

The Philadelphia Inquirer

The pros and cons of using a travel agent



THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2018 | PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER | R1

CONS OF USING A TRAVEL AGENT

1.They Can Lack Customization

Some people like having full control of their travel plans, and there's nothing wrong with that! However, if you fall under this category, you may be better off planning your own vacation, as you'll be able to customize every detail of it exactly as you wish.

"In my experience, travel agents typically book you with their partnering hotels and organizations, which don't include rental properties like Airbnb or HomeAway," Nina Thomas, travel writer and author of the book *How to Be Your Own Travel Agent*, said.

From booking a flight on a service like Kayak to making dinner reservations on Open Table or picking a walking tour off of Yelp, it's not so difficult to DIY an amazing vacation anymore. There are plenty of helpful resources online available to plan a well-rounded vacation – it just takes some time and research.