





# TOPDECKER, meet North America

Switch your brain into holiday mode, grab your tropical print shirt and prepare for guaranteed good times on this 8 day trip through fabulous Florida. Kickstart the adventure with a handful of incredible days spent in the happiest place on earth (aka Walt Disney World and Universal Studios in Orlando) before we meet with buff bodies, art deco and eternal sunshine in Miami. Pack your bags - we'll see you there.

### WHAT YOU **NEED TO KNOW**



Play & Pause



**Nights** 



Download app



Meals

# Thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

Ready for the time of your LIFE?

The countdown's on...

# **ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES**

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – from where to meet your Topdeck fam to what we suggest you bring.

#### **INCLUDED EXPERIENCES**

- Everglades airboat experience
- Driving tour of Miami

Read them on the train, in the supermarket queue or on the loo – we don't mind, just look through them carefully so you know what to expect on your trip. We recommend you download this document so it's with you when you travel (and give a copy to your MVPs so they know what you're up to).

| <b>IMPORTANT:</b> please refresh this doc as close to your departure to-date info available. | as possible. This means you'll have the most up- |
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## YOUR ITINERARY

### DAY 1 | ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Orlando is the complete package. Bundles of amusement parks, a stack of über cool museums and more will keep you busy before you meet the group in the evening. It's going to be an awesome eight days!



#### **MEALS:**

Dinner

### DAY 2 I ORLANDO

Forget about that thing they call 'adulting' - with all today's optionals, you're free to act like the big kid you really are. Spend the day with Mickey and co at Walt Disney World, check out Universal Studios and unleash your inner movie buff or make like a rocket and blast off to Kennedy Space Center. The choice is yours. Note: popcorn and over-priced souvenirs are essential.



#### **OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

- Visit Universal Studios Orlando
- Visit Walt Disney World
- Visit Kennedy Space Center

### DAY 3 I ORLANDO

Ready for round two at the happiest place on earth? Or, if you need a break from roller coasters and frolicking mascots, take a walk and check out Orlando's buzzing art scene. Brace yourself for another fun-filled day. Warning: you might never want to leave...



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Visit Universal Studios Orlando
- · Visit Walt Disney World
- Visit Kennedy Space Center

### DAY 4 I ORLANDO TO MIAMI

We've got a jam-packed day to keep you on your toes with an Everglades airboat experience, a Miami city tour and a tasty Cuban dinner to round things off. To make your first night in Miami something special, make like a local and see what the notorious nightlife is all about.



#### MEALS:



#### **INCLUDED TODAY:**

- Dinner
- Everglades airboat experience
- Driving tour of Miami

### DAY 5 I MIAMI

Another day in the land of art deco, neon, eternal sunshine and tasty Cuban fare. Use your free time to explore downtown Miami, Little Havana and more - or hop on an optional speedboat ride and check out the city from the water. Trust us, you won't be short of things to eat, see and do.

**MEALS:** 

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Breakfast

Miami speedboat

### DAY 6 I MIAMI TO FLORIDA KEYS

Flawless beaches, snorkelling and scuba diving - we must be in Florida Keys. This famous chain of islands along the southern tip of Florida is yours to explore, so (wet) suit up and dive in.



#### **MEALS:**

- Breakfast
- Dinner

### DAY 7 | FLORIDA KEYS

Wave bye-bye to dry land with an optional all day sailing adventure in paradise. Grab a snorkel and get up close and personal with the coral reef, or get adventurous with jet skiing, parasailing, kayaking and more.

**MEALS:** 



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Breakfast

· All day sailing adventure

### DAY 8 | FLORIDA KEYS TO MIAMI

There's just about time for one last breakfast before we make our way back to Miami, where the trip ends. Forget the tears – just start planning the next adventure of a lifetime.



#### **MEALS:**

Breakfast

## MEALS

Your included meals are detailed in the 'Included Essentials' section of this document.

Breakfasts (usually continental breakfasts) are included most days. A typical continental breakfast may consist of cereals with milk or yogurt, bread, croissants, cold meats, and cheese - with fruit juice, tea or coffee to drink. It is rare to get a hot breakfast, though on some occasions some hot food may be available.

Included meals will be provided at local restaurants and the accommodations in which we stay. In most cases, table water is provided with meals. If you wish to purchase additional drinks, you can do so at your own expense.

If you have any dietary requirements, we'll make every effort to cater to your needs – as long as you advise your travel agent or Customer Service Consultant when you book. You can also make a note of dietary requirements in the Topdeck app when you check-in.

| <b>PLEASE NOTE:</b> Although we'll do everything in our power to cater to your needs, we cannot guarantee this will be possible in every restaurant we visit. We also cannot cater to tastes or dislikes, as most of our included evening meals feature a set menu. |  |
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# OTHER INFORMATION

### TOPDECK APP

Feeling appy? Download the Topdeck app and get PUMPED for the adventure ahead. Best bit is: from 45 days before departure you'll be able to chat with your soon-to-be tripmates.

Plus, get your itinerary at your fingertips – so you know where you'll be going and what you'll be doing on each day of your trip. Nice!

Links:

Apple https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/topdeck/id994727866

Android https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.FlexiTechSolutions.TopDeck&hl=en





## YOUR SAFETY

#### **NIGHTS OUT**

We love a good night out – experiencing the nightlife and entertainment places have to offer is a big part of travelling. But alongside the fun it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety.

When you're out late, remember to avoid walking alone – particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. Make sure you have your trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking – and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

#### **DRUG USE**

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Customers should not bring any illegal substances onto the Topdeck coach or into any of the accommodation we stay in on our trips. This includes marijuana – even if it is legal in some of the states your trip passes through. If you are found in possession of drugs, you will be removed from the trip immediately. All instances of drug possession will be reported to Topdeck Head Office, who may consider alerting the relevant authorities.

REMEMBER: if you are found in possession of drugs, not only do you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if they are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you don't want that to happen to any of our Drivers – they're awesome.

#### MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Culture shock, homesickness, random periods of feeling down – these things happen and are totally normal. You can rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Topdeck crew will do their utmost to cheer you up.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- Call home. Sometimes it's nice to hear a familiar voice and have a good old-fashioned catch up with your loved ones
- Eat well. Never underestimate the power of a good, wholesome meal. Nobody feels at their best when they're hungry!

- Drink responsibly. Not only will you swerve the dreaded hangover, but by keeping an eye on what you drink you could also avoid getting into any potentially uncomfortable situations
- Talk to your Trip Leader. Don't forget, they're probably far from home too so they're sure to know some tried- andtested ways to beat the blues
- Integrate with your fellow Topdeckers. This one is key! The more fun you're having on your trip, the less likely you are to feel homesick (fact!)

#### **TRAVEL SINCE COVID-19**

Travel looks a bit different since COVID-19. That's why we've put some new procedures in place to help keep you safe on the road.

What remains the same? Your Topdeck trip will be run hygienically, responsibly, and with your safety at the forefront of everything we do. End of.

Here's the info: https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/travel-safely

# RESPECT ON THE ROAD

#### RESPECTING FELLOW TRAVELLERS

Our trips are for everyone. We're a family – and we want every Topdecker to have an incredible time.

What we're not about is excluding people or making them feel like they don't belong. That's why we always encourage Topdeckers to be kind and courteous to their fellow tripmates. The golden rules? Respect each other's space, be mindful of causing excessive noise in shared accommodation, and treat others how you'd wish to be treated. Easy!

#### **HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE TRAVELLER**

Responsible travel isn't difficult to achieve. With a little conscious thought and preparation, you can have an awesome adventure AND a positive impact on the places you visit. Sweet!

Here are five things you can do to ensure you're travelling responsibly:

- Conserve water. You know the drill reuse your room towels, take short showers and remember to turn off the tap when you're brushing your teeth
- Reduce your waste. Ditch the plastic bag, refuse unnecessary packaging, dispose of your waste responsibly and recycle as much as possible
- Go local. Hunt down locally owned and operated restaurants and bars, shop in local markets, and book tours and activities run by local guides
- Consider the wildlife. Avoid any attractions that involve closely engaging with wild animals
- Respect local people and culture. Obeying local laws is a given but also remember to dress and behave in a manner appropriate to the community. Be polite and keep an open mind!

# **INSURANCE**

Before your trip departs, it's compulsory for all passengers to take out comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation, medical expenses (including repatriation), loss or damage to baggage and personal belongings, money and personal liability.

Got more Qs? Chat with our Customer Service team: https://www.topdeck.travel/about-us/contact

### PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Please make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your trip. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your trip's departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling. Check out our handy interactive map showing global visa requirements:

https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/latest-border-restrictions

PLEASE NOTE: some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure, as requirements do change periodically.

### **TIPPING**

Your Topdeck Trip Leaders and Drivers never expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. We also know how much tipping can cost you. So go ahead – spoil yourself with the money you save travelling with us (just don't forget Mum's souvenir).

#### **TIPPING CULTURE IN NORTH AMERICA**

In North America, tipping is customary. Please bear in mind that you will be expected to leave a tip for optional meals and activities, as well as

during nights out.

## WHAT TO BRING

Based on our experience, these items are key. Everyone's different though – so if you want to bring more or less, go for it (as long as you don't exceed your 20kg allowance, that is!).

Off to Japan? Your luggage must be no bigger than 160cm in total (height x width x length). So maybe leave the hairdryer at home.

Psst: this is a packing list for Topdeck trips in general. Obv you'd look silly splashing around the Greek islands in a snowsuit.

- 1 pair of comfortable walking shoes + 1 pair of smart casual shoes
- 1 pair of thongs/jandals/flip-flops
- 2 pairs of jeans/trousers
- 2 pairs of shorts/skirts

- 4 shirts/T-shirts
- 2 sweaters/jumpers
- Smart casual evening wear
- 1 warm jacket + 1 rainproof jacket
- Underwear and socks + swimwear
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Hat and sunscreen
- Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- Adaptor plug
- Reusable water bottle
- Snow gear

