

Disney World Insider Tips



Make the most of your Disney World vacation with some tips from our insider Disney Cast Members (Theme Park employees). These tips will help you have a *more magical* Disney World vacation.

Don't see and do everything! Plan on riding your favorite rides at each Disney Theme Park. Don't try to ride every ride or see every show – just pick your favorites and enjoy.

Arrive to the Disney Theme Parks at least 15 minutes before the gates open!

Take an afternoon break at your Disney Resort from 1-4 PM. This is the busiest time at the Disney Theme Parks, so take a break at your resort to refresh and then head back to the Disney Theme Parks for evening activities.

Take advantage of evening **Extra Magic Hours!** The Extra Magic Hours are extra time at the Disney Theme Parks, just for Disney Resort guests. We suggest skipping the morning Extra Magic Hours, but take full advantage of the evening Extra Magic Hours.

Take pictures with your own camera, but also use the **Disney PhotoPass** photographers. You will see Disney PhotoPass photographers at the Disney Theme Parks, restaurants, Downtown Disney, and Water Parks. If you see a Disney PhotoPass photographer, go up and get your family picture. It is free and a great way to get your whole family in your picture. When you get home, you can go to Disney PhotoPass online and buy any of your pictures from your Disney World vacation.

Take advantage of **FastPass+** (if you are a Disney Resort guest) to save time waiting in lines at the Disney Theme Parks. Be sure you make your FastPass+ reservations before you leave for Disney World or update with the My Disney Experience app.

Once the gates open in the morning, **head right to the more popular rides** - do not get stuck getting Character pictures. You will have time to do this later. Hit the more popular rides and attractions and then enjoy the Character Meet & Greets later.

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Visit the more popular rides and **attractions during parades or firework shows.**

If it rains, don't leave the park. Hang out until the rain stops and you will have an empty Theme Park to play!

If you have any questions, ask a **Disney Cast Member** (employee). They will go out of their way to help you have a more magical vacation.

Pack **several pairs of shoes.** You will do a lot of walking at Disney World and even your most comfortable shoes will get uncomfortable. Pack several pairs of shoes, so you can wear a different pair each day.

Pack kids **swim suits or clothes for days** at the Disney Parks that can get wet. There are several parks that have water rides or activities that get kids wet. Be sure you have something kids can wear after they get wet to keep them comfortable.

Pack **snacks and activities for the kids** at the Disney Theme Parks. With long lines, sometimes the kids get bored or hungry when you are in a line. Have snacks handy, DSL games, iphones, tablets, etc. to keep the kids entertained and happy while you are waiting in lines. Bubbles also work really well while you are waiting in line!

Disney Transportation is a great system, but always **allow at least an hour transportation time** to get from one destination to another destination. This way you will never be late for a dining reservations or a fireworks show.

If you need an evening out, remember Disney offers **Children Activity Centers** at many of the Disney Deluxe Resorts. This activity center babysitting allows you to leave the kids and the adults can enjoy an evening out.

Pick up a **Guide Map and Times Guide** at the front entrance to the Disney Theme Parks for the latest show times and character meet and greets.

When you have the option in a line or around the Disney Theme Parks to go right or left, always **go left.** For some reason, most people always go to the right. Beat the crowds and the lines by always going left!

Package Delivery – If you purchase an item while you are visiting one of the Disney Theme Parks. You can request to have the package sent to your Disney Resort gift shop. This way you don't have to carry the bag around the park all day. You just pick it up at your Disney Resort Hotel gift shop when you get back to the hotel.

In the evening after the last show or fireworks, **take your time leaving the park.** After the IllumiNations Show or Wishes Fireworks, the park does close. However, many quick service restaurants and gift shops are still open. Take your time leaving to avoid the rush and the bus line to get back to your Disney Resort.

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Fun **souvenir activities for kids** – Pin trading and pressed pennies are inexpensive and fun activities for kids during a Disney World vacation. Kids can trade pins with any guest and Disney Cast Members. Great souvenirs and activities while enjoying the Disney Theme Parks. The pressed pennies are also an inexpensive and fun way to remember Disney World.

Look for **Hidden Mickey's** around the Walt Disney World Resort. The Disney Imagineers that created the Walt Disney World Resort created a fun challenge for visitors called Hidden Mickey's. A Hidden Mickey are three round circles in the shape of Mickey's head (face and two ears). These Hidden Mickey's are scattered throughout the Walt Disney World Resort. To keep the family busy while waiting in lines...look for Hidden Mickey's.

Take your time and enjoy your vacation - remember, *this is a vacation!* Relax and actually enjoy your family and your vacation!