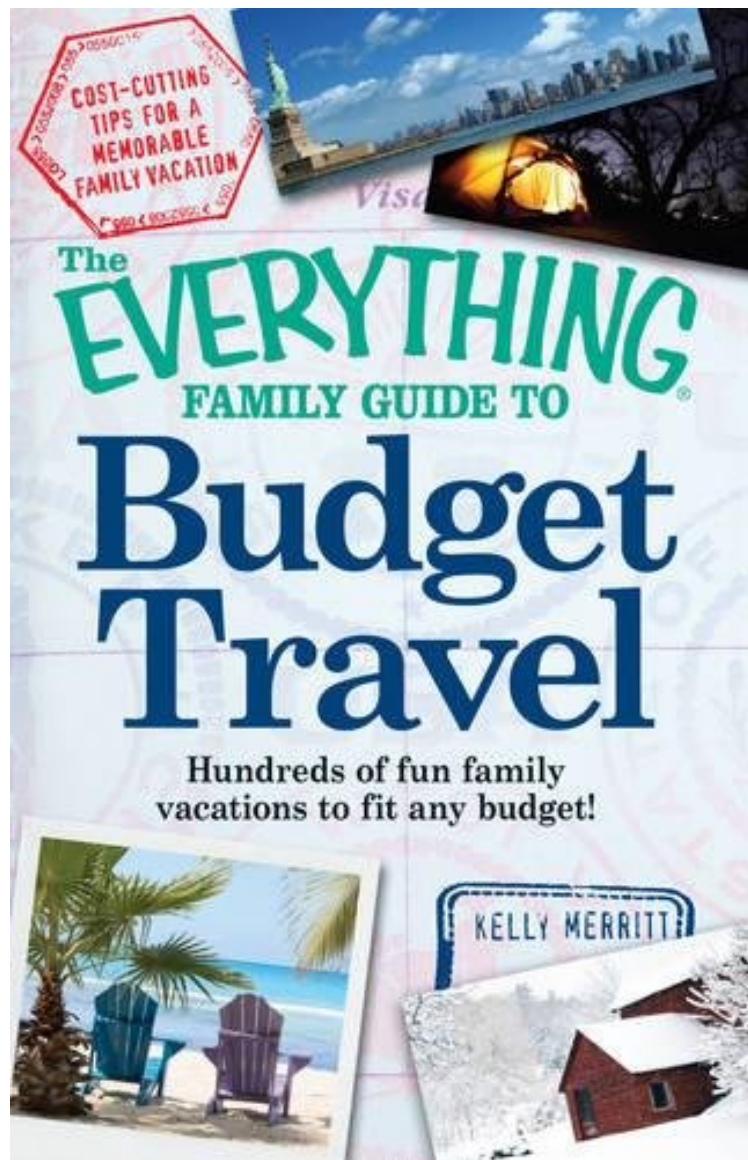


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## The Everything Family Guide to Budget Travel: Hundreds of fun family vacations to fit any budget

*Kelly Merritt*

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**Kelly Merritt : The Everything Family Guide to Budget Travel: Hundreds of fun family vacations to fit any budget** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Everything Family Guide to Budget Travel: Hundreds of fun family vacations to fit any budget:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great like ALL "EVERYTHING" booksBy jaderabbit63Great like ALL "EVERYTHING" books!!!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. UnhelpfulBy Amy ZI buy several travel guides for every trip I pln for our family. I found this to be unhelpful, disorganized, and very very random. It is also very repetitive reciting the same information several times. Atleast it wasn't very expensive...might use it as a doorstop.3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Maybe good for East Coast, not so great for West CoastBy Island girlI live in San Francisco and I'm appalled by the information concerning the West Coast and more particularly, California. It looks like everything has been written from a tourist bureau perspective, not from a local's perspective. In San Francisco, how can you say that the Spreckels Lake is a must-see and not mention the California Academy of Sciences in the Golden Gate Park? In the Yosemite Valley, it's not that campgrounds can be full by noon during warm months. They are fully booked within minutes of being made available to the public 5 months ahead! The chapter on ghost towns doesn't even mention Bodie or Calico, both of which are huge local attractions for families in California. The chapter on water spots mentions Half Moon Bay - weird choice, it rarely gets warm there - but what about the Central Coast and Santa Barbara? Southern California and San Diego - awesome sand castle contest? NorCal would never be my top choice for beach time in California and if it had to be, I'd pick Santa Cruz as a super family friendly destination. Love the redwood train that goes to the boardwalk. Disneyland and Disneyworld aren't even mentioned whereas that's where parents want to find the best package. Frankly, I'm puzzled. Vermont and North Carolina seem to be well covered but if you want to travel West, I would not recommend this book at all. Go to your local library and get a Moon or Rough guide to your destination state. It's more comprehensive and it'll still mention the good deals.

Taking a fun family vacation doesn't have to break the bank, as proven by veteran travel writer Kelly Merritt. Inside, she offers no shortage of creative ways to plan affordable trips! Visit popular sites at off-peak times with your children . . . travel off the beaten path for an eye-opening experience . . . and discover historic sites, scenic areas, and fun-filled attractions right in your own backyard! Featuring hundreds of unique, family-friendly trip ideas such as:Camping (from the mountains to our national parks)Adventure travelWater and island vacationsAll-inclusive resorts and cruisesEducational vacations (eco, historical, cooking, and more)European tours--and beyond!The Everything Family Guide to Budget Travel helps you make the most affordable decisions about lodging, food, and tourist attractions. This easy-to-use guide is an invaluable tool, you won't want to travel without!

About the AuthorKelly Merritt is a seasoned travel writer whose articles have been published in the Los Angeles Times, The Pilot, Charlotte Health and Fitness Magazine, JohnnyJet, Deep South, Uptown Magazine, Impact, the Chicago Tribune, the Sentinel, the Baltimore Sun, Newsday, Gordon's Guide, and CEO Traveler, among numerous other publications. She was the travel editor for Uptown Magazine and the lifestyle editor for Charlotte Health and Fitness Magazine. She has traveled extensively throughout the United States and beyond with children, introducing them to everything from wilderness camping to five-star restaurants.