



INDEPENDENCE

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Celebrate National Plan for Vacation Day with the City of Independence

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. – The City of Independence is joining communities across the country today to celebrate National Plan for Vacation Day.

More than half of American workers (55%) failed to use all their time off last year. That's a stockpile of 768 million unused vacation days just in 2018, of which 236 million were forfeited completely.

What's the key to using more vacation time? Planning. But nearly half of American households (46%) don't do this simple step—and they lose out on their time off and the benefits it brings.

“The beginning of the year is the time to pull out the calendar and start planning for the entire year. Before you know it, life happens, and you may find yourself in November with weeks left to use and simply not enough time left in the year to schedule them,” President and CEO of U.S. Travel Association Roger Dow said. “National Plan for Vacation Day is the perfect reminder for Americans to plan to use those well-earned

days off to explore this great nation. From the beaches of Puerto Rico to the Montana mountain tops, America truly has something for every travel style and budget.”

Using vacation days to travel could also improve the U.S. economy, create American jobs and have a positive impact on our health and overall well-being. In fact, if Americans used all their time off to travel, our economy could see a boost of \$151.5 billion in travel spending and an additional 2 million U.S. jobs.

“Cold January days are a great time to plan those vacations,” City of Independence Tourism Manager Kristi Criswell said. “By committing to planning on January 28, we can all enjoy the many benefits of taking a break while giving ourselves something to look forward to in the warmer months. We’d love to talk to anyone interested in visiting the City of Independence and the many attractions we have for visitors here.”

To help everyone get those vacation days on the calendar, the U.S. Travel Association has created a Vacation Planning Tool. By simply entering the number of days off they earn, users can plot out their trips or vacations for the year, export to their work or personal calendar and share with their friends, family and co-workers.

National Plan for Vacation Day takes place during the last Tuesday in January as a day to encourage Americans to plan their vacation days for the rest of the year at the start of the year.

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