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# Bring your Dream Holiday to life

Everything you need to know about  
booking your dream trip

We've all been there: dreaming about that once-in-a-lifetime trip you've always wished for, but instead settling for another long weekend camping excursion. Camping is a wonderful and adventurous getaway, but wouldn't it be nice to finally fulfil all of your travel dreams? This year, instead of settling for the same old, same old, it's time to expand your horizons and discover everything this incredible country has to offer. But where do you begin?

This e-book will explore all the necessary considerations to planning your dream holiday and provide you with all the tips and tricks to turn that dream into a reality, today.

We'll look into:

- Planning
- Types of Holidays
- Budgeting
- Booking the 'extras'
- How to make the most of your trip
- Packing tips

Before you know it, you'll be packing your bags and on your way to a destination you've only ever dreamed of.



# Planning Your Dream Trip



Let's be honest, the planning portion of a holiday can be incredibly exciting—the anticipation alone is almost as good as actually going on the trip—so we want to make the most out of this stage.

When you're planning a holiday there are quite a few items that will need to be considered prior to actually booking. Planning is really the marriage of two incredibly important elements: research and requirements.

Perhaps you've always dreamed of eating and drinking your way through the winding roads of the Barossa, a Caravan Outback excursion, Great Barrier Reef boating adventure or maybe you're not sure which destination you'd like to explore. Either way, it's impossible to make a decision without doing your research. When you're researching you'll need to consider the following:

**Time of year:** Every location has an ideal time of year for tourists, if you haven't booked your leave yet then it's important to determine when is the best time to go. It should be noted that resorts are frequently more reasonably priced during the off-season if you'd like to get a great deal.

**Activity Level:** Are you craving pure relaxation or are you interested in getting your adrenaline pumping? This could dictate the location you land on.

**Who will be joining you:** It's key to note who will be joining you on this trip. You'd be looking at very different inclusions if you were bringing little ones than you would if it was a romantic getaway for two or a party destination with a group of friends.

**Getting around:** Do you want to be within walking distance to restaurants and bars? Do you prefer to rent a vehicle? Is public transport important? Are you afraid of flying? Transportation is an essential part of holiday planning.

**What do you aim to get out of this:** Memorable photos? Improved health and wellness? A calm state of mind? A crazy memory? More cultural awareness? Every holiday you take has a different impact on your real life. Ask yourself what kind of impact do I want this trip to have on me?

When you're doing your research, make sure you're also addressing any additional expectations you may have such as, a resort with a spa, a casino, a fancy rental car etc. These are all important items that when added together should create a trip of a lifetime.



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# Types of Holidays



Another incredibly significant consideration is determining the type of holiday you envision for yourself. No, we're not talking about activity level again, we're talking strictly about the format of your holiday. It's important to determine what exactly you've always visualised when dreaming of your picture perfect holiday.

There are four main types of holidays one typically undergoes:

1. **Resort/Hotel Holiday:** here we're talking about a four or five star resort with room service available, in-room spa, and all the amenities you can imagine. You'll likely want to zoom up to this fancy destination in a shiny new vehicle.
2. **Hotel/Motel Holiday:** maybe you're not interested in all the extras but you still want to experience the great 'resort' locations and all they offer, outside of the motel/hotel.
3. **Boating Holiday:** if you dream of deep blue oceans, outstanding sights and sunbathing by the waves this could be the trip for you.
4. **Adventure Holiday:** whether you're in the mood for a cross-country road trip, an outback caravan trip or biking through the countryside, an adventure holiday means you're more interested in the experience than you are in the amenities.

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# Budgeting



When planning a holiday, budgeting is an absolute must. Whilst this is decidedly the least exciting part of holiday planning it's also the most essential.

There are many options you can choose when budgeting for your holiday that simplify the process for you. You can budget a variety of ways, whether it's via an excel spreadsheet, utilising an app on your phone, purchasing budgeting software, utilising a website platform or the good old fashioned pen and paper method. Whatever you decide to utilise it's important that you create an all-inclusive budget and that you stick to it.

Some budgeting tips:

- When you begin creating a budget you should put together approximate costs for all aspects of your trip. This includes the major costs such as accommodation, airfare, vehicle hire and tours but you should also create a daily budget as well. Your daily budget will address items like food, activities, entry fees and spending money. Lastly, you'll need to include some buffer in case of emergencies. It's always better to prepare for the worst than to be caught in a sticky situation.
- Save money today but cutting out some extras you don't need like that gym membership you haven't used in a year or cutting back on fancy restaurants and opting to cook at home. There are plenty of ways to save money and bulk up your spending money for your trip at the same time.
- Try to give yourself a deadline. Aim to have saved enough money for your trip approximately one month prior to take off. This way, any money you save in that last month can be considered bonus money and you can spend your last few weeks before vacation just getting excited rather than stressing about your financial situation.



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Remember there is always a way to get exactly what you want. So if you're starting to worry that maybe you'll have to compromise on that Outback Caravan Trip with a long weekend at the beach, think again. At Finance Ezi we pride ourselves on our ability to help our clients achieve their wildest dreams. With over a decade of experience we know all the ins and outs of financing and can help you move in the right direction by finding financing that works for you!

From Caravan and car financing through to boats and bikes, we'll help you with any of your recreational financing needs. There's no such thing as impossible when it comes to your dreams!



## Before you book



Now that you've determined exactly the type of holiday that you want, created your budget and obtained financing for your recreational transportation needs, you're almost ready to book! There is only one last item that will need tackling: determining the extras.

Not sure what we mean by extras? These are all the fun little activities that will take your trip from great to amazing or photo-worthy to picture perfect.

Many activities require booking beforehand and you don't want to miss out so make a list of all the extras you want to do on your trip and get in contact with the companies that facilitate them. This will ensure you don't miss anything and the more you can pay for in advance, the more spending money you'll have during your holiday!

Once you've determined all the details of your trip, it's time to book!

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# Making the most of your trip



This is the time to put up your feet and relax. You've taken care of all the details and all you have to do now is count the days until your holiday. But, before you completely relax, it's important to do a few more things to ensure you make the most of your trip—don't worry, they're 'ezi'.

1. Pack enough medication. If you take any medication it's important to fill those prescriptions early so you have enough to last you the length of your trip, there is nothing more annoying than needing to take time away from your holiday to handle a mundane must-do that could have easily been handled before hand.
2. Don't forget your camera! Let's be honest, this trip is going to be amazing and you'll want something to document it.
3. Organise someone to watch your house. If your plants need water, your dog needs walking or your mail needs to be collected it's important to handle these details beforehand so you don't have anything to worry about once you're away.
4. Create a loose itinerary. You don't want every moment of every single day planned but it's good to have an idea of what you'd like to experience and when.
5. Prepare your new recreational transportation. Whether it's fueling up the new convertible, taking the luxury cruiser out for a test ride or packing the caravan with all of your necessities you need to make sure you're prepared for anything!
6. Consider travel insurance. It's never a bad idea to be prepared and there are many travel insurance options that are reasonable but also comprehensive so you don't have to worry. The more you can do before take-off to ensure you enjoy every moment of your trip, the better off you'll be.

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## It's time to pack your bags!



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Here are a few quick tips to make sure you don't miss any of the essentials:

- Pack in groups. Create packing lists in groups i.e. one list for all of your necessary electronics (chargers, iphone, ipad etc.), one list for all of your clothing, one list for all of your toiletries and one list for all of your entertainment (a pack of cards, tickets, passes, etc.).
- Pack clothing by outfits. It's frustrating when you have a great top but no matching bottoms or shoes to go with it. If you're putting an item into your bag make sure you're able to use it. It's also handy if you are able to pack outfits that can be used for more than one purpose.
- Bring a day-pack and an overnight pack. This could also be your carry-on and checked luggage. You'll likely find that you need a small bag to bring items you'll use during the day and a larger bag for everything else.

You've now done everything possible to prepare for the trip of a lifetime and it's time to enjoy it! Don't forget to snap as many photos as you can and soak up every minute of your dream holiday.



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Drop us a line today to see how we can help you reach your finance goals.  
Call **1300 003 003** or visit [www.financeezi.com.au](http://www.financeezi.com.au)

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