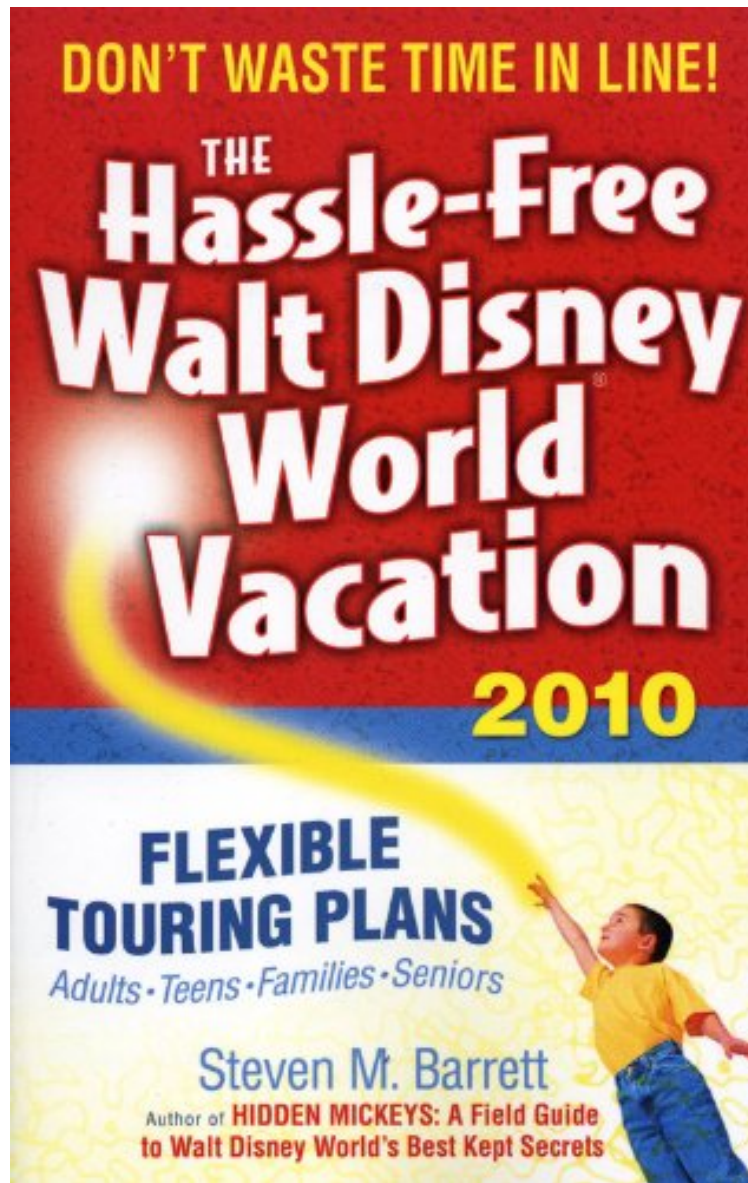


[Download ebook] Hassle-Free Walt Disney World Vacation 2010

Hassle-Free Walt Disney World Vacation 2010

Steven M. Barrett

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Steven M. Barrett : Hassle-Free Walt Disney World Vacation 2010 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hassle-Free Walt Disney World Vacation 2010:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By M Sexton As described. 24 of 25 people found the following review helpful. Don't use this to Plan Your Vacation By A Customer There are a LOT of very good Official and Unofficial Guides to Walt Disney World - this is not one of them. First off the author, Steven Barrett, confesses he

is "a rabid WDW aficionado. [He]has yet to find a ride or attraction at WDW that [he] didn't enjoy..." This was my first tip off that the forthcoming information was going to be biased. For this kind of 'guidance' I should have stuck with "The Official Guide" by Birnbaum. Secondly there is nothing 'special' or different about this book when compared to "The Unofficial Guide" In fact, "The Hassle-free Vacation" is seriously lacking in key areas of information:. For example: WHERE to stay is covered in only 5 pages. A brief synopsis of each On Resort property is listed (you can get more complete information off the Walt Disney Web site) and only one paragraph is listed about Off Property hotels. (You're given the names and phone numbers of a few hotels plus the Orlando/Orange County Convention and Visitors Bureau phone number. HOW TO GET AROUND the resort is less than one page long with the recommendation that you rent a private car. If you are staying on the Disney property and plan to use their bus services you are told routinely to 'check your Transportation Guide'. What I DID like about this book are the following: A nice breakdown and brief description of each attraction in each park. (Keeping in mind that Steve likes everything. His touring plans, btw, seem to be very similar to the Unofficial Guide - I haven't compared them side by side/line by line, but generally appear to reinforce each other) Also, I liked the listing of full-service restaurants and the maps of each 'world'. Bottom line: This book is good for people who just want to know a little bit about what to expect from the attractions at WDW. It is NOT a tool for planning your vacation. Those people who are nit-picky planners who want to research every aspect of their vacation (like me) will find the Unofficial Guide to Walt Disney World the best source; The Unofficial Guide is also good for people like me who mentally start their vacation while planning it. (Don't let it's enormous size intimidate you.) This book WILL NOT HELP YOU figure out How Long to Stay, Where To Stay, How to Get the Most Bang for Your Buck, How to Save Money when Booking or Planning your Vacation, Which Park Ticket Option to Buy or What Special shows/events/attractions are available but not widely publicized. For me this book was a waste of money - much of the same information could be found in guide maps and brochures available within the hotels and parks. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Wow! Very Complete Guide By Finney I happened upon this book when buying another one for our Disney trip. I'm very happy I bought it. This book is very complete -- detailing all the various parks, hotels, restaurants, dining plans, shows, etc. Were taking our first trip to Disney World and this book is exactly what I was looking for.

Chapter 1: PLANNING YOUR WDW VACATION A few miles southwest of Orlando, Florida, lies one of the most popular spots on earth, Walt Disney World Resort (WDW). This huge complex (twice the size of Manhattan Island) contains four separate theme parks, more than two dozen hotels, scores of restaurants, a campground, water parks, golf courses, miniature golf courses, two evening entertainment complexes, a shopping and daytime entertainment district, and a sports complex. Whew! WDW is magical and a wonderful place to visit, but it's also complicated and often crowded as well. The unprepared visitor can easily be overwhelmed and left with less than magical memories of long lines, heat and sunburn, exhaustion, expensive food, crying kids, and frazzled nerves. Don't let that happen to you! With proper planning, any WDW visit can be fun from beginning to end. This book is dedicated to giving you the insider tips, practical advice, and customized flexible touring plans you need to have one of the best vacations of your life. So take a quick breath and jump right in. . Basic Rules for Touring 1. Don't try to do everything. Each theme park, with the possible exception of Disney's Animal Kingdom, is too large to experience fully in one day. If you come to WDW intending to experience every attraction, you'll probably be disappointed. Furthermore, you'll quickly reach sensory overload, that point during the day when the kids are crying and you're no longer having fun. 2. Get to the park early, and take a break in the afternoon either back at your hotel for a rest or swim - or in the park itself (see touring plans). This approach will provide the most time-efficient method for visiting the more popular attractions and let you recharge during the afternoon break. Furthermore, you'll prevent sensory overload and avoid the worst of the afternoon heat. If you decide to sleep in, just pick up the appropriate touring plan later in the morning (a few steps before lunchtime) and try to catch the more popular attractions with FASTPASS (see Good Things to Know About, above), during the parades, and/or in the hour before closing. 3. If you go later. . . If you're visiting WDW to play golf or attend a conference, go to the parks after your morning recreation and follow the afternoon and evening portions of the appropriate touring plan(s). To avoid the longest lines, try to experience the more popular attractions during parades or in the hour before the park closes. Also, use the FASTPASS or singles line options when available (see above) to minimize your waits for some popular attractions. 4. Don't wait in long lines. A long wait is more than 15 to 20 minutes. Current attraction wait times are posted on park Tip Boards (sometimes inaccurate) and in front of most attractions (usually accurate), or you can ask the Disney attendant. Waiting in queues can be exhausting, especially for children. As you follow the touring plans, the lines may become unbearably long later in the morning or early afternoon. At this point, you have several alternatives: You can use the FASTPASS and singles line options; you can skip down the touring plan to less congested attractions, or you can leave the park you're in and switch to another (if your ticket allows), in essence combining touring plans for different parks on the same day. Just pick up the next park's touring plan at an appropriate point. The act of switching parks will also provide a break of sorts, by offering you a change of scenery. 5. Relax! You'll encounter many hyperkinetic vacationers in the theme parks, running to and fro, dragging crying kids behind them, jostling for position before parades and character greetings. Some of these folks

don't get to WDW very often and are trying to pack too much into too short a time. Are these people really having fun? Avoid them if you can and seek quieter surroundings. 6. Avoid sunburn, dehydration, and exhaustion. If you start losing steam, seek a rest area (consult the list of rest areas for each park in the appropriate chapters), take some refreshment in a cool place, or leave the park for your hotel. Drink frequently, even if you or your kids don't feel thirsty. Bring or rent a stroller for kids six and under. Note: The larger double strollers are more difficult to maneuver around the parks (especially when the parks are crowded). 7. Don't tote bulky purchases around with you. All the shops in the theme parks will send bulky and heavy purchases to a package pickup area near the park exit at no extra charge. If you're staying on property, they'll deliver them right to your door, again at no charge. 8. Bring small snacks, such as gum or mints, into the parks in your shoulder bag or fanny pack. They come in handy between meals. 9. Use the touring plans. Convince your family, before you enter the parks, of the benefits of following the plans you'll find in the upcoming chapters. They will minimize waiting while offering maximum opportunities for experiencing the best of WDW. They should also prevent time-consuming and sometimes emotional arguments and discussions about what everyone wants to do next. Convince your kids that they will meet plenty of Disney characters during their visit, so hopefully they won't stop in their tracks every time they spot one. On the other hand, if your child seems desperate at times and the line for the character isn't too long, go ahead and queue up. If there's a specific character you want to find, ask at any Guest Relations. Strategies: The touring plans take busy periods into account and suggest strategies for dealing with them whether you are staying on property or off. One strategy is to arrive early, visit until the park becomes too crowded for comfort, and then switch to another, less crowded park if your ticket allows. Another is to give yourself a time out by taking a rest break in the park itself. Either way, later in the day your time is best spent enjoying the least crowded attractions (see Attractions with Minimal Waits (Usually) in Chapters Two to Five). Tip: On really crowded days, plan to visit Epcot. It is large enough and offers enough shows to accommodate crowds enjoyably even when Walt Disney World is packed. Note: Some children do better if they visit Magic Kingdom last. If they experience it first, they may not enjoy the other parks quite as much because they may expect all of WDW to be just like the MK. 10. Keep your camera readily available. Consult the park Guidemaps for picture spot locations that you may come upon as you follow the touring plans. Be alert for the many special picture moments that will inevitably happen. Note: See Bringing the Magic Home, below, for photo-taking tips. 11. If you get around WDW by car (recommended), write down your parking location on a piece of paper that you keep with you. Or take a digital photo of your car's row number and section. Do this every time you park your car, even at the hotels. 12. Be ready for surprises. Attractions are periodically updated, changed, or closed for refurbishment. Times, schedules, shows, and parades vary continually. Furthermore, attractions occasionally break down, and inclement weather may cause cancellation of parades or temporary closing of certain rides. If you paid for any special show that was cancelled or shortened because of bad weather, always ask at Guest Relations for a ticket refund or a voucher for a future show. Note: This book is current as we go to press, but don't be dismayed if you encounter a few surprises during your vacation. Even the Guidemap you pick up at the park entrance occasionally has erroneous information. Ask a cast member (Disney employee) if you have questions. .

"The Hassle-Free Walt Disney World Vacation" is a terrific guidebook." -- Sandy Fenton, Host
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From the Publisher
Have fun at Walt Disney World Resort theme parks anytime of the year, even the most crowded days when you know how to plan each day to see as much as possible without getting frazzled, frustrated or stuck in long lines. Who better to guide you than someone who loves WDW a real person who lives nearby, visits every chance he gets, and wants to share his expertise so that you can have as much fun as he does. Author Steven M. Barrett has field-tested every single tip and tactic in this book, not just once or twice but as often as every week over many years. The result Touring plans that actually work! You will find: Flexible, detailed touring plans customized to the specific interests of adults and teens, families with younger children, and seniors all refined and updated for 2003. Plus alternatives for dealing with the unexpected. Insider tips least crowded bathrooms best resting places attractions with minimal waits shady spots for viewing parades what to bring where to eat how to have maximum fun with minimal stress. PLUS Tips for taking great photos Offbeat, fun activities for repeat visitors to enjoy At-a-glance ratings of more than 70 WDW sit-down restaurants plus tips for getting seated with minimal waits. If you follow Steve's recommendations and touring plans, you will be as prepared as possible for a successful voyage to WDW. Enjoy!
From the Author
No doubt about it, Walt Disney World is one of the most entertaining places anywhere. Yes, I admit it, I'm a rabid WDW aficionado. I have yet to find a ride or attraction at WDW that I didn't enjoy, and I've experienced all of them many times. I began trekking to this mecca of tourism years ago on vacations once or twice yearly. Now I live nearby and can explore the wonders of Walt Disney World Resort whenever I have the time (that is, as often as I can manage it). Early on, I noticed an anomaly as I wandered the parks. Despite the worldwide appeal of WDW, some visitors weren't enjoying themselves! Many of these folks had planned their monster vacation months ahead of time and weathered their kids' salivating impatience for weeks, only to arrive at WDW and quickly wither in the crowds, the heat, and the ubiquitous long lines. On a boat ride from the Magic Kingdom to Fort Wilderness, a man uttered a complaint that I've often heard at WDW: "This is

supposed to be a vacation? I've been here five days, and I'm more tired than when I left home. I don't feel like I've had a vacation at all!" I wondered: What could people do to enhance their WDW experience? Some of the answers are obvious and have been mentioned in other guidebooks. Some of the advice is not so obvious and is mentioned only in this book. What I've tried to accomplish in these pages is to give both first-time visitors and seasoned WDW pros the nuts and bolts tips and information for a hassle-free Walt Disney World vacation. This new 2010 edition contains updated touring plans, descriptions and ratings of new -- and established -- attractions, and a general update on Walt Disney World Resort that is current as we go to press. If you follow my recommendations and touring plans, you will be as prepared as possible for a successful voyage to WDW. Enjoy!