

Staying off-site in Orlando: Our suggested 7 night itinerary

You can still enjoy the best that Universal Orlando and Walt Disney World Resort have to offer whilst staying off-site. Here's our recommended itinerary to enjoy the thrills of the rides coupled with other Orlando attractions, and some important relaxation time too!

HIGHLIGHTS

Universal Orlando Resort • Walt Disney World Resort • Kennedy Space Centre • Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores • Orlando Magic

DAY 1:

- Fly direct to Orlando or Tampa with Virgin Atlantic from Heathrow, Manchester, or Edinburgh
- When you arrive at the airport, if you've hired a car, then the pick-up should be simple, and you can head to your hotel in no time. We've got lots of hotels who have free parking – all our Rosen hotels and Delta Hotels by Marriott Orlando Celebration are particularly great options!
- Unpack and spend your evening relaxing at your hotel with some dinner and an early night, ready for an early start in the morning.

DAY 2:

- Start your first day with a bang, and head to your preferred Walt Disney World Park ready for when the park opens. If you're staying at either of the Wyndham Lake Buena Vista resorts, you can get Early Access to the parks, along with free shuttle service to the parks. Additionally, lots of our hotels also do shuttle service to save you driving to the parks and paying for parking.
- Use your Genie service to manage your morning in the parks, booking lightning lanes to beat the queues on your favourite rides.
- After lunch, choose whether to park hop to another Walt Disney World Resort Park (you can use the complimentary Walt Disney World transportation to do so), or if you need some chill time, head back to your hotel/villa for some relaxation by the pool.
- If you're staying at a self-catering property, such as one of our villas, then pop to your local Walmart and grab some bits for a BBQ. Alternatively, if you're on International Drive, take a wander on the i-Ride trolley to one of many restaurants – whatever food you fancy, they will have it!

DAY 3:

- Wake up leisurely and eat breakfast at your hotel followed by some leisure time. A dip in the pool, a game of table tennis, or simply relaxing in the sun with a book could be in order.

- Head out for lunch in Kissimmee old town. Here there are shops to explore, restaurants to dine in, and plenty of free events and shows to catch up on – a great way to spend a few hours as a family or a couple.
- Head back to your hotel for a shower and a refresh after a day in the sun, and then grab a shuttle service or drive to Disney Springs (the parking is free). You could enjoy Cirque du Soleil®, a bit of bowling, or there's plenty of live music (House of Blues is our favourite). And of course, there's so many eateries to choose from when it comes to dinner and drinks.

DAY 4:

- Let's venture slightly out of town. Pick up a 'Grab and Go' breakfast from your hotel, a coffee, and get on the road to Kennedy Space Centre. It takes just under an hour to get here by car, and if you haven't hired one, you can book a ticket with a transfer included.
- Enjoy exhibits, displays, and the best part of all – the astronaut encounter – so make sure you remember your camera, and some questions about what's it's like to enter space!
- On your way home head to an Olive Garden if there's one nearby, you get so much food for your money!
- Return to your hotel for a post-dinner cocktail at the bar.

DAY 5:

- Set your alarm early – it's time for some more rides. Get to Universal Orlando Resort early and start with Islands of Adventure. Run straight to The Wizarding World of Harry Potter™ - Hogsmeade™, before the queues get too heavy, and then try out the new Jurassic World VelociCoaster.
- There's plenty of food options at Universal Resort Orlando, you could head to CityWalk for a host of options and a bit of shopping after too whilst you let your food go down.
- Now choose your next Universal Park. If you're in the mood for more rollercoasters, then Hollywood Rip Ride Rockit™ is a classic at Universal Studios. If you're needing some downtime, a butterbeer at the Leaky Cauldron is a great option. Alternatively, you could pack your swimmers and spend the afternoon at Volcano Bay where the thrills can continue, and the water will be a welcome cool down in the heat.
- As you're already nearby, International Drive is a great place to spend your evening – if you haven't taken your car to Universal then an Uber will be quick and easy to get you there.
- Pirates Cove Adventure Golf or The Wheel at ICON Park are nice family activities to enjoy here. If it's just the adults, there's karaoke at the pub or cocktails at Bahama Breeze or Margaritaville. Whatever you pick, it's sure to be a fun-filled evening in this entertainment hot-spot.

DAY 6:

- It was a busy day yesterday, so relaxation is on the agenda today. Enjoy a bit of a lie-in then a classic American breakfast at Denny's – there's plenty around.
- For golf enthusiasts, head to one of the Championship courses in Lake Buena Vista. Alternatively, if you're staying somewhere with a spa then

enjoy a treatment, or if you're with the little ones, let them splash around in the pool whilst you top up your tan.

- Come the evening, check out Orlando Magic's schedule to see if they are playing in the NBA. With interactive fan areas, half-time entertainment, and children's play areas, it's fun for all the family. You can even upgrade to ultimate seating to include food and beverages for an all-inclusive, edge-of-your-seat experience.

DAY 7:

- It's your final full-day – so what better than a trip to the beach (yes, you can visit the beach when you're in Orlando!). Daytona Beach is just an hour's drive by car. Here there are watersports, speedway events, go-karting, and even a water park – so you can pick the activities that are best suited for you.
- You're not short of food options here too, and a stroll along the sand after a waterfront lunch will be perfect.
- Head back to Orlando to where you're staying to recharge for the evening.
- When you're raring to go again, visit your favourite Walt Disney World Resort Park for the show – will it be Fantasmic at Hollywood Studios or Happily Ever After at Magic Kingdom? What a lovely way to spend your final evening in Orlando.

DAY 8:

- After breakfast, pack up your bags and check-out of your hotel.
- There are a few different options for shopping in Orlando, with Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores and Orlando Premium Outlets being two of the most popular.
- From clothes to accessories to toiletries (don't miss Bath & Body Works!) you should be able to grab some great bargains and souvenirs to take home with you. The outlets always have a food court or two as well, so you can grab a bite to eat whilst you're there. Or you could head to Cheesecake Factory after to end your Orlando trip with a true classic!
- When you've shopped 'til you've dropped, head to their airport and drop off your car before returning home! Time to book your next trip already!