

# Does NDIS Pay for Holidays? A Complete Guide

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is designed to provide funding and support to Australians living with a disability, helping them achieve greater independence and improve their quality of life. One of the most common questions participants and their families ask is: “**Does the NDIS pay for holidays?**”

The answer is not straightforward. While the [does ndis pay for holidays](#) not directly fund personal holidays or recreational trips, it may cover certain supports that make holidays possible, safe, and accessible. Let’s explore this in detail.

## Understanding the NDIS and Its Purpose

The NDIS provides funding for “**reasonable and necessary**” supports that help participants pursue their goals. These supports can include daily living assistance, therapy, assistive technology, and community participation.

Holidays, however, are generally considered **personal expenses**. Just like groceries, rent, or entertainment, the NDIS does not cover the cost of flights, hotel rooms, or holiday packages. But if a holiday aligns with your **NDIS goals** and requires disability-related support, the scheme may fund the assistance needed to make the trip possible.

## Does the NDIS Fund Holidays Directly?

No, the NDIS does not fund holidays directly. This means:

- **Travel costs** such as airfares, train tickets, fuel, or accommodation are not covered.
- **Entertainment expenses** like entry tickets to theme parks, movies, or tours are also not funded.

However, what the NDIS may cover are the **disability-related supports** you need during your holiday.

## What Holiday-Related Supports Can the NDIS Cover?

While the NDIS won’t pay for the holiday itself, it can help with:

### 1. Support Worker Costs

If you usually require a support worker at home, you may need their assistance while travelling. The NDIS can cover the costs of their support hours during the trip. However, extra expenses like their flights, food, or accommodation are considered personal and are not funded.

## 2. Transport Support

If you need special transport because of your disability (such as accessible taxis, modified vehicles, or community transport services), the NDIS may fund these supports during your holiday.

## 3. Respite and Short-Term Accommodation (STA)

The NDIS funds **Short-Term Accommodation (STA)**, which can sometimes be used for holidays if it meets your goals and care needs. STA provides support in a different location for a short period, giving both the participant and their carers a break.

## 4. Assistive Technology

If you require equipment such as wheelchairs, hoists, or other mobility aids while away, the NDIS may help fund temporary hire or transportation of these items.

## 5. Capacity Building Activities

If a holiday helps build your independence, social skills, or community participation, the supports needed for these activities may be funded. For example, joining a group holiday program designed for people with disabilities might align with NDIS goals.

## Examples of How NDIS Supports Holidays

- A participant who uses a wheelchair plans a family trip. The NDIS won't pay for the hotel stay but can fund a support worker to assist with mobility during the trip.
- A carer needs a break, so the participant uses NDIS-funded **STA/respice care** in a holiday-like setting.
- A participant joins a disability-friendly group travel program, and the NDIS covers the support worker's time, but not the cost of flights or tickets.

## What Holiday Costs Are Not Covered by NDIS?

The following are considered personal and will not be covered:

- Airfares, cruises, train tickets, or fuel
- Hotel or resort accommodation
- Meals and dining expenses
- Leisure activities like concerts, theme parks, or tours
- Support worker's personal costs (meals, travel, tickets)

## Tips for Using NDIS Funding for Holidays

1. **Plan Ahead** – Discuss holiday goals with your support coordinator or planner.
2. **Check Your Plan** – See if your plan includes **Core Supports, STA, or Community Participation** funding.

3. **Document Goals** – Link your holiday to your NDIS goals (e.g., building independence, learning new skills, or social participation).
4. **Get Approvals** – Ensure any supports you want funded are approved as “reasonable and necessary.”
5. **Budget Wisely** – Remember, the NDIS covers support needs, not personal vacation costs.

## Conclusion

So, does the NDIS pay for holidays? **Not directly.** While the scheme does not cover the actual cost of flights, hotels, or holiday activities, it may provide funding for the **supports you need to make a holiday possible and accessible.** This includes support workers, transport assistance, respite options, and equipment hire.

The key is to ensure your holiday is connected to your **NDIS goals** and that the supports requested are considered **reasonable and necessary.** With proper planning, the NDIS can help make holidays more inclusive and enjoyable, ensuring people with disabilities can travel with greater independence and confidence.