



Budget travel tips

www.holidaysfromhels.co.uk

Activities		
1	Blue Peter Badges	Submit a poem or drawing for free entry to 200 attraction for under 18's. https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/about-blue-peter-badges
2	Theatre	Free London Theatre tickets for kids in August https://officiallondontheatre.com/kids-week/
3	Free stuff in London town	Houses of Parliament family tour - kids free https://www.parliament.uk/visiting/visiting-and-tours/tours-of-parliament/family-guided-tours/
4		Sky Garden - free tropical rooftop garden with cafes and London view https://skygarden.london/
5		Art Galleries: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tate Modern- https://www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-modern

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tate Britain - https://www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-britain • National portrait - https://www.npg.org.uk/
6		<p>Museums:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imperial War Museum - weaponry and World Wars • Victoria and Albert, - best for costumes and its William Morris cafe • British Museum - from the Elgin Marbles to an Easter Island Head • Science Museum - for hands on interaction • Natural History Museum.- dinosaurs, crystals and meteors
7	Free fun park entry	<p>Woodlands Funfair in the woods</p> <p>River Dart Adventure playgrounds and high ropes</p>
8	National Trust	Buy an annual family ticket for access to country houses, castles, gorge walks and deer parks.

Travel

Train

1	Ticket alert	Submit your destination and date more than 3 months in advance for an email notification of the release of the limited edition cheapest tickets for your journey.
2.	Family Rail card	Family rail cards give you and the kids discounts on the London Underground too

Plane

3	Air miles	Collect British Airways Airmiles with American Express credit card for free companion flights
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4.	Free stop overs on long haul flights	Some larger airlines let you stop off for free on the way to a long-haul destination
5.	Flight release dates	The cheapest fares can be found about 6 months ahead of flight dates with Easyjet
Car		
6	Use a broker	Use Which? guide to find out which broker gets their latest award for service. Brokers tend to provide car hire at a fraction of the price of going direct.
7	Use a big company	Going through a well known name helps reduce the risk of being subject to false claims of car damage. Don't forget to photograph the car before you set off and when you return it for evidence.
8.	Insure your excess	Opt for a cheaper insurance deal with a larger excess, but then to insure the excess independently for about £20.
9.	Book in advance	Booking in advance can save you ££££.
10.	Get a DVLA code	Some countries require you to get a DVLA code 21 days before you hire a car to check for points on your licence.
11.	Research	Money saving expert . is worth its weight in gold.
12.	Car kit rules	Check the AA site for what in-car kit you need in each country (and complicated headlamp beam instructions).
Boat		
13	Discounted boat rides	Book your caravan holiday through Sun Holidays (see below), and get discounted ferry travel too.

Accommodation

1.	Discounted caravan holidays	Sun holidays - Several times a year The Sun newspaper runs a deal where you can collect 10 tokens and then get 3 or 4 nights away for £9.50pp off-peak (and £15pp in high season) at top caravan parks in the UK and across Europe. Breakfree website offers discounted caravan breaks.
2.	YHAs	Stay in family rooms in accommodation ranging from Grade 1 Listed mansions to bunk houses.
3.	Hotel reward schemes	For discounted prices and earn points which you can use as full or part payment against future stays. Pick a favourite to build up points with.
4.	Check Trivago	This site scans most of the discount booking sites and shows all available deals for your destination.
5.	Union discounts	Check your membership offers. Unison members get money off Unison Bay in Croyde.
6.	European campsites	Vacancesoleil is often the cheaper for the same accommodation as Europcamp and Canvas.
8.	Black Friday	Next November make a note to look at the Black Friday deals for the following summer.

Travel Money

1.	Fee-free credit cards	The Halifax clarity card (Mastercard) - no fees for international transactions.
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2.	Travel insurance	Often a family annual insurance policy is not much more than single trip cover.
3.	Cancellation	Check your cover. Not all policies will pay out for Air bnb cancellations.
4.	Social Media	Some insurers may refuse to pay out if you are burgled at home whilst you on holiday and have advertised your absence in a Facebook posting.

Food

1.	Wetherspoons	For free latte refills and cheap pub dinners
2.	McDonalds	Not for everyone, but vouchers on the back of bus tickets get you a Big Mac and Fries for £1.99
3.	Tesco Meal Deal	Saves bringing a packed lunch
4.	Pizza	For cheap but tasty sour dough pizza - for about £7 try Franco Manca
5.	BBQ	Always a good party option for family/group travel

Photos

	Photobooks	Create an annual photobook of your travels through Photobox. Look out for the 70% off for a 3 month credit in their Christmas sales.
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ADVENTURES WITH MY FAMILY