ROAD TRIP · UNITED STATES

Florida with kids

Five nights among Orlando's theme parks, rockets at Cape Canaveral, the Keys, the Everglades and the beaches of St. Pete.

Length	17 days, 16 nights
Distance	1,370 km, 7 driving days
Behind the wheel	19 h 10 min
Travellers	2, 1 room, 1 car
Hotels	Comfort: a good hotel (3 stars)
Flights	Amsterdam – Orlando (MCO), Tampa (TPA) – Amsterdam

CONTENTS

Orlando	Days 1–5	**8**
Cocoa Beach	Days 6–7	**10**
Miami Beach	Day 8	**12**
Key West	Days 9–11	**14**
Naples	Days 12–13	**16**
St. Petersburg	Days 14–16	**18**

Day by day

DAY	DATE	NIGHT	KM	DRIVE	°C
1		Orlando	20	20 min	
2		Orlando			
3		Orlando			
4		Orlando			
5		Orlando			
6		Cocoa Beach	100	1 h 20 min	
7		Cocoa Beach			
8		Miami Beach	320	4 h	
9		Key West	270	4 h 10 min	
10		Key West			
11		Key West			
12		Naples	380	5 h 50 min	
13		Naples			
14		St. Petersburg	240	2 h 50 min	
15		St. Petersburg			
16		St. Petersburg			
17		Flight home from TPA	30	30 min	

1,370 km · 19 h 10 min behind the wheel · on average 200 km a driving day

Kilometres and drive times by road (OSRM, OpenStreetMap), without stops: plan generously.

The route



Map: US Census Bureau (public domain) · roads © OpenStreetMap contributors

ON THE ROAD

Day 1	Land at Orlando (MCO), drive to Orlando · About 20 km (10 mi), 20 min
Day 6	Orlando, drive to Cocoa Beach · About 100 km (60 mi), 1 h 20 min
Day 8	Cocoa Beach, drive to Miami Beach · About 320 km (200 mi), 4 h
Day 9	Miami Beach, drive to Key West · About 270 km (170 mi), 4 h 10 min
Day 12	Key West, drive to Naples · About 380 km (240 mi), 5 h 50 min
Day 14	Naples, drive to St. Petersburg · About 240 km (150 mi), 2 h 50 min

Well prepared

ESTA

Dutch and Belgian travellers need no visa for a holiday of up to 90 days, but do need an approved ESTA before boarding. It costs about $40, is valid for two years (or until your passport expires) and is applied for online. Apply at least 72 hours before you fly, and only on the official site.

esta.cbp.dhs.gov

Passport

An electronic passport (with the chip symbol), valid for the whole stay. Children need their own passport and ESTA.

nl.usembassy.gov

Driving licence

Your Dutch driving licence is accepted for renting and driving a car as a visitor. An international driving permit next to it helps with police and some rental desks.

anwb.nl

Renting a car

The renter is the main driver and pays with a credit card in their own name (no debit or prepaid card); the deposit is held on it. Usually from 21, and from 21 to 24 you pay a young-driver fee of about $25 a day. Book from home with insurance included (CDW/LDW and extra liability, SLI) and an extra driver if you want to take turns. Returning the car elsewhere (a one-way trip) costs extra. Fuel is sold by the gallon (3.8 litres); fill it up yourself before you bring it back.

Driving in the USA

Keep right; speeds are in miles an hour (65 mph is 105 km/h). Turning right on red is allowed after stopping, unless a sign says no. At a 4-way stop, whoever stopped first goes first. For a stopped yellow school bus with flashing lights you stop in both directions. Toll roads are often electronic only: ask your rental company about its toll pass. On remote stretches (parks, desert) there's little signal and a long way to the next pump: fill up at half and download the map.

Renting an RV

You can rent an RV from about 21 with an ordinary car licence. On top of the rent, count on mileage (often per mile), a kit with bedding and kitchen things, cleaning and the campsite: in the popular parks you book those months ahead on recreation.gov. Big RVs aren't allowed on every park road. Take photos of the RV when you pick it up: damage and missing items are the most heard complaint.

recreation.gov

National parks

Most big parks charge per car. Visitors from abroad pay $100 a person extra at 11 popular parks; the annual pass for non-residents is $250. Some parks need a timed-entry reservation in high season.

nps.gov

Money and tipping

Prices are without sales tax, which is added at the till. In restaurants a tip of 15 to 20% is usual. Cards are accepted almost everywhere; at the pump you may be asked for a ZIP code, so pay inside.

Travel insurance and health

Care in the USA is very expensive: take travel insurance with worldwide medical cover, and check whether your health insurance covers the USA. Cancellation insurance covers the trip if you can't go; insure the rental car with the rental company (see Renting a car). Take medicines in their original packaging, with a prescription in English. Emergency number: 911.

Power, phone and time

110 volt with flat two-pin plugs (type A/B): bring an adapter. A US eSIM is cheaper than roaming. The mainland has four time zones, Arizona mostly without daylight saving time.

Customs

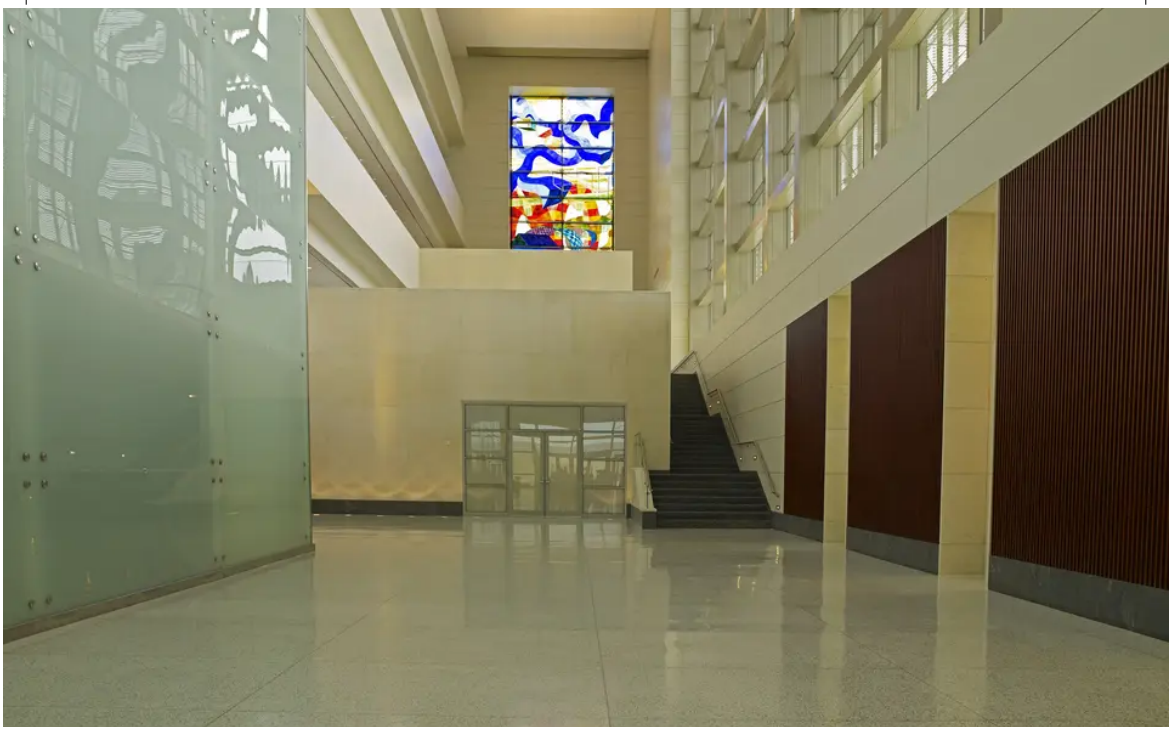
Fresh food, meat and fruit may not be brought in. Declare food you carry.

Packing list

- [ ] Passport (valid for the whole trip)
- [ ] ESTA, printed
- [ ] Driving licence (and an international one)
- [ ] Credit card in the driver's name
- [ ] Travel and cancellation insurance
- [ ] Confirmations: flights, car, hotels
- [ ] America the Beautiful pass for the parks
- [ ] Plug adapter for type A/B (110 volt)
- [ ] Car charger and phone holder
- [ ] eSIM or offline maps
- [ ] Sunscreen, sunglasses and a cap
- [ ] Water bottles for the desert
- [ ] Hiking shoes
- [ ] Layers: the coast and the nights get cold
- [ ] Medicines, in your hand luggage
- [ ] A pen, for this booklet

DON'T FORGET

Notes



DAYS 1–5

Orlando FL

Disney World, Universal and a day at the pool

Land at Orlando (MCO), drive to Orlando: about 20 km (10 mi), 20 min

5 nights

DON'T MISS

- Magic Kingdom and Epcot (Walt Disney World)
- Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure
- Gatorland

With an extra night

Another park day: SeaWorld, or Volcano Bay to cool off.

EXCURSIONS

- [ ] Walt Disney World, 2 days — roughly €260 a person
- [ ] Universal Orlando, 2 parks, 1 day — roughly €190 a person

HOTEL

- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites Orlando Airport at Gateway Village · 3★ — roughly €120
  5460 Gateway Village Cir
- [ ] Celebration Suites · 3★
  5820 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy
- [ ] Hilton Vacation Club Grande Villas Orlando · 3★
  12118 Turtle Cay Circle
- [ ] SpringHill Suites by Marriott Orlando at SeaWorld · 3★ — roughly €120
  10801 International Dr
- [ ] Holiday Inn Express & Suites Orlando At SeaWorld by IHG - With Free Shuttle Service to SeaWorld F — roughly €120
  10771 International Drive

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DAYS 6–7

Cocoa Beach FL

Rockets at Kennedy Space Center

Orlando, drive to Cocoa Beach: about 100 km (60 mi), 1 h 20 min

2 nights

DON'T MISS

- Kennedy Space Center and Space Shuttle Atlantis
- Cocoa Beach Pier

COCOA BEACH · DAYS 6–7

EXCURSIONS

- [ ] Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex — roughly €80 a person

HOTEL

- [ ] Moon Beach Manor w/ Private Pool & Hot Tub! · 3★
  9 Francis St
- [ ] The Drift · 3★
- [ ] The Inn at Cocoa Beach · 3★ — roughly €180
  4300 Ocean Beach Blvd
- [ ] Coco Sands Studios · 3★
  1381 South Orlando Ave
- [ ] Courtyard by Marriott Cocoa Beach Cape Canaveral · 3★ — roughly €260
  3435 N Atlantic Avenue

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DAY 8

Miami Beach FL

Beach and a stop on the way to the Keys

Cocoa Beach, drive to Miami Beach: about 320 km (200 mi), 4 h

1 night

MIAMI BEACH · DAY 8

HOTEL

- ☐ Waldorf Towers South Beach · 3★ — roughly €320
  860 Ocean Drive
- ☐ Hotel Belleza · 3★ — roughly €180
  2115 Washington Avenue
- ☐ Moxy Miami South Beach · 3★ — roughly €390
  915 WASHINGTON AVENUE
- ☐ Grand Beach Hotel Bay Harbor · 3★ — roughly €420
  9601 East Bay Harbor Drive
- ☐ Henrosa Hotel · 3★ — roughly €240
  1435 Collins Avenue

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DAYS 9–11

Key West FL

The Overseas Highway, snorkelling and Mallory Square

Miami Beach, drive to Key West: about 270 km (170 mi), 4 h 10 min

3 nights

DON'T MISS

- John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, on the way at Key Largo
- The Turtle Hospital at Marathon
- Sunset at Mallory Square

KEY WEST · DAYS 9–11

EXCURSIONS

- [ ] Snorkelling trip to the reef — roughly €60 a person

HOTEL

- [ ] Orchid Key Inn - Adults Only · 3★ — roughly €850
  1004 Duval St
- [ ] Almond Tree Inn - Adults Only · 3★ — roughly €900
  512 Truman Ave
- [ ] Ambrosia Key West · 3★ — roughly €850
  622 Fleming St
- [ ] The Marquesa Hotel · 3★
  600 Fleming Street
- [ ] Island City House · 3★ — roughly €430
  411 William Street

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DAYS 12–13

Naples FL

An airboat through the Everglades

Key West, drive to Naples: about 380 km (240 mi), 5 h 50 min

2 nights

DON'T MISS

- Everglades City and the Ten Thousand Islands
- Naples Pier, with dolphins at sunset

NAPLES · DAYS 12–13

EXCURSIONS

- [ ] Everglades airboat tour — roughly €50 a person

HOTEL

- [ ] Staybridge Suites - Naples - Marco Island by IHG · 3★ — roughly €230
  9401 Triangle Blvd
- [ ] GreenLinks Golf Villas at Lely Resort · 3★
  7995 Mahogany Run Lane
- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites Naples South · 3★ — roughly €200
  5146 Tamiami Trail East
- [ ] Home2 Suites By Hilton Naples I-75 Pine Ridge Road · 3★ — roughly €230
  3685 Kramer Drive
- [ ] TownePlace Suites by Marriott Naples · 3★ — roughly €200
  5425 JULIET BLVD

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DAYS 14–16

St. Petersburg FL

White beaches and shell hunting

Naples, drive to St. Petersburg: about 240 km (150 mi), 2 h 50 min

3 nights

DON'T MISS

- Fort De Soto Park
- Clearwater Marine Aquarium
- Clearwater Beach

With an extra night

A day at Busch Gardens in Tampa.

EXCURSIONS

- [ ] Clearwater Marine Aquarium — roughly €40 a person

HOTEL

Name, address, confirmation number:

NOTES

What it costs

DAY	PLACE	HOTEL	TOURS	CAR	TOTAL
1	Orlando	€160	–	€60	**€220**
2	Orlando	€160	–	€60	**€220**
3	Orlando	€160	–	€60	**€220**
4	Orlando	€160	–	€60	**€220**
5	Orlando	€160	–	€60	**€220**
6	Cocoa Beach	€160	–	€60	**€220**
7	Cocoa Beach	€160	–	€60	**€220**
8	Miami Beach	€160	–	€60	**€220**
9	Key West	€160	–	€60	**€220**
10	Key West	€160	–	€60	**€220**
11	Key West	€160	–	€60	**€220**
12	Naples	€160	–	€60	**€220**
13	Naples	€160	–	€60	**€220**
14	St. Petersburg	€160	–	€60	**€220**
15	St. Petersburg	€160	–	€60	**€220**
16	St. Petersburg	€160	–	€60	**€220**
17	Flight home from TPA	–	–	€60	**€60**

Flights	€1,700
Hotels	€2,560
Excursions	€0
Car hire	€1,020
Total	**€5,280**
	€2,640 a person

An estimate to plan with (prices of 2026-10): hotels, the ticked excursions, car hire and flights. No fuel or meals.

Notes

About this booklet

Made on rondreis.expert. Your trip is still there, to change and print again: usa.roundtrip.expert/tours/florida-with-kids/

PHOTOS

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MAP AND TYPE

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