CAMPING • ROAD TRIP • BUDGET TRAVEL

Short Trip Planner

The Comfortable Camper
2 to 4 day trip printable

TRIP OVERVIEW

Destination: _____ **Trip length:** (2) (3) (4) days

Dates: _____ **Forecast:** _____

Who's going: _____ **Trip theme:** _____

Our one big goal for this trip: _____

TRIP BUDGET

Total trip budget goal: $ _____ **Per day: $** _____ (total ÷ days)

Category	Planned ($)	Actual ($)	Notes
Campsite fees (nights × rate)			
Reservation fees and extras			
Gas and tolls (from Road Trip page)			
Groceries and cooler snacks			
Ice and firewood			
Activities, park entrance fees, rentals			
Eating out and treats			
Gear to buy or borrow			
Emergency cushion (10 to 15%)			
TOTAL			

MONEY-SAVING IDEAS (CHECK WHAT YOU'LL TRY)

- ☐ Camp Sunday through Thursday if you can
- ☐ Pick a one-tank trip close to home
- ☐ Check for fee-free days and discounts
- ☐ Cook at camp and pre-chop at home
- ☐ Plan free activities (hikes, trails, stargazing)
- ☐ Borrow or rent gear before you buy

My own money-saving trick: _____

TRIP NOTES

_____

_____

_____

Choose Your Campground and Campsite

COMPARE CAMPGROUNDS

Fill in 2 or 3 options, score each one from 1 to 5, then circle your pick. Always confirm current rates before you book.

	Option A	Option B	Option C
Campground name			
Drive time from home			
Price per night			
Reservation or booking fee			
Where to book (site or phone)			
Restrooms and showers			
Water, electric hookups			
Fire rings and firewood rules			
Pets, quiet hours, check-in/out			
Cell signal			
Things to do nearby			
Score (1 to 5) / OUR PICK			

CAMPSITE CHECKLIST

Best for a cabin tent. Use when you book or arrive.

- ☐ Flat, level ground
- ☐ Big enough for my tent footprint (measure it!)
- ☐ Good drainage, not in a low spot
- ☐ Some shade, and wind protection
- ☐ Parking spot fits my vehicle
- ☐ Picnic table and fire ring
- ☐ Close to restrooms and water
- ☐ Privacy from neighbors
- ☐ Away from busy roads and lights

BOOKING DETAILS

Campground: _____

Site number: _____

Confirmation #: _____

Check-in time: _____

Check-out time: _____

Total cost: $ _____

Phone: _____

Cancel by: _____

CAMPGROUND NOTES

_____

_____

_____

STEP 3

Road Trip Plan and Cost

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Know your gas bill before you go

ROUTE

Starting point: _____ **Destination:** _____

Leave on: _____ **at** _____ **Arrive by:** _____ **(before dark!)**

Stop	Miles	Time	Gas, food, restroom, notes

ROAD TRIP COST CALCULATOR

1. Total miles: one way _____ × 2 (round trip) + local driving _____ = _____ **miles**

2. Gallons needed: total miles _____ ÷ my car's miles per gallon _____ = _____ **gallons**

3. Gas cost: gallons _____ × price per gallon $ _____ = $ _____

Other driving costs	Cost ($)
Tolls	
Parking and park entrance	
Gas for extra day trips	
TOTAL ROAD TRIP COST (copy to Budget page)	

CAR CHECK BEFORE YOU GO

- ☐ Tire pressure and a spare
- ☐ Oil, wipers and fluids
- ☐ Gas tank full at start
- ☐ Roadside kit and phone charger
- ☐ Download offline maps
- ☐ Cash and cards for fees

ROAD SNACKS AND MUSIC

Meal Planning

MEAL PLAN

Plan one-pot meals and prep what you can at home. Cross off days you won't need.

	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Snacks and drinks
Day 1				
Day 2				
Day 3				
Day 4				

PREP AT HOME

- ☐ Chop veggies, dice meat
- ☐ Pre-mix pancake batter or spice blends
- ☐ Freeze water bottles for the cooler
- ☐ Pack a backup no-cook meal

CAMP KITCHEN CHECK

- ☐ Stove and fuel ☐ Lighter
- ☐ Pot, pan, spatula ☐ Can opener
- ☐ Plates, cups, utensils
- ☐ Dish tub, soap, sponge, towel
- ☐ Trash bags ☐ Paper towels ☐ Foil

GROCERY LIST

FRESH AND PRODUCE

COOLER: MEAT AND DAIRY

PANTRY AND SNACKS

DRINKS AND COFFEE

CAMPFIRE TREATS

ICE AND FIREWOOD

STEP 5

Daily Schedule

The Comfortable Camper
Plan a little, leave room to wander

Tip: Plan one big thing a day. Leave the rest open for naps, hammocks and s'mores.

DAY 1

Date: _____ Weather: _____

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING

DAY 2

Date: _____ Weather: _____

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING

DAY 3

Date: _____ Weather: _____

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING

DAY 4

Date: _____ Weather: _____

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING

FREE AND CHEAP IDEAS

- [ ] Hike or walk a nearby trail
- [ ] Visitor center or ranger program
- [ ] Swim, kayak or bike
- [ ] Farmers market or local diner
- [ ] Stargazing from camp

BEFORE YOU LEAVE

- [ ] Site booked and confirmation saved
- [ ] Weather checked, rain gear packed
- [ ] Camp boxes and cooler packed
- [ ] Told someone my plans
- [ ] Phones and lights charged