

# 6 Steps to a great Disney World Vacation

## Step 5: Get Your Disney Theme Park Touring Plans

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*A good touring plan can cut time in lines by 3 or more hours per day.*

We are completely convinced that everyone benefits from good Disney theme park touring plans. A touring plan is simply an outline that lets you approach the Disney theme park rides and attractions in a way that minimizes lines. You don't skip anything - you just do things smarter so that you don't end up following - and lining up behind - the crowd. Even during busy times, our clients typically wait less than 20 minutes for rides, including thrill rides and headliners. During less crowded times, a good plan factors in shorter park hours and fewer performance times. The most important benefit of a good plan is that everyone gets to ride and see the things that they are looking forward to because everyone's priorities are included in a plan that tours the parks efficiently and effectively. Select the touring plans for your group prior to making FASTPASS+ reservations (next step); ideally, your touring plan should be selected by 65 days prior to arrival if you're staying at a Disney World hotel or 35 days prior to arrival if you're staying at a non-Disney location.

### **The Disney World touring plan sources we recommend:**

- **The Unofficial Guide to Walt Disney World** (printed guidebook)
- **A subscription to [TouringPlans.com](http://TouringPlans.com)**

They're both excellent. **The Unofficial Guide to Walt Disney World** is great for anyone who doesn't enjoy online research and it has the advantage of including information about **SeaWorld**, **Universal Studios**, and **Islands of Adventures**. [TouringPlans.com](http://TouringPlans.com) doesn't include the non-Disney parks (they do offer a separate **Universal Orlando** option) but is probably the best choice for anyone primarily visiting **Disney World** theme parks. They have more options in their printable touring plan section - including late start and holiday plans - and they have some "Lines & Waits" applications for smart phone users that include real-time optimization throughout the day. Another difference is that the book is printed in August each year, but the website is updated regularly as things change in the parks.

People sometimes wonder why touring plans work; after all, won't it just create lines if everyone uses one? Yes, it would if everyone used a touring plan but less than 10% of all guests use any type of touring plan at all. Can you see where it is to your advantage to have better information than 90% of the people around you?

Other people worry that having a plan takes away some of the wonder and magic. I just have to ask, "Do you find long lines wonderful and magical?" Knowing that you won't miss anything that is important to you makes the whole experience more relaxing and the time you would've spent in line can be used to enjoy more attractions, notice the special touches around you or even to take a break...doesn't that sound wonderful and magical? Think of it like any sport - it is less stressful and a whole lot more fun when you know how the game is played. Remember too that a touring plan is a guide to avoiding lines; it is not a legally binding document. J Adjustments can always be made along the way.

**How Build A Better Mouse Trip helps you** - You will receive your choice of either the Unofficial Guide or a TouringPlans.com subscription as a Thank You Gift when you book your vacation through us - this is in addition to the expert advice, Best Days itinerary, and dining reservation help your agent will provide. The best part is that you get all of this without any extra expense to you.