

# DISNEY TIPS!

## FOOD & DRINK

- You are permitted to bring snacks and drinks into the park as long as drinks are not in a glass container. Water bottles can be refilled at the food locations with counter service (or at a water fountain- but the water from fountains is not always the best tasting). Bottles of water sold in the parks range between \$2.50- \$3.50 depending on size, plus tax.
- Prepackaged snacks or fruit can be taken into the parks.
- At EPCOT, Club Cool is located in Future World and has free soda pop from around the world. Very few things at Disney are free and this is one place where people can drink all that they want for absolutely no charge. To purchase pop is typically \$2-\$3.50 - plus tax.
- In addition to sharing meals, students can also save money by purchasing kids meals. The portions are pretty good and the cost savings is significant.
- Counter service menus list the combo meals - entree with a side. If a student is not using a voucher and wants to save a little money, they can ask to not have the combo...taking off the fries or coleslaw or whatever can save a couple of dollars.

## PHONES

- There are places in counter service seating area where you can find outlets and people can charge phones. Not always guaranteed to be in a convenient location, but in case of a dead battery, students have charging options.
- While waiting in line for rides, if students are inside (like IN Space Mountain) the phone & internet reception is typically bad...don't wear down batteries trying to post a picture or anything.

## RIDES / SHOWS/ CHARACTERS

Disney employees are all around the parks with iPads and they can set up fast passes...once students get their tickets, they may want to see one of they employees to set up passes for the rest of the days at the parks.

- If lines are really long and students are in a small group, they may want to consider going in the single rider line. This is a line that goes faster (usually), but you don't get to ride with your friends...they put single riders in with odd number groups. But, it gets you on rides faster.

-Students should be sure to get a map and schedule of events each day so that they can be sure to make it to any shows that they may want to see. Also, you can ask where and when particular characters will be, if someone has a favorite. Mickey, Minnie, etc. have regular photo spots in each park. But, other characters have specific locations and times (ie- Pochahontas can be found at Conservation Station in Animal Kingdom, Mulan at certain times in EPCO)

### ITEMS TO CONSIDER:

- A cinch sack backpack is ideal...because the top closes with the strings, items are secure inside. Accommodations for bags are made on rides, so it is not a big deal to have a backpack with you while going on rides.
- If a student is planning on renting a locker, and is on a budget, be aware that lockers range from \$8-\$10 dollars per day with an extra \$5 deposit.
- Students may wish to bring a \$1 rain poncho (can be purchased at the dollar store). They are small, compact and inexpensive....and can easily go in a cinch sack backpack without adding bulk. If it rains, ponchos at Disney are \$7-\$9 - plus tax. They are better quality than dollar store ponchos, but not really something most people want to spend money on. Besides rain, a poncho can be put on if a student is riding a water ride and does not want to walk around soaked the rest of the day (or wet in the evening when it is getting cool).

### • GIFT CARDS

- Parents may want to consider buying a couple of Disney Gift cards for their child to use while in the park. They are easy to use and kids don't have to worry about losing cash. Also, gift cards can be purchased at Giant Eagle and the parent will get fuel perks ...every little bit helps!