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Getting The Most Out Of Family Vacation Planning

By News Canada

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by: **News Canada**

(NC)—A recent Travel Activities & Motivation Survey indicates that 77 per cent of Canadians cited rest, relaxation and recuperation as the most commonly sought out experiences during a vacation. But, because this is often the only time families are able to spend together, how can you take a summer trip that allows you to relax and get the most out of your time with the kids?

With research and proper planning, you can have a relaxing, enjoyable summer vacation that won't keep you up at night stressing about making everyone happy and stretching the budget.

First, make sure to involve the kids in the entire planning process. The more they feel like they have had a say about the destination and activities, the more co-operative they will be during the vacation.

Next, check out the Internet for your vacation destination possibilities. You will be able to find a lot of free planning materials to help put together the perfect trip. The majority of provincial tourism departments have travel kits complete with informational guides, brochures and maps that they will send you free of charge. Once you have compiled your information and packages, gather the family, research your options and decide where to go together.

Family vacations can be real budget-busters, therefore, plan a trip you can afford so that there are not any stressful or embarrassing moments while on the road. Know what is included in the vacation package and what will cost you over and above so that you can budget wisely. Booking early and being flexible with travel dates and times allows you to capitalize on various airlines and hotel specials, which can equal big savings.

Also, look for hotels that cater to families. National hotel chains, such as Holiday Inn Hotels and Resorts, help to ensure that you will find a comfortable stay anywhere during your trip. And, family hotels like Holiday Inn also offer specific value programs. For example, not only do kids 12 and under eat for free from the restaurant kid's menu when accompanied by an adult, but this summer, until

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September 7, 2003, Holiday Inn can help you get the most out of your summer getaway with their new Dinner's On Us program, where adults can also eat for free, up to \$24 per night.

In terms of vacation activities, call ahead to avoid disappointment. Make sure to book family attractions, entertainment and sporting adventures well in advance.

And finally, let kids help create memories. Giving them disposable cameras will not only empower them, but it will help capture more great moments from your family summer vacation.

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Quickly: Take A Florida Vacation!

By Triston Huntsmin

Attention everybody who feels like their life has gotten a bit too stressful and that a vacation is in order! It is time that you make your desire for a week or two of relaxing vacation a reality. How? It's simple! Start planning a Florida vacation today.

A Florida vacation is the perfect getaway for people who are feeling tired of the plight of everyday life. There is no better way to relax and re-focus than to spend some time away on a Florida vacation. Sometimes life is so busy that you really have to plan ahead, so your first step in planning a great vacation is to set aside time for it. Whether you can get away next month or next year, just having the dates marked away on your calendar will bring you great motivation to get through tough weeks and to be planning your Florida vacation.

Once you have nailed away a time for your trip, the next step is to really consider what kind of Florida

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vacation you want to have. Consider how you want to spend your precious few days away from work and normal life. For example, some couples or families may choose a Florida vacation that is filled with entertainment opportunities. If being busy and exploring things day and night sounds fun to you, then look to make your Florida vacation in an area that attracts a lot of visitors and has a lot of activities arranged. If, however, you are looking for a quiet getaway, consider planning your Florida vacation to a secluded beach or to a condo where all your needs will be met quietly.

You can look for the perfect destinations and begin making plans for your Florida vacation by talking with a travel agent or by doing some research online. You will have a far easier time getting excited about a trip when it is actually being planned and coming to shape. It is probably a good idea to look for accommodations before you look for airfare, so start right away at looking for the perfect accommodations for your Florida vacation. See what kinds of package deals you can find as you search. Often you will discover great deals that include airfare, housing, food and entertainment all in one great package. So don't be too quick to make your Florida vacation plans. Take your time and be intentional about the details. After all, you do want this to be the vacation of a lifetime.

Triston Huntsmin is a writer that gets many opportunities to travel. He always encourages people to consider a Florida vacation for the next time they want to steal away. See

for more.

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