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If you have any comments about these tip sheets please let me know when you come in for your next visit. As always I am open to feedback about our office and any recommendations you may have about our tip sheets. If you find the tip lists helpful please share it with your friends and family. Please tell your friends and family about our office we greatly appreciate referrals. Have a wonderful trip. Tip sheets for Honolulu, Maui, Big Island (HI), Disneyland & DisneyWorld, Las Vegas, New York, Puerto Vallarta Mexico, Monterey Bay, Cruising Bay Area Restaurants & Italy also available online.

## **FREE FOOD AND ACTIVITIES IN SAN FRANCISCO**

[www.coldstonecreamery.com/birthday](http://www.coldstonecreamery.com/birthday)

Adults and kids

[www.baskinrobbins.com/BDayclub](http://www.baskinrobbins.com/BDayclub)

Adults and kids

[www.cpk.com](http://www.cpk.com) California Pizza Kitchen

go to cpkids link (until age 10)

[www.redrobin.com](http://www.redrobin.com)

go to eclub Adults and kids

[www.bubbagump.com](http://www.bubbagump.com)

Kids birthday club

California Academy of Science (SF)

FREE first Wednesday or each month

San Francisco Zoo

FREE first Wednesday of each month

Exploratorium San Francisco

FREE first Wednesday of each month.

[www.exploratorium.edu](http://www.exploratorium.edu)

Bay Area Discovery Museum (Sausalito)

FREE 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday 1-5 pm (or AAA \$1 off)

[www.baykidsmuseum.org](http://www.baykidsmuseum.org) (415) 339-3900

Coyote Point Museum

FREE first Wednesday of each month.

[www.coyoteptmuseum.org](http://www.coyoteptmuseum.org) (650) 342-7755

Asian Art Museum of San Francisco

FREE first Tuesday of each month.

Modern Art Museum of San Francisco

FREE first Tuesday of each month.

Legion of Honor San Francisco

FREE first Tuesday of each month.

De Young Museum San Francisco

FREE first Tuesday of each month.

Oakland Museum of California

FREE second Sunday of each month 12-5pm

[www.museumca.org](http://www.museumca.org) (510) 238-2200

Classical Music Noon Concerts (SF)

[www.NoontimeConcerts.org](http://www.NoontimeConcerts.org)

(415) 777-3211

FREE Wednesday Noontime concerts St.

Patrick's church. Across Metreon Center.

Old Saint Mary's 12 p.m. concerts 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays

Stern Grove Festival Sundays June-Aug

San Francisco. Sunday's @ 2:00 p.m. during the summer. Go to [www.sterngroove.org](http://www.sterngroove.org) (415) 252-6252

Stern Grove Music Festival in San

**4 Hours FREE Parking Fisherman's Wharf**

Parking is FREE for 4 hours near Aquatic Park or inside Fort Mason off of Bay street.

**4 Hours Free Validated Parking  
Embarcadero Center**

Embarcadero garage parking on Saturdays & Sundays. Validation at restaurants or stores(\$5). M-F after 5 pm at select restaurants only. [www.embarcaderocenter.com](http://www.embarcaderocenter.com) parking info.

## **LOCAL RESTAURANT RECOMMENDATION IN THE BAY AREA**

- Marnie Thai** Best Thai food in the City. Small restaurant. Go early 5pm to avoid a wait. Worth waiting for. 2225 Irving Street, (Btwn 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> Ave.) San Francisco, CA (415) 665-9500 or 2<sup>nd</sup> location 1243 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue (btwn Irving& Lincoln Way) (415) 731-9999
- Koi Palace** Daly City. Best dim sum in the peninsula. Also has a great 4 person Peking Duck dinner. Near the Outback steak house and 24 hour fitness center. As good or better than Hong Kong. 365 Gellert 922-9000
- Yang Sing** One of the best dim sum places in the city. Pricy but good. 2 locations in San Francisco (one is in the Rincon Center). As good or better than Hong Kong. 121 Spear Street (415) 957-9300 or 49 Stevenson (415) 541-4949
- West Coast Café** In San Bruno on San Mateo Avenue. A great small Italian restaurant. Across the street from the Bank of America. 466 San Mateo 588-1912
- Zachary's Pizza** Located in Berkeley, Oakland and San Ramon. Chicago deep dish pizza. The thin crust pizza is also really good. Best deep and thin dish pizza in the entire Bay Area. It really is worth the drive. 5801 College Ave. Oakland (510) 655-6385 1853 Solano Avenue (510) 525-5950 3110 Crow Canyon Road San Ramon (925) 244-1222
- Slanted Door** Great more fancy Vietnamese food. Located in the Ferry Building in San Francisco. Elegant setting for lunch or an evening meal. Directly across the street from the Embarcadero Center.
- Out the Door** Sister restaurant to Slanted Door. Take out and sit down meals available. Located in the basement food court of the new San Francisco Center Bloomindales.
- Gary Danko** One of the best formal dining places in the city. Gets best food and service awards. Pick 3, 4, or 5 courses. Best pick for anniversaries or other special occasions. Book 2 months ahead. 800 North Point @ Hyde (415) 749-2060
- Tu Lan** Hole in the wall Vietnamese food. Everyone orders the shrimp fired rice. 8 6<sup>th</sup> Street off of Market street. (415) 626-0927 Julia Child ate here.

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## **Honolulu, Hawaii**

### **Halekulani in Waikiki**

**Sunday Orchid Brunch Buffet. Best breakfast buffet with a view of Diamond Head. [www.halekulani.com](http://www.halekulani.com) (808) 923-2311 A Dr. Lum Favorite!**

### **Makino Chaya (Japaneses Buffet)**

**Aloha Tower Marketplace. 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. (808) 955-5966 Great local all you can eat Japanese food. Go early 5 pm. A Dr. Lum Favorite! Also at Pearlridge. Be aware they charge full adult price for children 8 and up. (\$29)**

### **Longi's at Ala Moana Center**

**Great sit down breakfast, lunch and dinner place. Lobster Longi special for dinner (serves 2 or 3). Also located on Maui on Front Street & Wailea**

### **Ala Moana Shopping Center Food Court (Makai Market)**

**HUGE food court with a ton of different kinds of foods. Korean / Hawaiian / Japanese/ Curry House great choices.**

### **Chai's Island Bistro**

**Aloha Tower Marketplace. Great dinner spot with local live Hawaiian entertainment each night. (808) 585-0011 [www.chaisislandbistro.com](http://www.chaisislandbistro.com)**

### **John Dominis**

**Great view of the water & Diamond Head. Good Sunday brunch & dinner. (Across from Ward Warehouse)**

### **Alan Wong**

**Outstanding fine dining. Great Hawaii regional cuisine. 1857 South King Street. (808) 949-2526 Also the Pineapple room at Macy's Ala Moana.**

### **Roy's**

**Located on most islands. Famous local chief. Also several locations on the mainland. Including one in San Francisco.**

### **Willow's Restaurant**

**Hawaii garden buffet. Local spot for celebrations in a tropical garden setting. (808) 952-9200 [www.willowshawaii.com](http://www.willowshawaii.com) 901 Hausten Street**

### **Oceanarium**

**2490 Kalakaua Avenue. 280,000 aquarium. Fish feedings @ 9/11/12:30/6:30/7:30. Have breakfast/lunch/or dinner and watch the fishes. Lower level restaurant has the best views. Ask for a window seat.**

**Zippy's Throughout the island. Local plate lunch place. Fried Chicken/Chili/Zip Pack**

### **Sunset cocktail**

**Try Sheraton Moana Surfrider hotel (2365 Kalakaua Avenue) on Waikiki beach or Halekulani's House Without A Key for a cocktail with Hawaiian music and ocean view**

**Leonard Malasada Portuguese donut place. 933 Kapahulu Avenue. 737-5591**

<b>Genki Sushi</b>	<b>Ala Moana (Near Tiffany's on the outside part of the mall), Kapahulu Avenue and at Waikale Premium Outlets (across the street from outlets). Boat Sushi. (808 678-3180</b>
<b>Matsumoto Shaved Ice</b>	<b>On the North Shore. Great T-Shirt designs.</b>
<b>Waiola Shaved Ice</b>	<b>2135 Waiola Ave. In Honolulu. Local shaved ice place.</b>
<b>Island Snow</b>	<b>Royal Hawaiian Center and Ala Moana Shopping Center. Not too bad if you can't make it to the other two places.</b>
<b>Giovanni's Shrimp Truck (White truck)</b>	<b>Near Kahuku. Down the road from Polynesian Cultural Center on the ocean side. Shrimp Scampi the best.</b>
<b>Kim Chee III</b>	<b>Order Meat Jun or Shrimp Jun (breaded meat or shrimp) a Hawaii creation. Located near Honolulu Academy of Arts. Mixed barbecue plate is also good. Korean food.</b>
<b>Side Street Inn</b>	<b>Located across the street from Ala Moana Center. Order pork chops, black bean clams and fried rice. Bar location but great food. 1225 Hopaka St. (808) 591-0253</b>
<b>Sekiya's</b>	<b>Off of Kapahulu Avenue near Leonard's Malasada. 2746 Kaimuki Ave. Local Japanese food. Very local spot. Marinated Fried chicken good. (808) 732-1656</b>
<b>Bubbies Ice Cream</b>	<b>Great local ice cream. Order the vanilla macadamia nut. Located near University of Hawaii.</b>
<b>Opakapaka and Onaga</b>	<b>Will not be available May 1 to September 30 due to a fishing ban on these fishes. Great tender snapper fish. A Dr. Lum Favorite!</b>
<b>Hilton Hawaiian Village</b>	<b>FREE fireworks every Friday night. Poolside hula show &amp; torch lighting ceremony. 1 drink min. \$12 7-8pm call for exact time. (808) 949-4321 Or you can watch anywhere along Waikiki beach.</b>
<b>Changing of the guards</b>	<b>King's Village. 6pm nightly. Next to Hyatt Regency Waikiki. Free trick rifle team in old palace guard uniforms.</b>
<b>Aloha Tower Marketplace</b>	<b>Tourist spot for shopping and eating. Ride up to the top of Aloha Tower 9am-5pm for FREE. Makino Chaya, Chai's Island Bistro &amp; Do Ho's Grill located here. Next door is the Hawaii Maritime Center Museum.</b>

<b>Hike Diamond Head</b>	<b>Drive into the crater, park &amp; take a one hour 1.4 mile hike to the top for a great views of Waikiki. Lots of stairs. Have a shave ice after your hike. 7-8 am to beat the heat.</b>
<b>Manoa Fall's hike</b>	<b>In the back of Manoa Valley 1.6 miles beginner hike. Small waterfall &amp; forest hike. Bring bug spray. Don't go if raining.</b>
<b>Children's Discovery Museum</b>	<b>Great museum for kids 3-10. (808) 524-5437 Across the street from Kakaako Waterfront Park. <a href="http://www.discoverycenterhawaii.org">www.discoverycenterhawaii.org</a> Tue-Sun. Call for hours.</b>
<b>U.S. Army Museum</b>	<b>Fort DeRussy at the end of Waikiki near the Hilton. Can climb on top of old army tanks. 10 am -4 pm Validated parking stamp available from gift store \$2.50.</b>
<b>Crazy Shirts</b>	<b>Outlet at Waikele Premium Factory Outlets and Ward CENTER street side. Fun designs. A Dr. Lum Favorite! Regular stores all over Hawaii.</b>
<b>X-Cel Wet suits</b>	<b>Great tops and full body wet suits for KIDS and adults.</b>
<b>Town &amp; County Surf</b>	<b>Great for surf and skate T-shirts, backpacks swim wear.</b>
<b>HIC T-Shirts</b>	<b>Hawaiian Island Creations. Nice surf and skate T-shirts. Located at Ala Moana Center lower level.</b>
<b>Local Motion T-Shirts</b>	<b>Several locations. Surf and skate T-Shirts, back packs, swim wear. Also at Waikele Premium Outlets &amp; Waikiki.</b>
<b>Aloha Flea Market</b>	<b>Wednesdays, Saturdays &amp; Sundays. GREAT place to pick up 5/\$10 t-shirts, hats, snacks &amp; bags. Cell phone chargers or car chargers. 6 am-3 pm Go early to beat the heat.</b>
<b>Arizona Memorial</b>	<b>Need to go REAL early in the morning to beat the crowds. Opens @ 7:30 am. Go EARLY (7am) to beat the tour busses! 4,500 visitors a day! Limited tickets available. (808) 422-0561 Across from the Aloha Flea Market.</b>
<b>Polynesian Cultural Center</b>	<b>Imax movie, 2:30 pm canoe pageant, Canoe ride, Hawaiian games and activities, cultural demonstrations, mini hula shows &amp; one of the best evening Luaus. If you are not staying for the Luau see the last 6 pm Imax movie. For the kids get temporary tattoos (don't wear white t-shirts), make a coconut fish, &amp; go fishing. Great full day activities. <a href="http://www.polynesia.com">www.polynesia.com</a> (808) 293-3000 Opens 12 noon M-Sat</b>
<b>Dole Plantation</b>	<b>On the way to the North Shore. Dole whip treats. Also has a huge pineapple maze and Sugar Cane Train trips.</b>

<b>Macy's 11% off coupon</b>	<b>Ask at visitors center or gift wrap counter for an out of state discount card. Show your hotel card or out of state I.D. Also offered in New York, San Francisco.</b>
<b>SAM's Club Walmart</b>	<b>Located across the street from Ala Moana Shopping center. Good place to get aloha wear, t-shirts and island snacks.</b>
<b>Ward Warehouse</b>	<b>Local shopping center. Has several complexes. Great slipper store, local Hawaiian art store, Crazy Shirts, X-Cel Wet suits and lots of good places to eat. Located down the street from Ala Moana shopping center.</b>
<b>Nordstrom Rack</b>	<b>Located across the street from Ward Warehouse. Good place for designer Aloha Shirts at a discount. Tori Richards, Kahala, Ono, Burma Bibbas and others.</b>
<b>Hilo Hatties</b>	<p><b>Ala Moana or Main store. FREE shuttle from Waikiki to the main store and free drop off at Aloha Tower Market place after shopping. Nice place for Aloha wear. Also check out the 2 for 1 coupons with any purchase. All islands offer a different set of coupons. Simply purchase a \$0.99 calendar or magnet and ask for a sheet of coupons. Can be GREAT value if you are already planning on doing some of the activities. For a family of 4 ask for 2 sheets. Free shell lei, juice, water and coffee at the entrance.</b></p> <p><b>Sample 2-1 Battleship Missouri, Bishop Museum, Hawaii Maritime Museum, Hawaii Adventure Water Park, WWII USS bowfin submarine museum, Waikiki Trolley, Catamaran Ride, Iolani Palace Tour, Golfing, Chai's Island Bistro ect...</b></p>
<b>Waialeale Premium Outlets</b>	<b>Hawaiian Moon matching Aloha wear for the family. Crazy shirts &amp; Local Motion outlets. Off Saks AAA discount booklet at visitor booth. (or show an out of state ID)</b>
<b>Wednesday Zoo Concert</b>	<b>Honolulu Zoo Wednesday night summer concerts. \$2.00 admission Gates open at 4:35 pm. End of Waikiki.</b>
<b>Waikiki Aquarium</b>	<b>Wonderful aquarium at the end of Waikiki beach (Diamond Head side of Waikiki) See tropical island fishes, Hawaiian Monk seals and other sea creature. \$7.00</b>
<b>Friday Noon Concert</b>	<b>Royal Hawaiian Band plays 12 noon Friday's at Iolani Place grounds. Near Chinatown. Across King Kam Statue.</b>
<b>Sunday Concert</b>	<b>Royal Hawaiian Band plays Sunday at Kapiolani Park 2-3 pm. View schedule at <a href="http://www.royalhawaiianband.com">www.royalhawaiianband.com</a></b>

**Hanauma Bay**

**Best snorkeling spot on the island. Go early. Park will close if too many visitors. Closed on Tuesday.**

**[www.alternative-hawaii.com](http://www.alternative-hawaii.com)**

**List of Free local activities. Listing for all islands.**

**[www.honoluluadvertiser.com](http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com)**

**Look under entertainment for weekend special events.**

**[www.gohawaii.com](http://www.gohawaii.com)**

**Official Hawaii Visitors Bureau web site.**

**[www.hawaiiiradiotv.com/puka](http://www.hawaiiiradiotv.com/puka)**

**List of a ton of Hawaii Web sites.**

**[www.dakine.net](http://www.dakine.net)**

**Has pictures of some of the top spots and quick reviews.**

**Best time of year**

**May/September/October. Good weather lower rates.  
Aloha Week festival in September. With kids early June.**

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## **Maui, Hawaii**

### **Maui Ocean Center**

Outstanding aquarium with sharks, manta rays, turtle and tropical fish. Summer hours may be different. They also have a kids day program available. Good gift store. Highway 30 Ma'alaea Harbor (808) 270-7000 [www.mauiocenter.com](http://www.mauiocenter.com) \$22 adults 10 am – 5 pm.

**A Dr. Lum Favorite!**

### **Sheraton Black Rock**

One of the best snorkeling spots on the island. Go in the AM Next to the Sheraton Maui in Lahaina. Best parking is at Whaler's Village. It says no beach parking. However you get 3 hours of free parking with validation. ABC store will validate with a minimum \$15 purchase. No free beach parking at Shearton.

### **Whaler's Village**

Nice shopping complex with a mix of stores. Martin & MacArthur, Sandel Treee, Cinnamon Girl, Endangered Species, & Del Sol. Check out the Whaling Museum on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Great museum with a free audio guide. **A Dr. Lum Favorite!** 2 hour validated parking.

### **Beach Time**

Best time of the day to swim in the ocean is in the early morning. Later in the day the surf and waves tend to pick up. Also important for snorkeling trips and other water activities.

### **Ulalena**

Local show along the lines of cirque du soleil. Very artsy modern dance/hula show. Harder to follow the story line for younger children.

Ask about kids free with an adult program. Check out the Hilo Hatties and other dining coupon offers at the register if you are seeing the show. 6:30-8 pm. 878 Front St.

### **Hilo Hatties**

Nice place for Aloha wear. Also check out the 2 for 1 coupons with any purchase. All islands offer a different set of coupons. Simply purchase a \$0.99 calendar or magnet and ask for a sheet of coupons. Can be GREAT value if you are already planning on doing some of the activities. Offer not as good on Maui. Free shell lei, juice, water and coffee at the entrance. They will validate 2 hours of free parking. For a family of 4 ask for 2 sheets.

**FREE PARKING IN LAHAINA** There are 3 hour parking spots around Lahaina. There is a parking lot just past the Banyan Tree on Front street. There is also a secret parking lot with no time limit just off of Dickenson Street near Kobe Streak house. The street runs parallel to Front street on a little side street.

### **Star Gazing**

At the Hyatt Regency Kanapali. Evening on the roof. \$20 adults & \$10 for kids. 8,9,10 pm

### **Lahaina Cannery Mall**

Safeway and Longs Drugs store for water and breakfast supplies. Keiki Hula show Sat & Sun 1 pm. Hula show Tue & Thur 7 pm

**Haleakala Crater** Be aware that in the afternoon the summit will often be cloudy with poor visibility of the crater. Remember it is a 2 hour drive up the slopes. Early morning tends to have clearer weather but a lot more traffic. Call ahead to find out the weather conditions. (808) 572-4400 or (808) 871-5054

**Ali Lavender Farm** Up country near Haleakala. Lavender lotions great for dry skin. (808) 878-3004

**Penne Pasta Café** 180 Dickenson St. See Free parking tips. Great lower priced restaurant. Try the Nicoise or Caesar salad with Ahi. Split the salads they are huge. Pizza also good. Closed for lunch Sat and Sun. **A Dr. Lum Favorite!**

**Cilantro Fresh Mexican Grill** Located at Old Lahaina Shopping Center. Didn't eat here but sister restaurant to Penne Pasta Café.

**A Saigon Café** Wailuku, Maui Try the chicken and Shrimp clay pot. Combination Asian Burrito wrap. And the Sweet and sour Shrimp. Sister restaurant is Saigon Seafood in Lahaina. 1792 Main St. 808-243-9560

**Longi's** Try the smaller size Lobster Longi Platter (one lobster versus two on the larger platter (\$80 vs \$120)) Can share this platter with two or three people. Filet Longi's is also good. Also try the chocolate soufflé. Fresh fish is also good. Try Opakapaka or Onaga if on the menu. Two locations Front Street and Wailea. **A Dr. Lum Favorite!**  
Expensive but great food. 888 Front St. (808) 667-2288 8 am-10 pm  
The shops at Wailea (808) 891-8883 www.longis.com

**Opakapaka and Onaga** Will not be available May 1 to September 30 due to a fishing ban on these fishes. Great tender snapper fish. **A Dr. Lum Favorite!**

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## **BIG ISLAND OF HAWAII**

### **Onazuka Space Center**

Kona Airport. Good stop for the kids or those interested in space travel while you are waiting for your plane. Just outside the baggage area. You can check in your bags and then walk over to the museum. Good to keep the kids busy before the flight. Astronaut killed in Challenger Shuttle. Adults \$3.00

### **Kahalu'u Beach Park**

Just South of Downtown Kona. Great snorkeling spot. Can often spot turtles here. Snorkling gear rental available. Also usually has a food truck there.

### **Puuhonua o Honaunau**

Place of refuge. (30 min stop) Has great tikis. On the way to Kilauea

### **Punaluu Black Sand Beach**

Good picture stop. A real beach with black sand.

### **Punaluu Bake shop**

Good stop to pick up sandwiches if going to the volcano. Also has terrific breads. They can pack it in a travel box to take home. Fill up gas in Punaluu.

### **Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Factory**

Located off of highway 11 on the right side of the road when driving from the volcano area down to Hilo. Neat stop and FREE samples.

### **Akaka Falls**

Short jungle hike to a 420 ft. waterfall. In Hilo area.

### **Kilauea Volcano**

Stops to make: **Visitor's Center:** Movie and information about the park  
**Volcano Art center.** Just to the side of the visitor's center. Local artist interpretation of volcano.  
**Volcano House.** Just across the street from the visitors center. Good stop for a bathroom break, light snack and souvenirs. Great view of the crater.

Do **Crater Rim Drive.** Stop at the **Steam vents, Jaggar museum,** recent lava flows, **Halemaumau crater overlook, Devastation trail** and **Thurston lava tube.** I don't think that it is usually worth the drive DOWN Chain of Craters Road to try and view the active lava flow. It is a long drive and you usually can't see much. You see a steam cloud where the lava enters the ocean. No gas.

### **Hilo Hatties**

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## **Disneyland Tip Sheets**

Purchase your tickets before you arrive from AAA, Military PX, Disneystore or from your hotel before you get to the park. You don't want the first line you stand in to be the ticket window. **Arrive at the front gate with ticket in hand 30 minutes before the park officially opens. Arriving early is the key to getting on a lot of rides quickly.** If traveling with younger children then you should try to do Fantasyland rides first. These are low capacity ride with no FP's.

Best time of year is first two weeks of December. Cooler weather and decorated for Christmas. If you go during the summer, bring an umbrella, spray mister with a fan, and a back pack with a water container in which you can carry ice water. Also good to carry a few snacks and bring a small pack of wet wipes. Have your children wear bright colored clothing if possible (easier to spot if they get lost). Bring along sun glasses. Remember to take the sunglasses back from your kids or have them wear it on their heads or put in their pockets to prevent loss. NEVER put sunglasses down on a table when eating a meal. **If traveling with kids under 5 bring a stroller along.**

**Fast Pass does not officially expire. You can use your Fast Pass anytime the same day after your return time printed on the ticket.** So collect and save fast passes for use later in the evening when the park is more crowded. **Begin collecting Fast Passes as soon as you arrive in the park.** Also send an adult to get a Fast Pass before returning for your afternoon nap. Have one adult be in charge of collecting and holding all Fast Passes. **Disneyland and California Adventure systems are not connected,** so you can hold a Fast Pass in Disneyland and California Adventure at the same time. Do be aware that it is possible that the Disney Cast member may say you are past your window of return time and deny you entrance to the Fast Pass line. The official Disney line is that you are allowed to used "Expired" Fast Passes as long as it is during the same day that they were issued.

**Cartoon Spin and Grizzly River Run** are not usually hooked up to the same Fast Pass system in each park. You can get a Fast Pass for these rides even if you are holding another Fast Pass.

**Small World and Pirates of the Caribbean and Indian Jones. Ask for front row seating when you get to the front of the line.** Just ask politely when you get to the front. The view is better and you just need to wait one turn to get a front seat. You can also ask to be seated in the front row for all roller coasters. If available you can also sit in the front of the train, the monorail, the pilot house of the Sternwheeler boat just ask the attendant when boarding. Ring the bell on the pirate ship.

**Soaring Over California** Front row center is best.

**Thunder Mountain** Last row is best ride.

**Star Tours: Least Motion Front Center** (First row). Most motion back on the side (last row).

**Matterhorn** Right side near Alice: Slower and wider turns. Left side faster with 1 small drop.

**Small World:** Ask for **front row**. Don't ride midday (sun is very hot and not much shade). If you must ride midday pick the inside (left) side of the line. There is a little shade from the trees as you wait in line.

**Buzz Lightyear:** Wait for Fast Pass is normally 30 minutes. Get a FP for Buzz, ride Star Tours or see Honey I shrunk the audience then return and use Buzz FP. Get another FP for Buzz and ride later in the evening. Aim for targets that are lighted for bonus points and target further away.

**Autopia:** Look to see which side is running two lanes or cars. If inside lane running two lanes pick inside (or right) side of line. If outside lane running two lanes pick outside line. Don't ride midday (sun is very hot and no shade). Ride early before 10 am or late afternoon after 6 pm. Also only about 30-45 minutes wait for a FP. Get FP, see Honey I shrunk the audience, eat lunch at Buzz or Pizza port or see innovations, then ride using your FP.

**Indiana Jones:** Pick the **LEFT** side of the steps as you reach the boarding area. Less steps to climb after the ride is over (most of the time). Front row is best.

**Best way to see Fantasmic and get a front row seat.** Enter the Fantasmic viewing area **10-15 minutes** after the start of the 9:00 pm first show. You are only allowed to enter the area during the first 10-15 minutes of the first show. Then you wait by the steps leading down to the water just past Pirates of the Caribbean. Access down the steps will be roped off until about **9:20 pm**. After the first show is done and the fireworks show is done about 9:45 you will be able to walk down and to the right towards the front railing. Sit as close to the control booth and slightly to the left of Pirates of the Caribbean (as you are facing the stage). You will only have about a 45 minute wait and be seated in the front row. Hold a spot and take turns riding Pirates or Haunted Mansion. Or you can send someone for popcorn and drinks. Hold on to your kids hands!!! **Dr. Lum Favorite!**

Best viewing spot for the **Electric Parade** in California Adventure is directly in front of the entrance to Hollywood Pictures Backlot in between the two pillars. There is a marking on the sidewalk to let you know where you can sit. Now the parade starts in Paradise Pier. So it takes a little while for the parade to reach Hollywood area. You can take turns visiting the Animation building, see Muppets or ride Monster Inc ride while waiting.

If someone is **celebrating a birthday**. Stop by City Hall in Disneyland or the information booth at DCA and ask for a Happy Birthday sticker. The cast members will say happy birthday when they see the stickers. Also can get a Happy Birthday Pin at the character meals. Just ask at check in.

**Have your children ask the characters questions.** I.e ask Mickey where Pluto is? Ask Snow White where Dopey is? Ask Ariel where prince Eric is? More interaction and funny responses.

**10% off with AAA card.** Character meals **Goofy's Kitchen, Ariel's** at California Adventure, **Lilo and Stitch** Breakfast at PCH, Chip and Dale Breakfast and breakfast with Minnie in the park. Must call weeks ahead to make reservations (714) 781-3463 for each meal.

If you have **little girls, Ariel's Grotto** lunch is a must. Meet and greet five princesses at lunch. **Snow White, Ariel, Aurora, Belle & Cinderella.** Adults \$20.99 children \$13.99.(8/07) Sit inside for air-conditioning. Inside DCA park.

**Eat Lunch before 11 am or after 2 pm. Eat Dinner Before 5 pm or after 8 pm.** Left side of line.

Don't schedule breakfast meal at Goofy's. Better to ride in the morning and eat a late lunch or an early dinner at Goofy's kitchen. **Lunch at 2:00 or dinner at 4:30 is a good option.** Early dinner can mean you can still catch the evening parades at either park. You also have more time to work off your meal. If you are going to do a breakfast do it on the day you arrive or the day you are leaving. **Breakfast at 10:30 am** can also work out well. This way you can ride for 2 hours and then have a late breakfast. If you go later for breakfast it is less crowded which means you wait less and get more one on one time with the characters. They will actually sit down at your table while you are eating. **A Dr. Lum Favorite!**

**FREE Coffee refills.** Keep your receipt or share coffee. You can get a free refill at the original store that you purchase your coffee at most places. Main street coffee shop, River Belle Terrace.

There is a one time **10% off coupon** in the back of the Birnbaums Official Disneyland guide book. The book cost about \$15.00. So if you spend more than \$150 you break even. You can even buy the book at the World of Disney next to the CD section, in the music shop on Main Street, in the book shop next to the watch shop on Main Street. and use the coupon at the same time. AAA also offers a discount at Downtown Disney shops, restaurants and if you spend more than \$50 at some stores IF YOU book a package with them.

**Shopping** Take pictures in the store with all the stuffed animals you want, funny Goofy ear or Mickey Mouse hats, pictures of the T-Shirt's, or toys. These items are often a great reminder of the places you have been and using the items in the store is like having free props for your pictures.

**Mr. Potato Head Play Station.** In several of the shops in Disneyland there is a build/make a Mr. or Mrs. Potato Head station. My kids like to make a Mr. or Mrs. Potato head. I make them take it apart and put it back when they are done playing.

**DISNEY CHARACTER WAREHOUSE:** about 10 blocks up North Harbor Blvd. at 243 Orangefair Mall off of highway 91 (Riverside Freeway). From 91 East exit Harbor Blvd./Limon and turn left (the mall is on the right side). **20-75% off** Disneyland clothing and other close out items. Luck of the draw. Changes daily. Ie Sweatshirts from \$19.00 vs \$56.00.

Other locations in Las Vegas and Florida. [www.ams-liquidation.com](http://www.ams-liquidation.com) Dr. Lum Favorite!

**FIREWORKS** Best location is directly in front of the castle or on main street. However gets really crowded during the busy season. Really good to watch from Fantasmic area if you are in the front. A lot of people will get up and try to move to the central hub after the end of Fantasmic. This can give you the opportunity to move to the front area and watch the fireworks. Another good last minute viewing area is just in front of Thunder Mountain next to the steam ship dock area.

**Live Shows.** Disney's Aladdin in DCA is a not to be missed live show. Aladdin is in an air conditioned building at the end of Hollywood Blvd. Just as good as a Broadway show. Once again try to pick an isle seat (looking down the isle) for the best view. Just like a ride the 30-45 minute wait is worth it. The shows are normally 30 minutes long. Rides last only 4-6 minutes.

Motels across the street from Disneyland: Most include limited FREE continental breakfast.

**Desert Inn & Suites** (800) 433-5270 1600 So. Harbor Blvd. Family rooms available.

**Carousel Inn and Suites**

Taking the shuttle from a hotel further away can take 30-45 minutes to get door to door. You also pay for the shuttle. Better to walk across the street from your motel. Not fancy but close to the park.

[www.themouseforless.com](http://www.themouseforless.com) OR [www.allears.net](http://www.allears.net) or [www.wdwinfo.com](http://www.wdwinfo.com) Look up the DIS boards for questions about the parks, Disney cruise lines, ect.... [www.disneyland.com](http://www.disneyland.com) You can request a Free DVD about the park. Good to watch before you go. [www.disneyworld.com](http://www.disneyworld.com)

**Unofficial Guide to Disneyland OR Disneyworld** Great resource to read before you go. By Bob Sehlinger. White book. Has 1 & 2 day touring plans with and without children. There is even a Dumbo or die in a day touring plan to maximize the enjoyment of the park for your younger kids. Hotel recommendations. Rating of rides and shows. Rating of eating places. Hotel recommendations and even as detailed as to which building and floor to ask for. Good and not so good rooms. Viewing spots for parades.

**Ridemax** Pay for a customized touring plan. You enter the days you are going the hours you want to visit and the rides you want to go on. Supposed to work pretty well. I have never used before.

**Stacking the line.** All Disney rides will allow you to ride at last ride as long as you are in line a few minutes before the official closing time of the park. Disney stacks the line to make it appear longer by holding people at the entrance. This could be the shortest line of the day. Once closing time passes a Disney Cast member will stand at the end of the line and inform you that the ride is closed. But most of the time the line moves so quickly into the waiting area that they simply rope off the entrance. I like to ride Pirates of the Caribbean or Splash Mountain as my last ride. These rides take 10-15 minutes to go trough, longer ride. It is kind of neat to be the only person or group left in the park after closing.

## UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD

Universal studios Hollywood has a tram ride (pick the left side / driver side of the second or third tram for the best view) that takes you through several different movie set adventures. One of the highlights. Unlike Disneyland you can do Universal Studios Hollywood in one day. However tickets purchased at AAA or Costco allow for a second day visit at no charge. Other highlights are Terminator, Shrek 4D, Simpson the ride (formerly Back to the Future ride) and the Mummy ride (FYI for the Mummy ride ABSOLUTELY no bags or camera bags-free lockers available).

They offer an all you can eat pass on line and at the door. Can be a good value depending on if you are spending all day at the park.

Always check at Universal if they offer a discount for meals and ANY purchases with the AAA card. Also at City Walk many of the restaurants offer a AAA discount or Kids Eat Free with an adult meal. Always worth while asking. The all you can EAT meal ticket is NOT WORTH it. You must eat three meals a day to break even. Lines can take 20-30 minutes each meal.

The parking structure at Universal is HUGE and there are two structures. Take a digital picture of the floor that you are on to avoid hunting for your car at the end of the day.

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Las Vegas, Puerto Vallarta Mexico, Monterey Bay, San Francisco Bay Area, Bay Area Restaurants, Cruising and Italy available online.

## DISNEYWORLD

Many but not all of these tips also work at other Disney parks. At DisneyWorld I recommend skipping rides that are available at Disneyland. This especially applies to the Magic Kingdom.

**Magic Kingdom** Ride Stitch's Great Escape, Mickey's PhilharMagic 3-D, SpectroMagic parade, TimeKeeper show, SpectroMagic Parade, Cinderella Celebration stage spectacular.

**Animal Kingdom:** The Lion King show, Dinosaur ride, Kilimanjaro Safaris, and Expedition Everest. Smaller park. Can be done in one day. Fewer headliner rides. Festival of the Lion King. Sit on the mid to upper bleachers for better sight lines. The first few rows are flat and hard to see, unless you are in the first row. Even then a lot of action occurs all over the theater.

**EPCOT** EPCOT opens in the morning. Test Track, Mission Space. World Showcase opens in the afternoon. American Adventure. Test Track, Mission Space and Soarin' have a singles rides line. If you split up your party you can ride much faster than the standby line or get a Fast Pass.

**Mission Space** (FP run out by 4 pm) Orange Line: Spinning/centrifuge ride. Green Line: Non Spinning. More like a Star Tours ride. Don't ride on an empty stomach and eat at least 1-2 hours before riding. Can cause motion sickness. Barf bags are available at each seat just in case.

All Epcot the rides are cool. World Showcase is more educational & good eating spots.

**MGM Studios** Backlot Tour, Little Mermaid show, Beauty & the Beast show, Aerosmith Rock 'n' Roller Coaster, Great Movie Ride, Lights, Motors, Action Show and Indiana Jones Stunt Show.

**FANTASMIC** If you are seeing Fantasmic consider purchasing a dinner and show package that has a ticket for viewing of Fantasmic. The seating is off to the side, but at least you have a reserved section. The line for Fantasmic opens two hours before the show. On bad weather days the show can be cancelled because of high winds. Disney will often not make a call until just before show time. Mama Melrose's Italiano (\$29/\$10 ages 3-9) and Hollywood & Vine Buffet (\$22/\$10) have Fantasmic Dinner Packages. Special entrance/reserved section. You can avoid a 60-90 minute wait.

48 hour cancellation/no refunds due to bad weather. Eat 2 hours or more before the start of the show. Sit in the middle 3 or 4 sections.

**Stacking the line.** All Disney rides will allow you to ride at last ride as long as you are in line a few minutes before the official closing time of the park. Disney stacks the line to make it appear longer by holding people at the entrance. This could be the shortest line of the day. Once closing time passes a Disney Cast member will stand at the end of the line and inform you that the ride is closed. But most of the time the line moves so quickly into the waiting area that they simply rope off the entrance. I like to ride Pirates of the Caribbean or Splash Mountain as my last ride. These



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rides take 10-15 minutes to go through, longer ride. It is kind of neat to be the only person or group left in the park after closing.

Dr. Lum has individual park information for each of the 4 major parks at DisneyWorld in the office.

[www.themouseforless.com](http://www.themouseforless.com) OR [www.allears.net](http://www.allears.net) or [www.wdwinfo.com](http://www.wdwinfo.com) Look up the DIS boards for questions about the parks, Disney cruise lines, ect.... [www.disneyland.com](http://www.disneyland.com) You can request a Free DVD about the park. Good to watch before you go. [www.disneyworld.com](http://www.disneyworld.com)

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**Ridemax** Pay for a customized touring plan. You enter the days you are going the hours you want to visit and the rides you want to go on. Supposed to work pretty well. I have never used before.

**Touring order of the theme parks.** If you are traveling with children to maximize the interest of the four different parks you should tour them in this order. EPCOT, Animal Kingdom, MGM Studios, and then finally the Magic Kingdom. You move from the more educational parks to the more fantasy filled theme parks.

The **water parks and pools** are also VERY popular with the kids. The water parks are especially crowded on the weekends when local residents use their annual passes. All pools and water parks are heated year round. Same as with the other amusement parks, **ARRIVE EARLY** to beat the crowds. For the hotel pools this can be a great break in the afternoon before lunch and a 2-3 hour nap. Then you can return to the park for the evening hours rested and relaxed. If you are returning to the same park later in the same day for the evening shows, remember to collect a Fast Pass for the ride you didn't do yet or really want to ride again **BEFORE** you leave the park to go back to your hotel. The FP can then be used when you return in the evening.

## UNIVERSAL STUDIOS FLORIDA

Unlike Universal Studios Hollywood, there is not a tram ride that take you through different areas or attractions. Here the Jaws and earthquake are separate rides.

**ISLANDS OF ADVENTURE** There are a lot of unique rides here. Lots of great roller coasters. Spiderman ride is one of the best in the country.

**Universal Studios Orlando Express Pass or Front of the line Pass.** If you stay at one of the Universal Studios three properties you can get a front of the line pass. This enables you to skip standing in line and proceed to the front of the line for most of the larger rides and attractions. You can also purchase this benefit. It might be of value to spend a few days at one of their properties just for this benefit, especially during the busy vacation times. Some of the rides and shows are also

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located at Universal Studios Hollywood. I recommend skipping these shows if you are limited to only a few days here.

Unlike the FP at the Disney theme parks. USO Express Pass is good at almost ALL USO attractions.

There is an Universal Express Pass PLUS program that cost \$15-\$50 depending on the season that you can purchase at the gate. This pass allows you a ONE time use of the express entrance to each of the express attractions with no return window.

### **3 Hotels on Property. Portofino Bay (Deluxe), Hard Rock Hotel, and Royal Pacific.**

Staying at any of the three hotels gives you front of the line pass access at the two theme parks. You just show your room key to access the express pass line.

Even if you are also visiting Walt Disney World, it might be worth while to move hotels for 3 night to the Universal Studios Hotels for the front of the line access pass privilege.

Also ask about the kids eat Free program. In the past there was a kids eat free program when an adult purchased a meal.

For hotel guest you also get next table available at certain CITY WALK restaurants. Make sure to ask if this is available. You can also get priority admission to USO shows by showing your room card.

**SEAWORLD** Can be done is 8-9 hours. About the size of the Magic Kingdom. Many stadium or walk through exhibits. Lines are not much of a problem. You can arrive at 12-1pm and stay until 9 pm for the evening show. Cooler and less crowded later in the day. Most stadium shows: Show up 10 minutes early (20 on crowded days). 3 must see shows are Believe (Shamu), Seamore and Clide (Sealions), and Blue Horizons (whale and dolphin show).

**DISCOVERY COVE** There is a 1,000 maximum guest per day. The highlight is a 90 minute swim with an Atlantic Bottlenose Dolphin. Ages 6 and are comfortable in the water. Also a coral reef snorkel and swim. Large bird aviary and a tropical lazy river. 9:00 – 5:30 \$249-\$279 per person. Also includes a 7 day pass to Seaworld. (877) 4-DISCOVERY [www.discoverycove.com](http://www.discoverycove.com) A once in a lifetime experience.

**LEGOLAND** Not good for kids under age 4 or under 36 inches. Ride height restrictions limit the number of rides children under 36 inches can ride. Legoland is best for kids 5-9 years of age. Get tickets at AAA and get 2<sup>nd</sup> day free.

A few roller coasters. Good options for kids that are more timid about riding roller coasters. Teenager over the age of 12 will be bored with Legoland.

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## **NEW YORK CITY**

### **Lombardi's Pizza**

**32 Spring Street in Soho area. Shop first then eat.  
(212) 941-7994 1st Pizza restaurant in U.S. sub Blue C-E**

### **John's of Bleecker Street (Pizza)**

**278 Bleecker Street in Greenwich Village area  
Great coal fired Pizza and Ravioli's  
(212) 243-1680 A Dr. Lum's Favorite!**

### **AquaGrill**

**Fresh East Coast Fish & oyster bar.  
210 Spring Street in Soho at 6th avenue (212) 274-0505**

### **Blue Ribbon**

**97 Sullivan in Soho area, Great small restaurant.  
Go around 5 pm for no waiting. btwn Prince & Spring St.  
Order Bone Marrow Marmalade and Jonah crab  
(212) 274-0404 A Dr. Lum's Favorite!**

### **Serendipity 3**

**Frozen Chocolate Dessert. Ask to sit upstairs. Across from  
Blumingdales. (Movie: Serendipity) 60th St btwn 2 & 3 Ave.**

### **Papaya King**

**Hot dogs & fruit smoothies. Top hot dog places in  
America.**

### **International Soup Kitchen**

**As seen on Seinfeld (aka the soup Nazi). Noon-4pm  
259 A W 55<sup>th</sup> St. Sub-Columbus Circle**

**Food Cart Vendors Hot dogs, Chicken on a bun, falafels ect. Good fast food.**

### **Century 21**

**Discounted fashion designer wear for men and women.  
Across the street from ground zero. M-F 7:45am-8 pm.  
22 Courtland St. btwn Broadway & Church.**

### **Macy's Flagship Store**

**Go to visitors center and show your out of state ID & hotel  
card. Request a 11% saving coupon good on all purchase  
all day. 151 W. 34<sup>th</sup> Street. (Movie: Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup>  
Street)**

### **Imitation Designer Purses**

**Canal Street exit in Chinatown. On one or more of the  
street corners there are people with a folded up piece of**

**paper that shows some of the different styles available. They will take you to a van or storage area that holds the purses. Go with a friend during the day for extra safety. One of the storage areas was DIRECTLY off of the Canal St. subway entrance at the bottom of the steps.**

**Taxi's**

**Fast but expensive. Can take you to spots not well serviced by the subways. Also good for late night rides.**

**Metro Card (Subway)**

**1 day to 7 day cards available. Unlimited Subway rides. Also pay-per-ride card 6-12 rides. Easier to prepurchase cards then to fumble with cash at the subway station.**

**Ellis Island**

**Immigration Museum. Buy ferry tickets at Castle Clinton in Battery Park. 9:30-5 pm Great views of NYC and statue of Liberty. (Movie: Hitch)**

**Empire State Building**

**Buy tickets online ahead of time to save waiting in line. Entrance is on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Dusk is a popular time. [www.esbnyc.com](http://www.esbnyc.com) (Movie: Sleepless in Seattle & Love Affair)**

**U.S. Custom's House**

**At Bowling Green. National Museum of the American Indian (branch of the Smithsonian). Free. Wall Street Bull is just up the street. Great food carts outside (pita's)**

**Charging Bull**

**Just past Bowling Green park. Great photo spot.**

**Trinity Church**

**At Wall & Broad Street. Famous people buried here Robert Fulton-inventor steam boats, Alexander Hamilton-killed in a duel with Aaron Burr, Francis Lewis-signer Declaration of Independence. (Movie-National Treasure) World Trade Center monument outside.**

**St. Paul's Church**

**Concerts at noon or one. Used as during WTC bombing as a firefighters headquarters.**

**New York City Concerts at One**

**Mondays in St. Paul's Chapel on Broadway (212) 602-0747  
Thursdays in Trinity Church on Wall Street**

**Chinese History Museum**

**Chinatown. 70 Mulberry Street & Bayard. Go upstairs.**

**Frick Museum**

**1 East 70<sup>th</sup> Street. No kids under 10. Tu-Sat 10-6 Collection of arts displayed in a mansion across the street from Central Park. Sunday 11-1 suggested donation.**

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**Museum of Modern Art**

**Great Impressionist collection. 53<sup>rd</sup> st. [www.moma.org](http://www.moma.org) closed W 288-0700 One of the best in the world.**

**Metropolitan Museum of Art**

**World class. Pay as you wish. Suggested admission. Good place for lunch. Visit the Egyptian temple and Impressionist collections. (Movie: When Harry Met Sally)**

**Natural History Museum**

**Hayden Planetarium. Dinosaur skeletons/ Ocean and wild life dioramas. (Movie: Night at the Museum/KPax)**

**Ellis Island Immigration station. Free movie and audio tours. (Movie Hitch)**

**Subway Entertainment**

Performers in the subways are licensed by the city. Really good entertainment for a few bucks tip. Watch for pickpockets. Most major stations.

**BROADWAY PLAYS**

**PLAYBILL.COM** Discount show tickets available. But does not list all show playing. Only shows that advertise with Playbill. Can just type in the show name & discount to see what is available online. Also ask your hotel if they offer discounted tickets/codes to shows. Some hotels have coupon numbers that will allow you a discounted purchase.

If you are traveling all the way to New York and you want to see a play it is better to pay for the ticket at full face value and get a better seat. I like the isle seats looking down the isle (NOT an isle seat in center section). Try to get about 6-8 rows back. Too close and you are looking up all the time.

**WICKED**

About Glenda and the wicked witch of the East when they were young and in school. Long before the Wizard of Oz.

**MAMMA MIA**

Abba songs set to a story line. Great fun happy musical.

**LION KING**

Story of the Lion King set to music. Perfect for people of all ages. Spectacular show. Also on DVD.

**BEAUTY and the BEAST** Great show for kids. Also on DVD

**PHANTOM of the OPERA** Classic story. Longest running play on Broadway. Also on DVD.

**RENT**

Modern rock musical based on 1980 life and love in NYC during the aids crisis. Limited tickets (34) for the first 2 rows of the theatre sold by lottery 2 ½ hours before each show. Limit of 2 tickets per winner (\$20 each in cash). Show up at the box office and put your name in the drawing. [www.siteforrent.com](http://www.siteforrent.com) Also on DVD.

**SEAT SELECTION**

Always try to talk to an agent to get seats looking down an isle. For a family of four request 2 sets of isle seats back to back. ie Row D seats 1 & 2 and Row F 1 & 2. This way both kids or two adults will get an unobstructed views down the isle. It makes no sense to sit four

in a row. You never know who is going to be sitting directly in front of you. Also once the show starts you don't talk to each other.

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## ROME TIPS

**Basillica San Clemente** Located behind the Colosseum down Via Labicana. Church on top of a church on top of a church. Three levels down. **A Dr. Lum Favorite!**

**St. Peter's Basilica Dome** Climb the dome. Elevators located to the right of the main entrance to the Basilica. Great view inside the church from the balcony and view of the Vatican gardens and Rome. Bring binoculars. Inside the Vatican museum get the audio guide.

**Galleria Borgheses** Great Bernini sculptures. Two story villa with great art. Need to call to reserve a ticket. Take one of the twice daily English language tours. I liked this museum and tour more than the Vatican museum.

**A Dr. Lum Favorite! 06-328101 [www.ticketeria.it](http://www.ticketeria.it) Tu-Sun**

**Colosseum** Prebook an admission time to avoid standing in line. [www.pierreci.it](http://www.pierreci.it) 06-39967700

Lunch at Piazza Navonna or in front of the Pantheon. (DVD Return to Me)  
Try Tre Scalini's Tartufo Chocolate desert in Piazza Navonna.

**Girarrosto Fiorentino** Meat from Tuscany. 46 Via Sicilia off Via Veneto. Can stop by on the way back from Galleria Borgheses. Also great buffalo cheeses.

**HB-Bettoja Hotels** Located near the train station. Moderate prices. 0632810.

## VENICE

**Harry's Dolce** Great restaurant across the Grand Canal and St. Mark's Square. Need to take a water taxi across. **A Dr. Lum Favorite!** Best meal I've ever had. 773 Giudecca 041-52 24 844

**Glass Bead Shop** Located on the mainland side at the start of the Rialto Bridge. Bracelets, necklaces, pendants. Make nice gifts. Rialto 79

**Café Florian** Have a hot chocolate or coffee at night while listening to violin music. St. Mark's square. Expensive but worth it. Can also stand and listen.

**River Taxi #1** Goes down the Grand Canal. Can sit in the front for a better view.

**Pauli Glass shop** Murano glass shop. Very well known. Higher quality works. Also good glass beads jewelry. Have them ship your pieces. St. Marks Sq.

**SIENNA**

**Atica Siena** pottery store. Located on the corner of the plaza to the right as you are facing city hall. Have them ship your pieces home.

**Flying to Europe**

If taking a group tour I highly recommend flying in 1-2 days ahead of your official tour start date. This gives you extra time to adjust to the jet lag and explore a little on your own. Most companies can extend your hotel days a few days early for you at a special rate.

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**LAS VEGAS**

**DISNEY CHARACTER WAREHOUSE:** 20-75% off Disneyland clothing and other closeout items. Luck of the draw. Changes daily. ie Sweatshirts \$19.00 vs \$56.00. Other location in Anaheim. CA. [www.ams-liquidation.com](http://www.ams-liquidation.com)  
Dr. Lum Favorite! Annex at Las Vegas Factory Outlet, West of the Airport off Blue Diamond Road. 7680 Las Vegas Blvd. South. Next to Off Sak's 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. (702) 260-8144

**Tournament of the Kings**

Good for kids. At the Excalibur Hotel. 2 shows a night most nights. However get your tickets ahead of time. Buy a flag and cheer on your knight. Includes dinner and drinks. 6/8:30 \$48 Excalibur.com

**Cirquedusoleil.com**

Several productions in town. Usually can book 90 day in advance.

**Mystere** at Treasure Island W-Su 7:30/10:30 \$95

**O** at Bellagio W-Su 7:30/10:30 \$150

**Ka** at MGM Fri-Tu \$150 Ka.com

**Mamma Mia**

ABBA musical @ Mandalay Bay Hotel Su-Th 7:30 Sa 6/10 \$110

**Phantom of the Opera**

at Venetian Hotel. New theater made for the production. \$150 DVD

**Star Trek The Experience**

Discount tickets available at ½ price ticket outlets every day. Multi-sensory attraction/experience and motion simulator ride. Good for Star Trek fans. \$38

**Blue Man Group**

at Venetian Hotel Blueman.com 7/10 Don't sit in splash zone. \$110

**LeReve** at Wynn hotel

Water based show and theater is in the round so most seats have a great view. Sa-W 7:30/10:30 Around \$125.

**FREMONT Street Experience**

Every hour on the hour at night. FREE downtown show.

**RIO Sky Parade**

FREE at the Rio Hotel. Off the strip. Catch the bead being thrown. 3,4,5,6:30/7:30/8:30/9:30. You can actually pay to ride in the parade.



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- Bellagio Fountains** 3-7 pm M-F every 30 minutes. Sat Sun noon-7 pm every 30 minutes. Every 15 min 7pm-12. Great to watch just off of the strip.
- SEAT SELECTION** Always try to talk to an agent to get seats looking down an isle. For a family of four request 2 sets of isle seats back to back. ie Row D seats 1 & 2 and Row F 1 & 2. This way both kids or two adults will get unobstructed views down the isle. It makes no sense to sit four in a row. You never know who is going to be sitting directly in front of you. Also once the show starts you don't talk to each other anyway.
- Lied Discovery Museum** Children's Museum just past downtown. 833 Las Vegas Blvd. Tu-Sun 10-5 [www.ldcm.org](http://www.ldcm.org) (702) 382-3445 Great day activity for kids.
- GameWorks** 10am-12 am. or 2 am weekends. 1<sup>st</sup> 2 hour special flat rate play. Hightech video games/rides. Showcase Mall near MGM. Visit M & M & world of Coca Cola when you are here. (702) 432-4263
- ShowCase Mall** GameWorks, M & M world, World of Coca Cola (taste Cola products from around the world) Look for Ethel M Free Chocolate coupon. Sometime M & M coupons and free M & M Movie.
- Forum Shops** Best indoor shopping mall and eating spot. Try Joe's stone crab or Spagos for lunch or dinner. 2 FREE shows on the hour. In the center of the mall and all the way at the end (better show). FAO Schwartz store and Arcade on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor for the kids.
- Fashion Show Mall** Huge mall with Sak's, Dillards, Macy's, Nieman Marcus, Nordstrom. Has a runway fashion show several times a day (about every hour).
- Macy's discount** Get a 11% saving coupon at the visitors center. Show out of state ID and hotel room card. Also 11% Bloomingdales discount.
- Wynn Hotel Buffet** Best Lunch or Dinner Buffet. **Dr. Lum Favorite! Eat Early or Late**
- Okada Japanese Restaurant** Wynn Hotel. Great Japanese food.
- Bellagio Hotel Buffet** Also a top notch Lunch or Dinner Buffet. **Eat Early or Late**
- Paris Le Village Buffet** Paris Hotel. Great indoor setting. Good food from different areas of France. **Eat Early or Late**
- Makino Chaya (Japaneses Buffet)** Las Vegas Premium Outlets 875 Grand Central Parkway. Great local all you can eat Japanese food. Go early 5 pm. A Dr. Lum Favorite! (702) 382-8848 (702) 474-7500 Premium Outlets.com 10-8 They charge full adult price for kids 8 and up. (\$29)
- Main Street Buffet** Downtown in the Main Street Hotel Hawaiian/Asian themed buffet. Seafood nights on Fridays. More casual and less expensive than the strip buffets. **Eat Early or Late**



### **Eat Early or Late**

Eat dinner at **5:00 pm** to avoid waiting in line for 1 hour or more. Some hotels start dinner as early as 4:30pm. This applies to most large hotel buffets. Also having lunch early at **10:30 am or late at 3:30 pm** can also work well. Also more time to walk off the meal.

Each of the large casinos also have premier dinning locations. Famous chiefs from around the country have opened up second branches outside of New York, San Francisco, LA, Dallas ect.

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## **MEXICO**

### **Puerto Vallarta**

**Serendipity** The best Mexican Pottery. Butterfly pottery from Guanajuato is beautiful. Also metal work and other pottery available.

2 blocks away from the main church on 472 Juarez Street.

Or across the river over the first bridge (closest to the ocean) away from old town, on the right hand side of the street 2 blocks away. **A Dr. Lum Favorite!**

### **Tapas Barcelona**

Matamoros & 31 de Octubre streets. Lunch & dinner. Great bay view. 4 blocks up from Sr. Frog store. [www.barcelonatapas.net](http://www.barcelonatapas.net)

### **NH KRYSTAL Hotel**

Located in the hotel zone just outside of town. More of a local Mexican resort. Stay in the NEW beachside complex. Terrific pool complex. Can also use the pool if coming in on a cruise. If is just down the street from the cruise terminal. Just order a few drinks and food from the pool side bar. Hotel has a huge Yellow dome.

### **SPA Treatments**

At NH Krystal Hotel. Message specials for 2 people / 75 minute messages for \$75 U.S. Wonderful professional staff.

### **Restaurant Pescartore**

2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the municipal marketplace. Very local spot. Just eat the fresh fish. Have them fry it. Order only bottle water & soda in a can. No ice! Don't eat the salad. Very good fish! **A Dr. Lum Favorite!**

### **Pirate ship Maragalante**

Pirate Land Day Program. Great all day adventure for the family. Includes breakfast and lunch, banana boat rides, snorkeling, beach games and onboard pirate show.

Pirate Night Adventure is adult themed. No children under age 10.

[www.vallartapirateshow.com](http://www.vallartapirateshow.com)

## **MAZATLAN**

Mazatlan Frank. Can arrange private tour of the city and shopping for you. About \$25 per person. Can also help arrange horseback riding.

## **Saint Thomas Virgin Isles**

[godfrey@godfreytoursvi.com](mailto:godfrey@godfreytoursvi.com) Private tour operator that can do a custom tour for your group.  
[www.godfreytoursvi.com](http://www.godfreytoursvi.com)

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## **CRUISING**

**Check in at the cruise terminal early.** Most ships will let you board the ship at 12 noon. You may not be able to go to your cabin yet but you can have lunch, swim at the pool (without anyone else), use the hot tub if it is on deck, explore the ship and have lunch on board.

You should also make your special dinner reservations as soon as you get on the ship if there is a separate dining restaurant option. These will fill up very quickly. Surcharge usually runs about \$10 to \$15 extra. It will usually be an Italian, Steak or special chief's restaurant. Even at the extra charge restaurants you can order more than one appetizer, more than one entry and more than one desert. You can also share food with your party. If you have a group of 6 share all of the appetizers and dinner options with in your group. Let your waiter know that you are sharing amongst your group. Ask him to have the chief prepare an appropriate serving size for your group. You should tip the waiter EXTRA above the normal extra dining room charge for this type of service.

Don't book special restaurant dinners on the Captain's Formal night in the main dining room. Usually there is better food on this night in the main dinning room. Sometimes however there are also special dining menus in the different restaurants on Captain's night.

**Spa reservations** should also be done on this day. For the SPA you can usually view the spa treatment options on line before you go.

**Hairdresser:** You should also make your reservations for formal night as soon as you can.

**Shore excursions** book before you leave on line or as soon as you get onboard if you know which tours you want to take.

**TIPS** Remember to tip your waiters and cabin helper their full tips. They work 6-9 months 7 days a week. They do not get paid U.S. wages. They are paid very little. Most of their income comes from your tips.

**To get a window seat at dinner.** Ask the head waiter when you first get on board. Offer him \$20-\$40 and ask him if he can help rearrange your seating so the you get a nice window seat. It is really nice to look out the window while eating if you are on the early dinner seating.

**SHOWS:** Usually two (2) major shows on a 7 night cruise. Show up to your assigned dinner time early so you can finish dinner ahead of everyone else. You can then be the first to get seats for the show. You might even want to skip desert and head over to the showroom to get your seats. Bring a jacket to save seats for the other member of your party. Sometime there is an early 3:30 or 4:00 pm show (Disney Cruise).

**SEAT SELECTION** Always try to get seats looking down an isle. For a family of four select 2 sets of isle seats back to back. ie Row D seats 1 & 2 and Row F 1 & 2. This way both kids or two adults will get an unobstructed views down the isle. It makes no sense to sit four in a row. You never know who is going to be sitting directly in front of you. Also once the show starts you don't talk to each other. Also may want to look for seats that have a drink table in front of you.

**Shuffle Board:** Great after dinner game and exercise on deck.

Bring Swim goggles and swim toys for the kids. Most pools are salt water. The Jacuzzi is always fresh water. Except on the Disney Ships. Good day to swim is the first day right after you arrive on board. The pools are not crowded yet. Keep a change of clothing in your roll on bags.

**Room Service:** Makes a nice lunch break without having to rush to the dining room.

**Early of Late Dinner Seating:** If you have children early is usually better. Otherwise dinner could be as late as 8:00 or 8:30pm. If you have early dinner, you do need to be aware of what time the ship leaves port. Dinner could be right after the ship sets sail. If this is the case you might be rushed into getting ready for dinner, almost as soon as you return from your shore trips.

**Extra Bags:** Pack an extra duffle bag or tote bag if you are going to be doing any major shopping. Better to plan ahead for all the nick nacks.

**For more exercise.** Skip the sodas. Walk up and down the steps instead of taking the elevator. Walk around the deck after dinner or even before dinner. Skip or share the deserts. Use the gym or steam room.

**Bring or buy bottle water or a six pack of soda** before you get on board or at the first port. This way you can have it in your cabin. Saves you some money.

**Safety:** Remember that outside of 12 miles you are outside of U.S. waters. The laws of the United States do not apply at sea. Since the ships are flagged in foreign ports, they do not have to follow U.S. law. Be careful of your environment. For women traveling alone must be especially careful. Also the staff of the ships come from many different parts of the world. Drinking alcohol is encouraged, since the ships make a lot of money off of alcohol. Use good judgement.

**Returning Home:** Luggage and the ability to leave the ship is done in an order. If you have an early flight or need to get some where quickly you should ask your cabin steward for the early

disembarkation luggage tags. This works really well if you do it before you give out your final tip envelopes. If you are not in a rush you can take a last stroll around the ship after breakfast.

**Formal Portraits** This is a wonderful opportunity to take a nice formal portrait with no obligation. On formal picture night there will normally be 4-5 separate areas where you can take formal portraits. These different areas have different backgrounds and props. Make sure you get the portrait area EARLY to beat the crowds and to make it to your dinner on time. On different nights they have casual or theme night photos also. If you are in a large group they can take a picture of the entire group, individual families, just the adults and just the kids. Just ask the photographer for the different combinations. You end up spending a lot of money on the photos but memories are priceless. You can usually swap out photos if you buy one on the first night and then take a better picture a couple night later. Also ask about specials if you purchase more photos over the course of the cruise. Sometimes they will give away a photo of the ship or a frame for the picture.

Join the cruise lines frequent cruising members club. Usually no cost and get extra perks the next time you sail with them.

**Kids Clubs** On most ships the kids club will have special events of nights. Ask the staff working at the kids clubs what are the highlight night, activities or events that the kids should try not to miss. Also at most kids clubs they GIVE away a T-Shirt or some type of other kids club items or pack on the last day or night. Ask if there are any special gifts for the kids. Even if you don't go on the last night you can stop by and get the kids their gift. On Disney they give away T-Shirts, Hats, and mouse pads. On Carnival they give away a small duffle bag with Carnival goodies.

**Disney Cruise Line:** Perfect for families with kids. Look for the best kids clubs on the ocean. Even if your children do not participate in all of the activities check the schedule for special give away nights or times. Usually the last night they give out Free T-shirts or kids stuff to the children that have been participating in the different programs. Read the daily guides for the times.

Disney will often have an early show of the major productions. Good if the kids are having a hard time staying awake at night. See all of the major production shows (3) they are really outstanding. Broadway caliber Disney show.

**Disney's Palo** adult only Northern Italian Restaurant. We did brunch, high tea and dinner here. Highly recommend that you try all three. Ask for a tasting menu of the different selections on the menu. Share and order extra. Worth the extra few dollars.

**Holland America** On board Art IPOD audio tours. Can download before going on your ship or can check out a free IPOD on board and take the 45 minute audio tour of the different art work.

**Royal Caribbean:** Rock climbing wall. Best time is early in the morning or day. One of the best values is the 4 night cruise out of Los Angeles. Really low year round rates. Not too exciting ports of call but great cruising value.

**Carnival:** Good kids club on most ships. Younger crowds.

[www.cruisesonly.com](http://www.cruisesonly.com) You can look at cabin locations for a lot of different ships and see exactly where your room will be located. Try to select rooms away from the main elevators and stairs. Also select rooms that are not directly over or under a disco, show room or the kitchen.

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However you might get incentive by booking with an agent. Always ask for a on board room credit of some sort. Many travel agents can give you \$50 to \$100 on board credits for booking with them.

Mexico trips from LA and Caribbean cruises from Maimi are especially affordable. However remember the hurricane season is from June to September. Especially bad in August and September depending on the year.

### **St. Thomas Virgin Islands**

[www.godfreytoursvi.com](http://www.godfreytoursvi.com)

[godfrey@godfreytoursvi.com](mailto:godfrey@godfreytoursvi.com)

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## **MONTEREY BAY AREA**

### **Dennis the Mennis Playground**

Just North of the Downtown/Fisherman's Wharf area

Old stream train. They allow you to climb on the train. (You do so at your own risk).

Can climb over, on top, in front and on the sides. Great slides and rock climbing stones.

Peddle boats rides available. Also a skate board park.

### **Monterey Bay Aquarium**

The aquarium is one of the best in the entire country. As such it gets really busy during the summer months. Arrive at OPENING time to avoid the crowds. Also purchase your tickets ahead of time. Best value is from AAA. At a minimum you can purchase your tickets from your motel. There is a separate entrance on the side of the building for people with tickets. Don't need to stand in line to get in.

Best **FREE parking** for the aquarium is just past the Tin Cannery Outlet shops. If you go just past the Tin Cannery there is FREE parking along the street. It is a short and beautiful walk along the bicycle/walking path to the aquarium. We usually bring our bikes and ride along this area. There are bike racks in front of the aquarium.

Portola Café inside the aquarium has WONDERFUL food. There is also a sit down restaurant inside with a separate seating area and table service. If you bring your own snacks and eat outside be very careful of the seagulls. They are VERY aggressive and will attack small children with food in their hands.

#### **Outer Bay Exhibit Big Fish Feeding**

Arrive 15 minutes early to get a seat in the front. **11 am on Sat/Sun/Tu/Thu** Time the day of your trip so that you can see the feeding. It is really neat.

Kelp Feeding 11:30 / 4:00 pm Sea Otter Feeding 10:30 / 1:30 / 3:30 Penguin 10:30 / 3:00

**TIDE POOL EXPLORATION:** Explore the beach area just past the Tin Cannery Outlets. If you follow the road directly by the beach, there are places to pull over and explore the tide pools. Remember never to turn your back to the ocean.

### **Fisherman's Wharf:**

Café Fina is good. A Rachel Ray favorite.

Old Fisherman's Grotto. Best clam chowder.

Bubba Gump's      You can call ahead to put your name down on the waiting list. Normally about a 1 hour wait. There is a sandbox play area directly in the front. You can walk around and shop while waiting.

Fandango      In Pacific Grove. Very good Italian/ Mediterranean food. Nice setting.

Ghirardelli      Chocolate Soda Fountain. Great sundaes. Down the street from Aquarium.

**Bed and Breakfast** Four Sisters Inn. Great set of inns. Visit their web site for Fall/Winter specials. Some of them will allow a one night stay on Saturday only. (800) 527-8828 (Gosby) 800-833-8836 Carmel Clarion Motel on Munras Avenue has an indoor heated swimming pool. Free Breakfast.

Tin Cannery Outlets. Ask for a coupon book at the information center. Also Portola Hotel @ the Wharf.

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## GENERAL TRAVEL TIPS

### Fly One Day Ahead

Fly into your starting port or city one day ahead to avoid flight delays or cancellations. This also gives you one day of rest before the start of your cruise or tour.

If flying to Europe this is especially important. Most tour groups will allow you to book one or two extra days ahead of your tour in the same hotel that you are staying at a special rate. This way you can be fully rested before the tour starts. Most European flights are red eye flights from the East Coast. You arrive in Europe the next day. Since it can be very difficult to sleep on the plane you can use the extra day to sleep in late. Most tours begin the day after your arrival at 7:00 am and can go for 9-12 hours of touring.

### Airports to Avoid

Avoid airports on the East Coast and Mid-West during the winter months on connecting flights to avoid weather related delays or cancellations of your flight. If you have an option pick an airport connection in the Southern part of the United States. Especially avoid Chicago, JFK and Boston airports. However Dallas and Atlanta can also have traffic/storm problems. Better yet aim for a direct flight.

### Airline Seat Selection

On flights that are overnight or longer flights. Pick a seat towards the back of the plane. Then book a window and an isle seat if you are traveling with two persons on a three A,B,C seat configuration. If the plane is not completely full most people will not select a seat in the middle and towards the back of the plane. If the flight is not full you get the extra middle seat space. If the flight does fill up you can just ask the person in the middle if they wouldn't mind switching seats so you can sit next to your travel companion. This will absolutely work if the other person is a child.

## **Hurricane Season**

Avoid the Caribbean during the months of July until October to avoid the hurricane season. Living in California you really don't think about seasons in the same way as people living in these areas. If there is a hurricane during your trip you will miss ports of call and have rougher sailing.

## **Restaurants**

Ask the flight attendants where special places to eat can be a good idea for international flights. They tend to know good places for different kinds of food since they stay overnight in the cities they are flying to. You can also ask the hotel front desk persons or the doorman for restaurants near by the hotel.

Jot down the names and streets if possible. Or ask them to write the name down for you. Venture out. Try to avoid McDonald's and other chain restaurants that we have back home.

## **Photography**

Take a digital picture of your special show ticket for a play, entertainment event or sports event. The ticket shows that date, location and what you saw. This helps you to remember your special day.

You can also take a picture of your airline ticket. It shows where you were traveling to, the date of your trip, and what airlines you were on.

If traveling to another country or state you can also photograph the daily newspaper to remind you of where you went. It will have the name of the city, the date and any special events going on.

You can also take pictures of the airlines magazines for your scrap book.

Take a picture of the different restaurants that you visit. Also take a photo of your meal before you begin eating. Don't worry they already know that you are tourist.

## **Shopping**

Take pictures in the store with all the stuffed animals you want, funny Goofy ear or Mickey Mouse hats, pictures of the T-Shirt's, or toys. These items are often a great reminder of the places you have been and using the items in the store is like having free props for your pictures.

## **Kids ID**

Dress your kids in brighter colored clothing if possible. This makes them easier to spot if they get lost or separated in a crowd. Taking a morning photo of your kids with their jackets off in front of the hotel, in the room or at breakfast. This can be used as identification in case your child gets lost. You know exactly what they were wearing that morning.

**Rental Car Tips**

Take a digital picture of your rental car. It's often hard to remember what you are driving. You also might want to take a picture of the make and model.

Take a picture of what floor you parked your car on at the airport.

Gas tank location. There is an ARROW that points to the side of the car that the gas tank is located on. It is located next to the fuel gage.

Bring a spring shade from home to use in the rental car if traveling to a warm destination. Using a spring shade also helps to make your car look less like a rental car.

Take a Kleenex box from the hotel and put it into your rental car if you will be in town for more than a few days. It is always handy to have Kleenex around in the car.

**Toilet paper**

Bring a roll of charmin toilet paper from home. ALL hotels have generic toilet paper. It makes you feel like you are staying at the Four Seasons.

**Band Aid Kit**

Make a small band aid kit with an alcohol wipe and put it with your roll on luggage or camera bag.

**Zip Lock Bags**

You can always find a use for a few zip lock bags.

**Slippers/Flip Flops**

Bring Slipper or flip flops for the pool and around the hotel room.

**Plastic fork & Knife**

Pack a few forks, knives and spoons. Just in case you have need it at your hotel. Put these items into your zip lock bag!

**Advil / Tylenol**

Pack a couple of Advils or Tylenols in a zip lock bag and place in your roll on luggage or camera bag. Never know when that headache will strike.

**Post-it Notes**

Use post-it notes to mark things to bring along that day or things to remember to do and stick it on the hotel mirror.

**Traveling with Kids**

If you have children try to travel the first week after school gets out or the LAST week before school begins to avoid some of the crowds. Easter break can also be a good time to travel since some schools get out a week before Easter and some get out a week after Easter.

**Traveling WITHOUT Kids**

Never every travel during kids Christmas, Spring, or summer breaks. Travel in the months of September to November in Europe. Travel in January to May in the Caribbean.



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**Water Back Pack (Camel)** Get a camelback water backpack to carry ice water around. Works great for hikes, skiing, theme parks, general touring. Can also store snacks in the pack for the kids.

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**London Concerts at One** Monday, Tuesday & Friday Royal Parish Church  
Of St. Martin-in-the-fields.