Vacation Planning Checklist

Dreaming about an **autism-friendly vacation** with your child?

We know planning a vacation can be scary and especially challenging when traveling with a child on the autism spectrum. We make trip planning easier by providing the necessary tools to help you and your family have a wonderful getaway at one of our **vacation rentals**. Keep reading for tips and a checklist to make your vacation a dream come true.

**Before the Trip**

- Talk with your child about the trip and let them know how much fun it’s going to be!
- **A vacation social brief** helps you and your child prepare so they can know what’s going to happen and why.
- Do **test runs** of how going to a vacation home will be with your child so that they can be comfortable with it.
- Our **Packing Checklist** below will help make planning your vacation a breeze!
- Check out **Villakey** to discover our wide selection of Autism-friendly homes.

**Packing Checklist**

- **Sensory friendly toys** like building blocks, puzzles, and video games to keep your little one entertained.
- **HDMI, charging cables, & adapters** to keep the fun going for them.
- **Sensory friendly films** for a nice relaxing night in.
- **Coloring books** with **non-toxic crayons and markers** to bring out the artist in them.
- **Picture books** to let their imagination go wild.
- **Familiar items** such as a stuffed animal or a blanket to soothe them during scary times.
- **Favorite foods, snacks, and drinks**, especially if your child is on a special diet.
- **Noise-cancelling headphones or ear plugs** to keep all those loud noises away from your child’s ears.
- **Any medical id cards, tags, bracelets**, etc. in case of emergencies.
- **Supplements/medications** to keep them healthy and ready to go.
- **Child’s favorite sheets**, especially if your child is sensitive to certain fabrics.

**During Your Stay**

- Consider disclosing to fellow travelers about your child’s behavioral patterns so that they may be informed.
- **Enjoy and have fun** with your child in your home away from home!