

TRAVELING WITH TODDLERS — EXPERT MODE

HOW WE HELP OUR KIDS GROW

ast month, Nicole and I took the kids to Hawaii for a family vacation.

We rented a house on the north shore of Oahu, near Waimea Bay, with a little pool for the kids to swim in and a vegetable garden where Finn and Harlow picked fresh herbs for cooking. We spent the trip eating great food, listening to music, beach hopping, and connecting with nature. All in all, it was a wonderful, relaxing trip.

While we were on the island, we also made a point to take the kids to Pearl Harbor. Finn and Harlow are still a little too young to fully understand the significance of the site, but we feel that it's important to introduce our kids to history and culture when we visit new places. Travel has always been truly important in our lives. Before we got married, Nicole lived in Spain and Japan for a while, and I backpacked Europe with a very dear friend of mine, who has since passed. Having those memories is something I will cherish forever. Together Nicole and I have been to Thailand, Spain, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Mexico.

Leaving your home and stepping into an entirely new environment is the only way to really understand how big and amazing the world is. Meeting new people and going outside your comfort zone is how we grow as human beings. We want to expose Finn and Harlow to different cultures and places from the time they are little. That way, they have the confidence to keep exploring as they get older.

After Finn was born, Nicole and I knew we wanted to keep traveling, but trekking across the world with little kids is really different than heading out when it's just the two of us. We started Finn out with smaller trips to Palm Springs and slowly built up to our first big adventure with him to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. It was an easy 2.5-hour flight, and Finn was 6 months old at the time. We were really nervous about the flight, but it turned out fine. What we should've been nervous about was the fact that Finn woke up everyday while it was still dark outside and what would've been 4 a.m. at home. Even as exhausting as that was, we got to watch some of the most amazing sunrises I have ever seen which, admittedly, isn't very many. Watching the sky turn fiery orange and pink as the sun rose over the ocean was magical. This first trip was definitely not relaxing but it showed us that we loved traveling with our child and that we could, indeed, do it. We are excited to turn our kids into travelers.



Guatemala, 2012







On Finn's first trip out of the country he loved being in a new environment. At one point, we ran into a mariachi band, and Nicole had them play "Hotel California" by the Eagles. Finn was enthralled. He stared at them with big eyes during a magical moment you could never recreate. During that trip, Finn got to play with this funny little drum toy, (toy rental through bajababygear.com and so worth it!) and when we got home, we bought that same toy because the sound reminded us of a great trip. Since then, we've taken Finn and Harlow both to Mexico, and each vacation was awesome.

This coming May, we are hoping to take our next big adventure to Greece and Italy. Greece is one of the most beautiful places in the world, and I can't wait to share it with my kids. Any time spent with family is precious, but there is something really remarkable about going to a different country. You get to leave all of the daily household stresses behind and deeply connect as a family without any noise from the outside world. Plus, as a dad, I am thrilled to show my kids something new and help them appreciate adventure and different cultures. It's a special thing, and I'm fortunate that I get to spend my life traveling with the people I love most.

-Case Barnett



ENJOY THESE 6 AUTUMN ACTIVITIES

Fun for the Whole Family!











Throughout November, everyone is eagerly looking forward to Thanksgiving, Black Friday, and Cyber Monday, but you shouldn't let the rest of the month slip past you! Enjoy these other fall activities with the whole family.

Homemade Caramel Apples Homemade treats are no doubt far better than their store-bought counterparts. Try your hand at making your own caramel apples for the whole family to enjoy. You can also add a number of toppings to liven things up, such as nuts, white or milk chocolate, coconut, sprinkles, or pecans.

Backyard Bonfire During these cold months, you may be tempted to stay indoors, but heading outside for a bonfire is a great way to spend time with your family while enjoying the brisk weather. If you have a fire pit in your backyard, now is the perfect time to take advantage of it by bundling up with some hot chocolate and s'mores.

Autumn Arrangements It's time to get crafty! Creating your own fall arrangements will ensure that your home has the seasonal decorations you want.

Making beautiful fall flower arrangements for your

kitchen table or wreaths for your front door to greet guests will create the desired autumn vibe you've been searching for.

Movie Night Gather your loved ones in the living room with popcorn, blankets, and a great film. Make the most of your autumn evenings by cozying up and spending quality time with each other while watching some family holiday favorites, like "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving" or the Thanksgiving comedy-drama "Pieces of April."

Home-Cooked Food When autumn rolls around, pie and warm cider may be high on your list of tasty treats you're eagerly anticipating. This fall, encourage your family to take part in making annual goodies and sharing them with your neighbors. Nothing warms the heart more than receiving a loaf of freshly baked pumpkin bread during these increasingly cold days.

Knitted Scarves If you're handy with knitting needles, now is the season to put them to work. Hand-knitted scarves are great gifts to give throughout the fall and winter, and you can also make it a family activity! Take some time

to teach your kids how to knit and crochet to create scarves of their very own.

SUCCESS STORIES

"Our civil case had been going on for about 8 1/2 years when Case became our primary attorney. From the first time we met, I was impressed with his compassion. He cared about how long our case had been going on and the fact that justice was not served. It was a personal injury case. My husband had a severe brain injury from a fall. Over the years after the fall, his mental health was failing and our quality of life was getting worse. My husband was never able to go back to any kind of work. He was in a high-level technical field. His income was above average and I was in a professional position. We depended on his income to live. I had to take over his care and still try to bring in some income. After a couple of years of searching, we found attorneys who would take our case. After several years, our attorneys had tried everything to get the defendants and their insurance company to make a reasonable settlement with us, and it did not look good for our case to continue.

"Then, one day, we were referred to Case Barnett Law. At first, I was skeptical that we still had a good chance of getting justice after years of legal disappointments. After speaking with Mr. Barnett, I felt hopeful again that we could finally get some help. Case Barnett took over our case. He was compassionate about our situation and started working to get our case to court. In just a few months, we were in court. Mr. Barnett presented our case and the simple facts. He was always professional, knowledgeable, and truthful. The jury believed him after hearing the simple facts of the case as presented by Case Barnett. The defendant's insurance company made a reasonable settlement, and now, over 10 years since the accident, my husband is getting the medical attention that he deserves. Without Case Barnett and his professional integrity, compassion, and hard work searching out the true facts of our case, we would never have reached a settlement. All I can say is thank you, Case."

-Gladys S.

Reminder About Our Firm's Communication Policy: Our promise to you is that we don't take inbound calls or emails while we are working on your case. Case Barnett takes no inbound unscheduled phone calls whatsoever. It makes him much more productive and helps get your case resolved faster. You can always call the office at 949-861-2990 and schedule an in-person or phone appointment, usually within 24–48 hours. This is a lot better than the endless game of "phone tag" played by most businesses today. Remember, too, that email is "quick," but is checked no more than twice a day. Replies are then scheduled into the calendar. So, if it's really important, don't email — call the office instead.













Hi there!

It's me, Harlow! My family just got back from a trip to Hawaii, and it was so much fun! We ate shaved ice and played on the beach and built sand castles. I even got to swim in the ocean like a fish! Our family travels a lot because Mommy and Daddy want to show my brother and me how fun and interesting the world is.

My first big trip was to San Jose del Cabo in Mexico. That's another country! This was really exciting because going to Mexico with Mommy and Daddy was Finn's first big trip, too. They went way before I was born and stayed in a town called Cabo San Lucas. My first trip was when I was just 6 months old. I didn't even know how to crawl yet, but I still had a lot of fun. I got to try tiny bites of tasty food, ride on a boat to look at sea lions sleeping on big rocks, and swim in a pool for the very first time.

I really like visiting warm, sunny places because it's like home, but I also like going somewhere really different. Like last October when we flew all the way across the country to Washington, D.C. Since we don't get fall weather in California, I really liked seeing the leaves changing colors and visiting a great big pumpkin patch with my brother.

Washington, D.C., is so cool. We explored all over the city, visiting the zoo and botanical gardens and a bunch of museums. Finn and I liked the science museum best because they had cool displays we got to play with. We also visited Georgetown, where my great-grandfather went to law school! I was so tired when we finally came home, but the trip was so much fun.

I love traveling with my family. There is always something new to discover!

What are some neat places you've been to?



Ingredients

- 5 pounds sweet potatoes
- 1 cup canned coconut milk
- 1 tablespoon Thai red curry paste
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 tablespoon kosher salt

Directions

- Heat oven to 375 F. On a large sheet pan, bake potatoes until very soft, approximately 75 minutes.
- 2. Let potatoes cool until they are safe to handle, then peel and mash.
- 3. In a small saucepan over low heat, combine coconut milk and curry paste. Once mixed, add the mixture, salt, half the sugar, and half the butter to potatoes.
- 4. 30 minutes before serving, heat oven to 425 F. Spread potatoes in a baking dish, cover with foil, and bake for 20 minutes.
- Uncover potatoes and dot with remaining butter and sugar. Broil until brown, crusty, and delicious. Serve hot.

Inspired by The New York Time

Word **SEARCH**



Black Friday Colonies Feast Football Gobble Grateful

Gravy Potatoes Thankful Thanksgiving Tradition Turkey

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BEST DIY GIFT IDEAS

FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST

Looking for gift ideas that don't break the bank but still show the special people in your life how much you care? Do-it-yourself (DIY) gifts are the way to go. Here are a few ideas to put together on a chilly night. Pull out your crafting supplies, turn on some holiday tunes, and get creative.

Best DIY Gift to Make With the Little Ones: Handprint Apron

Aunties, uncles, and godparents will love a gift that incorporates their favorite little ones, and it's a great way to get the kids in on the project. Choose some unadorned aprons from your local craft or home goods store and some acrylic paint in a variety of colors. Then get crafty! The kids can use their handprints as a starting point and add other decorations as they like. You can also find some fun ideas on the blog Little Page Turner, like painting a butterfly from your kids' stamped footprints. Have fun with it!

Best DIY Gift for Your Bestie: Personalized Mug

You only need a mug and an oven-safe or porcelain marker to create this personalized gift. Use a mug you already own, or pick one up from the

dollar store or thrift store, and get expressive! You could write a sweet or funny message ("but first, coffee" or "two shots, hold the chatter") or list their favorite beverage ("coffee, no sugar" or "green tea"). Write something that makes them think of you, or create a simple drawing. Enjoy the artistic freedom as much as they'll enjoy your thoughtful gift.

Best DIY Gift for Someone Special: Memory Map

Utilize a map, a pair of scissors, some glue, and your memories of meaningful places to create this sentimental gift. Choose map locations that are meaningful to you and your special person — where you met, where you celebrated special moments, where you first lived — and cut them out in geometric or heart shapes. Then,

glue the cutouts to a piece of matboard. You can add kind words at each point, or let the places explain themselves. Place in a frame and gift to your loved one.