



Financial Literacy
Blog



How To Save Money on Vacation

Everyone looks forward to a vacation. However, trips can be expensive so planning out necessary details is the most crucial step of saving money. Here are the top five things to consider in planning a vacation.

- **Timing.** Look at the price changes for off-season and high-season. The price difference can be a remarkable saving.
- **Food.** Planning meals is helpful.
 - a. Eating out for one meal a day,
 - b. Choose to pack some of your meals and snacks. For example, peanut butter sandwiches are easy to pack.
 - c. Pre-packing your meals into a single serving size to heat up in the microwave.
 - d. Separate the meals and plan out which day to enjoy them.
 - e. Freeze a few meals for later in the week.
- **Lodging.** Not only is timing a factor. Amenities on the grounds can save you money:
 - a. Exercise equipment
 - b. Pools
 - c. Breakfast
 - d. Length of time you are staying, and timing. Weekends sometimes cost more.
- **Transportation.** Think about these things while traveling by plane, train, bus, or automobile.
 - a. Extra bags or overweight suitcases can cost money on certain transportation types—travel light.
 - b. Destinations. High-profile locations cost more in daily expenses but less on travel costs to some areas. Also, booking your flight early will cost less in airfare than booking closer to time.
 - c. Gas expenses. Look at the miles per gallon cost and map your route to reduce mileage.
 - d. Rental car expense if you are flying. Economy vehicles are cheaper to rent and on gas.
 - e. Travel insurance if you are uncertain of the time.
- **Activity.** What are you planning on doing on vacation? Every activity has a cost involved.
 - a. Look for discounts and coupon books.
 - b. Use a packing list to prevent unnecessary emergency purchases—pack layers.
 - c. Hiking in government-maintained parks.
 - d. Check out the area Chamber of Commerce for local attractions and events.



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Take into consideration the details that make up these five three areas of your vacation plans. It will save you a lot of money in the long run. Enjoy your vacation and take plenty of pictures of the memories you make along the way.