

HOW TO CHOOSE WHERE TO STAY FOR DISNEYLAND

A practical guide to picking the right hotel based on budget, walking distance, family size, amenities, and the kind of trip you want to have



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1. START HERE: THERE IS NOT ONE “BEST” DISNEYLAND HOTEL

There is not one perfect Disneyland hotel for every family.

Some families want to be as close as possible. Some need more space. Some want to save money. Some want free breakfast, parking, or a shuttle. Some want the hotel to feel like part of the vacation, especially if they are planning pool time, midday breaks, or non-park days.

The best Disneyland hotel is the one that fits your family, your budget, and the way you want to travel.



2. ON-PROPERTY VS. OFF-PROPERTY

Stay On-Property If You Want...

The full Disney vacation feel
Easy access to Downtown
Great on-site dining options
A hotel that feels like part of the
Close access to the parks and
Resort-style pools and
A more seamless Disneyland

Stay Off-Property If You Want...

To save money on the nightly
More room for your budget
Free breakfast or parking
Walkable hotels at different
Suite options or larger family
Nice hotel options without the
More flexibility with budget and

ON-PROPERTY OPTIONS



DISNEYLAND HOTEL

🏰 Step into a world of classic Disney magic at this iconic hotel, where rich history, elegant décor, and modern luxuries meet! This property is just steps away from Downtown Disney and easy access to Disneyland Park and Disney California Adventure.

🚗 Transportation Highlights:

- Walking Distance to both parks
- Monorail to Disneyland
- Parking \$45 per night

Dining Options:

- **Goofy's Kitchen** (Character Dining Buffet)
- **Trader Sam's Enchanted Tiki Bar** (Themed Lounge & Appetizers)
- **Tangaroa Terrace Tropical Bar & Grill** (Quick Service & Dole Whip)
- **Palm Breeze Bar** (Poolside Table Service)
- **Broken Spell Lounge** (Themed Bar & Light Bites)
- **The Coffee House** (Coffee & Pastries)



GRAND CALIFORNIAN

🌲 Experience the ultimate in luxury and Disney magic at this elegant Craftsman-style resort, offering exclusive access to Disney California Adventure and world-class accommodations, right in the heart of Disneyland Resort.

🚗 Transportation Highlights:

- Disney California Adventure: Direct Access (private entrance)
- Disneyland Park: Short Walk
- Downtown Disney District: Short Walk
- Parking \$45 per night

Dining Options:

- **Storytellers Cafe** (Character Buffet Breakfast/Brunch & Dinner Buffet)
- **Napa Rose** (Upscale Fine Dining)
- **Disney Princess Breakfast Adventures** (Premium Character Dining at Napa Rose)
- **GCH Craftsman Bar** (Poolside Table Service & Cocktails)
- **GCH Craftsman Grill** (Quick Service & Grab-and-Go)
- **Hearthstone Lounge** (Lobby Bar & Light Bites)
- **Napa Rose Bar** (Wine & Appetizers)



PIXAR PLACE HOTEL

🎬 Dive into the world of Pixar animation with this vibrant, fun-filled hotel where beloved characters and stories come to life. Perfectly located for fans of Pixar's magic and creativity, it's just a short walk to the excitement of Disney California Adventure.

🚗 Transportation Highlights:

- Disney California Adventure: Short Walk or use Grand California entry
- Disneyland Park: Short Walk
- Downtown Disney District: Short Walk
- Parking \$45 per night

Dining Options:

- **Great Maple Modern American Eatery** (Upscale Table Service)
- **The Sketch Pad Café** (Quick Service Lobby Café)
- **Small Bytes** (Poolside Bar & Snacks)

3. PROXIMITY AND WALKING DISTANCE

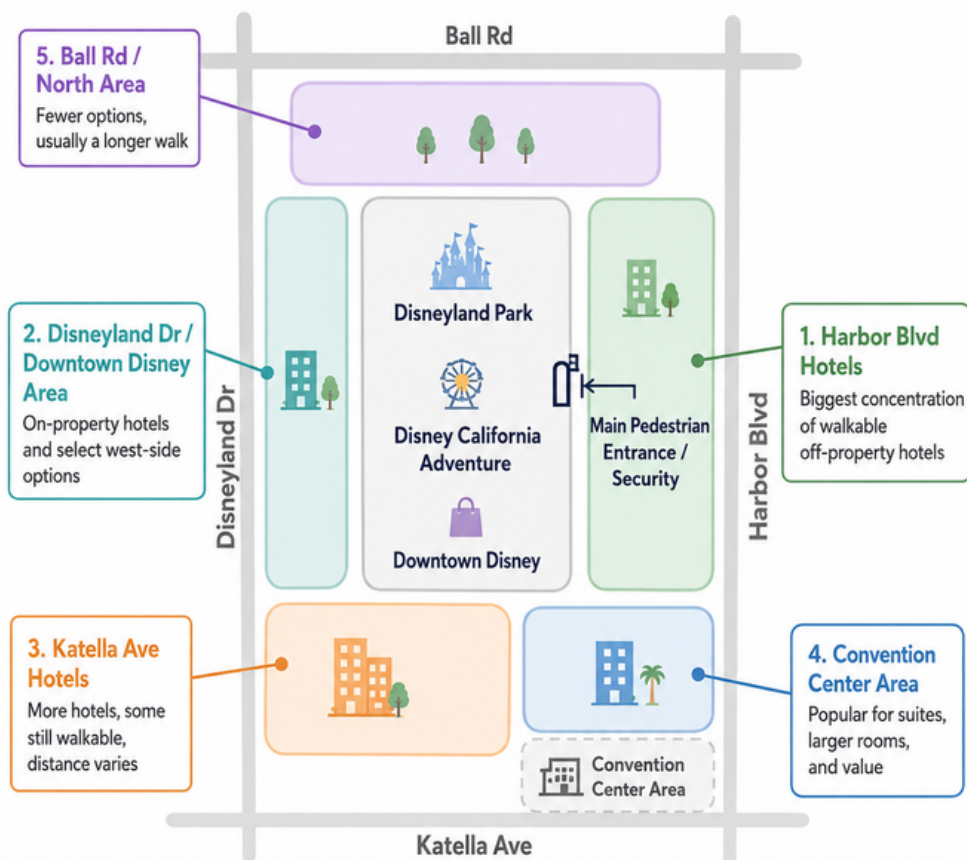
One of the easiest ways to simplify a Disneyland trip is to stay somewhere walkable. With so many hotels near Disneyland at different price points, many families can avoid paying for theme park parking, dealing with a rental car, or building their day around transportation.

OFF-PROPERTY SHORTEST WALKS

- Tropicana
- Best Western Olus
- Park Place Inn & Mini Suites
- Camelot

Where Disneyland Hotels Are Actually Located

A simple map of the main hotel areas families compare



Quick take

- Harbor Blvd: easiest direct walk to the main entrance
- Disneyland Dr: best for Disney bubble and Downtown Disney access
- Katella + Convention Center: good for suites, amenities, and value
- Walking distance can feel very different after fireworks

4. FAMILY SIZE AND ROOM SETUP

For larger families, the question is not just “How close is it?” It is “Can everyone actually sleep comfortably?” Some Disneyland-area hotels have rooms that fit 5 or 6, suite-style layouts, bunk beds, connecting room options, or extra space that can make the entire trip feel easier.



ANAHEIM RESORT SUITES

- 2 Queens, 1 Queen Sleeper Sofa
- Shower AND Tub
- Kitchenette

COURTYARD THEME PARK ENTRANCE

- 2 Queens, Bunk Bed
- Shower AND Tub



J W MARRIOTT

- 2 Queen Connecting Rooms
 - Shower AND Tub
- =4 Queens, 2 Showers, 2 Tubs

5. FREE AMENITIES THAT CAN SAVE MONEY

The cheapest nightly rate is not always the cheapest total stay. Free breakfast, free parking, a shuttle, or an easy walk can make a hotel a better value once you look at the full trip cost.

Best for free breakfast:

- SpringHill Suites
- Residence Inn Anaheim Convention Center

Best for free parking:

- SunCoast Park Hotel
- Hotel Lulu

Best for shuttle options:

- Candy Cane Inn
- Anaheim Majestic



6. MOTEL VS. HOTEL

There are many motel-style options near Disneyland, and some of them are nicely updated and much more convenient than families expect. But if your family prefers interior hallways, a larger lobby, more amenities, or a more traditional hotel feel, it is worth knowing that before you book.

MOTEL-STYLE OPTIONS I STILL RECOMMEND:

- The Anaheim Hotel
- Candy Cane Inn

HOTEL-STYLE OPTIONS FOR FAMILIES WHO WANT A MORE ELEVATED FEEL:

- The Westin
- JW Marriott



7. BUDGET CATEGORIES

Disneyland hotels can vary a lot in price, and rates change depending on season, promotions, weekends, holidays, and demand. Instead of looking only at the nightly rate, compare what you are getting for the price: location, space, parking, breakfast, pool, and convenience.

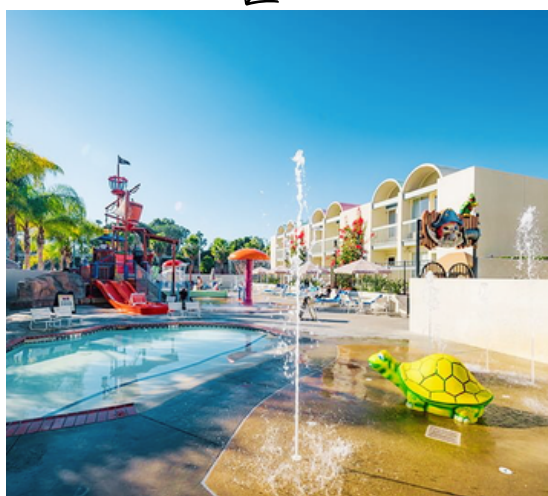
Budget-friendly favorite:

- Sheraton Park

8. HOTELS THAT FEEL LIKE PART OF THE VACATION

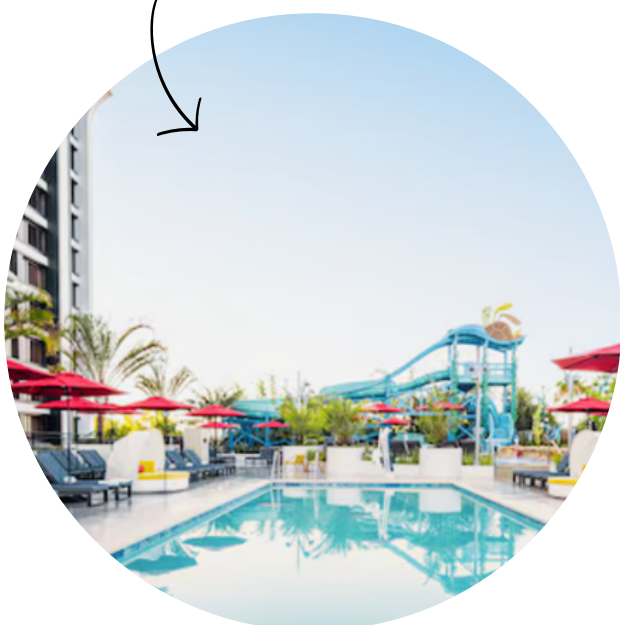
If your hotel is only a place to sleep, you may not need a big pool or resort-style amenities. But if you are planning midday breaks, visiting during hotter months, adding a rest day, or wanting the hotel to feel like part of the vacation, the pool and overall hotel experience can matter a lot.

Howard Johnson



Courtyard Theme Park Entrance

Pixar Place Hotel



Grand Californian

9. MY TOP DISNEYLAND HOTEL PICKS BY PRIORITY

Best for walking distance

Top pick: Tropicana

Why I like it: One of the easiest walks to the main pedestrian entrance, which matters most at rope drop, midday breaks, and after fireworks

Best for larger families

Top pick: Courtyard by Marriott Anaheim Theme Park Entrance

Why I like it: Large rooms, bunk beds, separate shower and bath tub for easy getting ready plus a close walk

Best for budget-conscious families

Top pick: Sheraton Park

Why I like it: A good balance of price, location, and modern feel

Best for a nicer hotel feel

Top pick: The Westin

Why I like it: A nice hotel that is still walkable

Best for vacation feel

Top pick: Disneyland Hotel

Why I like it: The hotel feels like part of the trip, especially if you want pool time, rest days, dining, or a more resort-style experience

Best for value

Top pick: Candy Cane Inn

Why I like it: With breakfast, shuttle, and parking included – this is such a value! Plus it is cute and walkable!





Ready to narrow it down?

Scan the QR code to request a quote



10. NEED HELP CHOOSING?

This guide is just a starting point. When you book your Disneyland vacation through me, I can help you:

- Compare hotel options based on your family, budget, and priorities
- Find the best current offers
- Monitor your package for applicable discounts if better deals come out
- Know when offers can be stacked
- Start with a deposit and make payments over time when available
- Plan the rest of your trip at no additional cost when you book through me



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