, local tour companies and hotels to ensure they meet our customer service standards, so don't let a problem ruin your holiday. Nearly all issues can be handled quickly on site—first seek help from the venue's local staff. Otherwise, call our Emergency Travel Service at **1-888-551-1181**. Deposits are non-refundable and non-transferrable. Schedule changes can occur and airlines and tour operators have the right to change flight and/or tour times, alter, combine services or substitute accommodations. Your counsellor will work with you to ensure you receive information as soon as possible and ensure satisfaction. See your brochure and ticket terms and conditions.

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