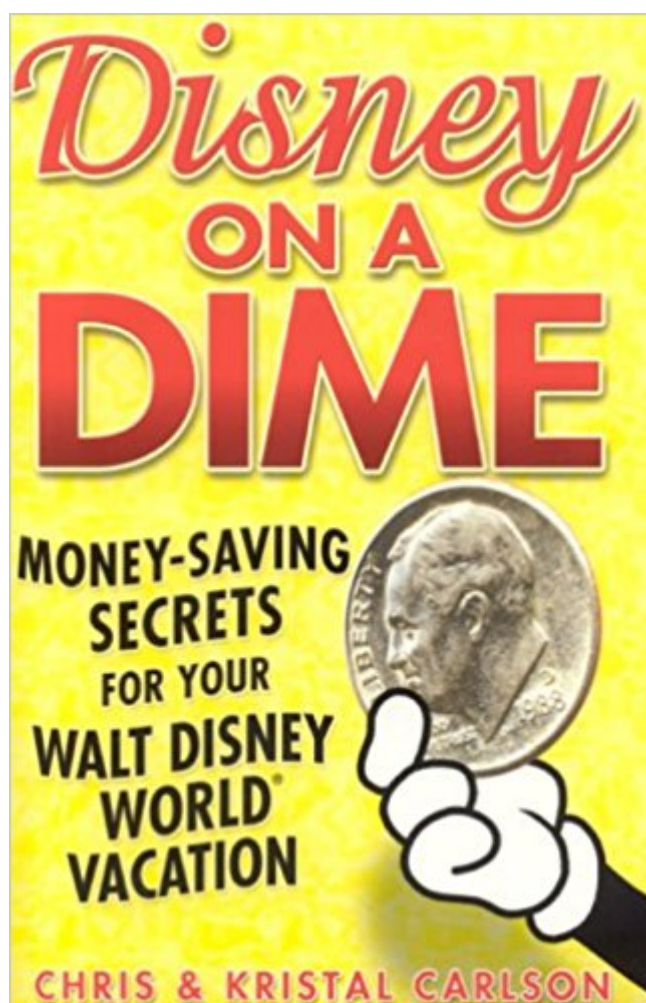


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# Disney On A Dime: Money-Saving Secrets For Your Walt Disney World Vacation



## Synopsis

You can afford the Disney World vacation of your dreams--if you know how to save for it, save on the way to and from Orlando, and save while you're there. The Carlsons, parents of four young children, know from repeated, firsthand experience that you don't have to spend thousands of dollars to have a Walt Disney World vacation. They share their money-saving strategies for accumulating the necessary funds and then getting the most for the least on travel, tickets, food, resort hotels, and souvenirs for the kids.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A great resource for frugal ideas to make a trip to Disney possible, or just for more ways to save. " -- Michelle Jones in BetterBudgeting.com, January 2006 "Budget traveler[s] looking for unique ways to cut the cost of their next Disney vacation should invest in a copy." -- Kimberly Button, BellaOnline's Budget Travel Editor, November 2005 "Covers all the basics to making a successful budget trip to WDW [The chapter on free activities] was a great read." -- Jason Dziegielewski in DisneyGeek.com, November 21, 2005 "If you follow their tips we are sure you can save money on almost every part of your trip. " -- BetsyAnn & SuzyQ, Tagrel.com The World on a Budget Forum, November 2005 "Invaluable as a planning tool for folks considering a first WDW trip." -- Kevin Yee in MiceAge.com, November 2005 "Think you can't afford...WDW, get a copy of this book and you may be surprised that you can." -- wdisneyw.co.uk, December 8, 2005 Complete with maps and phone numbers, DISNEY ON A DIME should be the first...vacation planning book you buy. -- Jennifer Brown in BookPleasures.com on December 2005 Travel Genre Not only helps you

save money, it also ... [gives you] all the information you need to plan your trip. -- USA Travel Magazine, January 3, 2007  
The book's strength is [the authors'] patient explanation of all the options you have among [Disney's] bewildering array. -- D.C. Stultz, goflorida.about.com, January 17, 2007  
This guide will provide you everything you ever wanted to know about saving money at Walt Disney World. -- Jennifer in MouseInfo.com on December 4, 2005

The Walt Disney World® Resort offers more to do in one location than any other place on earth. If you have never been there, you can believe all the hype about it that you've seen on TV or have heard from friends and family. It's a magical place, one that lives up to its nickname, the "Happiest Place on Earth," for millions of visitors a year. Less happily, you can easily spend a small fortune taking your family to Disney World. Worse, the hype and a quick glance at the prices may give you the impression that you have to spend an arm and a leg to enjoy a Disney World vacation. This is not true!!! Staying at Disney World's top resorts, dining in its most lavish restaurants, and buying all the merchandise it offers, would run you many thousands of dollars in a week's time. But those experiences are simply icing on the cake when it comes to enjoying WDW. You can have a great Disney World vacation without spending a cent on any icing. We know because we've done it, not once but nine times in ten years, with first two and now four children in tow. In this book we will break down what is vital for your vacation and what is not. We will show you how to save hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars on your Walt Disney World vacation. And we will help you make that vacation a reality by offering specific suggestions for cutting your everyday spending and for making extra money to grow your vacation savings account as quickly as possible. What "Disney on a Dime" Is NOT: • A traditional guidebook. • A book that describes the various parks in detail. • A book that tells you what rides are best, where to sit, and so on. • A book that shows you how to ride 40 rides in a day. • A book that talks about luxury resort options and ways to waste your money. What "Disney on a Dime" Is: • A book that offers hundreds of specific tactics and strategies for saving money for and on your Disney World Vacation. • A book that will help you get the most for every dollar you spend. You will discover, among other things: • How to cut your costs in half by being creative and knowing what you can and can't do. • How the ticket system works and how to use it to your advantage. • What loopholes exist in the system and how to use them to stretch your budget. You can reduce your vacation budget by at least \$200 by using just one of our tips and by thousands by using all of them. We guarantee it! (See page 223.)

Why We Wrote This Book We believe that no childhood is complete without a trip to Walt Disney World. So naturally, we wanted

our children to have that magical experience while they were still little and thought the characters (Mickey Mouse and friends) were really real and magical. When our two oldest children were small, though, money was tight. We had to find ways to cut expenses in order to go and we succeeded through trial and error. If we had relied on the cost information available online, and from travel agents and Disney, we would have given up before we started. We wanted to go to Disney World for five days and stay for seven nights. When we looked online we were quoted a price of about \$3,500 just for tickets, some food, and lodging; and this was almost a decade ago. We consulted a travel agent and got the same price. Instead of throwing our hands in the air, we looked around for a better deal. We decided to stay offsite, buy tickets on our own (rather than as part of a package), eat the majority of our meals at the hotel, and drive instead of fly. We calculated that if we did that, we could go for around \$1,400. We called another travel agent to see if he could beat that. He laughed at us on the phone: "Impossible!" And it was for him, but not for us. Since that successful experience, we have returned to Disney World many times and have found many more ways to save money and stretch our dollars. By trying out new tricks, keeping our eyes open, and sharing tips with other Disney-loving friends, we have discovered how to go several times a year with four young children and still spend less annually for all our Disney trips than some of our acquaintances spend for a single visit. Saving money isn't brain surgery; it is easy. You just have to be aware that there are options beyond those you see advertised. You don't have to live in the lap of luxury in order to have a good time. You can have a wonderful time at Disney World on the budget you can afford. In fact, you'll have a better time because you won't be worrying about how long it's going to take you to pay it off. After watching us take numerous trips to Disney World over the years, friends and acquaintances were constantly asking how we could afford to go so often. Many of them assumed that it had to cost several thousand dollars to make each trip and wondered if we had a secret source of income. A lot of them thought they would never be able to go even once because of the supposed huge expense. We decided we wanted to help people like us make their dream vacation a reality, and Disney on a Dime was born. How This Book Can Help You Disney on a Dime will help you save money and get more for the money you spend. If you have to watch every penny, you'll find the tips you need to make a Disney World vacation affordable. If you are fortunate enough to have a bigger budget at your disposal, you'll be able to stay longer and do more using the tactics we offer. We sincerely hope that our book can help families everywhere to make their vacation dreams a reality by stretching those hard earned dollars. Have a magical time!

many tips are common sense. didnt learn anything new with this book. thank god it was cheap or id never have bought it

this book was out of date and therefore useless

Used many of these tips to save big money on our trip. Book was written in 2006 so a few updates are needed but overall accurate info.

This book has lots of details and info to save money. It especially helpful for first time visitors or people who arent as familiar with Disney World. Lots of money savings tips, however some are more frugal than others. If some of these extremely frugal tips are the difference between going and not then definately read this book! There are tips for everyone!

Some good ideas, much of the saving ideas I already knew and have been doing for many years when we travel anywhere. But, the tips on using the wdw landscape to create photo's was great thought, activities that don't cost extra at the resort areas are all useful hints. thanks.

common sense was a waste of my dime for these silly Wal-Mart people to tell me on which day to eat a hot-pocket and which day to make a sandwich and not to waste all my money on souvenirs ... really? If you can't figure that out, you should pay full price for this book.

Seeing as how we're rabidly saving money for this trip, we have taken to more unusual date nights. Wanting to get out we headed to our local B and N, where I proceeded to pick up this book and read it, all of it. It was a fairly entertaining book - not much new really but well written and frankly once you've read one solid tour book on WDW (Like the Unofficial Guide) then you've read 80 percent of all of them. The book had a couple of good ideas sort of worth considering, but mostly it was just good for a laugh. Then again I prefer not to eat Peanut Butter and Jelly sandwiches for supper - saving a buck here or there is one thing, makin gmyself feel so deprived I would rather be at home then on my vacation is another. Regardless the book is certainly worth a read, but do it the way I did, in a nice comfy chair, with a late in one hand as you browse it at your local library or bookstore. After all, it's all about saving a buck right?

This book has some creative ideas and tips for attaining the worthy goal of affording a Disney

vacation. I am amazed by some of the negative comments. One man who criticized said the book should be for people who are "unfathomably cheap"...well hello, the book is called "DISNEY ON A DIME" what did he think, that it was going to be for people who could afford luxury accommodations? There are a lot of people who scrimp and save just to be able to afford their park admission, and this book is going to be helpful to them. Thank you to the authors. End of story.

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