

Chaashya's participant #2

Female, 27

1. Do you plan for a trip? If so, how? Why do you use this method, why not others?

a. If not (planning), why?

Yes. I look at the dates first and make sure there is enough leave to take and that its a decent chunk of time. Once that's figured out, I'd check which destinations are best to travel to at that time of year. I would also look at visa requirements, depending on this maybe inter-state or international travel. Once I have some options, I'd look at what activities each location has and which one is most exciting and fits within the budget. Accommodation is the last thing I look at and where I would try to save the most, generally. I just jump on google. I think the best is to read other people's recommendations, however, tripAdvisor is not the best because what someone else likes is not necessarily what you would like. I prefer to read travel blogs. We generally don't go through a travel agency. We have only done that once and that was for our honeymoon, because it was a very big trip.

2. What are your main concerns/ priorities when travelling/ planning a trip?

The flights, connections or the transport. I'm always concerned that the flight could get delayed or cancelled. Fortunately, I haven't lost a bag yet. My priority is making the most of it, which is why efficient transport is a concern of mine. I don't understand railtrips or cruises. They're not for me.

3. What have you learned from previous travel experiences?

Good location for accommodation is important and helpful, especially when you don't have your own transport. Being central saves money on transport and there's usually food around. Location is key. Also, I always tend to forget something.

4. When preparing for a trip, do you currently use any trip planning apps/ software? If so, what and why. If not, why?

Google Docs, Google sheets/ excel. This would usually have a list of things to do, packing checklist, what events are on, itinerary of what we're doing everyday.

5. (IF YES) What are your current frustrations with the app you're using?

You're inputting all the information. It's not interactive. You do all the research yourself and enter it. It would be nice to have suggestions based on interests or top tips from travellers at that destination, for example. Kinda like AirBnB. But I don't use AirBnB because its done by locals whereas I prefer to see what tourists do. Reminders

would be nice or sync up with google maps so it can tell me when to leave to go places. This would all generally only be used for trips bigger than a weekend for example.

6. Have you ever travelled in a group?

Yes.

7. (IF YES) What was the group dynamics (family, friends, co-workers)? What was the travel type (short road trip, interstate, events e.g. festival)? How many people were involved?

Family and friends. International, inter-state, weekend trips to the coast and roadtrips. Most of the time, its myself and my husband. With family, 4-5 people. With friends, 4-6.

8. Have you had a problem before while traveling in a group? Were there any challenges planning in a group? - benefits?

Accommodation is a big benefit usually. The challenge is planning what everyone wants to do and getting around to it; coordinating activities within the group.