

One Outing, a Clear Budget

Hypothetical example: two adults, one weekend, \$40 available for the group.

Assume both adults are already together at home. The \$40 covers this plan before any purchases, including advance payments. Other ordinary meals and utilities are funded separately; those resources still have costs. All stated prices include applicable tax and charges.

Assume an open, accessible gallery and a route fitting the stated times. Suitable clothes, space, and ordinary equipment are available. Food is collected on an existing shopping trip. There is no parking, new equipment, guest travel, paid care, or other unlisted added cost.

Friday: up to 30 minutes of a spoken story game. Sunday: about 20 minutes sharing two purchased bakery treats and discussing a favorite detail from the weekend.

Saturday: 9:45-12:20

Time	Activity	Minutes
9:45-10:00	Get ready and confirm the plan	15
10:00-10:20	Travel to the gallery	20
10:20-11:20	Visit the exhibition	60
11:20-11:40	Travel home	20
11:40-11:50	Put things away and set out lunch	10
11:50-12:20	Eat the two purchased lunches at home	30

15 + 20 + 60 + 20 + 10 + 30 = 155 minutes: 2 hours and 35 minutes.

All new purchases for this plan

Purchase	Group total
Gallery admission: 2 x \$5	\$10
Return transit: 2 x \$3, both directions included	\$6
Ready-to-eat lunches: 2 x \$4	\$8
Individual Sunday bakery treats: 2 x \$3	\$6
Total for both adults	\$30

Average: \$30 / 2 = \$15 per participant. Remaining: \$40 - \$30 = \$10.

Count each payment once, including advance purchases. The unspent \$10 is not another expense or evidence of a saving against a different weekend.

Keep Paid Costs in the Backup

Printable manual worksheet. Use current local quotes and your own participants.

Two cancellation examples

Keep the \$8 lunches and \$6 Sunday treats in both examples. Transit is not yet bought, and the at-home spoken story game adds no purchase.

Before tickets are bought: \$8 + \$6 = \$14 spent; \$40 - \$14 = \$26 remains.

After \$10 of nonrefundable tickets are paid: \$10 + \$8 + \$6 = \$24 spent; \$16 remains. There is no assumed refund.

Keep paid charges unless refunded. Add backup costs and check cancellation terms before paying.

Plan your own Friday-to-Sunday weekend

Dates and participants:

Total funds for this plan:

Friday: activity, time, supplies:

Saturday: activity, time, supplies:

Sunday: activity, time, supplies:

Access or availability to verify:

Charge: count each amount once	Already paid	Still to pay

Total paid + still to pay:

Funds remaining after that total:

Backup activity and added costs:

Paid charges retained if canceled:

Decision or cancellation deadline:

Review actual payments after the weekend. A group total and its per-person average describe the same spending; do not add them together.

Planning reference: U.S. National Park Service, Travel Tips. Check operating information, costs, and reservations for park visits; use your chosen operator's current details.
nps.gov/planyourvisit/travel-tips.htm - official planning guidance