



Make Your Family Reunion Special

According to the Travel Industry of America, timeshare owners remain among the most frequent travelers, year after year. While many families make difficult budgetary decisions when the economy is tight, timeshare owners make time away a priority, as a “discipline of vacationing”. Now, more of these travelers want to share their vacation experiences with extended family.

From spacious accommodations to activities for everyone, many travelers are turning to timeshare products as vacation options for family reunions. *Take Time for Togetherness* offers travel options and suggestions to help make family reunions fun, affordable and stress-free.

Learn more about family reunions at www.VacationBetter.org

Talk to Your Family

Like any major event, communication is a key component to planning the reunion. With families being spread out, it increases the challenge. Luckily, there are some great online resources that can be used as your communications clearinghouse for the family. There are several websites/resources that can help you including myevent.com and triphub.com. Using these will help everyone stay involved without placing too much burden on one person.

Select the Right Time of Year

Is it more likely that you'll get people together over the summer or the Christmas/winter holidays? It's important to understand when your family can take the time to participate in the family reunion. Some families prefer ski vacations in the winter, others opt for the beach and still others are happy to meet somewhere in between so that everyone can be accommodated.

Surveymonkey.com can give you a tool to create a quick and easy survey that you can send to everyone on your extended family list to determine the best time and place to go. Be sure to leave enough lead-time to do the proper amount of planning. It's often difficult to find the perfect date for everyone, but starting a year in advance is usually enough time for everyone to sync calendars.

Who to Invite

One of your first jobs is to decide whom you want to include in your family reunion. Do you want to invite aunts, uncles and cousins or just your immediate family? How many can you easily track down? The number of people on your guest list will be a factor in many of your other early decisions, such as location and activities. In general, the more people you have, the more planning you'll have to do.

How Long Do You Want to Be Together?

The length of a family reunion is an important decision and is best answered by consulting as many family members as you can. For families who live close to each other, a few days may be plenty of time to share the fun activities, visit and social aspects. However, if most of the people must travel a significant distance, a longer stay is often warranted and welcomed!

Now that you have some of the basics planned, let's take a look at where you can go and what you can do when you're there!





Convenience

How far will guests have to travel to get to your location? If a number of them will have to travel by air, consider holding your family reunion in an area that is convenient to a major airport. A location that's accessible and easy to find means that more people will likely attend.

Accessibility

Do you have people with limited mobility attending your reunion? Elderly relatives in wheelchairs or young children in strollers? Make sure that the location you choose will comfortably accommodate everyone who will attend.

Affordability

Travel budgets can be a significant factor for most family reunions. Make sure that the location you choose fits into your budget, as well as that of your relatives.

Accommodations

People attending family reunions want both togetherness and privacy. Having a resort that enables shared mealtime and social time, while providing private sleeping accommodations and bathrooms, can go a long way in making everyone happy. Timeshare resorts offer the perfect balance of living accommodations for large groups.

Features and Activities

Recreational activities such as boating, swimming, golf and camping can be fun when incorporated into a family reunion. People attending from outside the area may enjoy a location with nearby museums, historic sites, amusement parks, sports facilities and other attractions. Find a location that makes your reunion less of a meeting and more of a destination.

Take Time for Togetherness: Decide Where to Go!

When choosing your location, look into several options so as to find the perfect one for your group.

From spacious accommodations to a variety of activity-types, many travelers are turning to timeshare products as vacation options for family reunions. Timeshare continues to provide an experience for large families to be together while still retaining some personal space to unwind.