Five Exciting Family Trips

AROUND THE WORLD

By Sally Mansour

Some pool fun at one of the El Gouna hotels.
Photo: Zolakoma from Flickr.

1 EL GOUNA, EGYPT

Let's begin with an exciting local destination, El Gouna resort town located on the Red Sea coast. This seaside destination has become a very popular vacation spot in recent years. Your family can enjoy the various sandy beaches and lagoons in all-year-round sunny weather. Coupled with that is a range of entertaining activities. Art classes and workshops are given in art cafés, go-karting can make a thrilling afternoon activity. And for some adrenaline pumping for the whole family there is the recently introduced 'El Gouna cable park' offering water activities such as wakeboarding and waterskiing. A range of cuisines available in the Marina and Downtown restaurants will keep everyone's appetite satisfied.

2 COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

Our next destination located in Northern Europe, is a truly attractive city. In addition to being extremely safe and aesthetically beautiful, Copenhagen has an interesting selection of activities making it a great family getaway. You can start off with a visit to the 'Blue Planet', the largest aquarium in northern

Incredible sculptures at Copenhagen Sand Sculpture Festival. *Photo: Guillaume Baviere from Flickr*

Europe designed to make visitors feel they are underwater. Next you can head to the 'Experimentarium', a large science museum featuring interesting and interactive games and displays. You wouldn't want to miss the second oldest amusement park in the world, the 'Tivoli Gardens'. There you'll find thrill rides, vintage carousels and tasty snacks from traditional food stalls. And if you plan a vacation around summer make sure you visit the shoreline of 'Havnegade', which hosts the Copenhagen Sand Sculpture festival featuring remarkable sand structures.

3 HAWAII, USA

More and more family resorts are springing up on the Hawaiian Islands, adding to the attractiveness of this breathtaking destination. Hawaii has a range of islands to choose from, the most popular is the island of Oahu where the city of Honolulu is located. For

Some surf fun for the kids. *Photo: Mance from Flickr.*

good dining options and a nice walk on the beach, the 'Waikiki' area is perfect for that. The 'North Shore' is the most famous spot for ocean sports where you can watch incredible wind surfers riding the waves. An exciting place to visit is the Honolulu Zoo, housing more than 900 animal species, lush gardens and tropical flowers. A hike up 'Diamond Head', a former volcano, is a great outdoor physical activity for the whole family and you will end up with some great panoramic pictures of the whole city.

4 HONG KONG, CHINA

This destination is packed with many things to see and do. To fully experience the city in a fun way take the ferry ride to Victoria Harbour and the tram ride up to The Peak, offering amazing views from high above. Hong Kong features two parks that cannot be missed. One is the marine themed 'Ocean Park' and the other is the famous Disneyland. In between those excursions are many attractive shopping places

Impressive aquarium at Ocean Park.
Photo: Jonathan Leung from Flickr.

to visit such as Toy Street and exotic street food to try out such as fish balls, pineapple buns and sticky rice pudding.

5 CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

This city will bring you an adventure-packed vacation like no other. Start at the very top from Table Mountain to get unbelievable views of the city, which is accessible by cable car. Next on the list, go picnicking among the mountains and wildlife at the Cape of Good Hope. Let the kids get firsthand experience with local penguins at Boulders Penguins Beach. Enjoy the sun and sand at the many beaches available along the Cape Town coastline, such as St James and Fish Hoek beaches. And complete this exotic vacation with a three to four day safari at one of the famous spots outside the city, such as Addo National Park or the Kalahari Reserve, which both provide kid friendly safari activities.

Penguins at Boulders Beach.
Photo: Marti McFly from Flickr.

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