

Enjoy This Free Booklet

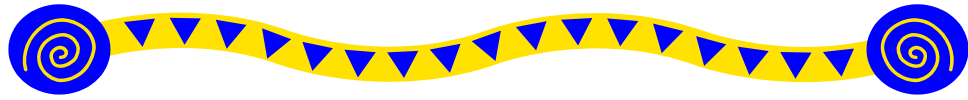
**NOTICE: You MAY make copies of this free gift book for
members of your household to enjoy**

Otherwise....

**You Do NOT Have the Right
to Reprint or Resell this book!**

© Kid Friendly Family Vacations

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. No part of this booklet may be reproduced or transmitted in any form whatsoever, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any informational storage or retrieval system without express written, dated, and signed permission from the author.

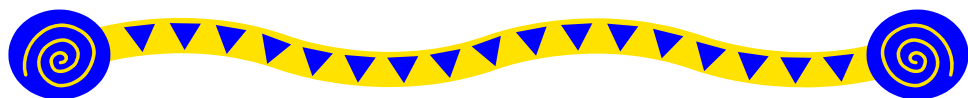


6 Awesome Ideas for Kid Friendly Vacations



By: Teresa Mills

<https://kid-friendly-family-vacations.com>



Thank you for downloading 6 Awesome Ideas for Kid Friendly Vacations!

I am happy to spend a little time with you to offer up some suggestions on planning some great kid friendly vacations – hopefully ones that you and your kids will enjoy.

What do you want from a Kid Friendly Vacation?

Do you want to re-connect with your family?

Do you want to show the kids a new city or location?

Do you want to let the kids experience a new activity?

Do you want to just rest and relax, and let the kids play on a beach?

I know what you dealing with... hopefully you can find some ideas here....

How I start planning our Kid Friendly Vacations...

I am a mother of four great kids, and very intent on giving them all of the experiences in life that I possibly can....

Part of the way that my husband and I build the children's life experiences is to take them on Family Vacations.....

Both of us have enjoyed traveling and felt it only natural to continue to travel once we had children. We try incorporating history or some learning, and fun into all of our trips.

It does not take any special training to come up with Kid Friendly Vacations, only a desire to travel with your kids, and let them experience different things and different locations.

Come on... let's find your perfect Kid Friendly Vacation...

Kid Friendly Vacations #1 - Theme Parks

[Theme Parks](#) have something for just about everyone, from rides to shows, to characters to meet and greet, to great local food.... you just name it, and you can probably find it at a Theme Park.



On most of our family vacations that include theme park visits, we will usually try to visit only one or two parks during a week- long stay. That keeps the kids happy, and not totally exhausted.... keeps the parents a little saner also...

The only time that we have deviated from this is during a stay on the Disney World property. We really wore it out on that trip.... every park, every day... whew!!!

Theme Park Family Vacations are fun but can sometime leave something to be desired as far as the amount of relaxation that parents get. That's another incentive to take it slow and allow for a little down time.

Some Favorite Theme Parks are....

[Disney World Resort](#) Orlando – 4 Theme Parks, and 2 fun water parks

[Universal Studios](#) Orlando – 3 Parks including The Wizarding World of Harry Potter, and City Walk

Hershey Park – Hershey, PA

[Dollywood](#) – Northeast Tennessee

[Carowinds](#) – South of Charlotte, NC

Ways to make Theme Park Vacations Less Expensive

- Most theme parks will refill drink containers at a much reduced rate and will fill them with ice water for free... all you have to do is ask.
- Pack your snacks in a backpack, or even your lunch and enjoy an impromptu picnic with your family.
- Leave the park for a picnic lunch packed in a cooler in your car.
- Choose multi-day tickets if you will be in the area for a few days. If you live close by, a season pass is a great idea!

Kid Friendly Vacations #2 – Family Camping

Our family has been family camping for the past few years (not quite so much since the children are teenagers). We started out tent camping and have since moved on to a Jayco Jay Flight camper. Our kids enjoy family camping - we do not get any complaints about them being bored, and they are actually entertaining themselves without television or video games!!! Our children love to get out on their bicycles and ride for hours on end, getting in the creek, throwing rocks, hiking.... you name it!

Why go camping? Family camping vacations are a perfect way to build memories, build relationships with your family, and spend quality time outdoors. Where else can you have the opportunity to spend time with your family around a campfire, cook outdoors, play camping games, spend some time involved in [fun camping activities](#), and just spend quality time with your family in a great outdoor environment....so, get your kids camping equipment together, and lets hit the trail....

Weekend Camping Trips

Every area of the country has state parks, and National Parks. We really enjoy camping at the state parks in our area. If you keep your camping supplies ready to go by following a camping checklist, you can take a weekend family camping trip without much planning or preparation. The state parks that we have camped in offer programs such as "ghost stories" by the campfire and nature walks....

Family Camping Vacations

We have taken our camper on several of our family vacations. We have camped in Williamsburg, VA. and Myrtle Beach, SC on week long trips. The family camping trips have been some of our favorite trips.... the campgrounds that we have found offer many more activities than hotels, and you get the taste of outdoors that you get only with camping. No matter where you choose to go, there are campgrounds out there..... but the best resource that we have found is the [Trailer Life Campground Directory](#) - An up-to-date, full descriptions and details are provided for nearly 12,000 public and private campgrounds.

Ways to make Family Camping Less Expensive

- Tent camping is by far the least expensive way to camp, and it is really fun!
- Borrow camping supplies from family and friends - supplies like a tent, sleeping bags, and pots and pans can easily be borrowed.

Kid Friendly Vacations #3 - Family Cruises



Our family has had the opportunity to cruise together several times, and it did not cost the family budget an arm and a leg. We were able to give our children the cruise experience **without breaking the bank...** and that was the point.

Don't think that you can afford to take your [family on a cruise vacation](#)?

THINK AGAIN....

One of the main things that we try to remember, is....The people who stay in the inside / category 3 cabins eat the same food, see the same sights, and swim in the same pool as those who stay in the outside / category 9 cabins... **they just pay a lot less for the experience.**

We have cruised on Carnival Cruise Lines, and Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. Both have great children's programs, and many opportunities for fun for kids and adults.

What does our family love about A Family Cruise?

- 1 - Not having to travel to the Ports of call on our own - the ability to visit several different places on a weeklong vacation.
- 2 - The AWESOME meals - and the dining room staff who really take care of you.

3 - The family time spent on at-sea days - there are a multitude of activities offered on the ship from trivia contests to movies to live entertainment.

4 - The nighttime entertainment - Broadway quality shows after dinner every night!

Ways to make a Family Cruise Less Expensive

- Plan and keep an eye on the prices. If the prices go down, let your travel agent know.
- Choose interior cabins – these cabins are usually at least half the price of balcony cabins and still much less than exterior rooms.
- Take advantage of [last-minute cruise prices](#)
- Do not drink alcohol or soft drinks on the cruise, there is an additional charge for these.

Kid Friendly Vacations #4 - Family Beach Vacations

What are more fun and relaxing than a [family beach vacation](#)?

Maybe I meant what could be more fun and energizing and tiring and fun.... yes, no matter what, beach vacations are fun!!! Keep in mind; we are building our kids life experiences here!!

Beach vacations are the ultimate in family vacations - I mean.... come on, you can build a sandcastle, walk on the beach, swim, lay out in the sun, eat yourself silly then walk it all off on the beach the next day.... I could spend every day on any of these beaches!!!

The east coast of the United States of America has some great spots for beach family vacations. Our family vacations have included some great visits to some of these beaches....

Myrtle Beach SC

Myrtle Beach SC is located on the northern coast of South Carolina just below the North Carolina state line. The beach area is designated into three areas: North Myrtle Beach, Myrtle Beach, and South Myrtle Beach

Charleston SC Beaches

Charleston SC is located in the low country of South Carolina. Charleston is a southern town full of charm and history. This town will provide you a family vacation with plenty to keep you occupied

Hilton Head Island SC

Hilton Head South Carolina is a great kids beach vacations destination. Hilton Head is a unique place. The natural beauty of the land has been preserved all along the beach and the roads lining the beaches. The beach is a great kids beach vacation because it is so quiet and peaceful. Look for bikers all over the area!!

Edisto Island South Carolina

Edisto Island, South Carolina is a quiet, peaceful getaway along the coast of South Carolina. This kids beach vacations destination will provide a quiet laid back atmosphere for you and your family to re-connect and spend some time together.

Ways to make Family Beach Vacations Less Expensive

- Choose to visit the beach in May before Memorial Day or in September after Labor Day – you will see much reduced prices!
- Cook dinners in your beach house or room most nights as well as keep sandwich makings available for lunches and breakfast foods available.
- Decide on your souvenir budget before you leave home!

Kid Friendly Vacations #5 - National Parks

You will see some of the most beautiful scenery in this country on a National Park Family Vacation. The beauty just cannot be explained - it must be experienced.

Some of the most relaxing Family Vacations can be had at our country's National Parks.



The National Park Service has a fantastic web site set up to provide information on all the National Parks in the United States....

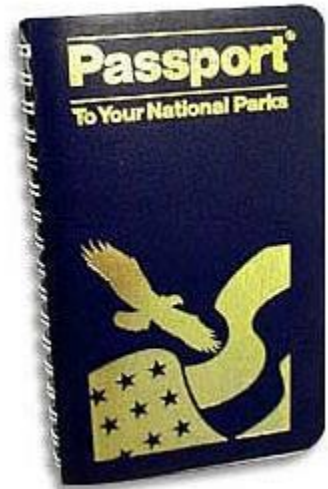
<http://www.nps.gov>. I have used the site to help plan our trips to the parks and get information about the parks

and the areas around the parks to help plan our National Park Family Vacations.

Our family has visited National Parks on Family Vacations for many years, and usually tries to work one into any trip that we

take. We have visited parks in Tennessee, Virginia, California, New York, and Washington DC.....

One of the first things that we bought for the kids on our travels through the National Parks, was a **National Park passport booklet**. This booklet is set up like a US passport, and allows you to collect the National Park stamp at each park.



Ways to make a National Park Family Vacation Less Expensive

- Travel during the off-peak dates – before Memorial Day or after Labor Day
- Choose a National Park closer to home

Kid Friendly Vacations #6 - Big Cities

There are some who would argue that big cities are not the best choice for kid friendly vacations..... I used to feel the same way. Once, before taking my oldest daughter, then seven, to Chicago for a vacation, I was really stressed – I told my husband that he should take one hand while took the other and that we would never let her go.

We soon found that there was so much to do and see in a big city that this was indeed a great vacation idea... even though we knew that we needed to keep the children with us, and keep them safe.

Big Cities have great Children's museums, restaurants, tours, museums, and many other great vacation ideas....

Some of our favorite Big Cities are....

New York City

One of our best family vacations was a trip to **New York City with Children**. Believe it or not, YES - you can add New York City to the list of kid friendly vacations.

We have traveled to [New York City with children](#) several times. Over the years, we have enjoyed staying in the Times Square area more than some of the other areas. (Side note: You can get great rates on New York City hotels on [hotwire](#)). In the previous trip, traveled to the Times Square area, but left to return to our hotel.... if we returned late, there was nothing open to grab a bite to eat.... Not a problem in Times Square... You can get a sandwich at 3:00 AM if you want to!

Some great [things to do in New York City](#) are Times Square, Broadway Plays, Central Park, the Empire State building, the Carnegie Deli, and Coney Island. We also took in a New York Yankees baseball game, and a New York Mets game.

The Statue of Liberty was one of our favorite attractions. There were great views of New York from the Ferry, and the statue was great to see. We took an opportunity to have a family vacation photograph made by the park rangers of our family with the statue in the background!!!

We really enjoyed our walk on The Brooklyn Bridge. The bridge is an icon in Brooklyn, New York, and is the number one attraction there. The bridge starts in the lower Manhattan area of New York and is absolutely majestic.

One afternoon while milling around downtown, we took in the NBC Studio Tour. It was a great tour and included some great trivia and history of NBC. I highly recommend taking in this tour.

San Francisco

San Francisco is another great Big City for a Kid Friendly Vacation.

We enjoyed all of the sights and sounds of [San Francisco](#) including the world famous cable cars. San Francisco is such a beautiful city.... I was amazed at the sheer size of the city.... it went on for blocks and blocks... in all directions, and the beauty of the city is amazing. It is by far the largest "Big City" that we have visited, but it was by far the easiest "Big City" to get around in. We routinely drove into the city and found easily accessible parking places.

San Francisco is such a diverse "Big City". We found an amazing number of things to do:

- Downtown San Francisco - While in San Francisco, we enjoyed riding the Cable Cars, shopping in Union Square, shopping and eating in Chinatown, viewing the Golden Gate Bridge from many different



vantage points as well as driving on it, Ghirardelli Square, Pier 39, and Fisherman's Wharf.

- Alcatraz - We took the ferry to Alcatraz Island, and took the tour of the prison and the island. An audio tour was a part of the tour package and was a great way to tour the facility.



- Major League Baseball - During our weeklong stay, we enjoyed two major league baseball games. Major League baseball is a very kid friendly family vacation idea. It is reasonably priced, and the stadiums offer a great family experience.



- National Parks - We visited several great National Park locations within the city and within easy driving distance. We visited Fort Point - located at the foot of the Golden Gate Bridge, Crissy Field, Muir Woods, and The Presidio. But the ultimate National Park visit of the trip was to The Yosemite National Park.



- Side Trips - We visited several towns and attractions including Santa Cruz, The Jelly Belly Factory in Fairfield, Wine Country - Napa, The Winchester Mystery House in San Jose, and Great America Theme Park in Santa Clara.



-

Chicago

We have included Chicago Travel with children into our family vacations two times.

Let me preface this Chicago Travel review by saying that because both of our visits were during cold months, many of the wonderful outdoor activities that Chicago has to offer were not visited. These include the Chicago Zoo and a Chicago Cubs baseball game. Even though the weather was cold during both visits, we found many indoor activities that the kids really enjoyed. There are many fun [things to do in Chicago](#).



A must-see destination with kids in Chicago is the Willis Tower. The Willis Tower is now the tallest building in the United States after the collapse of the World Trade Center on 9/11. The elevator to the top is unbelievably fast and your ears will pop on the way up.

You can also sample Chicago Deep dish pizza at a good Italian restaurant that is only a couple of blocks from the Willis tower. [Giordano's](#) has several locations in the downtown Chicago area. The atmosphere is very simple, but the pizza was as good as advertised and very filling.

The Hancock building is the second tallest building and the view from the observation deck is actually more spectacular than the Sears tower because of the proximity of the building to the waterfront and Lake Shore Drive below. The kids enjoyed the view from the Hancock Observatory and Tower more than the Willis tower.

The kids also enjoyed a trip to the navy pier. This shopping and dining complex is located on Lake Michigan and most of the shopping area goes out into the water. There are several specialty shops and restaurants including Chicago Travel souvenir stores. A lot of the restaurants have outdoor seating, in the summertime and there is a huge Ferris wheel at the back of the dock. The girls really enjoyed all the shopping opportunities along Lake Michigan Avenue. There a



One of our trips out of the immediate downtown area was to the Field Museum south of Downtown adjacent to **Soldier Field (Home of the Bears)** This is a very good museum with the quality of exhibits as good as or better than the Smithsonian. One of the best parts of the museum is a huge collection of stuffed animals from all over the world. The animals are placed in natural type environments and the collection is extensive. There are also many cultural exhibits throughout the museum.

Ways to make a Big City Family Vacation Less Expensive

- Choose your hotel room through hotwire.com – We usually find great deals though them – even in large cities!
- Only eat one meal out per day – you need to experience the food in different areas, but a lunch out may be just the ticket!
- Limit your activities, and choose free options like parks and walking tours

About Teresa Mills

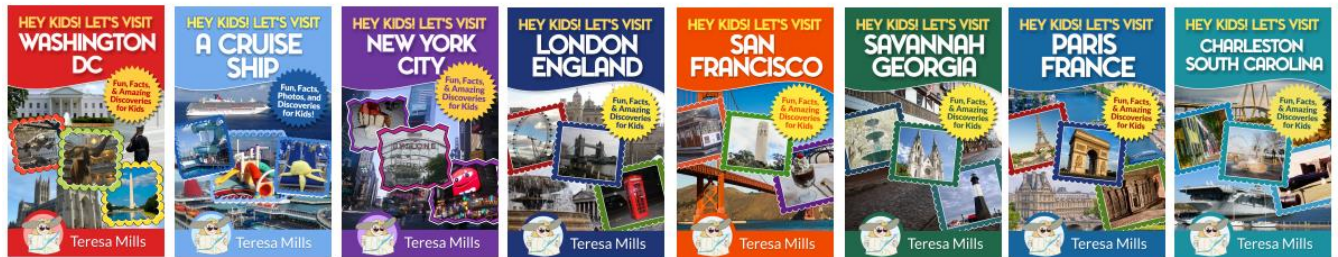
Teresa Mills is a mother of four children and Mimi to 3 grandchildren. They have been traveling with them all since all were little. Here kid friendly vacation experience reaches back 30 years. Teresa enjoys spending quality time with her children, grandchildren, and all their friends. If the family is not traveling together, they can be found in the backyard pool with all of their kid's friends.

MORE FROM KID FRIENDLY FAMILY VACATIONS

BOOKS

Books to help build your kids / grandkids life experiences through travel and learning

<https://kid-friendly-family-vacations.com/books>



COLORING AND ACTIVITY PACKAGES

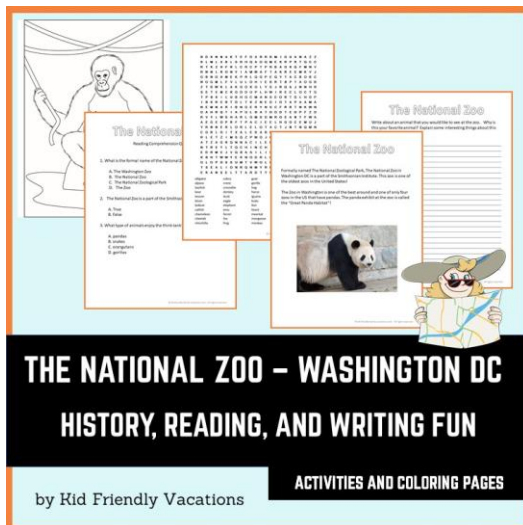
Coloring pages, activity books, printable travel journals, and more in our Etsy shop

<https://kid-friendly-family-vacations.com/etsy>



KID FRIENDLY VACATIONS

Printable Digital Downloads for Learning and Travel Fun!



TEACHER RESOURCES

Resources for teachers on Teachers Pay Teachers

<https://kid-friendly-family-vacations.com/tpt>

Download Your First TpT Product Free

<https://kid-friendly-family-vacations.com/tpt-free>

At Kid Friendly Family Vacations It is our mission to help you build your children's and grand-children's life experiences through travel and learning activities. You're not just traveling with your kids... You're building their "Life Experiences"! Join our community here: <https://kid-friendly-family-vacations.com/join>

A gift from <https://kid-friendly-family-vacations.com>