

Plan Ahead with

Save Time, Money on Orlando Trip

by Margie Hawkins and Betty Taylor

Attending the 2002 Annual Meeting and Conference in Orlando? Save time and money by planning the trip online. Book a flight and reserve a conference hotel room on the Web. To get the special AALL Conference rate and discounted airfares, be sure to use the Web site www.aallnet.org/events/O2_housingform.asp.

credit: Orlando/Orange County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.



Sea World Orlando, the world's most popular marine life adventure park, features entertaining shows, rides and exhibits with polar bears, killer whales, dolphins, manatees, sea lions, sharks and more.

For maps of the Orlando and International Drive area and driving directions to the Orange County Convention Center from the Orlando International Airport and all major incoming highways, visit www.orlandoconvention.com/directions.asp. Take an "e-tour" of the OIA Passenger Terminal at www.state.fl.us/goaa, which has links to information on navigating the airport roadways, securing ground transportation, airlines serving OIA and baggage claims.

Then, let the fun begin. Take advantage of a variety of Web resources to help plan your visit to central Florida. We highly recommend obtaining tickets to the major theme parks prior to arriving in Orlando to save precious time waiting in long ticket lines. Visit these sites regularly and watch for "special deals" and discounted prices when purchasing tickets in advance online! Advance

registration is required to "swim with the dolphins" at Sea World's Discovery Cove. Reservations are also recommended for weekend performances of the popular Cirque du Soleil. A summary of pertinent information for the major theme parks currently offering online registrations and ticketing follows.

Walt Disney World. For those wanting to experience more than one of the Disney parks, Park Hopper tickets can save time and money. Order direct from Disney World's Web site or from a variety of online discount ticket brokers. The Disney site also offers ticket purchases for Cirque du Soleil; the Disney Water Parks; DisneyQuest, an indoor interactive theme park; and events at Disney's Wide World of Sports.

SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Tampa/Universal Studios/Universal Islands of Adventure.

Purchase single or multi-day tickets to SeaWorld Orlando, or buy a Flex Ticket for access to several area theme parks. The *4 Park Orlando Flex Ticket* is good for 14 days of unlimited admission to SeaWorld Orlando, Universal Studios Florida, Universal Studios Islands of Adventure and the Wet'n Wild water park, all located within a short drive of the Orange County Convention Center. The expanded *5 Park Orlando Flex Ticket* includes 14 days of unlimited access to these Orlando attractions, plus Busch Gardens in Tampa — a one-hour drive from the Convention Center. Multi-day value tickets are also available for SeaWorld and Busch Gardens. The fastest way to beat the lines is to purchase electronic vouchers, or Etickets. Print out the tickets at home; the information is stored in the park's computers. This eliminates the time and hassle associated with purchasing a paper ticket! *The Eticket option is currently valid only for SeaWorld Orlando and Busch Gardens Tampa single-day tickets.* For more information about Etickets or to purchase tickets online, visit the SeaWorld Orlando Web site.

the Web!

Discovery Cove. Advance reservations are required to visit Discovery Cove, which is adjacent to SeaWorld Orlando. Choose a date, plan your day and reserve a once-in-a-lifetime dolphin encounter online. There are no tickets to Discovery Cove. Those armed with a reservation simply check-in at the Guest Reception Building on the date of the visit. Name, a confirmation number and a photo identification are required at check-in. All ages are welcome at Discovery Cove. However, children must be at least 6 years old to swim with the dolphins. Discovery Cove, a full-day adventure, is open 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., so plan accordingly.

Guests of most major I-Drive area hotels can take advantage of **free shuttle service**, with regularly scheduled trips to local theme parks and shopping. The I-RIDE Trolley offers a convenient, inexpensive mode of transportation, with a permanent stop at the Convention Center and many area hotels. Upon arrival in Orlando, check with your hotel concierge or at the AALL Hospitality Desk at the Convention Center. Taxis or a Lynx city bus are reliable alternatives to renting a car. For more information, including fares/rates and schedules, visit these Web sites:

- I-RIDE Trolley: www.iridetrolley.com/index.html
- LYNX City Bus: www.golynx.com
- Yellow/City Cab Tax: www.mearstransportation.com/TaxiServices.

Other helpful Web sites for tourist information, discount tickets, shopping and dining are provided (right). Be sure to regularly check the 2002 Local Arrangements Committee Web site at www.aallnet.org/events/local02 for updated information and additional Web resources — all designed to make your visit to Orlando a wonderful experience! Also look for the "Orlando Survival Guide" insert in the June 2002 issue of *AALL Spectrum*. We look forward to seeing everyone in Orlando in July.

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Florida Tourist Information

FLAUSA Visit Florida
www.flausa.com

Inside Central Florida
www.icflorida.com

Go2Orlando.com
www.go2orlando.com

Orlando/Orange County Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.orlandoinfo.com

Premier Shopping and Dining Downtown Disney/Pleasure Island/Disney Village Marketplace
disneyworld.disney.com/waltdisneyworld

Universal Studios CityWalk
www.citywalk.com

Pointe*Orlando
www.pointeorlando.com

I-Drive Mall Directory
orlando.retailguide.com/ml1ir.htm

Theme Parks and Attractions Walt Disney World Universal Studios Florida/ Islands of Adventure
www.icflorida.com

Sea World Florida
www.go2orlando.com

Discovery Cove
www.orlandoinfo.com

Discount Park Tickets and Passes Hello Florida!
www.conventionplus.com/Law

Theme Park Discounts
www.icflorida.com/recreation/guides/attractions/themepark_discounts.html

Disney Park Hopper Tickets and Passes
disneyworld.disney.go.com/waltdisneyworld/reservations/tickets/ticketrootindex?id=RITicketRoot

AAA Auto Club South
www.aaasouth.com/acs_pages/40333.asp
Discount attractions tickets for AAA members are not available for purchase online. However, contact AAA world headquarters in Heathrow, Fla., a northern suburb of Orlando, to purchase tickets in advance by phone or mail.



Universal Studios Florida, set in a 400-acre (160-hectare) complex, features shows and rides based on blockbuster movies.