Frequently Asked Questions about All-Inclusives

Can't wait to get the details? Check out our Frequently Asked Questions about all-inclusive resort vacations.

Preparation

What is the difference between an all-inclusive resort and an all-inclusive plan?

All-inclusive resorts provide vacations where the cost of the room includes all your meals, beverages, taxes and tips, and on-site activities, which vary by resort. Some traditional resorts and hotels feature All-Inclusive Plans—an option that includes meals, drinks, and taxes in the room price. Some of these plans also include activities, which vary by resort.

How much cash should I carry?

Most meals, beverages, activities, and gratuities are covered in the cost of an all-inclusive resort. Expedia recommends that you take credit cards and adequate cash for gifts and activities outside the resort, and be sure to check each resort for the specific details of what's included.

Are all-inclusive resorts kid friendly?

Many are—it depends on the resort. Beaches and Dreams resorts are designed for families while Sandals resorts are aimed at couples looking for romantic settings. To find the best children's programs, check out the amenities section of all-inclusive resort reviews on Expedia.

Is a passport required?

Passports are now required for all U.S. citizens traveling to or from any international destination by air, except for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Expedia recommends that every traveler have a passport. For more information on passport requirements, please visit http://www.expedia.com/daily/service/visa.asp

Can I book last minute?

Yes. In fact, an all-inclusive vacation is one of the best types of vacations to book at the last minute because it's possible to find special sales and deals. And, since all your vacation details are taken care of, you'll have the best time ever! Once you see how effortless it is to book and enjoy an all-inclusive resort vacation, you'll be hooked.

Can I book a wedding and/or honeymoon at an all-inclusive resort?

Yes, most all-inclusive resorts offer wedding and honeymoon packages. In addition to providing an exquisite setting, experienced event planners help you with all the details so that you and your spouse can enjoy each other and your guests on your big day.

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Costs

Are all-inclusive resorts expensive?

All-inclusive resorts offer exceptional value for your vacation budget, by including everything in one price. Resorts and prices vary widely by trip types, level of luxury, and activities. If you were to calculate the cost of a typical resort vacation, itemizing every meal, drink, and activity, you’d realize what an outstanding value an all-inclusive resort can be.

Save even more on your vacation by booking a package on Expedia, including air fare with your all-inclusive resort.

What is included in an all-inclusive resort?

Each all-inclusive resort has its own unique flavor and specialties; for specifics, please consult the Expedia resort listings. In general, most all-inclusive resorts include the following:

- Accommodations
- All meals
- Beverages—alcoholic and non-alcoholic
- Activities like non-motorized water sports such as kayaking, snorkeling, parasailing, and windsurfing
- Taxes and tips
- Entertainment such as nightclubs, theme parties, music, dance, and performances

What is NOT included in an all-inclusive resort?

Please consult the Expedia resort listing for the specifics of each all-inclusive resort. In general, most all-inclusive resorts do not include the following:

- Baggage handling at the airport
- Off-site tours and activities
- Gift shop items and sundries
- Spa services

Or, call 1-800-EXPEDIA to talk with a travel specialist and book your trip.

How do I find the best value in an all-inclusive?

All-inclusive resorts are an excellent value because your meals, drinks, and many activities are included in the price of the room. In addition, you'll love the ease of planning your vacation, and peace of mind that all the details are handled by professionals.

To choose the perfect all-inclusive for you, identify the type of resort that suits your needs (family, adults only, etc.) and then choose several locations that fulfill those requirements. If you are anxious to go immediately, check Last Minute Deals on Expedia. If you are planning ahead, check Expedia often for special promotions and offers.
Is tipping required?

Most all-inclusive resorts include gratuities in the price. However, it's best to check the policy section of the all-inclusive review on Expedia to be sure.

What to Expect

Is there a dress code?

Most all-inclusive resorts are “vacation casual.” Shorts, swim-suits, t-shirts, and resort wear are recommended. However, if you plan on dining at one of the upscale restaurants, men will need slacks; collared shirt, and closed-toe shoes, and ladies are asked to wear dress slacks, skirts, or dresses.

What are some common activities at all-inclusive resorts?

Most all-inclusive resorts include: daily and nightly entertainment, tennis, snorkeling, sailing, windsurfing, kayaks, paddle boats, swimming pools and hot tubs. Some resorts also offer scuba diving and lessons, water skiing, parasailing, golf privileges, and much more.

How crowded do resorts get? Will I be able to have any privacy?

All-inclusives offer the same privacy as other superior resorts and hotels. At an all-inclusive, however, you have many activity options that are available to you as a guest, plus pools, beaches, and oceans!

Can I participate in tours or activities outside the resort?

Yes; however, you should consider bringing cash or credit cards to cover these expenses. Check with your concierge to see if they offer help in booking non-resort activities.

What type of dining is available?

Most all-inclusive resorts provide a tantalizing variety of cuisines, from casual buffets for a quick bite, to gourmet Italian or French restaurants and delicious local specialties. To compare dining information, check Expedia for details on each all-inclusive resort that interests you.