

Editor's Note

Welcome everyone to our second issue! As promised in the first issue, we are here to bring you the very latest in Disney information. This month we have part 1 of a very special article relating to how to plan that perfect Walt Disney World vacation you have always wanted, as well as a short review of Disney/Pixar's 10th full length animated feature, "UP".

In the next month we will be refurbishing the website to have a brand new theme that hopefully will allow for easier user interaction, and also allow for updates directly on the website, as well as on our twitter account. If you aren't already following us on Twitter please do so by searching for DBHNewsletter, or by clicking the link on our webpage.

As always if you have any questions, suggestions, comments, or if you would like to help out with Donald's Boat House, please feel free to send me an email at Editor@DonaldsBoatHouse.com.

Stephen Champion
Editor

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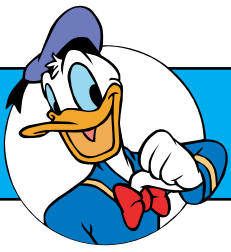
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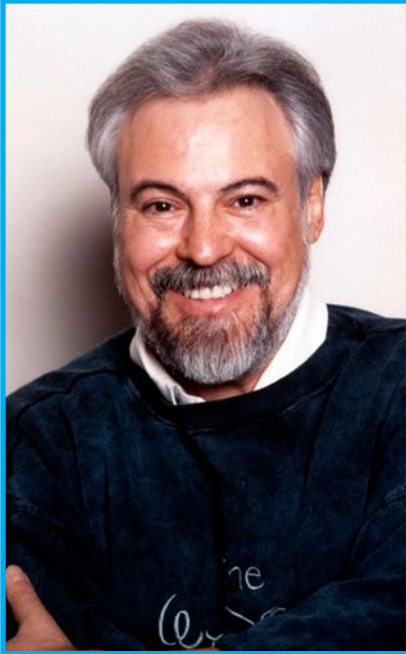
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WDW News Today and the
WDWNT Network

Disney Tunes Live



Disney Legend Wayne Allwine Dies



It is with a heavy heart that we must report that Wayne Allwine has passed away. Wayne was the voice of Mickey Mouse from 1977 until his death this May. He was 62 years old and only the 3rd person to voice Mickey, Walt being the first.

He joined the Walt Disney Company in 1966 and worked in the post room before progressing to a career in the sound effects department. After 7 years working under Jimmy MacDonald (The 2nd voice of Mickey) he got his chance when he was invited to an open audition when another actor didn't turn up. He made his debut on "The New Mickey Mouse Club" (1977-78) and went on to voice the famous mouse for Disney films, tv show, records, toys, video games and through the Disney theme parks.

Surviving him are his 5 children from a previous marriage, wife of 20 years Russi Taylor (who plays the voice of Minnie Mouse) and his grandson Issac. Wayne we thank you for your hard work, and we will miss you.

Disney Legend Marty Sklar Retires

Disney Imagineering Legend Marty Sklar announced that he will be retiring on July 17th, 2009. Marty has been a Disney cast member for the last 53 years and started his career at the Disneyland Park when it first opened in 1955 working in the public relations department. In 1961 he joined WED Enterprises and started his career as an Imagineer.

Marty has been involved in many projects most famously the realisation of EPCOT but also countless attractions and Disney theme parks all throughout the world. Marty is one of the last Imagineers to have worked personally with Walt Disney.

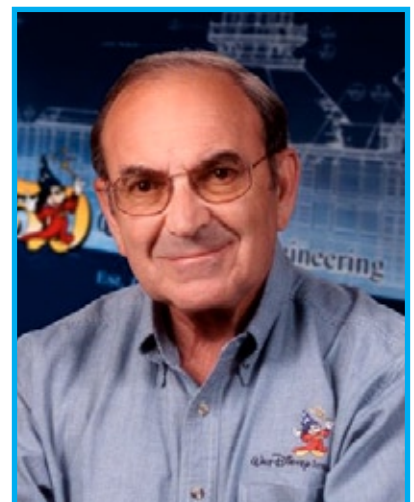
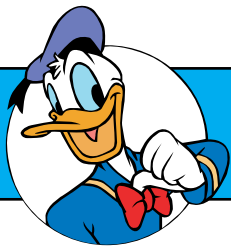


Photo: copyright Disney

The staff of Donald's Boat House would like to wish Marty a happy retirement.



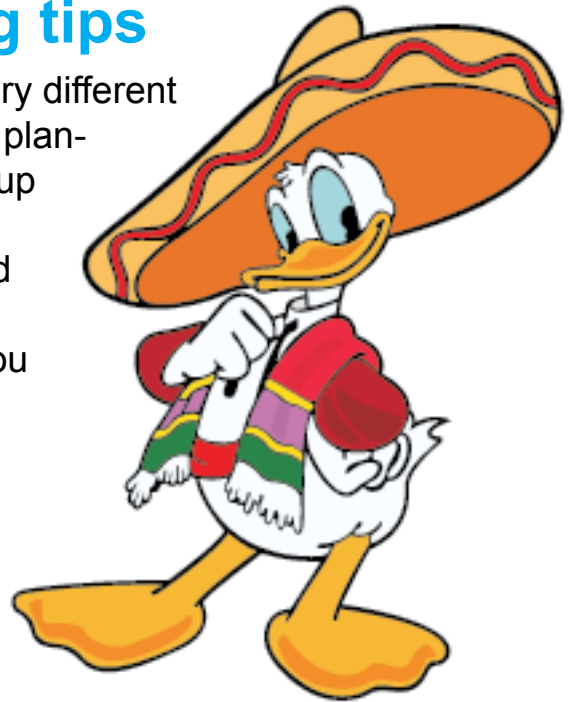
PLANNING A WALT DISNEY WORLD VACATION

Part 1: When to go & Booking tips

It all starts with a dream, but that dream can be very different depending on the dreamer so it is important when planning a Disney Vacation to sit down as a family/group and make the decisions. That way everyone feels that they are part of the magic and it helps to avoid those awkward arguments that seem to crop up when you are actually on your vacation.

What time of year should I go?

This is the first thing you need to decide, and can often be one of the toughest as it depends on the most 'variables' these are:



Crowd level – always a big factor, the parks have a high absorbency rate in terms of guest capacity however nobody really enjoys being elbow to elbow with 1000's of other people unable to get on any rides. So if it is your first time or you want to experience Disney at a slower pace then consider the less crowded times of year:



Attendance Levels

Lowest Attendance:

January (except New Year's Day) until just prior to Presidents' week in February
The week following Labor Day until just prior to Thanksgiving week
The week following Thanksgiving until the week prior to Christmas

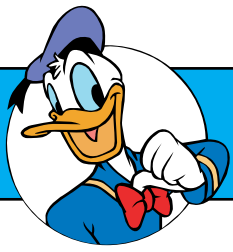
Moderate Attendance:

After Presidents' week in February through early March
Late April through early June (except Memorial Day weekend)
The first part of Thanksgiving week

Highest Attendance:

Presidents' week in February
Mid-March through Late April ("Spring Break")
Memorial Day weekend

*source www.disneyworld.com FAQs



PLANNING A WALT DISNEY WORLD VACATION

I usually go towards the end of August which in my opinion is never too crowded (you still get the big waits for Soarin' etc but clever use of the FastPass system can help that along). We have to travel this time of year as my mum is a school teacher and can only take a vacation during school holidays. Which leads me nicely on to the next point to consider; school holidays...

Should I take my kids out of school?

This is a hard question to answer and depends on many factors:

- The age of your children
- Your financial situation
- The school's policy on taking your children out of school

While the financial benefits are quite strong as you are not subject to the school holiday premium prices you have to weigh this up against the value of your child's education. It is also very dependant on the age of your child, it won't have much impact in their early years of education but as they get older you have to take exam periods into consideration.

Weather or not?

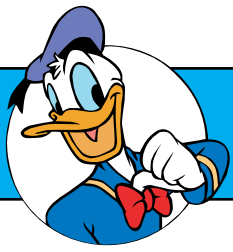
The weather is a big factor that can determine what time of year to go, and every time we visit I always have the same argument with my dad. He mentions without fail the dreaded H word...

Hurricanes anytime I mention Disney World & August. Tropical storms and Hurricanes are a common occurrence in this part of the world and the Hurricane season runs from June 1st to November 30th. Thankfully I have never been there during a

hurricane but I have experienced a couple of tropical storms (I flew in from the UK to WDW through TS Faye last year). However if you have the unfortunate experience of a hurricane don't worry, Walt Disney World Resort is the first theme park and resort area to be recognised by the National Weather Service as a StormReady® Community and is one of the safest places you can be. (Many local people from the Orlando area even head to WDW if there is a serious threat from a hurricane)



Photo: copyright www.weather.com The Weather Channel



PLANNING A WALT DISNEY WORLD VACATION

Apart from the threat of H & TS my dad is also concerned about the heat, in August the heat and humidity can be pretty intense but as long as you take the proper precautions you will be fine:



Sun / Heat Precautions

Hats are essential for children & adults as they help to avoid sun stroke
Sunscreen; the sun can be deceptively strong especially for younger children
remember to reapply it regularly

Hydrate; make sure every member of your group has a bottle of water on them. Once you have finished with the bottle keep it and refill it at the many water fountains located around the parks.

Take regular breaks. Whether that is popping into the air conditioned shops and attractions or popping back to your resort for a dip in the pool, it is very important and will help to calm the frayed tempers of little ones (and big ones) that have got a bit hot headed!

Photo: copyright Jim Grady



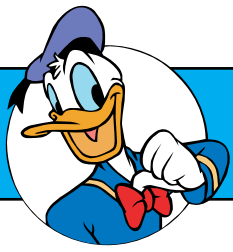
Photo: copyright Janney Henning

One last point to make is rain... people always think rain at a theme park is no fun. Agreed it isn't the best condition to explore Disney World but it does have its advantages.

TIP:

During the rainstorms that happen on a daily basis when we visit, the park empties out a little so all the attraction wait times come right down as people head for the comfort and shelter of their resorts. As long as you don't mind a little bit of water then put on a poncho and off you go! Why not try Splash Mountain after all you can't get much wetter.

The only big downside of the rain is the effect it has on fireworks and parades this is why it is important not to leave these to the end of your holiday; trust me they are something not to be missed.



PLANNING A WALT DISNEY WORLD VACATION

Taking the next step

After you have made all those really tough decisions then it is time to book the holiday. Here are some of the steps I take to ensure my family gets the best deal.

Firstly I look at what the travel agents are offering both in person and online and make a note of all the deals and extras each one is offering. Usually travel agents work out very expensive but if it is your first time to Disney it maybe the best way for you to get it organised without any hassle. When visiting your travel agents don't be scared about telling them what you have been offered by other travel agents you might get a discount or some extras thrown in free. It is always worth asking!

If you are a more experienced Disney goer or are looking for the cheapest deal and don't mind a little work then try and book the parts of your vacation yourself. For example I always book my flights and accommodation separately, I look through the list of airlines to find the best deal (It is always considerably cheaper to fly out and return mid week, avoid weekends if you can). From the UK I find it is best if you are thinking about staying on property to book your accommodation directly with Disney, the staff are very helpful and will spend as much time as you need helping you find the best resort for you and your family.

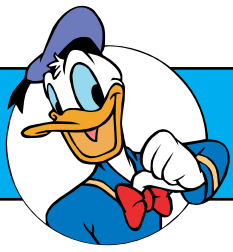


Disney quite often has lots of promotions for UK travellers and even offers ticket packages exclusively for their British guests; so a little work on your part can end up saving you a considerable amount of money. Also watch out for free dining offers from Disney, these will save you an incredible amount of cash and will encourage you to eat at new restaurants without having to worry about the cost.

Next Time...

In Part 2, I will discuss the preparations you should make before you go to help make your magical vacation as stress free as possible. Including Dining reservations, touring plans and what to pack!

By Kez Francis



WE'RE GOING "UP"

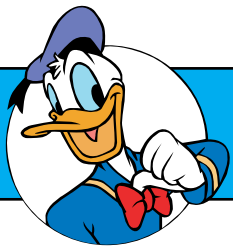
On May 29th, 2009, Disney and Pixar released their 10th full length animated feature, UP. In its first weekend UP brought in more than \$68.1 Million, beating out Wall-E in 2008 which grossed just over \$63 Million in it's first weekend. The movie tells the story of Carl Fredrickson during the adventure of his life, where we meet many interesting characters including Russell, Charles Muntz, Dug, and Kevin just to name a few. Many of us have seen the commercials and I don't want to give too much of the movie away as to not ruin it for all of you who haven't yet seen it, however, I will give a short little description about the background of the story.



Ever since Carl was a little kid he had dreamed of being a great explorer, following in the footsteps of his childhood hero Charles Muntz, who first discovered a land lost in time properly named, Paradise Falls. After being sentenced to go to an elderly home, Carl Fredrickson decides to take that adventure now, and ties thousands of balloons to his house. Unexpectedly Russell, an 8-year old Wilderness Explorer joins him for the ride. Along the way they meet a bird that Russell names Kevin, and a talking dog named Dug, which quite possibly carried the movie for a little bit with his hysterical lines. (Who knew that translating a dogs thoughts would be so entertaining?) The movie climax's with a big chase scene that is sure to leave you on the edge of your seat. Many of the articles and reviews that I have read online recommend that you bring some tissues with you if you are the type to cry during emotional movies, and I must agree with them.

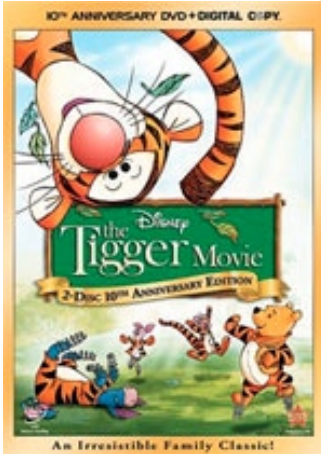
Although I viewed this movie in its Disney Digital 3D version, I have been told it is just as good in its 2D version, and if it's not available in your area in the Disney Digital 3D then I would highly recommend you see it in the classic 2D animation style. This is sure to be one of the hottest movies until Toy Story 3 comes out June 18th, 2010.

By Stephen Champion



COMING SOON TO DISNEY DVD & BLUE RAY

The Tigger Movie (10th Anniversary Edition)



Release Date: 4th August 2009

Starring: John Hurt, Ken Sansom, Kath Soucie, John Fiedler, Andre Stojka

Director: Jun Falkenstein

Everybody is busy helping Eeyore prepare his home for the winter ahead, but try as they might due to Tigger's excessive energy levels and constant bouncing they aren't having much luck. Rabbit suggests Tigger takes a break from helping and go and find the other Tiggers to bounce with. Tigger had never really thought about the notion of 'other Tiggers' before and this leads him on a hunt for his family, but it turns out his family are closer than he thinks. A heart warming tale for all the family.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

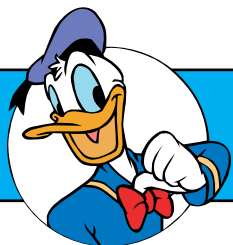


Release Date: October 6th 2009 on two-disc Blu-Ray DVD combo pack - November 24th 2009 on DVD only

Starring: Adriana Caselotti, Lucille La Verne, Roy Atwell, Pinto Colvig, Otis Harlan, Harry Stockwell

Director: David Hand

This October, be prepared to go to your local video store and purchase one of Walt Disney's classic animated features. His first full length animated feature to be exact. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs will be available on DVD and Blu-Ray for a short amount of time. So be sure to go out and get your copy.



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