

PIXIE DUST NEWS

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DESTINATION: 21 REASONS TO VISIT THAILAND

1. The street food

Some of Thailand's spiciest, tangiest tom yum soups can be eaten from roadside stalls. The hot and sour dish can be whipped up in a second by street vendors using fresh lemongrass, kaffir lime leaves, and galangal. Other street food treats to try include rice with spicy stir-fried crabmeat and fresh yellow chilies.

2. Fabulous luxury hotels

Whether it is upmarket island bliss (try the [Six Senses on Koh Yao Noi](#)), sleek '70s curves (see [Iniala Beach House in Phuket](#)), or the ewok-inspired tree dwellings of [Keemala](#), also in Phuket, that inspire you, there is a wealth of choices in Thailand.

3. The prettiest pink lakes

Pink water lilies in bloom are a sight to behold on lakes around the country. In Udon Thani, lilies on Red Lotus Lake burst into a riot of crimson blooms between November and February. The wide lake—15km long and up to 5km wide—is little-known by non-Thais but is a beautiful sight. Guides lead small boat tours around it.

4. Gibbons in the Khao Sok National Park

An array of exotic species live in Thailand's remarkably biodiverse park, including gibbons. With calls that can carry for up to two miles, gibbons are easier to hear than see but following their trail through nearly 460 square miles of pristine tropical evergreen forest is a great way to explore, perhaps catching glimpses of sun bears, leopards, tigers, tapirs, Asiatic wild dogs, gaurs, monkeys, and deer along the way.

5. Beach football

If you consider yourself handy on the pitch, there is no better way to make new friends in Thailand than a sunset game of beach football. Locals tend to strike up one most nights. Arrive early enough and join in one of the most scenic matches of your life. Thai people are the most friendly people you'll ever find.

6. The many Buddhas

Seated, standing, lying down, Thailand is full of gleaming Buddha statues, some large and some tiny. Take your pick of temples to see them in and then work your way through the country's collection of Buddha relics if you've yet to reach your fill.

7. Great budget rail trips

Take the train in Thailand and enjoy fantastic scenery for very little money. Plus the onboard catering takes some beating. You can buy tickets for train 35, the International Express, from Bangkok to Butterworth, at Bangkok's Hua Lamphong station. A second-class air-conditioned sleeper costs around £25 one way.

8. ...and scary ones

The "Death Railway" is a line devised by Japan's Imperial Army at the height of the Second World War to transport troops and supplies from Bangkok to Burma. As chronicled in the fifties classic film *Bridge on the River Kwai*, they found a ready supply of labor in British prisoners-of-war captured when Singapore fell in February 1942. The line was completed in just a year, but it cost the lives of around 13,000 POWs and 100,000 native laborers. One man died for every sleeper laid.

9. See vegetarians do the craziest things

The annual Phuket Vegetarian Festival is a version of the Taoist Nine Emperor Gods Festival, but involves much more gruesome self-mutilation. Though festivities take place across Thailand, the biggest are in Phuket, which has a large Thai Chinese population. The unusual rituals attract thousands of spectators, with participants piercing their skin with all manner of unusual objects.

10. Legendary beach bars

Thailand's beach bars can be what makes a holiday, offering a multitude of options, from driftwood shacks playing Bob Marley where bar staff become lifelong friends to remote hippy hideouts selling psychedelic mushroom shakes and swanky places to sip cocktails and dress up for.

11. Unlimited opportunities for island hopping

The range of paradisiacal islands to choose from will please the pickiest of beach bums, whether it is a chic cabana and waiter service you're after or just somewhere to string a hammock. And then there are the hundreds of islands that you can't even stay on, but which can be visited with the assistance of a local fisherman with a long tail boat and some time on his hands. Try Bamboo Island, one of the Phi Phi Islands, home to one of our favorite beaches.

12. Whale sharks

Every year, these gentle giants of the ocean pass through Koh Tao, an island full of dive shops more than happy to help you strap on a snorkel and get into the turquoise water with them.

13. The world's cheekiest monkeys

The annual Monkey Buffet sees a spread of more than 4,000 kilograms of fruit devoured by a troupe in front of the Phra Prang Sam Yot temple in Lopburi Province. The event is a way of thanking the monkeys for drawing tourists. In recent years monkeys have been given huge fruit ice lollies to lick on.

14. Elephants that play polo

Not quite as nimble as a muscle-packed pony, Thailand's elephants nonetheless turn out for a highly popular polo tournament each year called the King's Cup. Aside from whacking a little ball around, this is a four-day festival of events dedicated to supporting elephant welfare.

15. The world's smallest mammal

Kitti's hog-nosed bat is thought to be the world's smallest mammal, weighing just 2 grams. Found in western Thailand, in limestone caves in the Tenasserim Hills region in the Kanchanaburi Province, the bat is listed as "vulnerable" due to a dwindling population.

16. The most fun you can have with a water pistol

Songkran marks the end of the dry season—April is Thailand's hottest month. The festivities revolve around soaking one another with water, with tourists among the most enthusiastic participants. Tom Vater, Telegraph Travel's Bangkok expert, said: "Songkran, or Thai New Year, is a Buddhist festival and the kingdom's most important public holiday. Nowadays, the throwing of water is the festival's highlight. In fact, for three days virtually the entire country turns into a celebratory battle zone."

17. City shopping beyond compare

Bangkok is a shoppers' paradise. Beyond the preponderance of shopping malls, the city also offers innumerable local markets offering all sorts of wares. Though some, such as the one on Khaosan Road, are almost exclusively aimed at tourists and have inflated prices to match, others cater to locals and are crammed with curios that can, with effective haggling, be picked up for a song. And more up-market bargains are available, too, with the city's skilled tailors on hands to tailor-make beautiful suits, shirts, and dresses for savvy shoppers who prefer things to be custom-made.

18. Afternoon tea in the treetops

A treetop treat in the jungle on the Thai island of Koh Kood that gives high tea a whole new meaning. Guests are suspended 15 feet above the ground on Koh Kood Island in a giant man-made replica of a bird's nest. "Treetop dining is a simple idea," said our reviewer. "Strapped to a seat within a nest-like pod just bigger than the accompanying dining table (and on a very strong pulley system), I was hoisted up high into the trees of the island, to have an elevated eating experience—a picnic taking full advantage of the height dimension."

19. Holidays that leave you feeling great

It's not just the sunshine, scenery, and ever-smiling locals that make Thailand a feel-good destination, it's also the country's abundance of spa and wellness retreats. Spa fans will of course enjoy the most authentic and effective Thai massages here, but for something more thorough a number of specialists offer tailored detox programs, expert-led fitness breaks, and high-end beauty treatments to ensure travelers reach their peak both inside and out.

20. Ethical elephant encounters

While riding on an elephant is generally not to be encouraged due to animal welfare concerns, there are some places in Thailand that work hard to care for their elephants and organize ethical experiences for tourists. One of them is Elephant Hills in Khao Sok where elephants are bred and can be washed but not ridden.

21. The most beautiful gardens in Southeast Asia

Suan Nong Nooch, in Pattaya, is arguably the most beautiful botanical garden in the region, a fairytale world of ornamental blooms and tropical plants, pretty houses, and fruit plantations, and the park also hosts Thai cultural shows. It attracts more than 2,000 visitors per day who come to see the world's largest palm collection and largest collection of orchids.

HOW TO NEVER PAY FULL PRICE FOR A DISNEY VACATION

Posted by: Christy Cabby

We all love to save money right? I make it my own personal mission to enjoy my Disney favorites the cheapest way possible, so I am always looking for the best deals and programs to help get the prices the lowest possible. Here are my top 5 tips to help ensure that you never pay full price for a Disney vacation:

5. Utilize Disney vacation package discounts.

Disney regularly offers discounts and promotions on their vacation packages. The discounts are even higher when you are visiting during nonpeak travel times since Disney still wants to keep their resorts, parks, and restaurants full of guests who are spending money with them. It is important to watch for these deals. You can reserve your vacation package and still change to a different promotion at any time by calling your travel agent so be sure to keep a close and constant eye on all of the published deals.

4. Use a travel agent.

So does watching for all of the deals and pricing everything out constantly to see which deal is the best seem like a lot of overwhelming work? This is why you should consider using a Disney travel agent (*note*: Pat Mancuso is a Disney travel agent!). There are no additional fees to use them, and they will help watch for various promotions and ensure that they are applied to your reservation. Many travel agents also offer little freebies and extras that you wouldn't get if you book directly through Disney yourself, and you still get everything that you would receive already, so it is definitely a win-win and much easier for you in the long run.

3. Utilize reward programs.

Many credit cards and other services have loyalty programs and point systems that allow you to earn points to go toward gift cards and such. You can use these to help obtain Disney gift cards that can be used to pay for anything and everything associated with your Disney vacation that is being paid to Disney. You can also use these to earn Visa gift cards, air travel gift cards, etc., that will help pay for a portion of your trip so that it is less expense that you have to incur and more money you can put toward something else.

2. Open a Disney Vacation Account.

Disney offers Disney Vacation Accounts where you can deposit funds to save up for your Disney vacation. For every \$1,000 you spend on applicable Disney vacation purchases, you receive a \$20 gift card. This can add up quickly to give you a little bit of extra spending money for your trip, for not doing anything but depositing the funds there and using those funds to pay for your vacation. You can even load Disney gift cards there so that the funds from those counts toward earning you free gift cards.

1. Buy Disney Gift Cards from Target, Costco, etc.

This is my favorite savings trick. If you have a Target Red Card or a Costco card, then buy Disney gift cards from those locations. You end up saving around 5 percent of what you would have spent and you can use the Disney gift cards to pay for your vacation package, meals, gratuities, souvenirs, ticket purchases, etc. You can even pay off your resort charges using gift cards, so this is a phenomenal way to save 5 percent off of your entire vacation, which can add up quickly!

WALT DISNEY WORLD NEWS—EXPRESS BUS SERVICE, HIGHWAY IN THE SKY DINE-AROUND, AND MORE

1. Disney Makes Park Hopping Faster and Easier, for a Price

Disney is adding Express Bus Service that will provide guests transportation directly from park to park with bus stops inside the parks. With this new service, guests will not need to exit the park and then go through security and admissions again at the next park. This will save a bit of time walking and standing in lines and make park hopping a lot easier. The express bus service will cost \$15 per day per guest, or \$24 for length of stay, and can be added to your ticket along with the park hopper option.

2. Epcot Food & Wine Festival Expands to Record Length for 2017

Disney has announced the dates of the 2017 Epcot International Food & Wine Festival! This is one of most favorite times to visit Epcot. The festival will begin August 31 through November 13, 2017. That is a record 75 days for the festival. In 2016, the festival began on September 14. In 2017, an August 31 opening date will give an extra two weeks at the beginning of the

festival, during some of the hottest weeks in Orlando. As locals, we tend to wait until mid-October to enjoy the festival because it's just hard to enjoy the food and wine when it's 96 degrees, with a heat index of 105. Festivals are a big draw for Epcot, and it will be interesting to see the turnout during those crazy hot weeks.

3. New Highway in the Sky Dine-Around Launches at Disney World

The monorail lounge crawl is a popular experience among guests to Disney World. Guests visit Disney's Polynesian Village Resort, Disney's Grand Floridian Resort & Spa, and Disney's Contemporary Resort to sample food and drinks at the various lounges at each resort. Disney has picked up on this popular guest experience and now offering a special event, "Highway in the Sky Dine-Around," which makes it even easier to take a fabulous tour around the monorail. Here are all the details from Disney:

- Your Dine-Around adventure begins at Disney's Contemporary Resort, where you'll check in at The Wave... of American Flavors restaurant. Relax and mingle with your fellow diners enjoying a welcoming appetizer and specialty cocktail before setting off on your epicurean odyssey. *Bon voyage* and *bon appétit!*
- First stop: Disney's Polynesian Village Resort—where you'll feel as if you've arrived in a far-flung tropical paradise. Celebrate the spirit of the South Pacific and luxuriate in the charm of this exotic retreat, with an enticing variety of island-inspired libations and appetizers.
- Then it's time for a change of scene and cuisine—as the monorail transports you a world away to the opulent Victorian-style Disney's Grand Floridian Resort & Spa. Step inside and step back into a bygone era of elegance and gracious hospitality. You'll be escorted to the award-winning Cítricos restaurant where we invite you to settle in amid the refined ambience as you're treated to a special chef's main course selection. Afterward, gather in the splendidly appointed lobby to sip champagne and savor a selection of artisanal cheeses.
- Board the monorail once more to return to Disney's Contemporary Resort for the culmination of your evening. Here, you and your Dine-Around companions will retire to a private patio to enjoy an indulgent assortment of desserts, cordials, and coffee. From this exclusive location, watch in wonder as the Wishes nighttime spectacular fireworks light up the night over Cinderella Castle—a musical, magical grand finale to your one-of-a-kind dining adventure.
- Highway in the Sky Dine-Around is offered Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. Cost is \$150 with the gratuity and valet parking included, while the tax is additional.

4. New Disney PhotoPass Studio at Disney Springs

Now that Guest Relations has moved to the Town Center area in Disney Springs, Disney has expanded its Disney PhotoPass Studio that previously shared the space. A brand-new studio area has recently opened and is a great place to snap a family portrait. Here are all the details from Disney:

- At the Studio, guests can choose from the original standard background or new virtual backgrounds that place you front and center at some of your favorite Disney scenes. A Disney PhotoPass Photographer will be on hand to find the perfect virtual background for your portrait.
- Along with additional portrait spaces, new view stations have been installed for you to easily preview, purchase, and print all your vacation memories linked to your Disney account with the assistance of a Disney PhotoPass Photographer.
- Reservations are not needed to visit the Disney PhotoPass Studio, and photos taken at this location will be linked to your My Disney Experience account. Studio photos are also included as part of an active Memory Maker entitlement.

5. New Additions Coming to Epcot International Flower and Garden Festival

Disney is already preparing for spring flowers. Disney's Epcot International Flower and Garden Festival will run from March 1 to May 29, 2017. Here are some of the things we can look forward to per Disney Cast Member Victoria Lim:

- A 6-foot-tall topiary Figment balancing on a floral ball will be just one of the firsts that will delight you during this spring's Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival at Walt Disney World Resort. Ninety days of bright blooms and whimsical creations for all your senses begin March 1.
- Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Daisy, and Pluto will greet Epcot guests at the Epcot front entrance in a new topiary garden inspired by a vintage Walt Disney short film. Belle from the Oscar-winning Disney film "Beauty and the Beast" is getting a major topiary makeover, joining Snow White, Elsa, and Anna as the next-generation "princess" topiary. In the "Cars"-themed interactive play garden: A new character topiary from the upcoming June 2017 release of "Cars 3" will join the gang.

- If you get inspired, you can take advantage of the expanded operating hours of the Festival Center opening week, Wednesday, March 1, to Sunday, March 5, and pop into a gardening seminar or DIY workshop. During the remaining weeks of the festival, the center will be open Friday through Sunday.
- Leave room to try two new Outdoor Kitchens, and grab a seat when performers will rock America Garden Theatre stage four days a week. The Garden Rocks concert series will run Friday through Monday, with three concerts a night. The Garden Rocks Concert Series acts have not been announced.

6. Bus Stop Pizza Kiosks at All Star Resorts

One of the negative aspects of staying at a Value Resort at Disney World is the fact that the resorts are so large, creating very long lines at quick-service restaurants at the resorts. Lines for pizza at the All Star food courts were a very big problem. Thankfully, Disney has responded to the need by unveiling two new quick service kiosks at both All Star Movies and Music that offer pizzas curbside. This curbside service allows guests to skip the busy lobby and food courts when returning to their resort after a long day. The kiosks will be open between 7:00 and 10:00 pm. The two locations have been named Intermission Express at All-Star Music and World Premier Express at All Star movies. Both locations offer a basic menu with cheese and pepperoni pizzas only. No word yet on how this works with the Disney Dining Plan.

7. Dole Whip Now Available at Disney Springs

Fans of Disney's Dole Whip will be pleased to hear that Disney is now offering its signature pineapple soft serve at the Marketplace Snacks in Disney Springs. While the menu lists the offering as "pineapple soft serve" and not Dole Whip, Disney cast members at Aloha Isle told us that Dole Whip could now be found in three locations in Disney World: Aloha Isle, Pineapple Lanai at Disney's Polynesian Village Resort, and Marketplace Snacks in Disney Springs. Fans of the Dole Whip floats should note that at this time floats are not available at the Disney Springs location.

8. New Ice Cream Social with Parade Viewing now at Magic Kingdom

A new type of dessert party with reserved viewing for the Disney's Festival of Fantasy Parade is now available in the Magic Kingdom Park. Tiana's Riverboat Party Ice Cream Social will offer guests hand-dipped ice cream, toppings, and soft drinks while they visit with Princess Tiana and Naveen at the docks of Liberty Square Riverboat. Guests will then board the riverboat to enjoy a birds-eye view of the Disney Festival of Fantasy Parade and a cruise around Tom Sawyer's Island. Princess Tiana and Naveen will join the group on the Liberty Belle Riverboat after the parade ends for photos. Tiana's Riverboat Party Ice Cream Social and Parade Viewing is available for \$49 per adult and \$29 per child age 9 and under (includes tax).

9. Princess Elena, the Newest Disney Princess

Princess Elena, the newest Disney princess, has now joined Cinderella at Princess Fairytale Hall in Disney's Magic Kingdom Park. FastPass+ service is available for this meet-and-greet experience. Rapunzel and Tiana are the other princesses available to meet at the Hall. Elena is the princess from the Disney Channel series, "Elena of Avalor." Elena was officially welcomed as a Disney princess on August 11, 2016, at the Magic Kingdom. You can still see daily performances of "Princess Elena Royal Welcome," daily at 9:05 am, 10:00 am, 12:15 pm, and 1:35 pm at the Castle Stage.

10. Planet Hollywood Opening Announced

The lengthy refurbishment of Planet Hollywood at Disney Springs came to an end on January 3, 2017. The transformation the building from tacky and dated giant globe to tasteful observatory brings the location theme-wise in line with the rest of the new Disney Springs. Besides obvious new look on the exterior, the refurbishment involved a complete gutting of the interior and a full overhaul of the menu as well. We have high hopes that the Planet Hollywood reboot will be a major improvement over what had become a very tired dining venue on every measure.

11. New Amenities and Restaurant Coming to Disney's Wilderness Lodge

Recently, the area formerly known as The Villas at Disney's Wilderness Lodge have assumed a new name: Boulder Ridge Villas at Disney's Wilderness Lodge. The new name reflects the railroad theming of the lodge and compliments the storyline of the resort. Disney also announced a reimagining of the former Hidden Springs Pool area and is scheduled to open in summer 2017. The new swim area will be named Boulder Ridge Cove and will feature an expanded sun deck and zero-depth-entry pool in what will appear to be an abandoned rock quarry. Here are some more details from Disney:

- Such rejuvenating transformations were common in the Pacific Northwest following the mid-20th-century fading of the Transcontinental Railroad, as locals turned rails into trails—repurposing everything from bridges and tunnels to cranes and quarries. A nearby "Boulder Ridge Railway and Mining Co." water tower will be among the pool area's landmark reminders of its pioneering past, while a vintage mine cart supports the mining theme with an affectionate nod to Disney history. Beyond the new pool space, scheduled enhancements to the resort are "chugging along" and include a brand-new bar and grill, in addition to a quick-service restaurant. Geyser Point Bar & Grill will be located in the heart of the feature pool area of

Disney's Wilderness Lodge, where members and guests can grab a bite to eat as they lounge by the resort's main pool. The rendering for this area highlights ample outdoor seating and architecture that looks right at home with that of the existing lodge, as well as Boulder Ridge Villas.

12. Internal Shuttles Added at Port Orleans Resort

Port Orleans Resort, comprised of Riverside and French Quarter, is huge. Whether heading up to one of the main buildings for a meal or hopping between pools, getting around the resort can be difficult. Good news for guests staying at Port Orleans: Internal resort shuttles are being added similar to what is found at Fort Wilderness Campground. Previously, guests needed to board one of the park buses to get around, which caused unnecessary crowding. It should also shorten lines for the water transportation between Riverside and French Quarter.

ALL-NEW EPCOT INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS AT WALT DISNEY WORLD RESORT

Disney is excited to announce a brand new event at Walt Disney World Resort: the Epcot International Festival of the Arts debuts January 13 to February 20. It'll be a trifecta of global masterpieces: combining visual, culinary and performing arts for six colorful weekends.

From the art of Disney historical artist Mary Blair and Herb Ryman art of Epcot to current Disney artists Joe Kaminski and Costa Alavezos, you'll not only be surrounded by incredible visions, you'll watch the creative process live. In the inaugural year of the Epcot International Festival of the Arts, collaboration with Disney Theatrical will bring an exciting new showcase of favorite music and Broadway talent to the America Gardens Theatre stage. Over the six weeks of the festival, you'll enjoy different pairings of phenomenal Broadway talent in concert singing the award-winning music of Disney on Broadway. And then you'll feast on creations that look almost too good to eat, but you won't be able to resist our Food Studios. Your eyes and taste buds will battle over which sense is getting the better treat. The Epcot International Festival of the Arts will run Fridays through Mondays and unveil brand new art each week. That means, you'll want to return each weekend for an original experience."

CURRENT DISNEY DEALS

WE'VE COOKED UP A SWEET SURPRISE!

Enjoy one meal at Quick-Service locations, per person, per night when you buy a nondiscounted 5-night/6-day Walt Disney Travel Company room and ticket package at a select Disney Value Resort. For arrivals most nights May 30 to August 24, 2017. Book by February 12, 2017. The number of rooms allocated for this offer is limited. Tickets valid for one Theme Park per day and must be used within 14 days of first use. Cannot be combined with any other discount or promotion. Offer excludes campsites and Disney's Art of Animation Resort—The Little Mermaid standard rooms. Everyone in the room must be on the same package. Excludes alcoholic beverages and gratuities. Children ages 3 to 9 must order from the children's menu, if available.

SOAK UP THE SUN AND FUN WITH THIS GREAT OFFER!

This spring, discover all the magic in bloom at Walt Disney World Resort. Behold the dazzling gardens and fresh flavors of the Epcot® International Flower & Garden Festival. Explore safaris lit by sunset and awakenings at the Tree of Life®. Live some of your favorite Pixar stories and Star Wars™ adventures. And enjoy new nighttime magic at Cinderella Castle. Ready to plan the vacation of your dreams? SAVE UP TO 25%* on rooms at select Walt Disney World Resort hotels! For stays most nights February 20 to June 10, 2017. Book by February 26, 2017, for stays most nights February 20 to June 10, 2017. Book by March 30, 2017, for stays most nights April 9 to June 10, 2017. Plus, get one more day added to your ticket when you upgrade to a Magic Your Way® room and ticket package with a minimum 4-day ticket!

SET SAIL WITH THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY - GET 50% OFF YOUR INITIAL DISNEY CRUISE DEPOSIT

Now's the moment! Book a magical voyage by February 15, 2017, and only put down half of the required deposit on the day you reserve the itinerary. Offer valid on any new reservation for a 7-night or longer Disney cruise departing between June 17, 2017, and December 30, 2017. Remaining balance due at time of final payment. See important details below.

You can embark on a tropical 7-night cruise to the Caribbean or Bahamas or choose from one of our other fun-filled sailing itineraries throughout Europe, Alaska, and beyond. With departures from a variety of ports—including Florida, Texas and New York—there are so many convenient options to explore!

7-Night Caribbean Cruises from Florida
7-Night Bahamian and Canadian Coast Cruises from New York
7-Night Bahamian and Caribbean Cruises from Texas
7-Night and Longer European Cruises
7-Night or Longer Alaskan Cruises

Book now until February 15, 2017. No booking code required.

Important Details: Taxes, Fees, and Port Expenses, Gratuities and Port Adventures are not included
Not valid on Categories with Restrictions (IGT, OGT, VGT), Suites, or Concierge Level Staterooms.
Valid on all 7-night or longer sailings that do not require final payment at time of booking and take place between June 17, 2017, and December 30, 2017.
This offer cannot be combined with any other offers or discounts.
Offer subject to **Disney Cruise Line** Terms and Conditions.

THE TEN TRAVEL COMMANDMENTS

1. Thou shalt NOT expect to find things as at home, for thou hast left home to find different things.
2. Thou shalt NOT take things too seriously, for a carefree mind is the beginning of a fine holiday.
3. Thou shalt NOT let other travelers get on thy nerves, for thou art paying to enjoy thyself!
4. Take only half the clothes and twice the money.
5. Know always where thy passport is, for a person without a passport is a person without a country.
6. If we were expected to stay in just one place, we would have been created with ROOTS!
7. Thou shalt NOT WORRY, for he that does hath no pleasure...few things are ever fatal.
8. When in Rome, be prepared to do as the Romans do.
9. Thou shalt NOT JUDGE the people of a country by a few who give you trouble.
10. Remember that thou art a GUEST in another land, and he that treateth his host with respect will be honored.

AND ON THAT NOTE, I WISH YOU ALL GOOD TRAVELS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!