

Jo's Monogram Vacations

5 Travel Mistakes People Make When Planning a Vacation

When it comes to planning a vacation, the internet can be a wonderful but overwhelming tool. With so many conflicting reviews, misleading pictures, and endless options, how can you be sure you're making the best choices for your next adventure? Here are 5 planning pitfalls that are the most common when researching a vacation:

☀️ **Copying what friends, coworkers, or family did on their vacation.**

Vacations are not a one-size fits all product! What works for your brother's family might not be a good fit for yours. Travel destinations and details are also very fluid, meaning what took place a year ago may no longer be available. Your vacation should be personalized to your individual wants and needs.

☀️ **Having unrealistic expectations.**

Have you ever thought of traveling during the holidays, thinking that crowds would be lower than usual? Have you ever expected your children to go an entire week in a different country without having a meltdown? Are you looking to visit Europe for some change you found in your sofa? If so, you probably have some unrealistic expectations for your vacation. It's important to understand the destination you have in mind, the time of year you plan to travel, and a healthy budget to make your dreams a reality.

☀️ **Not leaving room to improvise.**

It's tempting to plan every single moment of your vacation - after all, you've been saving up and looking forward to this trip for months or even years! However, having too much of a regimented itinerary can wear you and your traveling companions down. Sometimes the best vacation memories are made when you make a spur of the moment decision to do something off-script!

☀️ **Booking online.**

Online booking engines like to boast that you're getting the best rate for a trip, but what are you REALLY paying? By booking online, you're foregoing personalized service and recommendations, and you're not even saving any money. If there is an issue with your flights, hotels, or activities, you won't have any recourse if you booked on a travel website instead of with an actual person.

☀️ **Not taking an extra day off after vacation to rest up!**

Vacations are amazing, but sometimes they're exhausting! You'll definitely want to give yourself some time to recuperate before heading back to work or school after your adventure. In between loads of laundry, this is a great opportunity to look back over your pictures together and reminisce about the memories you made!

I help busy families go on their dream vacations so they can make memories together, and I'd love to do the same for you! My goal is always to save you time, stress, and money so that you can simply look forward to your vacation. Email me at jo@josmonogramvacations.com to get started on your next adventure!