

THE DEFINITIVE FAMILY VACATION EBOOK



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For Fox Travel Texas

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INTRODUCTION TO FAMILY TRAVEL

Thank you for downloading Fox Travel's Family Vacation Ebook! You have taken the next step to help your family plan the best family vacation to make memories that will last a lifetime.

Spending time together as a family is crucial to help raise well rounded children. Did you know that spending quality time together as a family can help with the following:

- **Build Self Esteem in Children**
 - Children who spend quality time with their family have more self confidence and they are more sociable. They also have an easier time building relationships
- **Creates Healthy Bonds**
 - Spending time with family creates family ties. Spending time together, especially when problem solving (hello, trip planning or getting around a foreign country), helps children build strong relationships and handle stressful situations easier.
- **Builds a Healthy Lifestyle**
 - Walking around looking at different cities, cultures, and history helps everyone remain active while having fun, plus it's educational! Even if you do a relaxing beach vacation, you are still very active with swimming, tours, and excursions.
- **Relieves Stress**
 - Talking with loved ones about problems and issues helps relieve stress. What a better way to have conversations with your kids than on vacation when their phones don't get service!
- **Creates Memories**
 - Whether it is sitting around your dining room table or traveling the world, your children will build memories that will last a lifetime.

Growing up, my Grandmother was a Travel Agent. During her later years she realized how important it was to make memories with her children and grandchildren, so she started taking us on family trips every year to every other year. Because of her, I now have a love of travel, feel more confident in new situations and places, and have loving memories that will last a lifetime now that she has passed.

Traveling with your children and family is a great way to build bonds that you wouldn't be able to accomplish in everyday life.

We all know that with work, school, and extracurricular activities, life is busy, and stressful. Everyone needs a break from everyday life, so why not spend it with your family on a beach, or riding roller coasters, or taking an adventure, your children will tell stories of for the rest of their lives!

What are the benefits of booking with a travel agent? At Fox Travel we have a combined 100 plus years in the industry. Often times at least one of us has been to the destination you are traveling to, and if we haven't then we have probably sent someone there. We know that travel is an investment in your time and money and you want to make sure you are getting the best bang for your buck. We also get access to many discounts and amenities not offered to anyone else, and generally if you find it for less than what we did, in most cases we can price match. By booking with an agent you also get the piece of mind knowing that if something does go wrong, a natural disaster, or an airline strike, we are there to fix it, so you can continue to enjoy your vacation and not sit on the phone for hours trying to find a solution. There are so many benefits of booking with a travel agent, but one of the biggest is allowing us to do all the work so you can spend more time with your family doing the things you love and making memories.

In this ebook there will be a ton of destination information, fun travel ideas, beautiful pictures to help with inspiration, and much more! My hope is that you and your family start your quality time right now and read this together. You'll be surprised how even the most uninterested kids will love to talk about where they want to go or see.

On to Chapter 1!

CHAPTER 1 – DESTINATION INFORMATION

This chapter will discuss about many of our most popular destinations for families, destinations that our agents have been to (so we know all the best locations), as well as inspirational destinations to help you decide on where you and your family would like to go. Continue reading for some great information!

WE'VE BEEN THERE, MEXICO!

It is a phrase that we at Fox Travel use because it's true. Between Donna and Jim, the owners of Fox Travel, who have traveled to over 100 different countries, and the Fox Travel staff that has traveled all over, we have the experience to help you plan the best vacation ever! Those "insider tips" can make the difference between a great vacation and an incredible one. In this edition, we will be talking about our travel to Mexico!

TRAVEL TO MEXICO

One of our favorite close to home destinations is [Mexico](#). With great food, culture, history, gorgeous beaches, beautiful all-inclusive resorts and more, it's hard for it to not be on top of everyone's list to visit at least once, be it by land or sea.

At Fox Travel, all of our agents have visited Mexico several times. We have put together some of our favorite experiences to give you, our readers, a glimpse of the fun things you can expect when you travel to Mexico.

Debbie, who has been to Mexico six times, said her favorite location to visit and stay was the Iberostar Lido in Playa del Carmen. With a wave pool, lazy rivers, great beach, palapas, a concierge to help you with your dinner reservations and more, it was a great place for Debbie and her adult children to relax and play. Debbie reported that the street tacos that they make fresh daily were delicious and they were all you can eat. She also recommends going to [Xcaret](#) and [Xel-Ha Parks](#), swim with the dolphins, ATV trips, jet skiing, parasailing and seeing the ancient walled city of Tulum.





Alma, who has been to Mexico over 10 times, loves the [Riviera Maya](#) area because it is packed with sightseeing and off the grid adventures. She loved and recommended snorkeling in Centoes, which are water-filled caves, visiting underwater museums, and also recommends visiting archeological Mayan treasures of Tulum and Chichen Itza. Alma also recommends Mexico City for the

history buff. You can go through archeological sites and museums and see restored architectural treasures. She said the people are warm and friendly but the driving is frenzied and she does not recommend renting a car here.

Tahnee has been to the Gulf side of Mexico three times, on different cruises, and the Pacific side twice. Her favorite destination was [Cozumel](#) because there are more nature and less buildings than Cancun. Some favorite shore excursions were ATV-ing on the beach, swimming with the dolphins, or for a more family friendly excursion (with toddlers), the Playa Mia Beach and Water Park was great. It had a lovely beach where you get served drinks under their umbrellas, the snorkeling was fantastic right off the beach, and the younger kids loved the water park and splash pad.



Irene, a member of the Fox Travel marketing team, favorite Mexico destination was [Puerto Vallarta](#). Irene loved sailing the bay on a large catamaran to visit towns that can only be accessed by boat. It was so memorable that they made a second trip to revisit one of their favorite villages. There are hundreds of shops in Puerto Vallarta's romantic zone filled with local art on the Malecon boardwalk. Exploring the towns' charming architecture and all the colors that are so much of a part of Mexico is a delight. Irene has been back to Puerto Vallarta three additional times and she loves it more each time she goes!

Mexico just keeps getting better and better. With many different ways to access their growing cities, you can visit for the day, the week, or longer!

WE'VE BEEN THERE, ALASKA!

ALASKA VACATION

[Alaska](#) is a bucket list destination for many people, with its untouched natural beauty, and adventures for everyone it's not hard to imagine why. You can travel Alaska by air, [sea](#), or land and our agents have done it all. Read below to hear about our agent's favorite experiences on their Alaska vacation.

DEBBIE'S ALASKA VACATION



Alaska is a new place each day. From early morning fog to blue skies to rain. It is all there.

I have been to Alaska 5 times and each time it is a new adventure. From walking around in Ketchikan (Salmon Capital of the World) to see the Salmon run and totem poles to walking the paths in Kodiak looking for bears. In [Ketchikan](#), I did the tour of the deadliest catch and got to see the different types of crabs and crab cages they use.

In [Juneau](#), I found a photographer that lives in Alaska and takes great pictures and I happened to find one of his calendars in which he signed the copy. His name is Mark Kelly.



In [Homer](#), I walked off the ship with the chef of the ship and he was off to get the best Salmon. Small place but the best views of the mountains and sea.

Icy Point Strait, is new and very small, it used to be a fish packing place. Had the history of how they work and the 5 different types of Salmon (Chum, Sockeye, King, Pink and Coho-known as Silver). They remember them by your hand..but I forgot Which order it is. Learned about the Raven and all the traditions by the live show down locally while watching killer whales in the bay. A day not to forget.

In [Sitka](#), I did the Russian church, St Michael the Archangel and all of its history. How things floated over and even survive fires. It also has the Castle on the hill where the Changing of hands took place for Alaska. Walked the steps to top.



But the best things in Alaska are the glaciers by far. What a thing to see and know how long they have been there to form such a large mass of water. The colors the shapes and the sizes are just such an awesome sight to see, you never get tired of them. Hearing them crackle and fall is amazing. Looking at them is a day you will always remember.

TAHNEE'S ALASKA VACATION



I have been to Alaska only once, many years ago, but it is still one of my all-time favorite trips! I cruised to Alaska on a roundtrip Vancouver sailing with Princess Cruises.

Alaska is one of those destinations that will stay with you your whole life. The natural beauty of the clouds and fog as it moves over and through the trees, the crack from the glaciers as the ice breaks off and falls into the ocean and the immense amount of wildlife that you can see from your cruise or on an excursion is what makes Alaska so special.

I plan to take my husband and son on an Alaskan cruise once my son is a little older and can participate in some of the more active shore excursions like fishing, rafting and snow dog sledding. Doing a pre or post tour of Denali National Park, staying in a rustic cabin in the middle of the Alaskan wilderness and seeing the Aurora Borealis is also a bucket list item for me.

ALMA'S ALASKA VACATION



I am a passionate “animal” person. Therefore, Alaska is the perfect destination for me. (Obviously, the other one is Africa.) I have found that the middle of June to middle of July is the best time for viewing all of the animal groups in Alaska. The weather is warm enough for them to be out and about but not as hot as August can be in Alaska. I love taking the Dome train from the cruise port to Denali so that I can see any of the animals wandering on the way and then a park ranger guided tour of the park to get all of the encounters I can.

Also, I make certain that I take a cruise tour on one of the stops that take one to the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog training facilities.

TOLD YA' that Alaska was all about the animals for me!!!

JIM AND DONNA'S ALASKA VACATION

Some of our favorite memories and highlights of our trips, rail travel, and cruises in Alaska include active/soft adventure thrills and chills. Here are a few:

1. White water rafting on a roaring river with Class 3 and Class 4 rapids
2. Kayaking in the glaciers bays (but not too close!)
3. Downhill bike ride for half a day
4. ATV rides in the hills
5. Helicopter ride to glacier
6. Amphibious airplane trip to salmon fishing on a Beaver aircraft
7. Running in the beautiful scenery in Juneau, Ketchikan, Vancouver, Seattle, Skagway and Anchorage
8. Hiking the Golden Mile which miners back in the 1850s used to reach the goldfields.
9. Enjoying an amber ale in the perfect weather in Skagway on the main street.
10. Seeing an entire pod of killer whales, mothers and babies frolic for an hour beneath our balcony cabin after the captain stopped the ship to view this rare treat.



Still left to do:

Scuba diving in Ketchikan. We were scheduled to dive one morning after docking but it rained the night before causing silt and run off to block the view in the normal gin-clear water. We had to cancel.

BEST CARIBBEAN ISLANDS BASED ON YOUR INTERESTS:

Best Caribbean Islands? – With over 700 Caribbean Islands to visit, you may get overwhelmed trying to decide where you would like to vacation. No Caribbean island is the same; each has its personality, beauty, and highlights. My favorite island may not be your favorite island because we each have unique tastes, and individual islands may be better suited to my tastes rather than yours.

As always, you can call Fox Travel where one of our amazing travel agents can ask you a series of questions to find the best island to fit your needs, or you can just read below to help you narrow down your search.

BEST CARIBBEAN ISLANDS – MOST BEAUTIFUL BEACHES

Anguilla

With 35 beaches to choose from, you will never run out of beautiful beaches to visit on your vacation

Aruba

Is best known for its powder white sand and crystal clear water

Cayman Islands

Visit the world renowned 7 Mile Beach that is only 5.5 miles long.



BEST CARIBBEAN ISLANDS – DINING

Anguilla

Is known for its 5 star, high-end restaurants

Barbados

With an impressive selection, this little island rivals some of the biggest metropolitan areas



Curacao

Curacao was 4th on the original list, Grand Cayman was 3rd, but, having been to both locations we switched the two as I found the food in Curacao was one of the best of the islands visited in the Caribbean.

BEST CARIBBEAN ISLANDS – SNORKELING

Cayman Islands

These islands are ideal for snorkeling due to the calm seas and coral reefs close to shore

Grenadines

You will be able to see many different species of fish, coral, and sponges right off the shore



St. Lucia

This location has some of the most pristine coral reefs right off the coastline

BEST CARIBBEAN ISLANDS – SCUBA DIVING

Bahamas

The Bahamas offer a wide variety of diving options, from a wreck to a reef, you will find amazing dives here. Not to mention this location allows you to get up close and personal with many different species of sharks.

Bonaire

Because Bonaire reefs are official marine parks the reefs here are untouched and unspoiled.

Cayman Islands

The Cayman Islands are known for diving, one of the reasons for this is because of the infinite visibility it offers.



FIND THE BEST HAWAIIAN ISLAND TO VISIT FOR YOU

What is the best Hawaiian Island to visit? Is a question travel agents get asked all the time for those planning on going to Hawaii for the first time? Each island is very different and caters to a different type of traveler. Below are some facts about each island that may make your decision on which island to visit a bit easier, and if not, a Fox Travel agent is always available to answer any questions you may have.

OAHU

Also known as "The Gathering Place", Oahu the third largest of the Hawaiian Islands. Home to the popular destination of Honolulu, which also inhabits 75% of residents in Hawaii, the famous Pearl Harbor, the big waves at North Shore, and the backdrop for popular TV and movie productions like Hawaii Five-O and Lost, you will never be at a loss of activities to do or places to see.



Are you a foodie? Oahu has some of the best dining in the world from world renowned restaurants to hole in the wall local places where you can get a true taste of the island.

If you are a shopper, Oahu is the island for you with high end shops in Waikiki, the biggest mall in Hawaii and a huge flea market at Aloha Stadium.

Oahu is also one of the best islands to go to for a day trip if you are visiting other islands as it the major hub for Hawaii. It also offers the best way to get around with tons of public transportation and bus tours available for those that don't want to rent a car.

From family resorts like Disney's Aulani to budget friendly resorts and up to high end resorts, Oahu has a little bit for everyone.



KAUAI

Known as "The Garden Island", Kauai the oldest of the main islands. It is the fourth largest of the islands, but it is less developed making it a great destination for those wanting to relax and get away from it all.

Looking for adventure, or just to get back into nature? Kauai is going to be the island for you. From kayaking, hiking, biking, scuba diving, to helicopter tours, Kauai has something for every adventurer.

Don't let all the adventure fool you though, Kauai still offers world class resorts and fine cuisine for those that like the luxury while getting away.



MAUI

Is the second largest island and is the best island to visit if you want a "sampler" of the Hawaiian Islands. Maui offers the second best shopping in the town of Lahaina with chain shops as well as locally owned boutiques. While Maui offers some budget friendly hotels, it is the most expensive of the islands with the highest average hotel rates. With daily activities like snorkeling their crystal clear water, whale watching in the winter months, dinner sunset cruises, going to some of the best luaus in Hawaii, visiting the volcano of Haleakala or driving the road to Hana you will have something to do every day of your trip, that is if you are able to pry yourself away from some of the most beautiful beaches in the world.



HAWAII

AKA the Big Island, Hawaii is bigger than all the other islands combined and is the only island with an active volcano. The resorts of Hawaii range from budget friendly to high end resorts with amazing restaurants, spas and golf courses. From visiting the active volcano in their national parks, horseback riding through the jungle and beach, sport fishing, kayaking, glass bottom boat tours, and surfing this island has a little something for everyone.



LANAI

For the most authentic Hawaii experience, visit the island of Lanai. The island of Lanai is the least populated and is one of the least commercialized.

With crystal clear waters and terrain suitable for off-roading jeep adventures, ATV and horseback riding there is still enough adventure in the island to keep you busy, while staying at the two most luxurious hotels on the islands.



MOLOKAI

The island of Molokai is the least commercialized island with no Starbucks or Walmart in sight. Unlike the island of Lanai there are very few accommodations available and is the most difficult island to fly into. But what Molokai doesn't have in amenities, it more than makes up for in unspoiled coastline and untamed wilderness.



CRUISE

Did reading through each description just make you want to visit all the islands? No problem! Many different cruise lines offer a Hawaiian Island sampler cruise, if you will. You will get to visit up to 5 different cities on several different islands, to give you a sample of each location. Is the long flight to Hawaii from Houston scaring you off? There are cruises to Hawaii that are round trip from Los Angeles! That is just a 3-hour flight to get to paradise!



BEST FAMILY SPRING BREAK DESTINATION

Family Spring Break just sneaks up on you after a long holiday season. If you are looking to go on a super fun family vacation, you need to start planning. But the first decision is where to go or what to do? What family destinations are right for Family Spring Break?

Fox Travel has you covered with ideas for all budgets, near and far.

If you are looking to stay local, stay tuned for one of our upcoming blog posts about the best local activities for Spring Break. Today, we are going to focus on the far, as that requires a little more planning in advance.



FAMILY SPRING BREAK - SO YOU WANT TO STAY IN THE UNITED STATES?

Do you want to go to a theme park?

- [Disneyland](#) and California Adventure in Los Angeles
- Disney World in Orlando
- Universal Studios and Harry Potter Adventure in both Los Angeles and Orlando
- Sea World in San Diego CA and San Antonio
- Lego Land in CA and FL

Theme parks are great for kids of all ages and it is a great way for families to spend time together with a little something for everyone.

Do you want to go to a zoo or aquarium?

- San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park
- Atlanta Aquarium
- Bronx Zoo
- Audubon Aquarium of the Americas in New Orleans
- Monterey Bay Aquarium
- New England Aquarium Boston

All the destination on this list not only have great zoos or aquariums, but they also have a lot of other fun family activities near them too!

Do you want to go visit the snow?

- The West Coast has been getting some great snow! Some great locations in CA are Big Bear, Mammoth, and Lake Tahoe
- Colorado
- Vermont

Summer is right around the corner and Texas gets HOT! Why don't you get your last chance to stay cool for the next several months?



Do you want warm weather?

- Palm Springs CA
- Arizona
- Rancho de Los Caballeros is a family friendly Dude Ranch in Arizona

Both locations are great for families that just want to relax at a fun resort and hang out by the pool in the warm dry air.

Do you want the beach?

- San Diego CA
- Los Angeles CA
- Florida
- Hawaii
- The Carolinas



Sure, it's not the Caribbean, but locations like Hawaii, Florida, and the Carolinas can certainly compete with warm water, beautiful sceneries, and amazing resorts. While California waters are a little cooler, El Nino has helped them stay warm this winter, plus Los Angeles and San Diego has a ton of fun things to do for all ages.

Do you like Baseball?

- Spring Training starts in Arizona and Florida

The Houston Astros do their spring training in Florida, but many other teams go to Arizona as well. This is super fun for baseball fans as it gives them a chance to sometimes meet the players!

Do you like museums?

- New York City
- Washington DC
- Boston
- Los Angeles

If your kids love museums these cities are for you. At the New York City Museum of Natural History (where *Night At The Museum* was filmed) you can even spend the night in there to see if the museum comes alive, like in the movie!

Do you like History?

- Washington DC
- Philadelphia
- Boston
- Charleston
- New Orleans
- San Francisco



These cities are teeming with America's great history. It's a great way to keep the kids learning over spring break, without it feeling like they are still in school.

Do you have a passport and are looking for some fun in the sun?

- Riviera Maya Mexico has some great family friendly all inclusive resorts with lots of activities for the kids, like Karisma Gourmet Inclusive Resorts.
- Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas is a great resort for lots of family fun
- Beaches Turks and Caicos
- Beaches Negril Jamaica
- Caribbean Cruises and if you leave from Galveston there are no flights!
- Nickelodeon Punta Cana! Spend the night in SpongeBob's Pineapple

Cruises are a great way to see a lot of islands or countries in a short period of time. With many onboard activities: from pools, kids clubs, water slides, and surf simulators for the kids (of all ages) to casinos, bars, lounges, Broadway-caliber shows, and spas for the adults, there is something for everyone, and that doesn't even cover the destinations you visit. **And if you leave and return to a US port it is not required (although still recommended) to have a Passport,** making it an ideal quick getaway. **Bonus!** Because of the great kid's clubs most of the cruise lines have, you can have some adult time while the kids still have a blast!

CHAPTER 2 – CRUISING

IS CRUISING RIGHT FOR YOU?

Cruise vacations are one of the most popular types of travel that we get at Fox Travel Texas. If you have ever been on a [cruise](#), chances are you understand why they are so popular. If you haven't been on a cruise, you're in luck! This blog series will help determine if cruising is right for you.

There are many benefits of cruising and using a [travel agent](#) to book your cruise. All our [Fox Travel](#) agents have been on cruises, multiple times. Not only can we give you first-hand experience, we can also get you the best deals, and maybe even an extra perk or two, something you probably couldn't get by booking on your own.

Many cruise lines pass on rates, shipboard credits, and rewards to travel agents that book their cruise line frequently like our agents do at Fox Travel. We also know about specials, ideas and cruises you might never find on your own. Whatever you dream cruise is, we can find it, make booking your cruise vacation and travel a snap!



CRUISE VACATIONS

GALVESTON CRUISES

Speaking of benefits! Living in the Houston area has a huge benefit when it comes to cruising. We have a port within driving distance where two major cruise lines, Royal Caribbean and Carnival, are here year round and [Disney cruises](#) are back for the winter season. With these three cruise lines you will be able to choose from several different itineraries visiting over 10 different ports and over 7 countries. Looking for a quick getaway? No problem. Choose from 4, 5 and 7 day itineraries. And the best part about it all... No flights needed!



FAMILY CRUISE VACATIONS

Cruising is a great way to take a vacation with your kids. Many [cruise lines](#) have fantastic kids clubs that offer fun activities for your kids on days at sea, and many even offer party nights so the parents can have a nice evening to themselves. These fantastic kids programs range from educational to just plain fun. As cruise lines continue to grow, each company tries to out do the other by making each ship bigger, better, and adding new activities. Did you know you can go ice skating at sea? Surf waves on board a ship? Splash and slide at a water park? Yup, you can do all that and that doesn't even begin to cover all the fun excursions for when you get to a destination.

GROUP CRUISES

Are you looking to do a fun family reunion? Or maybe do a weekend away with friends? Cruise vacations make for a great way to get a group together and spend more quality time together. You'll get to visit some amazing places together, eat amazing food, watch top entertainment, swim, laugh and have a great time.



Yet, you'll also get your own space, and have the ability to spend as much or as little time with your group as you wish. No more being stuck in the same cabin or house for days. Let's face it, we love our friends and family, but sometimes we may just need a minute for ourselves. What better excuse to get some time for yourself then to say you have a massage appointment?

CRUISE THE WORLD

With cruise lines being able to go to any destination with water, your options are almost limitless. Some of the most popular destinations are the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, Alaska, Fall Foliage, Asia and more. But did you know you could even cruise the polar regions? Cruise the [Northwest Passage](#) or chill out with penguins in Antarctica. Take an [African safari](#) then hop back on your boat to the next destination. You could even sail around the World, literally. Your possibilities are endless.

RIVER CRUISES

You might be thinking that there are some destinations you want to visit that are inland. Cruises can get you there, too. River cruising that is. Cruise rivers in Europe, Asia, Russia, Egypt and more. Visit these historic cities in a way that many don't get to experience. River cruising is also a great way for those that may not have their sea legs, but still like the idea of cruising.



LUXURY CRUISES

[Luxury cruise lines](#) are very popular. In most cases, these luxury cruise lines are going to be relatively kid free, or have very limited number of kids on board, so if you are looking for an [adult only cruise](#), these are going to be your best bet. Usually, the ships are smaller than their multi-generational counterparts and they have a lower steward to guest ratios, making these cruise lines perfect for those that love a more personal service. Many luxury cruise lines tend to have a more all-inclusive approach more than traditional cruises, like free airfare, free shore excursions, free alcohol, etc.

THEMED CRUISES

Because cruise vacations have become increasingly popular, many different industries have also hopped on the cruising bandwagon with themed cruises. From seeing your favorite band perform live on board, to a TV or movie-themed cruise where you can meet and interact with your favorite actors, to [Disney themed cruise](#) for kids or kids at heart, celebrity chef cruises, educational cruises, wine or craft beer cruises, and more!



BEST FAMILY CRUISES

With so many different cruise lines out there it's sometimes hard to wade through all the gimmicks, advertising, and sales to find out what the best cruise line is for you. [Fox Travel](#) gave you a brief [introduction to cruising](#), and talked about some great [adult oriented cruises](#). Today we will be talking about the best family cruises! With a little one myself I know how important it is to find a great vacation that will benefit both your children, and you! Because lets face it parents, you need a vacation too! Keep reading for info on my favorite [cruise lines for families](#) and what makes them fun for kids too!

DISNEY CRUISE LINE – FOR A MAGICAL TIME

Of course when we think of kids we think of Disney. If you have been to the Disneyland or Disney World parks you know just how much innovation that they put at every turn, their cruise line is no different. Starting with their inside staterooms, they were the first cruise line to offer a digital port hole that allows you to see a live feed from cameras on the ship, plus an occasional Disney character.



They have deck parties, character experiences, pools, water slides, and splash pads. What is great about Disney cruises is not only do they have baby pools, so they don't get splashed by bigger kids, but they have adult only pools too! Parents, send your kids to one of the amazing kids clubs and take some time to relax by the adult only pool, or many of the adult only sections, bars and pubs, on a Disney Cruise. Do your kids love [Star Wars](#)? [Avengers](#)? Or dressing up like a Disney Princess? Check out their themed cruises and kids clubs or spend a spa day where your daughter can get her hair and make up done just like her favorite princess. Disney cruises also knows how to make every holiday magical, from Halloween to Christmas, New Years to 4th of July, and more! [Disney cruises](#) are in Galveston November through January!

ROYAL CARIBBEAN – FOR THE ADVENTURE SEEKER

Some of the best family cruises are with Royal Caribbean. They cater to people of every age without being specific towards one age group. This cruise line makes for a great vacation for family or friend groups with kids of all ages. They have really listened to their audience and have made changes to give their guests everything they could want



on board. Worried about not having enough to do on your days at sea? With Royal Caribbean you will not be at a loss of activities. From their Surf Rider surf simulator to their rock walls, the tallest water slides to their zip lines, Broadway style entertainment to DreamWorks character meet and greets, there is so much to do on a RCCL ship. They also have the digital screens in their newer ships inside staterooms, but this screen is the full wall! Also available are inside staterooms with balconies that overlook the shopping and garden areas. Royal Caribbean also has the casino, bars and lounges for adults too, so send your kids to RCCL's amazing kids programs or teen lounge areas and enjoy a moment alone! The best thing about RCCL? They sail out of Galveston year round!

PRINCESS CRUISES – FOR THE SCIENCE AND NATURE LOVING

What I really love about Princess Cruises is that they have partnered with the Discovery Channel and the California Science Center to give your kids a fun and educational experience while on the cruise in the youth clubs. They will get to learn about the animals and destinations they are visiting. They will get to try Mythbusters challenges, learn survival skills, learn about different animals with Animal Planet, and the Endeavour Space Shuttle.



So if your kid is into animals or science, he or she will love going to the kids camps when out to sea. Don't worry parents! They have a Discovery at Sea Encounters for you too! Now it's not all learning on board, there is also video games rooms, and teen lounge and club areas too! And a special club for 18 – 20 year olds that are not old enough to hang out in the adult areas, but not young enough for the youth clubs. What's really nice about Princess though, is that the rest of the ship is made more for adults. Princess really is a great mix for those that don't want things overly kiddie, but want their kids to have a great time as well.

OTHER BEST FAMILY CRUISES OPTIONS

Now don't forget about Carnival and Holland America! Carnival is great for kids of all ages with water parks on board and fun daily kid activities. Not to mention that they also sail year round out of Galveston with 4 day sailing options too, which is great for a long weekend getaway! Do you have an aspiring chef? Holland America is partnering with The Food Network and will offer young chef cooking classes and cooking competitions! Both are also great options, especially for certain destinations and timelines.



GALVESTON CRUISES

There are a ton of benefits of cruising as we have discussed in our previous [cruising blog series](#). One of the biggest benefits of living in Houston is we can hop right on a cruise ship and visit some amazing ports without having to fly. Galveston cruises are extremely popular for this very reason with locals. In this blog we will be discussing the three different cruise lines that sail out of Galveston, the ports of call, itineraries, and more! If you live in Houston, or anywhere in Texas, this blog is not to be missed.

GALVESTON CRUISES – WHICH CRUISE LINES SAIL OUT OF GALVESTON?

Galveston has 3 major [cruise](#) lines, two of which are in Galveston year round. Royal Caribbean and Carnival Cruises are here all year, with Disney Cruises are here during the Winter months. Here is a quick overview of each of the ships, but continue following [Fox Travel](#) for upcoming blogs going into more detail about each cruise line out of Galveston.

ROYAL CARIBBEAN

We at Fox Travel love Royal Caribbean! It is a great cruise line that is a perfect mixture of [family friendly](#) with enough adult activities to make you feel like your entire vacation is surrounded by kids. Royal Caribbean Galveston cruises have a 4, 5, 7, 9, and even 16 day sailings. Most are round trip out of Galveston, but some are not meaning you would need to either fly into or out of a different city.



With fantastic kids clubs, and DreamWorks characters to see, you won't need to feel guilty dropping your kids off for some fun playtime, and taking a little time for yourselves in any of the bars, casino, lounges, spa and more. When you want to spend time together, there is a ton to do on your days at sea like rock climbing, ice skating, swimming, surf simulator, games, events and more.

With three different ships, 8 different itineraries, and 9 different countries to visit, Royal Caribbean Galveston cruises are a far cry from one and done, or been there done that.

CARNIVAL CRUISES



When you hear the name Carnival you automatically think of party and fun. That is exactly what this cruise line is all about! Carnival Cruises is a great option for those that want to cruise with a little lower of a price tag, a family cruise, a girls or guys getaway, and more. Carnival has something for everyone.

Carnival Galveston cruises have the most extensive itineraries available out of any of the cruise lines that sail here. With 4 ships sailing year round, 12 different itineraries, visiting over 18 different states, countries or islands, and itineraries ranging from 4 – 14 days, you will have the Caribbean at your fingertips.

DISNEY CRUISES



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By far the most family friendly cruises is with [Disney](#). With Disney only coming into Houston between the months on November and January, **these sailings sell out fast, so it is best to book them early.** Another reason why they are such a hot commodity in Galveston is because while they are here they do their Merry Time [holiday sailings](#) with a decked out ship and special activities only offered in November and December.

With only 5 itineraries and only 7 countries visited, Disney has the least extensive itineraries for Galveston cruises. Disney also only has one ship, The Wonder, that sails out of Houston. However, The Wonder has been recently renovated with new fun additions like the Marvel Super Hero Academy, Tiana's Place, and Frozen musical spectacular, your kids will think you're the coolest parents on the block for this family friendly cruise! Don't worry parents, there is a section that is adults only too, so drop your kids off and have a nice time, sans kids.

CRUISING THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

THANKSGIVING, NEW YEARS, AND CHRISTMAS CRUISES

Are you thinking about Cruising through the Holidays? With most major [cruise lines](#) doing something special for holiday sailings, we thought we would give you some information on what our favorite cruise lines are doing for Thanksgiving, New Years and Christmas cruises. Holiday sailings are very popular, but there are still last minute deals available for all these sailings if you are flexible in your schedule, including Thanksgiving cruises sailing next week! Holiday cruises are a great way to get the family together without any mess or fuss! Continue reading to find out what you can expect cruising through the holidays!

CHRISTMAS MARKET RIVER CRUISES



German Christmas Market River Cruise

One of our favorite holiday cruises has to be embarking on a river cruise and visiting some of the most famous Christmas Markets in northern Europe with **AMA Waterways, Uniworld, and Avalon River Cruises**. Sailings start mid-November and continue through the first week in January. Take a break from the Texas heat and enjoy a true white Christmas! Delight the senses with aromas of spiced mulled wine, fresh gingerbread, and sizzling Bratwursts filling the chilly air as you wander through the beautiful outdoor markets. From delicious, traditional food and drinks to handcrafted toys, tree decorations, candles, and lambskin shoes, the Christmas Markets will be sure to turn even the most Bah Humbug into singing carols in no time.

PRINCESS CRUISES



Princess NYE Cruise

Thanksgiving Cruises- Feast on a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with turkey, stuffing, and delicious pies. Watch a live football on the movies under the stars screen. Watch turkey carving demonstrations, take part in Thanksgiving trivia and a turkey calling contest and leave what you are thankful for on their Tree of Thanks.

Hanukkah Cruises – Enjoy traditional meals, festive decor, and special onboard events

Christmas Cruises – Have a white Christmas at sea with daily snowfall in the atrium. Watch the Holiday Wishes Variety Show and enjoy music from carolers. Join the Gingerbread house making contest, decorate cookies and ornaments. Go to the tree lighting ceremony and enjoy the holiday decor. Visit with Santa! And for those sailing on Christmas Eve, get a stocking in every room filled with goodies and a traditional Christmas dinner!

New Years Cruises – Party the night away with a midnight balloon drop and champagne toast. Then, on New Years Day watch live football and enjoy a buffet of game day treats!

CARNIVAL CRUISES



Thanksgiving on Carnival

Thanksgiving Cruises – Enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal, watch a live stream of the Macy Day Parade. Join in on a Thanksgiving “duck hunt” and have fun with a Thanksgiving trivia contest.

Hanukkah Cruises – Join the lighting of the Menorah each night and special services throughout the week

Christmas Cruises – Enjoy traditional decor throughout the ship, traditional cuisine, entertainment, and activities!

New Years Cruises – Party with a midnight balloon drop (not on the Breeze, Sunshine, or Vista) and watch a live stream of the ball drop. There will also be a special youth group NYE party!

ROYAL CARIBBEAN



Royal Caribbean Christmas Cruise

Christmas Cruises – Let it snow! Onboard all Royal Caribbean cruises during December. Watch the tree lighting ceremony and enjoy the traditional Christmas decor. See Santa, his elves, and special DreamWorks characters in Santa's Holly Jolly Holiday Parade. Catch all the holiday classic movies and enjoy the carolers as they sing your favorite Christmas songs. The kids will love the holiday crafts, and letters to Santa station. Gather around as Santa's elves read Christmas stories and celebrate with special holiday games!

New Years Cruises – Dress up in your New Years finest for a different bash at each of their venues, including confetti drop, balloon drop, and party favors!

DISNEY CRUISE LINE



Disney Very Merrytime Cruise

Thanksgiving Cruises – Feast on a traditional Turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Enjoy seasonal decor and characters dressed up in their Thanksgiving attire and get special Thanksgiving towel animals in your room!

Christmas Cruises – Enjoy a very Merrytime Christmas onboard Disney cruises with Deck the Deck Tropical Holiday Party, Mickey's tree lighting ceremony, visit with Santa, Disney characters dressed in their holiday finest, youth parties, story time with Mrs. Claus, decorate stockings and Christmas cards, doing special holiday scavenger hunts, see a life-sized gingerbread house, and get exclusive Disney holiday merchandise. On Christmas Eve and Day sailings enjoy Christmas cookies, holiday towel animals, caroling with the kids, religious services, and special surprises. If your cruise takes you to Castaway Cay, you'll get to enjoy a white Christmas on the beach with "snow" flurries, a Christmas tree and more!

New Years Cruises – Ring in the New Year with a special dinner menu, deck party, holiday theme giveaways, meet and greet with your favorite Disney characters and a teen and tween-only NYE party!

THEMED CRUISES

[Cruises](#) are a great way to vacation as you have been able to tell by our continued [cruise blog series](#). Themed cruises take it a step further with sailings to match your style and personality.

What is a themed cruise? Have you ever gone to a show or convention for a hobby or activity you love? Now imagine doing that while getting to go on vacation to a fun place too. That is what a themed cruise is! There are many different types of themed cruises that we will go into below. There are ship wide themed cruises where everyone gets to partake in the fun, or there are partial ship wide themed cruises. These are a little more intimate, giving you a chance to book into a smaller group and get one on one time with the person you are wanting to cruise with.

There are many different types of themed cruises to choose from, and by working with Fox Travel, you can even create your own themed cruise! Continue reading below for ideas on different types of themed cruises and see if you can create your own!

DIFFERENT TYPES OF THEMED CRUISES

1. BEER AND WINE CRUISES



One of the most popular types of themed cruises are traveling to areas where craft beer and wine are King. Many different lines have offered this type of themed cruise ranging from large ships, where they may feature a special vineyard or brewery on board, to a river cruise which allows you to venture into European regions where they make the beer or wine on site. Many times these beer and wine cruises will offer food pairings and have special tastings and menus on board. So if you are a wine or craft beer connoisseur you might want to check out the many sailings available over many different regions.

2. CULINARY CRUISES



Culinary Arts Kitchen

Another type of theme that is very popular is a culinary cruise. Again, many cruise lines have offered some form of a culinary cruise. Some have a master chef on board that will have a special night where they create the menu. Others will have their own on board chef give live on board demonstrations or may take you out in port for a culinary adventure. There are some cruise lines however, that do have a complete on board teaching kitchen. Regent Cruises is one of these few ships that have that, and Fox Travel does have a culinary themed cruise for October, 2018 scheduled. *For more information on our Mediterranean Culinary Adventure, featuring a local master chef, cooking classes, and culinary themed shore excursions, click [here](#).*

3. MOVIE/TV/CELEBRITY/ SPORTS CRUISES



Do you have a favorite TV show that has a cult following? There's probably a cruise for that. From Master Chef cruises, to the AMC Walking Dead cruise, you can come and meet your favorite TV personality, stay for some Q & A, or even see a demonstration from a Master Chef. Depending on the show they will also have themed parties and cosplay. This is a great option for die hard fans of shows and you'll get to tell your friends "Yeah, I cruised with a celebrity"! Sail the seas with your favorite sports team? Yes please! Many teams will have a themed cruise dedicated to them where people can meet and greet several members of your favorite sports teams.

4. CHARACTER CRUISES



Staying with the theme of movies and TV shows, the next themed cruise is character cruises. Disney Cruises really has this market with [Avengers](#), [Star Wars](#), and now Beauty and the Beast themed cruises. For the Avengers and Star Wars Days at Sea you'll get to have a full day of Star Wars or Avengers fun. You'll get to meet the characters, take pictures, have themed food, watch the movies on board, and more. For the Beauty and the Beast cruise, Disney has partnered with AMA Waterways to take you into the heart of the Provence region and visit the areas that inspired one of the most favorite of princess movies. On Disney's normal sailings you will get to meet many of the Disney classics like Mickey, Minnie, Donald, Goofy and Daisy. [Royal Caribbean](#) has also gotten in on the action with their [Dream Works characters](#) on board select sailings.

5. EDUCATIONAL / AUTHOR CRUISES



While on vacation in some of these historic ports of call you may be interested in finding out more about where you are at. Many cruise lines will have famous historians, former diplomats, or famous authors to enrich your vacation. Regent Cruises has the Smithsonian Collection where they will feature one of the aforementioned educators, whereas other cruise lines, like Princess have partnered with the Discovery Channel to enrich both young and old alike with information on the ports of call. Another great option for an [educational cruise](#) is visiting ports like [Galapagos](#) or Antarctica, where you will take an active roll in learning about the land and creatures that live there.

6. MUSIC AND CONCERT CRUISES



Seeing your favorite band or artist perform live in the middle of the ocean may just be a once in a lifetime experience. Many artists are taking advantage of this unique opportunity to be able to perform for their fans live, and then be able to actually interact with them for the rest of the cruise. Carnival Cruises is a top choice for a variety of different musical acts to see ranging from Chicago to Jewel, and Jennifer Hudson to Lady Antebellum. Concerts are generally a small additional expense.

7. HEALTH AND WELLNESS CRUISES



Just because you're on a vacation doesn't mean your waistline needs to suffer! With many health and wellness cruises you will get to participate in healthy lifestyle clinics and special exercise classes just for your group. Yoga cruises are fairly popular; many people would love to be able to do yoga in the fresh ocean air with the sound of the waves in the background.

8. HOBBY CRUISES



Do you have particular hobby that you love like crafting, quilting, or Ballroom Dancing? There are cruises for you too! Get to take hands on lessons from some of the top in the field and meet others that share your interests as well. These types of cruises are pretty popular for those that love to mix travel and their hobbies.

9. PHOTOGRAPHY



While photography cruises could technically fall into educational or hobby cruises, we think that this deserves a category of it's own. Everyone loves taking pictures on vacation and a lot of the time you'll get home and look at your pictures only to think, wow, I remember it looking so much prettier in person. With photography cruises you will be able to take lessons to improve how your vacation pictures, and your everyday pictures, turn out. Plus, you'll have a stunning background to work with!

10. HOLIDAY CRUISES



You many have read our blog, [Cruising through the Holidays](#), before. That is a great resource to look back to to get more information on Holiday themed cruises. Most cruise lines will have something planned for the major holidays, like Christmas and New Years. But there are also cruises that will also do celebrations for Thanksgiving, Chanukkah, Halloween, Valentine's Day, and Saint Patrick's Day, too. For Christmas many cruise lines will feature holiday activities like Christmas carols, snow at sea, and visits with Santa starting in November.

11. SEASONAL CRUISES



Some of the major season themed cruises are Fall Foliage cruises, Christmas Market cruises, and Tulip Time cruises. During Fall Foliage cruises you will get to travel up and down the New England and Canada coastline where the stunning colors of the leaves changing will transform these cities into a Technicolor dream. Sail through the river in Europe to traditional German Christmas Markets where you will get to drink spiced mulled wines as you walk up and down the decorated aisles in the chilly winter air. Tulip Time cruises are also another River Cruise option where you will get to see the beautiful tulips and windmills that are all over the Dutch countryside. All three of these cruises are incredibly popular, and because they are only offered seasonally, they book up a year, sometimes two in advanced!

Did you know that Fox Travel is an American Express agency? That means you can Pay With Points for part or all of your trip. And, travel agents often have access to rates, perks, discounts and specials not available anywhere else. Another thing unique to Fox Travel is we have a wedding coordinator that is a travel agent on staff if you have family or friends planning a destination wedding.

**Call us for a no obligation quote! 1-800-256-2128 or email
at info@foxtravel.net**

CHAPTER 3 - ALL THINGS DISNEY

What is more magical than a Disney vacation? While Disney is known for their amazing and innovative theme parks, there is so much more to Disney than just Disneyland or Disney World. Keep reading for all things Disney!

DISNEY CRUISES

Like their theme parks, Disney Cruises, are innovative and ahead of their time. From entertainment to decor, Disney spares no expense when making sure their guests have a magical time. For the young and young at heart, Disney Cruises is something that is not to be missed.

ON BOARD DISNEY CRUISES



FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

There is so much to do on a Disney cruise you will never be bored. From live, Broadway caliber, shows like Aladdin, Tangled, or Frozen to name a few, to Deck Parties like Pirates night, Pixar Party, or Disney's spotlight cruises featuring Star Wars, Avengers, or Frozen, to character experiences, the fun never stops!

DINING

Many of our customers rave about how good Disney cruises food is. With many different dining options even the pickiest eaters will go away full. Disney's rotational dining allows you to rotate to one of 3 main restaurants daily, so the menu and ambiance is always changing. For a more casual meal, check out their buffets that serve American cuisine, salads, sandwiches, burgers, chicken, pizza and more. Don't forget the ice cream at Mike Wazowski's Eye Scream.

What is amazing about Disney cruises, is they have adult only restaurants as well. So parents, take advantage of Disney's award winning youth clubs, and take a night off to yourselves!

ADULTS ONLY

Speaking of adults only restaurants, Disney makes sure parents are well taken care of as well. With a top of the line spa, Mom, go and treat yourself while Dad takes the kids swimming! Or continue your kid free night and go to one of their amazing lounges, bars or pubs. Don't forget to relax and unwind under the sun their adult only pool deck, too.

FOR THE KIDS

While Disney does a great job giving adults some well deserved breaks, Disney is made for kids (or kids at heart). Their award winning youth clubs will give you that chance to have your adult time, while knowing the kids are having a blast with peers their own age. Starting with the It's a Small World nursery for littles 6 months - 3 years, then up to the Oceaneers Lab for 3 - 12, Edge Club for the tweens, and Vibe for the teens. No matter what your kids age they will have others in a similar age to hang out with while doing age appropriate activities.

POOLS AND SPLASH PADS

From 4 story drop water slides, to the Nemo's Reef Splash Pad, kids and adults of all ages will love pool time on a sunny, warm day. Donald's Pool, which is their standard pool and hot tubs, which has daytime activities, where the deck parties will be, and nighttime "Dive In" movies. AquaLab, which is a bigger kids splash pad, Nemo's Reef, which is the little kids splash pads, Mickey's pool which is also for the littles, the Quiet Cove Pool for adults only, and the AquaDuck, the huge water slide. Your pool time is more like a full day activity.



HOLIDAY CRUISES

If you have been to Disneyland or Disney World during any holiday, you know how they go all out with their decorations. Well, their cruises are no different! Celebrate Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, or New Years on board a Disney cruise!



DISNEY CRUISES ARE BACK IN GALVESTON

There are many [cruise lines](#) that depart out of [Galveston, TX](#), which for Houstonians means no flying! Disney cruises from Galveston are back! The [Disney Wonder](#) is back in Galveston from November through January. Read more to find out about what ports you can visit, and what new and exciting things are on the Wonder.

DISNEY CRUISES IN GALVESTON

Like many other cruise lines, Disney cruises from Galveston will visit similar ports of call. There are 7-night roundtrip Galveston cruises available, as well as a 6 night Galveston to Puerto Rico cruise. The ports of call that you will get to visit on a Disney cruise from Galveston are:



PORTS VISITED ON THE 7 NIGHT WESTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

- [Falmouth, Jamaica](#)
- [Cozumel, Mexico](#) or [Costa Maya, Mexico](#)

PORTS VISITED ON THE 7 NIGHT BAHAMIAN CRUISE

- [Key West, Florida](#)
- [Castaway Cay](#), Disney's own private island in the Bahamas
- [Nassau, Bahamas](#)



PORTS VISITED ON THE 6 NIGHT GALVESTON TO PUERTO RICO CRUISE

- Cozumel, Mexico
- Grand Cayman
- Falmouth, Jamaica
- [San Juan, Puerto Rico](#)

On all November and December sailings through Christmas, experience the [Merrytime Cruising](#)! You can even have a traditional Thanksgiving feast with a live football broadcast when on board during Thanksgiving.

WHAT'S NEW ON THE DISNEY WONDER

There are several new things debuting on the Disney Wonder starting November 11, 2016.

- Frozen, a musical spectacular. This new Broadway caliber musical will be performing Frozen, "For the first time in Forever"
- Kids can play in the new Frozen Adventures Oceaneer Club featuring Frozen sing a longs, wintery games, and visits from Anna and Elsa
- Superheroes ages 3 - 12 can participate in the new, and only on the Disney Wonder, Marvel Superhero Academy! Learn the value of teamwork, bravery and problem solving with the help of superheroes!
- The Edge Tween Club gets a makeover
- Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique where kids can get a makeover to look like their favorite Disney Princess
- The Twist n' Spout water slide has been added



- The Dory Reef Splash Zone has also been added
- The AquaLab pool with interactive water play has been added too.
- Experience jazz music, street party celebrations, southern charm and food at the new restaurant Tiana's Place
- The new Adult Only "After Hours" club featuring dancing, lounges, and a new English pub
- The newly renovated Senses Spa and Salon



DISNEY MARVEL CRUISE

Avengers Assemble and welcome back the Disney Marvel Cruise with all new ports and itineraries new for 2018 and 2019! Fox Travel will give you secret S.H.I.E.L.D intelligence on this upcoming adventure!

DISNEY MARVEL CRUISE

Join The Avengers, Spiderman, and Guardians of the Galaxy on select roundtrip cruises out of Miami on the Disney Magic February – April 2018 and January – March 2019. Your [Marvel Day at Sea](#) will include:



@2016Marvel

- Meet and greet Superheroes and Villains from The Avengers, Spiderman, and Guardians of the Galaxy
- Join your fellow superheroes for a spectacular deck party with dancing, fireworks, and fun for all
- Get your photo taken with Captain America, Iron Man, Thor, and Spiderman
- Watch the newest Marvel movie at the Walt Disney Theater plus enjoy a Marvel movie marathon of the previous movies
- Open air screening of the latest Marvel animated TV series

- Dress up as your favorite superhero for a costume party in the Atrium
- Partake in special superhero games and activities throughout the ship
- Get surprise visits from real Superheroes throughout the ship
- Eat and drink delicious superhero themed food and beverages
- Get exclusive merchandise and collectible only available onboard

DATES AND ITINERARIES

There are 2 different itineraries to choose from during the months of January through April, all offering the Disney Marvel Cruise theme and all roundtrip from Miami.

5 Night Bahamian Cruise

Visit the ports of Disney's private island [Castaway Cay](#), Key West, Florida, and Nassau, Bahamas on the sailing dates:

2019

- January 11 and 25
- February 8 and 22
- March 8

5 Night Western Caribbean Cruise

Visit the ports of Disney's private island Castaway Cay, and Grand Caymen on the sailing dates:

2018

- February 18
- March 18
- April 1, 15, and 29

2019

- January 6 and 20
- February 3 and 17
- March 3

DISNEY MAGIC



@2016Marvel

Keeping with the Marvel theme, young crime fighters can enter the top secret command post of S.H.I.E.L.D where they will train for special missions and get to see The Avengers equipment like Thor's hammer, Captain America's shield, and Iron Man's armor. They will also get to participate in computer games, arts and crafts, and special surprise visits from superheroes.

Also on [Disney Magic](#) is Pixie Hollow, a magical fairyland designed for dress up, storytelling, arts and crafts. There's also the Mickey Mouse Clubhouse, where children can enter into Mickey's world and play with Goofy Gears, and a wacky wall game.

Don't forget about Disney Oceaneers Lab where children ages 3 – 12 can have fun and learn onboard. It features decorative planetary orbs, sparkling stars, and interactive lab stations where children can perform age-appropriate science experiments. They can also enjoy the Media Room where they can lounge and watch a movie or read a book.

For fun in the sun, kids of any age can enjoy the AquaDunk water park on the top deck filled with pools and water slides!

DON'T WORRY ADULTS, DISNEY HAS YOU COVERED, TOO



With plenty of adult-only locations like, pools, spa, restaurants and bars, drop the kids off and enjoy some time away from the kids. Don't feel guilty, while you are relaxing they are having a blast!

DISNEY STAR WARS CRUISE

The Disney [Star Wars Cruise](#) is back! It debuted last year and was a huge hit with Star Wars fans around the galaxy. In case you missed it last year, continue reading to find out what this special themed cruise is all about!

DISNEY STAR WARS CRUISE



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Join your favorite Star Wars heroes and villains onboard the [Disney Fantasy](#) on roundtrip sailings out of Port Canaveral, Florida. Let Disney's Star Wars Day at Sea transport you to a "Galaxy Far Far Away" with the following onboard activities:

- A special deck party with your favorite Star Wars characters, music, dancing and out of this world fireworks
- Have a special photo opportunity meet and great with your favorite heroes and villains
- Young padawans will get the opportunity to learn how to wield a light saber with a special onboard Jedi Training Academy
- Star Wars themed games and activities at Disney Oceaneer Club and Lab
- Special Star Wars themed food and drinks

- Screenings of Star Wars films plus episodes of Disney's animated series Star Wars Rebels
- Exclusive themed merchandise



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DATES AND ITINERARIES

Choose from a 7-night western Caribbean or 7-night eastern Caribbean itinerary from January – April, 2018 and 2019 roundtrip out of Port Canaveral, Florida. Extend your stay and visit Disney World which is a short hour drive from the port.

7 NIGHT WESTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

Visit the ports of [Cozumel Mexico](#), [Grand Cayman](#), [Falmouth Jamaica](#), and Disney [Castaway Cay](#) the dates of:

2018 Dates:

- January 6 and 20
- February 3 and 17
- March 3, 17 and 31
- April 14

2019 Dates

- January 5 and 19
- February 2 and 16
- March 2

7 NIGHT EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

Visit the ports of [Tortola British Virgin Islands](#), [St. Thomas/St. John US Virgin Islands](#), and Disney Castaway Cay on the dates of:

2018 Dates

- January 13 and 27
- February 10 and 24
- March 10 and 24
- April 7

2019 Dates

- January 12 and 26
- February 9 and 23



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DISNEY FANTASY

Sail on Disney's newest cruise ship, the Disney Fantasy where the latest technology and innovation comes to life. Their inside staterooms even feature a "magical porthole" where you can see real-time ocean views and Disney characters!

Children ages 3 – 12 can enjoy the Disney Oceaneers Club where they can interact with other children in their age group as well as Disney characters. They will get to play with a state of the art Magic Playfloor where kids control the action with their movements. Soar over the streets of London with Peter Pan, feast on a bug banquet with the Princess and the Frog, race Lightning McQueen around a track, or step into the digital world of TRON.

Hang out with Crush from Finding Nemo as he interacts with kids on the 103-inch plasma screen TV or visit the Explorer Pod, only on the Fantasy, where they can explore a submarine based on Finding Nemo. Hang out with Sully and Mike from Monsters Inc at the Monsters Academy!

WHILE THE KIDS ARE AWAY, THE PARENTS WILL PLAY!



While the kids are having a blast at the Oceaneer Club, Lab, or Teen clubs, parents can enjoy an [adult only portion of the ship!](#) Relax in a private villa with a couples massage, unwind over beer and cocktails at a host of adult only lounges, or swim at the adult only pool.

DISNEY FROZEN CRUISE SPECTACULAR

"For the first time in forever" the Frozen spotlight cruise will be back on select 7 night Alaska sailings for 2018! The Disney Wonder will transform into a winter wonderland so you can meet your favorite Frozen characters.

FROZEN DISNEY CRUISE

Join your favorite Frozen characters like Queen Elsa, Princess Anna, and Olaf for a magical day of winter fun that will transport you to Arendelle. Festivities will include:

- Meet and Great your favorite Frozen friends
- Join "Anna's Chocolate Chase" on a scavenger hunt with a special surprise at the finish line
- Create snow and Ice with Queen Elsa and her magical powers
- Learn Oaken's Maypole Swirl and Twirl, a traditional Scandinavian folk dance
- Enjoy traditional Nordic fare created just for the party
- Freeze the night away with all the Frozen characters
- Enjoy sing a longs with Olaf
- Play reindeer games with Sven
- Purchase exclusive Frozen merchandise



DATES AND ITINERARIES

7 NIGHT ALASKAN CRUISE FROM VANCOUVER

Visit the ports of Tracy Arm, Skagway, Juneau, and Ketchikan on this round trip Vancouver sailing on the Disney Wonder on the following dates:

2018

- May 21 and 28
- June 4, 11, 18 and 25
- July 2, 23 and 30
- August 6, 13, 20 and 27
- September 3

DISNEY WONDER

Children under the age of 12 can enjoy the Disney Oceaneers Club where they can interact with other children in their age group as well as Disney characters. It features decorative planetary orbs, sparkling stars, and interactive lab stations where children can perform age-appropriate science experiments. They can also enjoy the Media Room where they can lounge and watch a movie or read a book.

Young crime fighters can enter the top secret command post of S.H.I.E.L.D where they will train for special missions and get to see The Avengers equipment like Thor's hammer, Captain America's shield, and Iron Man's armor. They will also get to participate in computer games, arts and crafts, and special surprise visits from superheroes.

This cruise truly has something for everyone, from Frozen to Avengers, your family will be entertained from start to finish. Plus, you'll get to sail to Alaska which is always among a favorite from our clients and ourselves as well.



DISNEY INNOVATION TRAVEL

Disney is known for their innovation. They have something special in everything they do, be it theme parks, cruises, or hotels, Disney leads the industry in new and forward thinking. Just take a look at Disney Worlds newest Avatar land to see what new interactive ideas they come up with! Keep reading below to find out what new upcoming things Disney has in store for you!

UPCOMING DISNEY INNOVATION TRAVEL

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST CRUISE



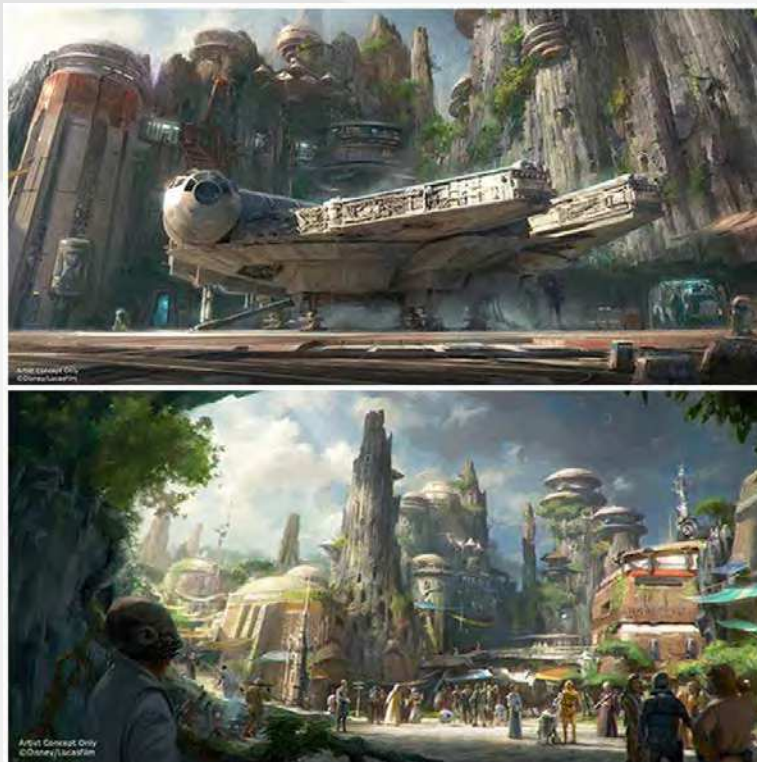
We have told you all about Disney's character themed cruises with [Avengers](#) and [Star Wars](#), but here is something pretty special. Disney has partnered with one of Fox Travel's favorite river cruises, AMA Waterways, for a special [Beauty and the Beast](#) inspired cruise down the Rhine. You will visit Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands, and of course, France, where the story takes place. This [all inclusive river cruise](#) will allow you to immerse yourself into all things Beauty and the Beast like getting to visit the little village of Riquewihr, which was one of the inspirations for the film.

Like all the other character cruises, you will have the opportunity to partake in themed meals, showings of both the original *Beauty and the Beast*, as well as the new live action one, and more. The cruise, which has 8 sailings runs from June through August, and starts at \$4789.00 not including air. With limited availability, this cruise will sell out fast, so don't wait to book, "*Be Our Guest*"!

River cruising not your thing? Don't worry, you can see the new live action play on regular Disney Cruise ships!

STAR WARS LAND AND HOTEL

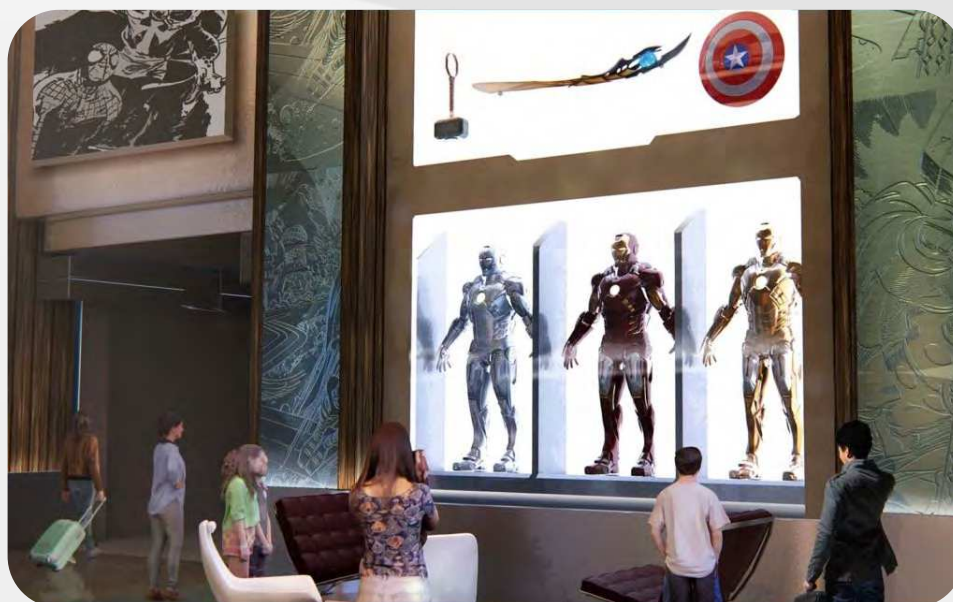
Coming sometime in 2019 will be the brand new [Star Wars land](#) at both Disneyland and Disney World resorts, and a matching themed [hotel](#) at Disney World. If their past openings are any indicator, we will most likely see the opening of all three sometime before the Summer. Current renderings have these new theme parks and hotel to really be something special, and if it is anything like the Avatar Pandora land, Star Wars fans are going to be in for a HUGE treat! Featuring more Star Wars rides, the Mos Eisley Cantina, and much more! The revolutionary hotel will change the way you think of traditional hotels, with this 100% immersive experience. Disney is also coming out with a brand new Star Wars show at Disney World!





MARVEL COMICS SUPERHERO HOTEL

Coming to Disneyland Paris is the brand new Marvel Comics inspired Superhero [hotel](#), called Hotel New York. An opening date has not been revealed at this time, but rumors are that the exterior of the hotel will resemble Stark Tower and the interior will feature costumes from the movies. The hotel will feature items from Iron Man, The Avengers, Spider Man and many more! If you are an Avengers fan you may want to pencil in a trip to Paris in the near future.



AULANI RESORT



What happens when you mix the magical world of Disney and a tropical paradise? You get the Aulani Disney Resort in beautiful Oahu, Hawaii. With beautiful white sand beaches, lush foliage, delicious smelling flowers, and an innovative resort as only Disney can do, this is a destination of a lifetime.

Legends say that voyagers traveled by canoe over the ocean to find the Hawaiian Islands. They brought a rich and vibrant culture to the islands. Discover your legend at Aulani Resort.

AULANI DISNEY RESORT

Activities

There is so much to do on Oahu from visiting and paying respects at Pearl Harbor, to zip lining in the jungle, learn to surf or visit a volcano, swim with dolphins or snorkel or scuba with green sea turtles. You can also visit the world famous Waikiki Beach and North Shore Beach, or the Kualoa Ranch once the residence of the King and training ground for the arts of war

Amenities

Gather around a fire pit for the Mo'Olelo story telling with puppetry, props and magical effects. Learn about the birds, plants and animals that live on Oahu on a guided walking tour. Unwind in the community hall for games and activities. Learn about the art and culture of the island. Swim in one of the many onsite pools and lazy rivers. Splash on the Menehune Bridge or the Keike Cove. Watch your favorite Disney movies under the stars, or listen to traditional island musicians play. Or take a scavenger hunt on the high tech adventure trail. All of these are included in your stay at Aulani. Also enjoy complimentary beach chairs, umbrellas, paddle boards, loungers, boogie boards, sand toys, and snorkel equipment.



Not included in your stay, but are available at additional costs will be tours and excursions, dining and spa treatments.

Rooms and Villas

Available at the Aulani Disney resort are both standard rooms and suites, as well as villas. With a villa you will get the added benefit of having a kitchen. Many of our clients enjoy having a kitchen available while staying in Hawaii for breakfasts and coffee in the morning, as well as lunches and snacks throughout the day.



What are you waiting for? Discover you legend at Aulani Disney Reso

DISNEY THEME PARKS

Going to Disney theme parks as a child was always a magical experience for me. Growing up in Southern California I went to Disneyland all the time and have so many fond memories there. As a parent taking my child to Disneyland for the first time and seeing the wonder, excitement, and magic through his eyes, was so incredibly special.

There are 11 different Disney theme parks, and 2 water parks. I will go over all of these, just keep reading!

DISNEY THEME PARKS

WALT DISNEY WORLD ORLANDO

With 4 parks and 2 water parks Disney World Orlando is by far the largest of the Disney theme parks. Magic Kingdom is the traditional Disney park, with Cinderella Castle and iconic rides. Epcot is known for featuring rides, restaurants, shows and more on different destinations around the world. Epcot also hosts many food, wine, and beer tastings throughout the year.



Disney Hollywood Studios is where all the new movies are, from Toy Story to Frozen, this theme park will be a hit with kids that love the newer Disney movies. Opening up Summer of 2018 is the new Toy Story Land and in 2019 is the new Star Wars land within Disney Hollywood Studios too! The last park is Disney Animal Kingdom. Hike through the jungle, see live animals roam around the grounds, and visit the new Pandora land!

There are also the 2 water parks, Disney's Typhoon Lagoon, and Disney's Blizzard Beach. Both which come in handy for those hot and humid summer days in Florida.

There are 30 hotels and resorts within the Disney World theme park with ranging price ranges from value to Deluxe and Deluxe Villas. Fox Travel also has the ability to book hotels offsite as well as house rentals too. One of the great things about booking with a Disney resort hotel is you'll get those really cool bracelets that allow you to enter your room, the parks, use it for your meal plans, fast passes, to purchase items around Disney and more.

Tips: We recommend buying a multiple day park hopper pass. Charges for park tickets go down the more days you purchase. We also recommend purchasing a meal plan option. Being able to not have to worry about food costs while on vacation is a huge plus. Disney World also has the options of booking your Fast Passes ahead of schedule, which really helps your planning!

DISNEYLAND CALIFORNIA



The first of the Disney theme parks is Disneyland in Anaheim California built in 1955. Disneyland has just the two theme parks, Disneyland and California Adventure. Disneyland, like Magic Kingdom has the iconic rides and character meet and greets that everyone knows and loves with Disney. Disneyland still has many of the original rides that it started out with in 1955 like the Tea Cups, Jungle Cruise, and Autopia.

Disney California Adventure is similar to Florida's Disney Hollywood Studios. Frozen and Cars are the most popular at attractions at California Adventure, but with the new renovations they are doing California Adventure is a fan favorite by many.

Also opening up in 2019 at Disneyland is the Star Wars land to the excitement of many Disneyland fans.

There are only 3 Disney hotels on property. Disneyland Hotel, Disney's Paradise Pier Hotel, and Disney's Grand California Hotel and Spa. The Grand hotel is located inside the California Adventure park, while the other 2 are located in the Downtown Disney area. There are also many hotels around the Disneyland resort. Some are within the same walking distance to the front of the parks as the onsite Disney properties!

Tips: *With Disneyland and all Disney theme parks, you will want to book your character breakfasts, and any additional extras like the Bibbity Bobbity Boutique where your princess will get made up to look like her favorite Disney Princess.*

DISNEYLAND INTERNATIONAL



If you are a Disney fan, you'll of course need to plan trips to visit every park! When visiting these 4 other theme parks around the world, you can also take some time off from your busy Disney schedule to see the very popular cities of Paris, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Tokyo, you know, if you're into that sort of thing. Or parents, plan your vacation to one of these amazing cities and take a day for the kids to do some Disney fun!

BENEFITS OF BOOKING YOUR DISNEY VACATION WITH FOX TRAVEL

Sure, you could book your own Disney vacation. But why? With so many different components to think about when booking, sometimes it can take hours or days to make all the phone calls needed to book everything you'll want to do when you visit Disney theme parks. Fox Travel has been in business for over 30 years, and between all the agents have well over 100 years' worth of experience and inside knowledge. Plus, you have nothing to lose! When booking your Disney vacation, we do all the work for free so you can just sit back and relax knowing your getaway is in great hands!

ADVENTURES BY DISNEY

Are you looking to do more and see more than a cruise has to offer, but still love the Disney product? Adventures by Disney is the perfect answer to what you are looking for! With Adventures by Disney you'll get to travel with a small group of other families on an adventure of a lifetime. With age appropriate activities for your children, plus the ability to make friends in the process, you can't go wrong! Not into the group travel? No problem, Adventures by Disney also hosts private tour options so it would just be your family and a private guide for your whole trip! This is also a great option if you'd like to travel with extended family or friends as well! Keep reading to find out more information!

NORTH AMERICA

If you have younger kids or are just wanting to stay in the US, Adventures by Disney has some great options for North American travel.

- Adventure Destinations
 - Montana
 - Alaska
 - Arizona
 - Utah
 - Wyoming
 - Alberta, Canada



- Big City
 - Disneyland and Southern California Combo
 - San Francisco
 - New York City
 - Washington DC
 - Philadelphia

AFRICA, ASIA, AND AUSTRALIA

If you are looking for something truly unique, you will need to check out their itineraries on these exotic locations.

- Australia
- Vietnam
- Laos
- Cambodia
- China
- South Africa

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

If you want to mix adventure with exotics these South American countries will do just that. Your children will love seeing hundreds of animals in their natural habitat, while being adventurous like zip lining or river rafting.

- Costa Rica
- Ecuador – Amazon and Galapagos
- Ecuador and Galapagos Islands
- Peru

EUROPE

For those that love history and that old world feel Europe makes for a great destination. When your kids are a little older, especially, they will appreciate the splendor of these European countries

- Austria and the Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Disneyland Paris Extension
- England and France
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Italy
- Switzerland
- Norway
- Scotland
- Spain



RIVER CRUISE

If you love the idea of cruising but want to see some of the interior countries in Europe, you must check out river cruising with Disney. Partnering with AMA Waterways, one of Fox Travel's favorite river cruise company, these cruises have much more to offer children than the standard river cruises. Your kids will love sailing through Europe.

If you prefer to do a cruise over a river cruise option, Disney has great packages available for pre or post cruise options in your departure or arrival port.

CHAPTER 4 - UNIVERSAL STUDIOS AND NICKELODEON

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS



Universal Studios either in Orlando or Hollywood are great options for those that maybe like Nickelodeon over Disney! You still get that theme park excitement, but with more mature rides and themes, great for more mature or older kids.

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS ORLANDO

Like it's Disney counterpart, Universal Studios Orlando is much bigger than their sister theme park in Hollywood. With 3 theme parks, you can spend several days wondering around.

Universal Studios Florida is their main theme park with intense roller coasters, 4-D rides, filming back lots, beloved and frightening characters and much more. Universal Florida, because they have a larger park, have some more kid friendly rides than Hollywood. Some of their 4-D rides may be too intense for younger kids, even if they meet the height requirements.

Islands of Adventure is their second theme park, known especially for their Wizarding World of Harry Potter section. If you read my review of The Wizarding World of Harry Potter Hollywood below, you will see that I have a true love for all things Harry Potter. While the Hollywood version is great, the Florida version is much larger and has much more to do, including Diagon Alley, and the Hogwarts Express that are not in California.

Their newest park is Universal's Volcano Bay and is their huge new water park. When purchasing tickets you can buy individual park passes, 2 park passes or 3 park passes. With Florida being warm pretty much year round, you can get away with purchasing a 3 park pass that will allow you to hop from park to park throughout your stay. If you are a waterpark fan, I recommend getting that 3 park pass!

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD



Unlike Florida, Universal Studios Hollywood only has the 1 park and you can see it all in one day. Because this park is much smaller the majority of rides there are going to be 4-D, which is great for older kids and younger thrill seekers. When I took my then, 5 year old, the 4-D rides proved to be a bit too intense for him with the fire, explosions, water and steam that are in your face during the rides. But they still have a couple places for younger kids that they can play at and love. Plus you still get all the fun characters to meet during your day.

As mentioned above, Hollywood also has The Wizarding World of Harry Potter. For more information on this, please see my review on the next page.

UNIVERSAL CITY WALK

At both Florida and California, they have the City Walk that is filled with restaurants, movie theaters, concert halls, and shops. This is a great option for when the park closes to keep the party going, or if you are staying in the area to just hang out for some fun.

WIZARDING WORLD OF HARRY POTTER

Looking for some [family vacation ideas](#)? How about a [Universal Studios Hollywood](#) with the Wizarding World of Harry Potter trip? For those of you that don't know, I am a huge Harry Potter fan, like huge. It has been a dream of mine for years to visit the Wizarding World of Harry Potter. I got the chance to visit Universal Studios Hollywood while going back home to visit family in Southern California, and let me tell you, the WWoHP did not disappoint.

FAMILY VACATION IDEAS – UNIVERSAL STUDIOS



My little one with his favorite, a Minion

[Universal Studios Hollywood](#) is a fun place to visit, especially if you're a movie buff. As you walk into Universal the whole place looks like one big movie set! We were told by the staff as we entered the park to start at the lower lot first and work our way up. The WWoHP is pretty close to the entrance so a lot of people head there first.

While there are some fun rides, the main reason to go to Universal Studios is for the live action experiences. A majority of the rides are now 4-D which means wearing the 3-D glasses while being jostled around escaping from Transformers, the Mummy, or turning into a Minion. For me, those types of rides are not my cup of tea, call me old fashioned, but I'll take a roller coaster any day. But these rides immerse you into the world of these movies and really make you feel like you are in it as you can feel the heat of the explosions or the spray of water.



My son and nephew with the realistic dinosaur

A majority of Universal Studios Hollywood is really catered to the teen or adult film lover. A lot has changed in the 15 years or so since I have been there. There is not a ton of rides that little kids can go on because 39 inches is the smallest height restriction. If you have a little kid, especially one under 39 inches, Universal Studios may not be the best to go to with them. Also, a lot of the rides are for more mature audiences, so depending on your kid's personality, they might not be able to emotionally handle a majority of the rides. However, while my 5-year-old was not a fan of these realistic rides, he still loved running around "Super Silly Fun Land" and meeting all his favorite characters like SpongeBob, the characters from Despicable Me, Curious George and Scooby Doo. He also loved meeting the giant Transformer and the realistic Dinosaur even though he was scared of rides.

While there, don't forget to see some of the live action shows like the Universal Animal Actors which is a fun show for all ages that shows how they train animals for movies or WaterWorld which we were told could very well be it's last year, after 20+ years at the park.



Me and my son at the entrance to the Wizarding World of Harry Potter

THE WIZARDING WORLD OF HARRY POTTER

Now on to the main event! Walking into the entrance of the [Wizarding World of Harry Potter](#) was a magical experience. If you have read the [books](#) or watched the [movies](#), you will feel like you are actually in Hogsmeade Village.

While at Universal Orlando you can actually board the Hogwarts Express while it takes you to the park, in Hollywood you can only get your picture taken in front of it. The conductor is funny and personable and comes up with witty remarks on the spot. Because I was wearing a striped shirt he remarked that "it was so nice to see Azkaban prisoners walking around and enjoying Hogsmeade". For those that don't know, Azkaban is the wizarding prison where many of "he who must not be named" supporters were held.

Speaking of "He who must not be named", if you say the word Voldemort in any of the shops, you will get a stern SHHH from the store employees. I learned that when I saw Voldemort's wand in Ollivanders Wand shop. Ollivanders is the maker of fine wands where when you go to his shop, the wand chooses you. Right next to the shop you will stand in a line (for us it was only about 10 minutes) to wait for a small group to be allowed in to see a wand choose a member of your group. It is a pretty neat experience, especially for those Harry Potter fans.

You have your pick of wands in Ollivanders, from character wands, to wands unaffiliated with any characters, to kids wands where the tip lights up like the spell Lumos. Wands range in price from \$25 for the kids wands to \$44 for a regular character wand, and \$49 for a character wand that performs magic throughout WWoHP. For the couple extra dollars I splurged on the "Sirius Black" magical wand and made my way to perform some magic of my own. I had as much fun performing the magic as the kids did!



Map that shows you all the Magical Stations

Looking for some of the famous Harry Potter treats like Chocolate Frogs, head over to Honeydukes, but be prepared because it is very small, but you will want all the treats! It also opens up into Zonko's Joke Shop where you can buy some magical pranks. Head over to the Owl Post where you can buy all your Harry Potter stationary needs. Here you can send a letter from Hogsmeade with an official Hogsmeade postage mark to all your friends. Bring your own letter and stamps, or be prepared to pay around \$30 for a book of HP postcards and HP forever stamps. The Owl post opens into Devirsh and Bangs where you can see the Monster Book of Monsters and purchase some Harry Potter Quidditch wear.



Inside Hogwarts with the talking paintings

Stop into the Three Broomsticks for some traditional British fare like fish and chips, bangers and mash or shepherd's pie. In need of an alcoholic beverage after being at a theme park all day? Stop into the Hog's Head Pub for some specialty craft brews made specifically for the WWoHP. Don't forget to try the most sought after beverages at the WWoHP, Butterbeer! You can get Butterbeer over ice, or Frozen. I had both, and the frozen Butterbeer was much better than the other.

There are two rides at WWoHP, Flight of the Hippogriff which is a small roller coaster that younger kids can go on, or Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey which is another of the 4-D rides. This ride has one of the longest wait times in the whole park. On a Monday before school in California let out for summer the wait was still about an hour and a half. Since we had kids that couldn't go on the ride we decided to just to the Hogwarts Castle walk through. This allows you to see the magical talking paintings, see Dumbledore in his office, and Ron, Hermione, and Harry talk to you without waiting in the whole line. To get to walk through just ask the person standing at the ride line entrance for the passes to just walk through the castle. Universal Studios also has a great parent rider program where if you have a child that is too small for rides you can wait in line, one or more go on the ride, then when they get back the second person or party goes and passes the child to those that just returned.



Hogwarts Express

UNIVERSAL CITY WALK

In my opinion, you can do the entire Universal Studios Hollywood park including the WWoHP in one day. To end the evening, you can visit the Universal City Walk where they have great restaurants, bars and fun shops. Some of my favorite places at Universal City Walk is Howl at the Moon piano bar or Saddle Ranch where you can watch people ride the mechanical bull.

NICKELODEON PUNTA CANA

Who lives in a Pineapple Under the Sea? Sponge Bob! If you love a tropical beach vacation, but your kids love Sponge bob and other Nickelodeon characters then Nickelodeon Punta Cana is the perfect place for your family!



This new resort that just opened in 2016 is one of Fox Travel's favorite luxury, gourmet all inclusive resorts by Karisma. With properties sprinkled all over the Caribbean and Mexico, their newest resort has been hot hot hot since it opened 2 years ago.

Your kids will have an amazing time meeting Nick characters, have a character breakfast, getting slimed, play in their water park and more! Parents you will enjoy the luxurious accommodations, the amazing 5 star restaurants, and the exceptional service. While your kids are having fun, you will get pampered! When was the last time someone brought you drinks on the beach and made sure that you were having a good time? Yeah, it's been awhile. You deserve this. Plus your kids will think you are the coolest parents ever by taking them to this amazing resort.

THE FOOD!

When we say that Karisma resorts are Gourmet Inclusive, we mean gourmet! With over nine 5-star restaurants at Nickelodeon Punta Cana you won't know where to start first! From Italian to Asian to Mediterranean cuisine, to burgers and pizza and sandwiches, plus a small bites café perfect for a lite lunch or snack, and a healthy restaurant option, Nick Punta Cana has it all. Did I forget to mention that they also have a fabulous Adult Only restaurant?!? Parents, drop your kids off at the "Just Kidding" clubhouse for a romantic date night overlooking the ocean!



JUST KIDDING

This clubhouse is where all the kids will want to spend their time! With a mega ball pit, two story slide, slime making classes and science experiments, your kids will be begging you to have a date night!

This clubhouse is for kids 4 – 12 and is always supervised. Plus, this clubhouse has been known to have some fan favorite characters stop by to hang out with the kids!

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Don't worry parents, you will still get to see your kids on this vacation too! There are a ton of family friendly activities to do at Nickelodeon Punta Cana.

Visit Aqua Nick for water slides or get slimed in a mass sliming event! Visit Plaza Orange for music, games, and island style fun during the day, or family dance parties at night. Play tennis, basketball, or giant chess, or learn archery together. Learn Spanish or take cooking classes together too! And this is all just at the resort! There is a ton of fun things to do in Punta Cana too!

Nickelodeon Resorts and Spa Punta Cana is a great place for the family that wants to do it all!



Did you know that Fox Travel is an American Express agency? That means you can Pay With Points for part or all of your trip. And, travel agents often have access to rates, perks, discounts and specials not available anywhere else. Another thing unique to Fox Travel is we have a wedding coordinator that is a travel agent on staff if you have family or friends planning a destination wedding.

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at info@foxtravel.net**

CHAPTER 5 - ADVENTURE TRAVEL

What is Adventure Travel? It is any type of travel that takes you to exotic destinations with the purpose of taking part in outdoor physical activities. Laying on a beach type vacations need not apply here! Don't get me wrong, relaxing vacations are much needed, but sometimes you just need an adventure. Keep reading to find out different ways you can have an adventure on your next vacation.

PACK YOUR TRUNKS

Do you love animals? If you're anything like me, you'll have at least one (or more) bucket list vacation that involves seeing animals in their natural habitat. Well, you're about to get a few more! Below, I will tell you about the 20 Best Vacations for Animal Lovers, in no particular order!

We at [Fox Travel](#) love animals. Hello! We are called **Fox** Travel! We also know that sometimes animal encounters are found to be less than ethical. All options below are an ethical, educational, or a conservatory way to see these magnificent creatures in their natural habitat.

FOR MANY OF THESE ADVENTURES, SOME TOUR OFFERS INCLUDE:

Either free round trip air, free one-way air, or an air credit of \$500 on certain trips and only from certain gateways. They are also offering free bar tabs and tips on select sailings as well. Offers subject to change without notice and vary by supplier or cruise line.

VACATIONS FOR ANIMAL LOVERS

1. SLOTHS IN COSTA RICA

Sloths are kind of my spirit animal. They're cute, cuddly, love to sleep a lot, and just hang out. Just one look at a sloth's adorable face and many people fall in love. Costa Rica is the best place in the world to see a sloth in their natural habitat. But because they are so adept at camouflaging themselves high up in the trees, it might be easier to visit a sloth sanctuary which is on the Caribbean side of Costa Rica. Down the road is also a Jaguar sanctuary as well! If you are staying on the Pacific side, don't worry, you can visit the [Diamante Eco Adventure Park](#) where you'll be able to see sloths, and many other animals native to Costa Rica, like monkeys, birds, and more close up, or you can even horseback ride through the jungle! So many great animal adventures to have in Costa Rica!



2. HOWLER MONKEYS IN BELIZE

You better "Belize" that you'll find some great options to see animals in this wonderful country! Whether you're stopping off for the day on your Caribbean cruise from Galveston or staying for a while, there are plenty of options to see animals in their natural habitat. One of the top attractions is to visit the Community Baboon Sanctuary to see Howler Monkeys swinging from tree to tree. You can also see manatees, crocodiles, parrots and other birds, jaguars and more in Belize.



3. MANATEES IN FLORIDA

You don't need to leave the country to see Manatees in their natural habitat. Florida is a great location to see them bobbing in the warm water. Also known as the "Cow of the Sea", manatees are a sweet and sensitive animal. There are many eco-friendly tour options in Florida to see these magnificent animals in their natural habitat.



4. CHILLING WITH PENGUINS IN ANTARCTICA

Take a cruise down to Antarctica and walk among thousand of Gentoo, Chin Strap, and Adelie penguins. Many cruise lines are now making this popular trek down to Antarctica but for a more "natural" experience, I would choose a cruise with Lindblad and [Natural Geographic Expeditions](#). This will give you a truly unique perspective on the life of an Antarctic penguin.



5. EXOTIC ELEPHANTS OF THAILAND

For many people riding on elephants on the beach in Thailand is a dream vacation. However, many animal lovers are finding out that the conditions for these wonderful creatures are less than ideal. Don't worry though, there are still plenty of ethical options to interact with elephants in Thailand! Many of these tour options are elephant sanctuaries, and while they don't let you ride on them, you can help hand feed them, and even take them down to the river and give them a bath. How cool is that?



6. ANIMALS OF ALASKA

Our own backyard holds many amazing opportunities to see animals in their natural habitat. One of the best places to see a wide variety of animals is [Alaska](#). Interact with Sled Dogs, watch many different species of bears graze in the forest, see bald eagles soar over the Alaskan wilderness, moose, caribou, and bison on land. Alaska is also a great place to go whale watching during the summer. On a [cruise](#) or a whale watching expedition, you can see humpback whales, blue whales, orcas, sea lions, seals, and more. Not only do you get to see all these amazing animals up close, you also get to be in one of the most beautiful untouched wilderness in America. It's a win/win.



7. UNIQUE ANIMALS OF GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

Made famous by Charles Darwin's study of plants and animals and his theory of natural selection, the [Galapagos Islands](#) are teeming with species found only on these tiny islands. Because of this, it is considered one of the world's foremost destinations for animal viewing. Some of the more famous residents unique to these islands are the Galapagos tortoise with a lifespan of 170 years, the only living Marine Iguana left on earth, Galapagos finches which played a huge role in Darwin's theory, Galapagos penguin the smallest and only penguin north of the equator, and much more.



8. EXOTIC ANIMALS OF INDONESIA

Animal lovers will love this trip. Indonesia is a group of islands that make up an area south of Philippines and north of Australia. Some of the more well-known islands are Sumatra, Java, and New Guinea. These islands hold some of the rarest and endangered species in the world. Animals like the Sumatran Tiger, Orangutan, Javan Rhino, and the Komodo Dragon to name a few, are extremely endangered and very rare. There are many tour companies, like [National Geographic](#), that will take you to Indonesia and try to get you the opportunity to see these beautiful animals up close.



9. POLAR BEARS IN CANADA

While Polar Bears live in many northern polar countries like Norway and Russia, one of the easiest locations to see them, for Americans, is Churchill, Canada. Up here you will be able to see the largest bear and the largest land carnivore in the world. While visiting this snowy Tundra, you will also have a chance to do a dog sledding excursion, see the arctic fox, arctic wolves, reindeer and more.



10. SAFARI IN AFRICA

Probably one of the most popular and well-known vacation to see animals is doing an African Safari. Here you will be able to see many different species of animals all in the same day. You can even camp out in the wilderness with the animals all around you! Not a fan of camping? There are many luxury hotels that will still allow you to get in on the animal action. Here you can see African elephants, giraffes, rhinos, lions, cheetah, and more. Some of our favorite vendors for an African Safari are [Abercrombie & Kent](#), and [Micato Safaris](#)



11. PUPS ON THE BEACH IN HAWAII

When on vacation do you miss your furry friend? Don't worry, on Kauai you can "rent a dog" from the local shelter for the time of your stay. What happens if you fall in love? They will help you bring your new puppy pal back to the states with you! Other animals to see in Hawaii are dolphins, sea turtles, whales, sharks, and more! Hawaii is a beautiful tropical destination with much more to offer than just lounging on the beach. [Can't decide which Hawaiian island to visit? We've got your back!](#)

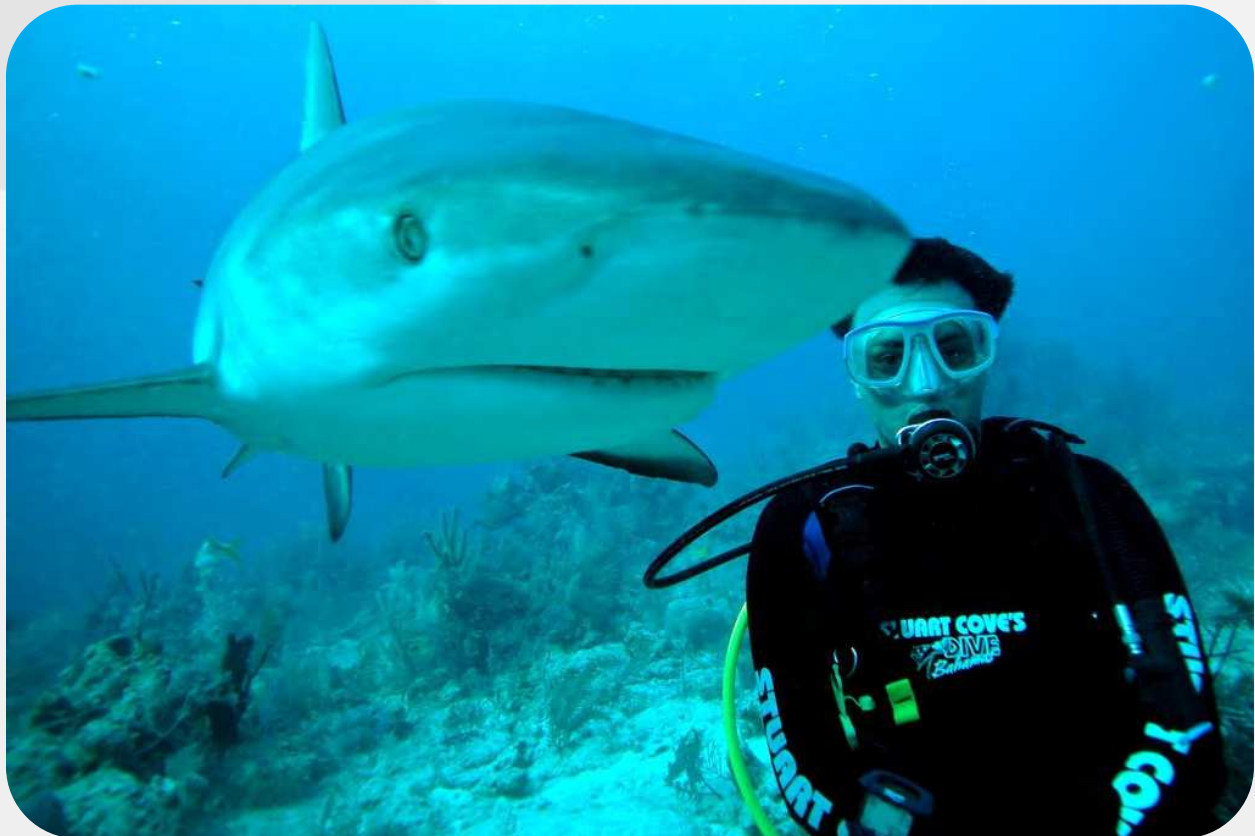


12. CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE TOOTHY KIND IN THE BAHAMAS

One of the most popular animal excursions to do here is swim with the sharks! Many people flock to this area for the chance to swim and even feed sharks while scuba diving. The Bahamas has the largest population of sharks anywhere in the Caribbean. From the Caribbean and black tip reef sharks to tiger and nurse sharks, there are sharks here for everyone. For



the timid try nurse sharks (I mean, you are still pretty brave for swimming with sharks) to the adventurous, swim with those large tiger sharks! If swimming with sharks is not your thing, you can also swim with... Pigs? Yup! I said pigs! There is a small island that is inhabited with little piggy's that just love to swim with tourists.



13. IT'S PANDA-MONIUM IN CHINA

One of the cutest, most lovable creatures in the world has to be a Panda Bear. Just watch a video of a panda and you will see this silly personality shine through. Although you can see pandas in Zoos around the world, China is the only place to see these animals in the wild. You will be trekking through a huge jungle to try to find them, so it is probably better if you visit them at a breeding center instead where they work around the clock to help bring these wonderful creatures back from the brink of extinction. Their work has been so effective that Panda's are no longer on the endangered species list!



14. HOP ON OVER TO AUSTRALIA

Many people know the 2 most popular animals in Australia, the kangaroo and koala. Australia is a great place to visit if you have people in your group that aren't super interested in spending your entire vacation looking at animals (who are these people anyways?). There is a ton of super fun activities to do in many of the great cities, but this blog is about animals. Take a hike in the bush to see many of Australia's unique animals, many found only there, in their natural habitat.



15. YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

Yellowstone is known for its natural beauty, but there are a ton of animals to see here like bison, moose, wolves, bighorn sheep, bears, mountain lions and more. This is another animal gem right in our backyard. Yellowstone is a must see for any nature and animal lover. Another location where you can either camp or stay in a hotel, Yellowstone makes for a great vacation for all. But what am I saying, check out any of our amazing national parks to see unique wildlife all over the US.



16. WILD HORSES IN MARYLAND

Did you know there is a beach in Maryland and Virginia that are teeming with wild horses? These wild horses are now used to people since the beach makes for a popular hangout for both people and horses, but never-the-less, they are still wild. Some though may even let you pet them.



17. HORSEBACK RIDE THROUGH THE IRISH COUNTRYSIDE

Take it from a person that has grown up riding. Riding a horse through the Irish countryside is probably one of the best animal experiences I have had. There is something pretty magical about Ireland, but seeing the country from horseback is pretty spectacular. This is another great location to visit for a unique animal experience, but still, have plenty to do for those that don't want to spend their entire vacation with animals.



18. GORILLA'S IN THE MIST

While you are on your African safari, take a side trip to Rwanda, Uganda or Kenya to see Mountain Gorillas in their natural habitat. This is a must do for any animal lover while in Africa. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity to see a gorilla in these mountains, mainly because their territory is so large, and you have to go on foot. These beautiful and intelligent creatures are endangered, so if these guys are on your bucket list, I would plan your trip soon!



19. HANG OUT WITH JAPANESE SNOW MONKEYS

You've seen these guys hanging out in the hot springs in snowy Kyoto, Japan, which is about a five hour drive from Tokyo. These characters love to bathe and swim in these pools, and they are so much fun to watch. Again, Japan makes for a great destination for those that want to do other activities as well.



20. SCUBA DIVE

If you have never been scuba diving or even snorkeling, then you won't understand when someone says that being 50 feet underwater is as close to being in a different world as possible. Some of my most memorable animal encounters happened while scuba diving. The best part about scuba diving is you can pretty much dive anywhere with water, even lakes! There is so much life teeming underneath the waves that will blow you away. From the very small fish, shrimp, and crabs, to the largest turtles, whales, whale sharks, dolphins, and sharks, you will see something new every time you dive. If you happened to go diving during whale watching season, you can hear the whales calling from miles away, it's pretty incredible.



Remember animal lovers, no matter where you go, or whatever animals you see, please remember that these are wild animals. They are adapted to life in their area, please don't handle, feed, or interfere with any animal in the wild. While your intentions may be good, it could impact them in a negative way. And please, if you want to take a picture with or of an animal, please make sure you are at a safe distance.

SKI VACATIONS

Living in Southern Texas the chances of a "White Christmas", or even some snow during the winter months are rare. Luckily there are many Ski Resorts that are nearby that will make a great winter vacation for the whole family! Continue reading to find out all the fun stuff you can do besides skiing or snowboarding at ski resorts.

WHAT ARE SKI RESORTS?

Ski resorts are usually a small city or town at the base of a mountain that has been specifically groomed for skiing, snowboarding, and other winter activities. There are cleared off trails for skiing or boarding as well as lifts to get you to the middle or top of the mountain depending on your ability level. Usually, Ski Resorts will have a large variety of hotels, condos, or houses to rent, with plenty of restaurants, bars, shopping, and other activities suitable for both adults and families. Many hotels and condo units will try to make their location more desirable with the addition of pools, hot tubs, game rooms, and even movie theaters. Most ski resorts will also have places for sledding or tubing.



WHERE TO GO?

There are many ski resorts to visit all over the United States, as well as Canada and Europe. For guaranteed snow, the closest location from Houston will be the many ski resorts near Denver, Colorado. Breckenridge, Colorado is a fan favorite because it is close to Aspen and Vail, but it is a little less expensive than those locations. It also has a great family friendly scene, as well as a ton of activities for those that don't ski or snowboard.



WESTERN SKI RESORTS

Believe it or not, but the Western States have more ski resorts in the United States than the East Coast. There are 35 major ski resorts in Alaska, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Wyoming, and even New Mexico.

The most popular ski destinations in these states are:

- [Heavenly, California](#)
- [Mammoth, California](#)
- [North Star at Tahoe, California](#)
- [Aspen, Colorado](#)
- [Breckenridge, Colorado](#)
- [Vail, Colorado](#)
- [Big Sky, Montana](#)
- [Salt Lake City, Utah](#)
- [Park City, Utah](#)
- [Jackson Hole, Wyoming](#)

With so many ski resorts within close flying distance, Western States Ski Resorts make for a fun long weekend getaway and are great for last minute getaways, especially when flight prices drop!



EASTERN SKI RESORTS

There are 8 major ski resorts in the Eastern States residing in Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont. Probably the most famous is [Lake Placid](#) for hosting the Winter Olympics twice in 1932 and 1980.

SKI RESORTS OUTSIDE THE USA

There are many ski resorts in [Canada](#) and [Europe](#)! With over 14 major ski resorts in Canada, and with over 50 in over 6 different countries in Europe you will have many destinations to choose from if you are looking to take a longer vacation out of the US.

There are amazing ski resorts in France, Italy, Switzerland, and Austria. The greatest part is you can visit many of the major tourist destinations in each of those countries while taking a quick side trip to ski in some in some of the most famous ski destinations in the world!



20 DIFFERENT TYPES OF LOCAL AND OVERSEAS ADVENTURE TRAVEL

Adventure travel is becoming more and more popular. Destinations are making it easy to combine a relaxing vacation while doing some adventurous activities. A lot of families are opting at doing this type of travel, especially with older children. It allows you to get out there and make some fun and unique memories together! Below are many different types of Local and Overseas Adventure Travel!

20 TYPES OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL AND WHERE TO DO THEM!

1. HOT AIR BALLOON RIDES

Imagine being high above the ground over the plains of Africa seeing lions, zebras and giraffes running below you. What an amazing way to see this beautiful destination! If you are looking for something closer to home, you need to check out the hot air balloon festivals in New Mexico and Colorado!



2. ZIP LINES

This heart pumping activity is becoming extremely popular to the point where if there is a high point, most tourist destinations will have a zip line now. From cities to jungles, mountain ranges to canyons, you will find them all over! Some of the best places for zip lining are going to be Hawaii, Whistler British Colombia, Costa Rica, Alaska, the Grand Canyon, and Las Vegas!

3. HELI-CLIMBING OR HELI-SKIING

Jumping out of a helicopter is the ultimate adventure, but doing it on ski's or snowboards? That is for the most adventurous of us all! Some amazing places to heli-climb or heli-ski will be in the Canadian Rockies, Wyoming and Colorado for destinations close to home. The Swiss Alps, will make for a great family getaway with a crazy adventure to boot!



4. SCUBA DIVING

Scuba diving is one of my favorite adventures! The colors, the fish, the breathing through a regulator, it feels like you've been transported to a different world, and then you pop your head out of the water and you're back to reality again. Some close to home destinations for great scuba diving are California and Florida. For an overseas adventure check out Australia, Belize, ABC Islands (Aruba, Bonaire, and Curacao) Hawaii, the Maldives, Mexico, Seychelles, the South Pacific, and pretty much any island in the Caribbean.

5. DOG SLEDDING

Mush! Over to Alaska, Canada, Wyoming, or Finland to partake in the northerners favorite past time, dog sledding! These cute, furry K-9 friends will take you on a fast-paced adventure over the snowy tundra! With the wind whipping in your hair, you and your kids will have a blast with these pups!



6. VOLCANO TREK

Head over to Costa Rica, Hawaii, New Zealand, Iceland, or Italy to hike up to an active volcano! This super hot adventure will not only be educational but something your kids are going to talk about forever! Hawaii is the best place right now to see active flowing lava!

7. WHITE WATER RAFTING

If you've never been white water rafting, it is a must! Working together as a family to get down the river is a great way to build confidence through teamwork. There are many different classifications of rapids you can raft that can be tailored to your experience or willingness. Class one would be considered a relaxing tube down the river. Two and three are going to be a little more bumpy.



Four is a roller coaster over rocks and boulders with water splashing your face! And five is all of the above with huge drops off waterfalls! Some of the best places to white water raft are Alaska, Montana's Glacier National Park, Grand Canyon and Costa Rica.

8. SKIING AND SNOWBOARDING

As you will read in this chapter you will read about some great skiing and snowboarding places to go. So if you love the snow and cold weather, these destinations are the places to visit! Some great places are Colorado, Wyoming and Canada for nearby mountains.

9. SWIMMING WITH SHARKS

When people hear swimming with sharks, there is an instant fear! But fear not! Companies that specialize in diving with sharks make sure yours and the sharks safety are the number one priorities. The Bahamas and Hawaii are a great place to swim with some of the more aggressive sharks, while Mexico and Belize are great places to swim with the largest fish in the ocean, a gentle giant, the whale shark! These guys mainly eat plankton, so you are safe!



10. HORSEBACK RIDING

Horseback riding is a great and fun way to see a destination and experience a low key adventure that can be shared by kids as young as five or six depending on the company. Some great local places to horseback ride are Yellowstone National Park, and Grand Canyon. For your overseas adventure travel the best places are Ireland, riding through the Irish countryside, or Turks and Caicos where rescued horses are rehabilitated and you can ride on the beach and through the waves.

11. WORKING A DUDE RANCH

Speaking of horseback riding, a fun family local trip is visiting a dude ranch in Arizona, New Mexico or Wyoming. Stay in cabins and sit around a campfire at night while your hosts sing traditional ranching songs. Dude ranches are a great getaway for families of all ages. Younger kids will love seeing the animals, and older kids will enjoy being outdoors, and parents will enjoy no electronics!



12. BIKE TOURS

Riding a bike together as a family is great exercise as well as a fun adventure for all! With bike tours in France, Switzerland, and Hawaii it makes for a fun and unique way to see the local sites at your own pace. While this adventure could be for people of all ages, it does require a certain stamina too.

13. NORTHERN LIGHTS

Seeing the Northern Lights is a one of a kind experience. Traveling with the sole intent on seeing this spectacular light show might be tricky since there is no schedule, however you will have a better chance by knowing when and where to go. Traveling to the following destinations between the months of September through April will ensure the best chances to see them! Alaska, Canada, Scotland, Greenland, Finland and Iceland are great places to see the Northern Lights, plus they are just great destinations to visit too!



14. SURFING

Surfing is something every kid wants to try! It looks so cool being up on a board riding those waves in. Some of the best places to go if your family wants to learn how to surf are Hawaii, California, Australia, Mexico, Bali, Tahiti, Spain, Scotland, and South Africa.

15. FISHING

Living in Texas, your family may like to fish. There are some great places to try your hand at fly fishing in Montana and Alaska, but for an adventure you need to try Deep Sea Fishing! Some of the best places in the world for that are Thailand, South Africa, Mexico, Costa Rica, Italy, Australia and Florida.



16. HANG GLIDING

If your family likes to soar, then Hang gliding is what you'll want to do! The best places to try your hand at hang gliding overseas are Brazil, Mexico, South Africa, New Zealand and Turkey. While some of the best places to try this high in the sky adventure would be Hawaii, California, Utah, and North Carolina.

17. ATV

Riding around on these 4 wheelers is an exhilarating good time. If you're anything like me you don't like dirty kids coming in the house, but sometimes it's just fun to get muddy! ATV riding will get you muddy that is for sure! Many destinations offer this fun excursion making it an ideal activity to do as a shore excursion from a cruise, or just as a fun day trip while on vacation. Some great places to ATV are Mexico, Turks and Caicos, Hawaii, West Virginia, Tennessee, and Nevada!

18. AFRICAN SAFARI



What is more adventurous than riding in an open-air jeep seeing magnificent animals wondering around right next to you? What is more thrilling than not knowing what these animals will do? Have a cheetah sit on top of the hood of your car, see a lion take down a zebra, or have a giraffe walk right up to you! Africa is one of the best places for animal adventures!

19. AMAZON

Speaking of animal adventures, the Amazon Rainforest, is another one of those amazing animal adventures. One of the most adventurous ways to travel through the river by river cruise. You'll have the opportunity to see animals up close and personal in their natural habitat doing what they naturally do in the wild.

20. ANTARCTICA



What is more adventurous than going to a place few have been at the bottom of the world? There are many educational opportunities to visit Antarctica where you'll learn about this snowy destination and its inhabitants.

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CHAPTER 6 - ECOTOURISM, VOLUNTEER TOURISM, EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL

Traveling with your family doesn't have to be all fun and relaxation. Why not make it an opportunity to make it educational? Or teach your kids to watch their carbon footprint with Eco Travel? Or let them experience how other cultures live and have them volunteer to help make communities be a better place! This chapter will go over some great options for you to travel with a purpose.

USA TOURS

North American travel is becoming incredibly popular! And why not? We live in an amazing country! With so many natural and man-made wonders in each and every state, there is so much to do and see in your own backyard. With many USA tours, you can take a guided tour, maximizing your time in each location. Or, if you are the "go where the wind takes you" type of traveler, the luxury of staying in your own country is being able to easily ask for directions, get local help, and not have to worry about getting stuck in a foreign country, will put your travel mind at ease. Plus, you don't need a passport, unless you are visiting our neighbors to the north, Canada.

In this blog series, we will discuss more benefits of traveling within the USA and Canada, as well as give you some great ideas of USA tours, Canada tours, family trips, adult only itineraries, education tours, and more! In this blog, we will be discussing Family Friendly tours!

FAMILY FRIENDLY USA TOURS

The United States is vastly underrated when it comes to amazing travel spots. Travel within our own country is a great way to involve family, young and old. Most places will involve a short plane trip which makes it easy to travel with children. Or if you are up for more of an adventure, or if your kids are good in the car, you can have the opportunity to save some money on the flight and take a road trip! Traveling within the United States also makes for a great opportunity for Grandparents to take their Grandkids on a memorable vacation without leaving the country!

Road trips make for an excellent way to see a lot of the country and take some fun stops along the way to your destination that you might have never thought of visiting.

USA TOUR COMPANIES

A couple of our favorite USA based tour companies for families are Tauck Bridges and Adventures by Disney. Both of these tour companies specialize in smaller groups with plenty of children present. One of our customers said that traveling with Tauck Bridges was a great way for his grandkids to play with other children while he was able to enjoy time with the other parents and grandparents. The kids were always entertained by either the itinerary, activities the tour company provided, or playing with all the other kids during downtime. We work with many different tour companies, but what makes these two unique is that they specifically cater to families, so each and every itinerary will have something for kids and adults making this a great family vacation everyone will enjoy. Another great reason for traveling with a tour group is all your activities and even some of your meals will be included in the trip price!

Here are some ideas of tours that we have sent our clients on that they love!

Visit the Grand Canyon – Travel with either Adventures by Disney or Tauck Bridges. Enjoy such sights like Sedona, rafting on the Colorado River, take a jeep off-roading tour, enjoy a Cowboy Cookout, do a horse or donkey ride, or enjoy a little time in Las Vegas. The minimum age for Disney is 4, and the minimum age for Tauck is 7. Pricing starts at \$3769 per adult for this 8-day trip.



Visit San Francisco, Yosemite, and the Pacific with Tauck Bridges and see such sights as the Golden Gate Bridge, take a tram and hike Yosemite, try rock climbing, sit around a campfire, visit the famous Pebble Beach Golf Club and the Monterey Bay Aquarium. The recommended age is 8+. Pricing starts at \$3990 per adult for this 8-day trip.

Visit Montana and Yellowstone National Park with Adventures by Disney. Experience "Glamping" which is camping with all the amenities of home, Stay at a Dude Ranch and try your hand at being a cowboy, visit Mammoth Hot Springs Terrace and Old Faithful in Yellowstone, go white water rafting and zip line through Big Sky. The minimum age is 6 and the pricing starts at \$3969 per adult for this 7-day trip.

Winter in Wyoming – for you brave souls that like the cold, then visit Wyoming with Adventures by Disney. Enjoy activities like Iditarod dog sled racing, visit the Granite Hot Springs, see Yellowstone in all her winter glory and visit Old Faithful, and enjoy a sunset sleigh ride then cozy up around a campfire with hot cocoa. The minimum age is 4. Please contact Fox Travel for current pricing and dates.



Alaska – visit with both Tauck and Disney. See beautiful Alaska by land and visit Denali National Park, white water raft, visit glaciers, hike or bike the scenic trails, meet Alaskan wildlife, ride on a jet boat and take the train through the mountains, and learn about Iditarod dog sled racing. The minimum age for Disney is 4, or 8 for Tauck. The pricing starts at \$4590 per adult for this 8-day trip.

USA ON YOUR OWN

While traveling in a group and having a set itinerary is great, sometimes you just want to explore the destination on your own. Traveling within the United States is a great place to do this because you are in your own country! Or maybe you like an itinerary, but just can't go on the specified dates for the tours. Don't worry, because Fox Travel can plan a complete USA tour for you! Read below for some great ideas on USA destinations to visit on your own.

Hawaii is a wonderful destination for all ages. Lounge on the beach and play in the warm, blue waters, Snorkel or try your hand at Scuba Diving, visit the Pearl Harbor memorial, hike the rainforest, visit an active Volcano, ATV a dormant Volcano, or Parasail above the sea. With so much to do for everyone, Hawaii makes for a great destination to do on your own. Can't decide what island to visit? Plan a cruise around the Hawaiian Islands!



Alaska – I know we had Alaska as a great location to visit by land, but take a trip on your own by sea! Cruising to Alaska is the most popular way to see this great state. With many cruise lines offering many different itineraries and lengths of stay, you can have your pick. Don't have a passport? No

problem! While there are many itineraries that leave from Vancouver (where you would need a passport) there are many that also do round trip Seattle or even

San Francisco. Extend your trip with a land option through the cruise line and visit Denali National Park!

East or West Coast – Another great way to see the East and West Coasts is to cruise! With many cruises that will visit ports up and down both sides of our great nation, this makes for a great way to visit many cities in a short amount of time. Bonus! You only need to unpack once!



EUROPEAN TRAVEL WITH KIDS

Europe is a great destination for history, culture, food, and museums. It is a great way for your kids to see and be where the history they are learning about happened. It's educational and fun, plus parents will always enjoy Europe!

Different Ways to See Europe with Kids

CRUISES



Cruising is a great way to visit multiple destinations in a short time. With a day in each city you'll have to maximize your time in port, but it allows you to see the most without having to pack and unpack multiple times. Whether an ocean cruise or a river cruise, you will be able to get a great feel for what you will want to come back to spend a longer amount of time, and what you are good with just spending a day in.

Cruises also do a great job with kids programs educating them on the destinations they are visiting, so even if they are a little young to have learned about some of these European destinations in school yet, the cruise lines will explain these destinations in an age appropriate way, and when they do learn about it, they will be more interested and be able to visualize it better because of their trip.

GROUP TRAVEL

With vendors like Globus, Adventures by Disney, Trafalgar and more, it makes for a fun way to see destinations with a group of people that also are traveling with their kids. The drawback to this is you are on the tours schedule, but the plus is you will make some great friends along the way! Plus you will get a more intimate and less rushed feel of the destination you are in instead of a cruise. These vendors do a great job making sure you maximize your time without you feeling like you are rushed to see something. You will also have a guide that travels with you so if you haven't brushed up on your history, you won't be put on the spot by your kids, they can just ask them!

CUSTOMIZED ITINERARIES



One of the best things about booking with a travel agent is that we know all the inside scoop! If you want to travel to Italy with your kids, we can set your family up on private tours, pizza cooking classes as a family!

Traveling on your own is great if you want to spend multiple days in each destination. With both cruises and group travel, you only have the timeframe that they give you, but when you do it on your own you can really explore the city you are in.

Some cities really do require multiple days in because of the amount of history or attractions they boast. Many times, if you do a cruise that leaves or returns to a major destination we can also add a couple days on your own too! It's the best of both worlds!

TRAVEL WITH A PURPOSE: ECOTOURISM AND VOLUNTEER TOURISM

What is Ecotravel or Volunteer-tourism? Ecotravel is going to a destination, resort, or mode of transport that specializes in reducing their carbon footprint and is aimed at helping the environment. Whereas Volunteer-tourism is where you do volunteer work in the community you are visiting.

ECOTOURISM

Ecotourism or Green Travel is a leave the destination cleaner than when you arrived, type travel. It's traveling to a destination or specifically choosing a company that has made a commitment to reduce their carbon footprint. We all know that major modes of transportation can pollute the air, among other ways of effecting the environment, but there are companies out there that do their part to help reduce how much pollutants they are expelling.



Another way popular tourist destinations are helping reduce their carbon footprint and help save their history and culture are reducing the amount of people allowed in at a time. Destinations like Venice and Rome have not been able to keep up with the trash left behind by tourists or been able to clean up their famous ruins or canals fast enough.

Many Cruise lines have been working on reducing their carbon footprint. Most cruise lines recycle, and some, like Disney, recycle their cooking oil where some of it is used to create biodiesel fuel for a fleet of vehicles in the Bahamas. Princess cruises works with companies that they buy in bulk from to stop using plastics and use biodegradable packages instead. Royal Caribbean have been noted for being the lowest emission producing ships in the industry, their newest ships emit 20% less carbon dioxide than ships that came out within the last couple of years. See, you don't have to sacrifice your vacation to help the environment!

The best destinations known for Ecotravel are:

- Costa Rica is one of the top countries in the world that is reducing their carbon footprint.
- New Zealand
- Iceland
- Norway
- Slovenia
- Galapagos Islands
- Borneo
- Peru
- Patagonia
- Botswana and Zambia
- Vietnam



VOLUNTEER-TOURISM

Fathom is a great company that partners with Princess and Carnival to bring volunteers on vacation to destinations that need it. Currently Fathom is working with Princess to bring people to help those that were affected by the massive hurricanes that hit Caribbean islands in 2017. You'll still get to travel to wonderful destinations, but help local communities rebuild and



distribute goods and food to these communities that have been hit the hardest. Fathom's other goal is to educate people on different cultures. Partnering with Carnival, they do just this on their Cuba cruises. You'll get to learn about local culture, food, and languages when visiting this island.

Cruising with Fathom is particularly wonderful with children too. You'll get to have your great vacation on these cruise ships and visit some amazing ports, but maybe take one day to help the local communities. This will greatly benefit children as volunteering to help will surely make a difference in their lives.

You can also volunteer with many different animal organizations as well! Helping rehabilitate injured or sick animals, helping clean rehabilitation centers, working together to mark sea turtle nesting grounds, and more. There are several tour organizations that you can work with, like WFA or NatGeo.

There are so many ways you can offer to help while sharing an amazing experience with your family.



Did you know that Fox Travel is an American Express agency? That means you can Pay With Points for part or all of your trip. And, travel agents often have access to rates, perks, discounts and specials not available anywhere else. Another thing unique to Fox Travel is we have a wedding coordinator that is a travel agent on staff if you have family or friends planning a destination wedding.

**Call us for a no obligation quote! 1-800-256-2128 or email
at info@foxtravel.net**

CHAPTER 7 - BEST FAMILY ALL INCLUSIVE RESORTS

At [Fox Travel](#) we know the importance of family. Many of us have children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews that we love to travel with. We know that spending quality time with your family is important when you travel, so having to worry about extra costs while on vacation just takes time away from that. Just in time to start planning your Summer vacation, here are Fox Travel's Top 7 Best Family Friendly All Inclusive Resorts in Mexico and the Caribbean.

FAMILY FRIENDLY ALL INCLUSIVE RESORTS

1. NICKELODEON RESORT PUNTA CANA



Talk about the absolute perfect blend of a gorgeous setting, gourmet food, luxurious accommodations, with amazing kids amenities. Nickelodeon Punta Cana resort is part of the Karisma brand, so you know you are getting a great product. Families will get to have fun, relax, be pampered and enjoy quality time together. Did you know you can stay in Sponge Bob's Pineapple? You can! Get slimed! Because the family that gets slimed together, stays together.

2. BEACHES RESORTS



With resorts in Turks and Caicos and Jamaica Beaches resorts are probably one of the most well known name brand on our list. There's a good reason for that! Beaches know their clients and they know what they want when they are on vacation. Beaches is a great family friendly all inclusive resort for all ages, but if you have little kids, they do have Sesame Street characters that your littles will love!

3. GENERATIONS RIVERA MAYA



Located in beautiful Riviera Maya, Mexico, Generations resort is another one of those Karisma products. Many of our clients say that Karisma resorts ruin them for all other all inclusive resorts simply because their service is impeccable. Another client just said that they loved the Generations resort because it wasn't as big as some of the other chain all inclusive resorts. It allowed them to have time together as a family without having to wait for pool chairs, or restaurants.

4. IBEROSTAR RESORTS



With 19 resorts in Jamaica, Dominican Republic, and Mexico the Iberostar resorts are one of the largest chains on our list. The benefit of these larger resorts is that Iberostar resorts are filled with fun activities for families with kids of all ages. Lazy rivers and water parks are great, but most resorts also have splash pad for the younger kids too! Iberostar resorts are a favorite among Fox Travel agents and clients.

5. BARCELO RESORTS



Located in Mexico and Dominican Republic Barcelo resorts are, like Iberostar, a larger chain. But Barcelo resorts don't show that. With fun activities, fantastic pools and splash pads, and yummy food, Barcelo resorts are going to be fun for families of all ages that want it all! Barcelo resorts are also another favorite among the Fox Travel staff!

6. AZUL RESORTS



It's not a secret that Fox Travel loves Karisma resorts and families love attention to details that these resorts give. Azul resorts are located in both Mexico and their newest resort in Jamaica. While Azul does a great job focusing on everyone, like the Nickelodeon resort, still has characters your kids will love. Your kids will love being able to see all the Nickelodeon characters and you will love seeing them have a blast!

7. ATLANTIS RESORTS



Even though Atlantis resorts are not all inclusive, we wanted to include them on our list because you can purchase meal programs ahead of time that makes it feel like more of an all inclusive, but also because families LOVE Atlantis resorts. The Bahamas are beautiful and this huge resort fits in perfectly. With restaurants, water parks (like the massive slide that goes through a shark tunnel!), swimming with dolphins and more, those are the reasons why families love Atlantis.

Did you know that Fox Travel is an American Express agency? That means you can Pay With Points for part or all of your trip. And, travel agents often have access to rates, perks, discounts and specials not available anywhere else. Another thing unique to Fox Travel is we have a wedding coordinator that is a travel agent on staff if you have family or friends planning a destination wedding.

**Call us for a no obligation quote! 1-800-256-2128 or email
at info@foxtravel.net**

CHAPTER 8 - UNIQUE FAMILY TRAVEL

If you're tired of the same cookie cutter vacations that you see all over social media, then you are in the right place. Keep reading to find some amazing inspirations for some very unique vacations!

TRAIN ADVENTURES CONTENT WRITTEN BY ALMA LEE WITH FOX TRAVEL

Did your parents ever tell you to hold on to something (suit, tie, skirt, slacks, Chia Pet, Pet Rock) because it would eventually come back into style? Who knew that they were talking about Train Travel? Okay. Maybe not. But they should have been talking about it...

The hottest NEW travel is [vacation by train](#). This isn't just about U.S. train vacations, either. More people are traveling by train for vacation in Europe, Asia, Africa, Canada, and South America today than at any other time since the Golden Age of the Rail Industry in the 1800's. And, the good news is that train travel is for everyone and can be combined with any kind of vacation.

If you don't believe me, keep reading about these glorious excursions on some of the most iconic rail systems in the world.



VACATION BY TRAIN

THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEER



Rocky Mountaineer led the way in travel for people who wanted to actually EXPERIENCE the U.S. Rocky Mountains and Western Canada. This area has become synonymous with breathtaking vistas and heart stopping mountainous terrain.

Your senses will explode as you view the Rocky Mountains from a window in the dining car, a dome topped car, or the windows of your own sleeper room. This award winning train line offers many touring options including jaunts that allow you to stop at the incredible Lake Louise and Banff or the majestic ski terrain around Mount Whistler that was featured during the Vancouver Olympics. From glorious hard woods all around to beautiful china in the dining car, this truly is the way to satisfy your quest to visit Canada and the Rockies. It is also an amazing journey to add on to an Alaskan Cruise out of Vancouver. What a way to get your Canadian Train Vacation Fix!

THE NAPA VALLEY TRAIN

Perhaps the most identified THEME train is The Napa Valley Wine Train. If you are interested in all things WINE, then this is the train trip for you. The Train is based in the picturesque town of Napa and does an assortment of rail tours thru the wine estates.



You can choose from:

The Legacy Tour – which includes Robert Mondavi, Charles Krug, and V. Sattui. The legacy of these Italian families represents a combined winemaking history of more than 300 years. And some very fine vintages. Some say this is where it all began. And this is where your journey begins.

The Collective Tour – Sparkling wine and Mason jar poached eggs set the mood. You visit three incredible wineries – The Napa Green Certified St. Supery Estate Vineyards and Winery, Beringer Winery and Raymond Vineyards. You will experience wine making from the vineyards, to the processing, to the tasting. During this 6 hour sensual treat, your winery visits are wrapped around incredible food like honey-fennel cracked mustard glazed Pacific salmon or rosemary garlic marinated grilled flat iron steak.

Are you getting the picture here? Well, then another choice will take you over the top...



Romance On The Rails – You will take a 3 hour journey in a private booth of the Vista Dome absorbing the beauty of this Romantic Evening train ride thru Napa Valley. This breathtaking sumptuous dinner aboard a delightful train is a great way to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, honeymoon, or JUST BECAUSE....

What is truly amazing is that this is just a sample of the various experiences that can be enjoyed on a West Coast Train Vacation package!

THE AFRICAN BLUE TRAIN



When you mention to someone about the Blue Train, you either get a blank stare or an awe inspired glaze. There is NO in between. It is one of the most luxurious trains in the world and has just a few routes. But, oh, the routes. It goes from Cape Town to Pretoria or to Krueger National Park. One of the NORMAL stops is Victoria Falls... Did I mention Krueger National Park and Victoria Falls? That is the reason that you have to see this train to believe it. When the luxury is this intense, you know that you are in a place that will define the rest of your life – Africa.

Now, let's switch tracks.....

There is a company that owns some of the best known luxury trains in the World. Belmond owns The Royal Scotsman in Scotland, The Hiram Bingham in Peru, The Belmond Andean Explorer in Peru, The Grand Hibernian in

Ireland, The British Express in United Kingdom, AND.....ta da.....The Venice Simplon – Orient Express. Yes, THAT

Orient Express

Now, we're talking trains.



The Hiram Bingham is the incredible train which travels between Cusco and Machu Picchu in Peru. The dome cars give a breathtaking view of the Andes and access to this UNESCO Heritage area that cannot be duplicated. . It is named after the discoverer of Machu Picchu and cannot be matched.

Riding **Belmond Royal Scotsman** can be an eye opener. It is the essence of Scotland in a train. Not only are the cars some of the most luxurious including the Bamford Spa but the journeys are unique and whimsical. For instance...the Scotch Malt Whisky Trail which includes all meals and beverages, private tours of the Glen Ord, Glenlivet and Tullibardine distilleries and a tasting at the Scotch Malt Whisky Society headquarters. HOW COOL IS THAT!!!!

And now, Ladies and Gentlemen....

Oh, ok...



The Venice Simplon – Orient Express. Perhaps the best known train in the world, this is more than a train. It is the pinnacle of the Golden Age brought to life. You almost expect Agatha Christie or Hercule Poirot to wander by your seat in the Club Car while you have Tea. The cabins are sumptuous and the routes are without compare. Try Venice to London (with a 2 night stop in Vienna) or Paris to Budapest or

This train will take you away.

In fact, all of these iconic trains are waiting for you. One call to Fox Travel and you can be on a journey that will be life changing and life enhancing. We are talking BUCKET LISTS here,

5 AMAZING SUMMER VACATIONS YOU HAVEN'T THOUGHT OF

If you are looking for a great family vacation but are tired of doing the same cookie cutter vacations every year, continue reading below for some fresh ideas to consider!

SUMMER VACATIONS



CANADIAN ROAD TRIP

Block out two weeks and drive from Montreal to Banff. OK, so it's a grand total of approximately 40 hours on the road, but break it into chunks over the course of 14 days and it's worth it, given all the sights you can detour to see (like Ottawa—Canada's capital city—or Prince Albert National Park in Saskatchewan). Consider taking a [luxury train trip](#) through the Canadian Rockies!



A WESTERN DUDE RANCH

Vacation is for fresh air and wide-open spaces, which is why you can't go wrong with a getaway to Colorado, specifically Grand County (located about an hour west of Denver). The Latigo Ranch will whisk you far away from pesky annoyances like email—although Wi-Fi hot spots are available if you need it—and fix your attention instead on the land around you. Forty thousand acres of prime national forest, to be exact.



A CHARMING SOUTHERN CITY



If you haven't been to Charleston, summer is the perfect time . It's the perfect blend of city culture and country charm. Spend your days touring nearby plantations (FYI, Boone Hall, the spot where Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds got hitched, is open to the public) and your nights at reputable high-end restaurants like Husk or FIG. You could even detour to Kiawah Island, no more than a 45-minute drive away.

A LAKESIDE ADVENTURE

The ocean isn't the only option if you're looking for a family getaway where your kids can splash in the waves. Michigan's west coast offers gorgeous water views without having to worry about the tides. (FYI, we love South Haven, often referred to as the "Catskills of the Midwest.") Or, if the east side of the state is more your style, take a ferry to Mackinac Island in the middle of Lake Huron.



A COASTAL ESCAPE

Big Little Lies on the brain? Book a five-day weekend in and around Big Sur. The cliff views of the Pacific Ocean (visible from the Highway 1) alone are worth the trip, but the chance to experience the breathtaking vistas seen on your new favorite HBO show? You can't go wrong.

Article originally published April 18, 2017 on [Pure Wow](#)

SPORTS TRAVEL

Are you a sports nut? Do you love your team? Have you dreamed of following your team on the road, or traveling to a World sporting event? We at Fox Travel are all sports fans and each have our own team we root for. We understand the passion that a team can ignite and the camaraderie that sports can bring. Because of this, [Fox Travel](#) is your go to for all your sports travel needs.

SPORTS TRAVEL – CHEER FOR YOUR FAVORITE TEAM ON THE ROAD

Sports bring people together, it allows a community of people that may not have anything else in common, to gather and root for one purpose. Even those that were rooting for the other team, cough me cough (I am from LA, but don't boo me too much, I also love the Astros), Houstonians were still joking around and having fun with me when I wore my Dodgers shirt. How many times have you worn your team attire out and have gotten a cheer, or even a boo from a stranger? Sports starts conversations, and it's all in good fun.

Now imagine following your favorite sports team on the road, going to historic stadiums, cheering for your team in a rival stadium, visiting the Hall of Fame wearing your favorite gear, that is sports travel. Here are some great ways we can help you follow your favorite team on the road. Please note airfare is not included in pricing below.

BASEBALL

Your Houston Astros are the World Series Champions!

How amazing does that feel? After the last couple of months, it felt good to get a huge win! The season may be over, but now is a great time to pick out some games for [next season](#) to travel to. Like maybe having a rematch, Astros @ Dodgers in the first week in August? Or going to NYC to the new Yankee Stadium or Boston at the historic Fenway Park to watch the Astros beat the Yankees or Red Socks, again.



We can also set you up with tickets and travel package to cheer on the Astros at the **MLB All Stars Game in Washington DC**. Get four days in first class accommodations, tickets to MLB All Star Fan Fest, full breakfast daily, Commemorative All Star gift package, and your choice of tickets to the All Star Games *starting at \$2625 per person*.

Your Astros are also projected to go far again next year. Get a jump on supporting them in the opposing city for the 2018 season, Fox Travel can help!

FOOTBALL



Texans love their football, be it high school, college, or professional, so it is only natural to want to cheer for your favorite team [on the road](#). With only 8 home games, it sometimes makes it difficult to see your team unless they are on the road. Or maybe you are interested in seeing a really big game, like the **Super Bowl LII** held in Minneapolis with First Class packages *starting at \$6995 per person* and include your prime tickets, **Rose Bowl** in Pasadena starting at *\$1675 per person*, **College National Championship** in Atlanta *starting at \$2195 per person*, Red River Rivalry, and more! We've got you covered! We can get you a dream sports package that includes tickets to your favorite games and all the travel arrangements.

HOCKEY



I know, I know, we live in Houston and there is no hockey team here. BUT, there are a lot of transplants in Houston, many from our neighbors to the North, so hockey it is. If you have never been to a hockey game, you are missing out. It has all the action and hits (or checks) of Football, without all the time outs. [Follow your favorite team](#) to a rival stadium and wear your sweaters with pride! Or follow your team to see one, or all, of the Original 6. The Original 6 teams include, the Toronto Maple Leafs, also where the Hockey Hall of Fame is located, New York Rangers, Boston Bruins, Chicago Black Hawks, Detroit Red Wings, and Montreal Canadiens. Talk about some historic cities that have a ton to do! Spend New Years Eve in NYC and attend an outdoor game with the Rangers vs the Sabres in the **NHL Winter Classic** with packages starting at \$1235 per person. Or take in some sun at the **NHL All Star game** in Tampa with packages starting at \$2325 per person. We can also help you get tickets to the playoffs, and **Stanley Cup** games starting at \$1495 per person.

SOCCER



Did you know that Soccer is the Worlds most popular sport? There are over 265 million players actively involved in Soccer around the World. The biggest game in soccer is the World Cup, held in a different location, and is only played every 4 years. The next **World Cup** will be held in Russia June – July of 2018. 32 National teams will compete in this month long tournament and everyone will be cheering their Country on, even those that don't generally follow Soccer. Ticket packages are still available and pricing is available on request, however they are limited with it coming up so quickly. If traveling to Russia is not in the cards, you can always follow your [Houston Dynamo's](#) around, too!

BASKETBALL



Basketball is a high scoring, back and forth, any team can take it, kind of game. This fast paced game makes for a favorite among those that don't like all the breaks in other sports. With a season that runs from October through April, and playoffs running into June, you will have plenty of opportunities to see your favorite [teams on the road](#). With so many major US cities having a team, Basketball makes for a great opportunity to see and explore some of our greatest cities while still being able to catch a game.

We can get you tickets and travel packages for all the major events too, like the **NBA All Star Game** held in Los Angeles February 2018, or the **Final Four** packages held right in our own backyard in San Antonio March 30 – April 3, 2018, both events *start at \$2845 per person*.

SUMMER AND WINTER OLYMPICS

February 2018 marks the next **Winter Olympics** held in South Korea. See and cheer on our Nations athletes in this amazing country! Limited packages are available still and include your 6 night stay, all ground transportation, breakfast daily, sight seeing tours in Seoul, and several days worth of event experiences, *starting at \$6,895 per person*, not including air.



2020 **Summer Olympic** games will be held in another sought after city to travel to, Tokyo, Japan. Tokyo is constantly rated as one of the best cities to travel to, and coming soon we will have Olympic pricing!

TENNIS, HORSE RACING, GOLFING, AND CAR RACING



These are some other sports that have great followings! We have packages for the **Masters Golf Tournament** in at the Augusta National Golf Course in Georgia *starting at \$1995 per person* for travel accommodations and admission to a practice round, or \$3395 for a tournament round. **Wimbledon** packages in England *starting at \$1845 per person* that include 2 nights and 1 session. **Kentucky Derby** packages that include reserved seating at the Derby, and the Pegasus Parade for \$2995 per person. Or a complete **Monaco Grand Prix** package in May 2018 *starting at \$4495 per person*.

GAME OF THRONES TOURS



A Game of Thrones vacation might not be the best suited for the younger crowd, but you can guarantee that some of the teens would love to experience this type of unique trip! Keep reading for a great idea on seeing the filming locations to this hot show!

Immerse yourself in the land of Westeros in this exclusive Game of Thrones tour across Ireland. When ever you are ready to go, we'll arrange the most adventure filled trip for you and your fellow travelers from two people to thirty!

This larger-than-life tour, designed by a travel expert that is a huge fan of [Game of Thrones](#), will excite and delight fans of the show and the books. Extensive research revealed secrets that make this trip an adventure of a lifetime.

ABOUT THE GAME OF THRONES TOUR



You will visit many of the Game of Thrones iconic filming locations located throughout Ireland including, [Winterfell Castle](#), Cushendun Caves, [Renly's Camp](#), the [Iron Islands](#), Giants Causeway, the Dark Hedges and more.

Imagine dressing up in character costumes and learn archery in the same spot where Ned Stark and John Snow taught young Bran how to shoot. Take a bicycle tour of the grounds where over 20 scenes were filmed, meet local actors that were extras in the scenes filmed locally, and yes...*meet the real Direwolves!*

When you are not participating in Game of Thrones tour, you'll experience Belfast and Dublin with handpicked tours for this group. Guided city and countryside tours, famous Irish pub crawls for adult only tours - there will be something to delight everyone!

SAMPLE GAME OF THRONES TOUR INCLUDES:

- 7-night accommodations in Belfast and Dublin
- Breakfast daily and a farewell dinner in Dublin
- 6 days of private tours, including 2 days featuring Game of Thrones tours
- Hotel Porterage
- Tips and Gratuities
- Optional extension for additional 2 nights in an Irish Castle with dinner one night

ENGAGE IN THE BEAUTY OF IRELAND AND EVERYTHING GAME OF THRONES:

- Game of Thrones tour from Belfast to Northern Ireland
- Game of Thrones tour from Dublin visiting Winterfell Castle and local filming sites
- Award winning Archery and meet the Direwolves Experiences
- Private city tours through Dublin and Belfast
- Visit the Guinness Factory and Jameson Distillery
- Private literary pub tour around Dublin's most energetic pubs
- Optional 2-night extension in a real Irish Castle
- Delectable Irish Cuisine
- Exquisite Irish scenery
- Farewell dinner in a local pub with traditional Irish dinner and entertainment

EXTEND YOUR TRIP!

Stay an additional 2 nights in a real Irish Castle and visit the Cliffs of Moher



CHAPTER 9 - MOM AND DAD NEED A BREAK TRAVEL

OK, we know that this chapter isn't exactly family friendly, but Mom and Dad need a break too! This chapter will discuss some great adult only getaways for when Mom and Dad need a little alone time.

BEST ALL INCLUSIVE ADULT ONLY

One of the most popular questions we get asked at [Fox Travel](#) is what are the best all inclusive vacations for [adults only](#)? There are so many beautiful adult only resorts, but Fox Travel has picked out our top 7 just for you. These resorts below have been picked for their stunning locations, exemplary service, and romantic getaways to help you unwind, connect, and fall deeper in love with your significant other.

TOP 7 ALL INCLUSIVE VACATIONS ADULTS ONLY

1. KARISMA EL DORADO RESORTS



[Karisma's El Dorado](#) resorts are a collection of four all suite, five-star gourmet inclusive resorts in beautiful Riviera Maya, Mexico. While each resort is part of the same property name, they are indeed very different from each other. Nestled in between the white sandy beaches and the lush jungle is the El Dorado Royale, which is the second largest of their adult only resorts with 478 suites. Its sister property, the El Dorado Casitas Royale, is a bit more private with only 205 suites. Next door to the main El Dorado Royale, you will get all the private amenities that come with the Casitas suites, including a private pool, but still get to partake in all the 15 gourmet restaurants that the larger property has.

It is the best of both worlds! The El Dorado [Maroma](#) is truly a couples paradise. With only 157 suites, including the stunning [over-water bungalows](#) that are the first in Mexico.

This intimate resort is perfect for those that want to be pampered, or have that bucket list worthy over-water bungalow without crossing half way around the world for it. The newest, and largest of the resorts, the El Dorado Seaside Suites is one of the more lively of the resorts. With 574 all ocean view suites, this resort is known for romance and fun.

2. BREATHLESS RESORTS



Breathless resorts give you a little more options than Karisma does on where in the Caribbean you can go. With 3 resorts in Mexico, Cancun, Playa del Carmen, and Cabo, plus a resort in beautiful Punta Cana, and another in stunning Jamaica, you will have a hard time choosing which of these amazing destinations to visit.

These chic, all luxury resorts will be just what you are looking for to reconnect with your loved one, or just let loose and have some fun! Their sister company, Dreams, which boasts 15 properties throughout the Caribbean and Mexico, will let you know that Breathless resorts are stellar properties with the reputation to back it up.

3. SECRETS RESORTS



These sultry [Secrets Resorts](#) are also a sister company to the above Breathless and Dreams resorts. With 15 resorts, 10 all over Mexico, 2 in Punta Cana, 2 in Jamaica, and 1 in Costa Rica, this resort gives you even more options on destinations.

These unlimited luxury resorts, coupled with unparalleled service makes for a great resort option. A little more romantic and laid back than its sister resort, Breathless, these resorts will sweep you off your feet for sure!

4. COUPLES RESORTS



Dotted throughout the beautiful country of Jamaica are 4 equally as wonderful, [Couples Resorts](#). With 2 in Ocho Rios, and 2 in Negril, they don't have as many options as the resorts above, but don't let that fool you. What they lack in destinations, they more than make up for it in romance. These resorts cater to "couples" after all.

Couples San Souci in Ocho Rios is their smallest and most intimate resort with just 150 suites. Couples Tower Isle in Ocho Rios is their next largest resort with 226 rooms, followed by Couples Negril with 234 suites. Each of these 3 resorts also offer a separate Au natural beach, pool, and spa as well as a private Au natural island at Couples Tower Isle. Couples Swept Away, located in Negril, is their largest and completely conventional resort, with 312 rooms. If you are looking for romance catered to couples, as well as maybe a little adventure, Couples Resorts is just for you!

And catch this! Three of their four resorts offer au natural sun bathing areas for a tan line-less vacation. Couple's Resorts are a favorite with Fox Travel clients.

5. SANDALS RESORTS



The [Sandals](#) name is probably one of the most popular and well known names for adult getaways. With 16 resorts sprinkled throughout the Caribbean it's no wonder why! There are 10 resorts in Jamaica alone, including the first over-water bungalows in the Caribbean located at the Sandals South Coast and Sandals Royal Caribbean.

Jamaica is going to give you the best opportunity to get into this very popular luxury resort. There are also 2 resorts in the Bahamas, 2 in Barbados, and 1 each in lesser visited islands of Grenada and Antigua, and 3 in St. Lucia, with over-water bungalows now available at the Grande St. Lucian. You have so many choices of destinations to visit with a high quality, well known brand, plus 3 locations for the very popular over-water bungalows!

6. EXCELLENCE RESORTS



With 5 locations to choose from in Mexico, Punta Cana, and Jamaica, everyday is Valentines Day at [Excellence Resorts](#)! These popular resorts are known for their “excellence” in romance and luxury.

Celebrating honeymoons, anniversaries or other special occasions is what sets Excellence apart from other adult only resorts. With several different romance packages to choose from Excellence Resorts will make sure that your vacation is memorable.

7. RENDEZVOUS RESORT ST. LUCIA



Our last resort on the list, [Rendezvous](#) only has one location in St. Lucia, but don't let the fact that there is only one location fool you, it just means that they are not "stretched thin" when doling out romance. With the lush gardens of St. Lucia as your background, and views overlooking the turquoise sea, this magnificent luxurious resort is one that you don't want to miss. Their tagline "Time is so precious, smart couples steal it" says it all! For more info on Rendezvous you can check out our blog [here](#).

This gem is another Fox Travel favorite with our clients.

NORTH AMERICAN TRAVEL TOURS FOR ADULTS

Are you looking for adult only travel tours? In our last blog, we told you about some great family friendly North American tours, which you can read about [here](#). Today we will be focusing on the adults! Because sometimes you need to get away with your significant other, or friends, to relax, blow off some steam, and most importantly have fun!

Whether you are looking for a girls getaway, a bachelor party, time away with your loved ones, or even a solo adventure, this blog will give you some great ideas!

NORTH AMERICAN TRAVEL TOURS

We have some fantastic travel tour companies that focus on North American travel. [Fox Travel](#) has picked out some great itineraries that are more “adult focused” travel tours.

WINE, BEER, AND BOURBON, OH MY!

- **San Francisco and Wine Country Delights**

– Enjoy this 7-day itinerary with Trafalgar, flying into San Francisco and visiting Sanoma and Napa Valley. Spend two full days in San Francisco touring this fun and unique city, with one full day at your leisure. Sample California wines while

aboard the vintage rail cars of the Napa Valley Wine Train and visit many different wineries in the region. Starting at \$2275 per person, this trip would make for a great bachelorette party or girls week!



- **Oregon Coast, Cascades, and Craft Beer** – Visit 5 craft breweries on this 10-day tour from Seattle to Portland with Globus. Visit National Parks and explore the sand dunes on a dune buggy ride! Visit Redhook Ale Brewery, Rouge Brewery, Deschutes Brewery, Full Sail



Brewing Co. and Widmer Brothers Brewing. Starting at \$3000 per person, what a fun trip for a bachelor party or guys trip!

- **Kentucky Bourbon Trail** – Visit Kentucky, home of Kentucky Bourbon! Here you can visit your favorite distilleries for some sampling and tastings! Set up a driver with a limo or party bus, drive yourselves, or even do a biking tour. You can visit all the distilleries in 3 days, so this makes for a great long weekend getaway!

MUSIC-CENTERED TOURS

America's Musical Heritage with Elvis' 40th Anniversary Celebration

– Is music in your soul? Then this is the tour for you. Visit the many cities and landmarks that have inspired and influenced America's musical heritage. From Nashville to New Orleans enjoy blues and jazz, to rock and country on this 12-day tour. To celebrate Elvis' 40th-anniversary celebration, this tour



is in August and starts at \$3700 per person. But you can also just do the America's Musical Heritage tour starting at \$2700 per person.

SEASONAL TOURS

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta

– Join in the largest Hot Air Balloon event in the world this October! See the spectacular colors of all the balloons as they rise in the morning and watch the night sky glow from the fire lighting the balloons. Visit the city of Albuquerque and Santa Fe on this 5-day tour starting at \$1376.00 per person.



Fall Foliage – Every year thousands flock to the East Coast and Canada to see the beauty of the fall colors. You can visit this region by land or by sea. With many different tours and cruise lines to choose from, all with different itineraries, you will have your pick to customize your vacation to your liking.

Calgary Stampede – Coming this July, get your Cowboy on with the famous Calgary Stampede. Enjoy 2 days at the Calgary Stampede with access to singers, dancers, musicians and the rodeo. Starting at \$1059.00 per person, this 4-day tour will make you say YEEHAW!

SPORTS TRAVEL

Do you love sports? Are you a die-hard fan? Why not follow them to an away game? Fox Travel has access to great sports vendors to get you the best deal on packages to follow your sports team for their important games!

We can even get you into major sporting events like the Super Bowl, NBA and NHL Playoffs, World Cup, and even the Olympics! Let Fox Travel put together a package for you and your fellow sports fans!



INDEPENDENT TRAVEL

Traveling with a group is great. It is a great way to meet new people with similar interests as you, but sometimes you just want to travel on your own. Not only can Fox Travel customize every one of these tours above for you, but here are a few more options of adult-centered travel ideas.



Las Vegas – “What Happens In Vegas, Stays In Vegas”, everyone knows that tag line! Vegas is a great place for a fun and quick getaway. Love to party and dance? Vegas is for you! Love to gamble? Vegas is for you! Love shows and concerts? Love the outdoors and national parks? Love food? Well, then Vegas is for you!

Sedona – This is a great location for those who love the beautiful colors of the painted desert. This laid back local makes a unique getaway with friends or a romantic getaway with your significant other.

An artist community, known for its unbelievable quality of light.

Rocky Mountaineer – Love trains? Then have we got a vacation for you! Staying on this luxury train you will get to see the sights of the Canadian Rockies that no other experience will come close to.

6 ROMANTIC SECRETS MAROMA BEACH HAS TO OFFER

Located on the Yucatan Peninsula just 30 miles south of Cancun lies one of Mexico's best-kept secrets Maroma Beach. Fox Travel will let you in on some of those secrets about one of the most romantic destinations in Mexico.

HERE ARE THE 6 MOST ROMANTIC SECRETS MAROMA BEACH MEXICO HAS TO OFFER

Don't let the fact that Maroma Beach is so close to Cancun fool you, it is no Spring Break destination. As a matter of fact, it is consistently rated as one of the [most romantic beaches in Mexico](#) and the world, and here is why.

1. One of the secrets Maroma Beach has to offer is it is an easy trip on non-stop flights. It's only a 2-hour flight from Houston making this an ideal quick romantic getaway or a long luxurious retreat. From Denver and Chicago, it's only a 3-hour flight. Even New York is only 4 hours away. From Los Angeles, non-stop flights have you there in about 5 hours.
2. There are over 500 acres of lush rainforests or pristine white sand beaches, perfect for a stroll at sunset. Mexico has made great strides to protect this natural reef and beautiful scenery, making sure that guests will enjoy all the romance and beauty that Mexico has to offer.



3. Another one of the best-kept secrets Maroma Beach has to offer is the *first overwater bungalows* in Mexico. They are located at Karisma El Dorado Maroma Resort and Spa. These stunning overwater bungalows offer amazing views of the sunset and sunrise right from your private balcony or infinity pool. View the fish as they swim under your bungalow



with their glass bottom floors or jump right into the azure waters from your direct ladder access to the ocean. There will be no shortage of romance when you have your own Jacuzzi tub for two or when you can shower under the stars in your own outdoor shower. *(Reservations for the bungalows can only be made by a Karisma GIVC travel agency.)*

4. One of the best secrets Maroma Beach offers is Karisma's [gourmet inclusive](#) service. Imagine a stay at the El Dorado Maroma resort with the best of both worlds. First, check into one of their swim-up suites or infinity pool suites for the first days of your stay. Then, while you relax on the beach sipping cocktails, your luggage can be transferred to one of their overwater bungalows for a night or two. That way you save on the cost AND you can check "stay in an overwater bungalow" off your bucket list.



5. Dine in style at Maroma Beaches five-star restaurant or have an unforgettable romantic candlelit dinner on the beach, catered to your taste. Or relax together for a couples massage while listening to the soothing sounds of the waves.
6. The best-kept secrets Maroma Beach has to offer has to be that there is so much to do and see. You'll find tours to see Mayan ruins and explore the jungle. There are amazing snorkeling and scuba sites. Sailing is a popular pastime for fishing, snorkeling or just plain cruising. And if you are a golfer, you'll find challenging courses and tropical breezes.

Of course, if you prefer to do nothing, you can be waited on hand and foot at the super luxury Karisma Maroma resort while watching the tropical fish glide by from your glass-floored bungalow.

WORKING WITH A GIVC TRAVEL AGENCY

Fox Travel is a Karisma GIVC agency, which means that we are one of the only travel agencies that can book the overwater bungalows at this time. If you want more information about Karisma El Dorado Maroma overwater bungalows or any other of the amazing resorts on Maroma Beach [contact](#) your favorite Fox Travel counselor today.

OVERWATER BUNGALOWS - KARISMA RESORT'S EL DORADO PALAFITOS



More than 800 square feet of luxury surrounded by the peaceful, turquoise waters of Riviera Maya's Maroma Beach*. Watch the beautiful, colorful fish of the Caribbean swim past from the glass bottom floors throughout your Palafito. Indulge yourself at El Dorado Maroma's five-star restaurants or have a sunset dinner on your private balcony. Experience luxury at its finest with personal butler service in your sumptuously appointed bungalow.

With Karisma Resort's newest addition of the first overwater bungalows in Riviera Maya, Mexico, you can now have your dream come true! No need to travel half way around the world to experience the unique overwater setting that rivals the best in the world. Palafitos are about 30 minutes south of the Cancun airport.

Be sure and see the list of inclusions below and the **video at the bottom of the page!*

A GOURMET INCLUSIVE VACATION WITH A ROMANTIC TWIST

Nothing says romance like your own private infinity pool, "Aguas del Amor" (outdoor shower) or your jacuzzi tub for two.

Located at El Dorado Maroma adults only, five-star resort, on beautiful Maroma Beach, this is a vacation you'll come back to again. Indulge your taste buds at one of their 7

gourmet restaurants, enjoy fine tequilas and wine at 5 bars all surrounded by one of the top 10 best beaches in the world.

Inclusions

- Glass bottom floors
- Private infinity deck pool
- Direct ladder access to the ocean
- Romantic "Aguas del Amor" outdoor shower
- Indoor Jacuzzi for two
- Oversized deck with lounge chairs
- 24-hour room service
- Exclusive beach beds
- Customized beach picnics
- Full butler service on demand
- In bungalow breakfast daily
- Pre-dinner snacks and drinks
- Dressing service before dinner
- Fully stocked mini bars
- Welcome glass of champagne
- Tequila, mezcal, and wine tastings
- Sommeliers
- Beach and pool butlers
- Paddleboats, kayak and snorkeling gear
- Scuba clinics in the pool
- Live music and shows
- Taxes and gratuities



About a two-hour flight from Houston or Dallas, 3.5 hours from Chicago and New York, and 4.5 hours from LA, you can experience Karisma Resort's Palafitos. You may even *not* cross them off your bucket list with a promise to return.

Connect, unwind and rekindle that very special feeling of love in one of the most romantic settings in the world!

CONCLUSION

Thank you for downloading and reading our eBook on the family vacations. I hope this has been informative in helping you narrow down what to do or where you would like to go for your next family vacation.

We all know the importance of quality family time and how it can create stronger bonds, build confidence, reduce stress and more. Taking a family vacation will help build all of that and create lasting memories you and your children that will last a lifetime.

I hope that when it comes time to book your family vacation you will give me the privilege of allowing Fox Travel to help create those lasting memories.

Thank you!

Tahnee

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Did you know that Fox Travel is an American Express agency? That means you can Pay With Points for part or all of your trip. And, travel agents often have access to rates, perks, discounts and specials not available anywhere else. Another thing unique to Fox Travel is we have a wedding coordinator that is a travel agent on staff if you have family or friends planning a destination wedding.

**Call us for a no obligation quote! 1-800-256-2128 or email
at info@foxtravel.net**