**SUBJECT: 8 Money Saving Tips for Planning Your Next Vacation**

**1. Set a budget-** This will give you the parameters you need to work within when deciding how far you want to go and how long you want to stay.

**2. Determine the length of your vacation and your destination.** Are you looking for a vacation close to home, a cross-country trip or international tour? Your budget and your length of time you want to take off will determine this.

**3. Be flexible with travel dates.** Airplane tickets can vary by hundreds of dollars depending on the day of the week and time of day you choose to fly.

**4. Spend some time researching hotels.** Look at multiple booking sites for the best priced hotel with the best ratings. Some sites that offer deals are booking.com, kayak.com and expedia.com. When booking your hotel ask about special discounts such as AAA, senior, and military.

**5. Be flexible with your rental car.** Be flexible with the type of car you are renting and look for deals such as weekly rates. You can use the same site you used to book your hotel to find deals on car rentals.

**6. Eat local**. Instead of selecting chain or brand name expensive restaurants, do some research on local spots with the best food reviews. Depending on the type of accommodations, you may consider grocery shopping when you arrive to limit eating out. Packing picnics is always a fun and inexpensive option for families on a trip.

**7. Research local beaches, state parks and hikes.** These are usually low-cost or free activities that get you outdoors exploring the new area you chose to visit.

**8. Enroll in travel rewards programs.** Enrolling in travel rewards programs are free and can save you a lot of money especially if you do a lot of traveling. Enroll in hotel rewards programs and airline rewards programs to start collecting miles for free or discounted flights and rooms.

Planning a vacation and saving money at the same time can be a fun and rewarding experience. It takes just a little bit of research and planning to find the best deals while still staying in nice accommodations and eating great food.

Warmly,

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