

Travel Tips



After so many months of staying at home and experiencing *staycations*, everyone is ready to discover the world again through travel. Although most families take at least one trip per year, it takes an experienced traveler to avoid mishaps and make the vacation an amazing adventure.

If you think back to all of the trips you've taken through the years, you may recall some of the common mistakes you made. Perhaps you were unable to adhere to the plans you made, or you lost your passport, or became ill after eating the local food. No matter what you experienced, good or bad, with some knowledge, you can make your next adventure a little more adventurous and a little less troublesome.

Bring a Daypack

Find a comfortable daypack that you keep with you no matter what. Daypacks should be filled with essential items such as a passport, laptop, camera, external hard drive, a debit card, spare cash, and maybe even some extra clothes. If your

luggage has been lost or delayed, your daypack will at least get you through the next 24 hours or more.

Take Photos of Yourself

Visiting new sites deserves photos; however, you should be in many of those photos. Since so many people take the same photos of the same places, make the pictures unique by including yourself in many of them.

Bring Ear Plugs and a Sleep Mask

Sleeping in a different place can be difficult with all of the new noises, bright lights, and lumpy mattresses. Yet, sleep during travel is so important if you want to feel good while enjoying the sites. You want to try and make your new sleeping conditions as comfortable as possible so the earplugs will help you reduce the noise, and the mask will help you reduce the light.

Bring Multiple Bank Cards

If you're traveling outside of the country, let your bank and credit card company know so that your cards will not be blocked. You can also bring at least three debit/credit cards with you that are all linked to different accounts. Keep one in your backpack, one in your daypack, and one on your person. Also, bring some extra cash and store it in different places. Some street vendors will only accept cash, so instead of avoiding the vendors, you can use cash to get a sweet treat or a unique piece of art.

Be Flexible

The unexpected can happen while traveling and you can't predict the unpredictable. When the tour you booked can't find your reservation, or an unexpected storm causes your boat tour to cancel, find a plan B. Keep your patience and discover something else you can do in this new place.

Visit the Tourist Attractions

Although discovering the less visited spots can be novel, the touristy destinations are popular for a reason. They are tourist attractions because the city or country is proud of this destination. So rather than being a travel snob, take in both the most visited attractions as well as those off the beaten path.