ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA
HAVE A BALL

Anyone who relates to Peter Pan’s wish to never grow up will love Anaheim, where playing and dreaming are a priority. This year Disneyland® Resort heightens the excitement with the Happiest Celebration on Earth, an ongoing celebration of its 50th anniversary. Relive a legendary adventure on Peter Pan’s Flight, a favorite Disneyland ride that takes little ones soaring through the air in a pirate’s galleon. Before you book your family’s fantasy, reread Peter Pan, and don’t miss the release of Finding Neverland, the film that tells the engaging story of author J.M. Barrie and his inspiration for writing Peter Pan. The critically acclaimed movie starring Johnny Depp is now on DVD.

714-765-8888; anaheimoc.org; disneyland.com

CAPE COD, MASSACHUSETTS
DREAM BY THE SEA

The allure of this rough 65-mile peninsula and the neighboring islands of Nantucket and Martha’s Vineyard is the diversity. The distinct personalities of the area’s 15 towns make them unique, from stylish Chatham and low-key Orleans to artsy Wellfleet and bohemian Provincetown. Martha’s Vineyard is a juxtaposition of opposites, its rural ambience balanced by towns abuzz with restaurants, galleries and shops. The yin-yang energy of the island extends to the characters in Summer Sisters, Judy Blume’s insightful novel about two girls with wildly different personalities who bond during summers on the Vineyard.

capecodchamber.org

IOWA
INSPIRE YOUR IMAGINATION

Wind along one of Iowa’s 13 scenic byways and see that the pastoral beauty of this part of our country even extends to its cities. In Cedar Rapids, the Indian Creek Nature Center features 210 acres of restored savannas, prairies and woodlands. Dyersville is home to the Field of Dreams, the imaginary cornfield immortalized in Shoeless Joe by W.P. Kinsella and constructed here for the movie Field of Dreams. The book has a magical message couched in an all-American story about baseball. Whether you are seeking peace and serenity, a unique taste of America’s favorite pastime, or wide open space and sunshine, you’ll find it in Iowa. 888-472-6035; traveliowa.com

Wyoming
GET BACK TO NATURE

The Cowboy State is home to Grand Teton and Yellowstone, two of the country’s most impressive national parks. Set your wilder side free in these gorgeous, wide open spaces: go hiking, rock climbing, mountain biking, river rafting or just take in the spectacular scenery. Ranching and rodeos have long been a way of life in Wyoming, from Cody to Cheyenne. Mary O’Hara beautifully captured a portrait of one ranching family in My Friend Flicka, the classic story of Ken and his horse, Flicka, and their struggle for approval and acceptance. This fascinating family drama is a children’s book that adults will enjoy too.

800-225-5996; wyomingtourism.org

WYOMING
FLORIDA ISLANDS
ESCAPE TO THE TROPICS

Year-round sunshine, a tropical climate and water temperatures in the 80s make Florida’s numerous islands irresistible. In the northeast, Amelia Island has a gem for eco-travelers: Fort Clinch State Park, a 1,121-acre nature sanctuary. On the west coast, Anna Maria Island and Longboat Key envelop visitors in the laid-back seaside lifestyle. Farther south, Sanibel and Captiva Islands are exquisite getaways with crystal-blue water and extraordinary places for shelling. It was here that Anne Morrow Lindbergh first began the lyrical Gift from the Sea. This renowned book about love, marriage, youth and aging is a must-read for any woman seeking a meaningful life.

Amelia Island: 800-2AMELIA; ameliaisland.org
Florida Gulf Islands: 941-729-9177; flagulfislands.com
Sanibel/Captiva: 239-472-1080; sanibel-captiva.org

WASHINGTON, D.C.
EXPLORE THE PAST

No matter how familiar you are with Washington, D.C.’s landmarks, it’s always an awe-inspiring experience to tour the National Cathedral, the White House, the Smithsonian and the National Gallery of Art. Nearby cities of Williamsburg, Alexandria, Leesburg and Gettysburg, all packed with historical sites and activities, make fun day trips. Kids of all ages can learn interesting facts about our nation’s history from Ghosts of the White House. In this enchanting book by Cheryl Harness, George Washington materializes from his White House portrait to give Sara a grand tour that includes meeting the ghosts of thirty-five other presidents.

800-422-8644; washington.org, VisitLoudoun.org, funside.com

PET TRAVEL

Check out these tips to make your vacation enjoyable for EVERY member of your family.

PRIOR TO TRAVEL

• Schedule an appointment with the veterinarian before traveling to make sure your pet is healthy enough to endure the trip.
• Before you leave, call all places you will be staying to make sure your pet will be welcome and that there will be proper accommodations.
• Change your animal’s tags to include the numbers where you will be staying.
• Familiarize your pet with the carrier in which it will be traveling. Make sure the carrier is large enough for your animal to stand up and move around.

GETTING THERE...

By Air: In order to board a plane with your pet-in-tote, your animal must be small, and at least eight weeks old. Also, obtain a permit that is no more than ten days old that allows your pet to fly, and keep your animal’s rabies vaccination certificate with you.

By Car: Make sure your pet is comfortable with car travel. Secure the carrier in the car. Have food and water accessible and stop every two hours.

TAMPA, FLORIDA
GET READY FOR AN ADVENTURE

Of course you can relax on a sparkling beach in Tampa—but you can also get an adrenaline rush by jet-skiing, parasailing, or skydiving; go to Busch Gardens for some thrilling rides; take a streetcar to Channelside for shopping; spend an afternoon browsing galleries; or catch a Devil Rays or Lightning game. At night, live music and chic bars and restaurants cater to every taste and mood. Triggerfish Twist, by Tim Dorsey, paints a picture of Tampa that’s wilder and wackier than any you’ve ever seen. This zany crime novel featuring Serge Storms and other colorful characters reveals Florida’s more eccentric side. Explore the Florida of Florida: 800-331-6701; gh.VISITFLORIDA.com. Taste Tampa for yourself: 800-448-2672; visittampabay.com

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GHTravel.com