

Carrentals.co.uk Family Travel Tips

No.2 - Travelling with Children

With the school summer holidays here, leading online car hire specialist Carrentals.co.uk offers some Top Tips to make the journey more enjoyable for children (and parents), as part of its Family Active 2007 travel tips series.

- 1) **Stop the Bus!** - Incorporate stop-overs into the journey at places of interest for the children and the parents. Disneyland Paris in France and Port Aventura in Spain are good examples, but with a little bit of planning there are plenty of interesting places to visit.
- 2) **Learn en route** - Travel is a good way to teach geography so read-up on what there is to see. Give kids a copy of the route map with key landmarks highlighted and use the map as a variation on a game of "Bingo" with prizes for spotting the sites.
- 3) **Snap Happy** - Provide children with a disposable camera so they can log the journey and make a scrapbook at the end of the holiday. This will keep them busy while travelling and keep them entertained once home.
- 4) **The entertainer** - There is no doubt that technology is playing a larger role in calmer family road trips. Computer Games like Game Boy can keep children entertained for hours, so make sure you have favourite games close at hand.
- 5) **Be prepared** - The Internet offers plenty of word search and crossword websites these days like www.bestcrosswords.com, so print off a few and take some small prizes.
- 6) **The MP3 era** - If music is key, there is now a fantastic range of MP3 players to suit all budgets and requirements. With music easily - and legally - downloadable from sites such as Napster, MP3 owners can create individual playlists to see them through the whole car journey and the rest of the holiday – or download a talking book or a foreign

language tutorial so children can practice speaking the local language before arriving at the resort.

- 7) **DVD to the rescue** - There is also a large selection of affordable, portable DVD players to choose from so children can watch anything from their favourite film to an educational programme.
- 8) **Traditional family fun** - Bit of a techno phobe? Many parents reach back into their childhood, teaching their children traditional car games like I Spy, and the perennial favourite, the License Plate Game.
- 9) **Play time** - Magnetic games are also good fun, from chess to snakes & ladders. It's a good opportunity for children to play together and helps beat off boredom.
- 10) **Timing** - Success for some is simply in the timing. Leave early and the children can sleep and when rush hour hits stop for breakfast and a break, then get back on the road once the worst of the traffic is over.

Disclaimer - These tips are not exhaustive and are for information only. Carrentals.co.uk can not be held responsible for any losses incurred as a result of acting on any information contained herein. We hope the tips are useful.

Useful websites –

Disneyland Paris – visit: www.disneylandparis.com or phone: 08706 06 68 00

Downloadable music site - www.napster.co.uk

Digital Audio Books – www.audible.co.uk