

Dreaming of an All-Inclusive Vacation? Here Are 5 Big Mistakes to Avoid

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If you've never stayed at an [all-inclusive family resort](#) or sailed with an [all-inclusive cruise line](#), the concept might seem equal parts appealing and overwhelming. What's really included in the price? Do meals need to be planned out in advance? What kinds of activities are offered for kids? Will the vacation feel highly scheduled or stress-free?

Yes, there are choices to make and details to understand when choosing an all-inclusive resort. But good planning can help ensure a memorable and enjoyable [family vacation](#), whether it's your first time staying at a resort where everything's included or you're a regular guest to one of these resorts.

Here are five mistakes travelers often make when staying at an all-inclusive resort, plus tips for how to avoid them.

2. Failing to Fully Research What's Actually Included

Some all-inclusives offer access to sister resort properties, giving you even more bang for your buck. "At the [Divi and Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusives](#), our guests have full exchange between the two hotels," says Cynthia Powell-Gosse, Director of Strategic Development for the Resorts. "[Guests can] stay at one and eat and play at both with no restrictions."