



DONALD'S BOAT HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Volume 2 Issue 3
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Editor's Note

Welcome everyone to Volume 2 Issue 3 of Donald's Boat House Newsletter! This month we bring you many different articles including part 1 of a 3 part review of a Mediterranean adventure on the Disney Cruise Line, some facts about Disney's World of Color, information about Disney's newest destination, as well as information from around the Walt Disney World Resort and attraction closures.

Coming up over the next few months will be a multiple article review of many of the restaurants that the Walt Disney World Resort has to offer. It is sure to be a great review on its own, but we would also like to hear from you about your favorite dining experiences. If you would like to share your favorite dining experience or location, please email me at Editor@DonaldsBoatHouse.com.

As always if you have any comments, suggestions, would like to write for or help out with Donald's Boat House Newsletter, please send us an email to Editor@DonaldsBoatHouse.com, leave us a voicemail at (407) 374-DBHN, that's (407) 374-3246, by contacting us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/DBHNewsletter or by liking us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DBHNewsletter. We are always excited to hear about what you have to say and are always striving to make this newsletter what you all would like it to be. Let us know what you would like to read about and we will do our best to make it happen.

Stephen Champion
Editor

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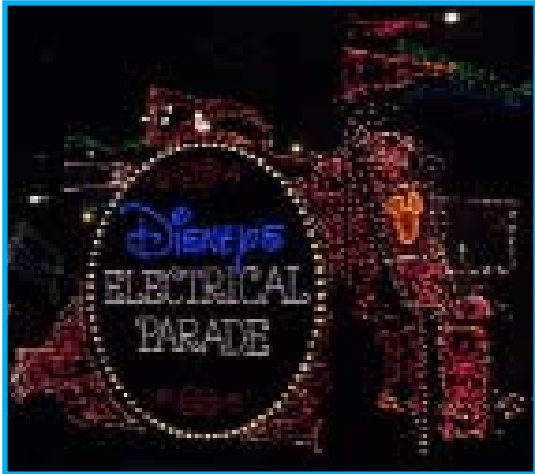
Disney Tunes Live

Disney By The Numbers

WDWTravels



Main Street Electrical Parade Staying



With the end of this year's Summer Nighttastic quickly approaching, Disney recently announced that the Main Street Electrical Parade will be staying at the Magic Kingdom beyond its original August 14 departure date. Disney's Main Street Electrical Parade replaced the usual Spectromagic as part of Disney's Summer Nighttastic promotion and has become a big hit since its return back in June. Much like Spectromagic, Disney's Main Street Electrical Parade includes thousands of lights covering performers and floats and takes place at 9:00pm each night.

Disney has not provided a new date with its departure, and is currently calling it an "open ended" run.

Storytime with Belle Leaving Magic Kingdom

Late last month Disney came out and said that the longtime Magic Kingdom attraction, Storytime with Belle will be leaving. This attraction, which sits across from Cosmic Ray's Starlight Café, consists of Belle coming out and retelling the story of Beauty and the Beast using audience members to help. Disney has said that the last showing of Storytime with Belle will be on September 12, to make room for a "play and greet" with Flynn Ryder and Rapunzel from Disney's upcoming animated feature Tangled on October 15. As more details become available we will pass them along to you, as well as pictures of the new "play and greet" once it's up and going.





KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE!

Have you ever gone to Disney World and thought to yourself, wow, I remember riding Dumbo as a kid and it still looks as great today as it did then? How does Disney do it? How do they keep rides current and looking so new? Many of us take for granted the Magic that we never see at Disney World. Yes, lots of Disney's magic take place behind the scenes, or when you are sleeping Tink and her helpers come out and sprinkle some pixie dust throughout the parks. On occasion however, various attractions throughout Disney do need to close temporarily for refurbishments. While Disney tries very hard to keep as much of the maintenance magic behind the scenes, this is a necessary part of keeping the magic anew and safe for all Disney guests to enjoy! On other occasions attractions close to make way for new and improved attractions, and these things do take time. It is always best check prior to your trip to see if there will be any refurbishments going on during your stay. The last thing you want is your prince or princess making a bee line for a much anticipated ride or show only to find it being refurbished during your stay.



Disney is always looking to make your experience more magical, and this year is no exception. With two new restaurants scheduled to open in Epcot's World Showcase look to find various closures in both the Mexican pavilion and the Italian pavilion.

The Mexican pavilion will be under refurbishment to make way for a fantastic 400 seat water side restaurant scheduled to open in the Fall of 2010, while the pavilion in Italy will be making way for a 300 seat pizzeria inspired by the famous pizzerias of Southern Italy. Did someone say YUM???



Have any of you been missing an old favorite by the name of Captain EO? For those of you who remember this show featuring Michael Jackson and his music, it originally ran from 1986-1994, well it is returning. Visit Epcot's future world and you will find a refurbishment of the old Honey I Shrank the Audience theater to make way for Captain EO's return. This will be a do not miss attraction for all guests!



KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE!

For all of you Star Wars fans, Disney has a great surprise in store for its wildly popular Star Tours attraction. Scheduled for a massive refurb to begin this September, you can look forward to a state of the art attraction to reopen sometime in 2011. When Star Tours reopens look for some major additions, including an all new 3-D experience that will include additions from the more recent Star Wars Movies. The force will be with this one that is for sure!

During your stay at a fabulous Disney resort you may find that they too do need updating from time to time. You can currently expect to see a brand new feature pool being built at Disney's Saratoga Springs. This resort is being updated with a massive 3300 square foot zero depth entry pool complete with a large slide and massive pool deck scheduled to be completed by Mid 2011. Don't worry if you are scheduled to be staying here, you can still relax at the current feature pool or another quiet pool during your stay. Now, we can't talk about resort refurbishments without mentioning a little project called The Art of Animation, ok so maybe little would be a bit understated. The Art of Animation is Disney's newest resort scheduled to be built by Pop Century as a larger than life themed value resort with nearly 2000 rooms, over half of them will be made into the ever popular family suites. With the popularity of Disney's All Star Music family suites, this is a wonderful addition to the value resorts, offering larger families a great alternative to booking two rooms.





KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE!

Finally, I suppose we should mention another little refurbishment scheduled for the Magic Kingdom itself. You may have heard about this expansion when Disney held a press conference to announce it. Now if Disney is holding a press conference just to announce it you know that I am again using the word little lightly! That is right, Disney has announced what it is calling the biggest overhaul in its theme park history. The massive refurbishment of Fantasyland has begun and is scheduled to continue through 2013! Don't fret, this refurbishment will be taking part in sections and most of your main fantasyland attractions will remain open during this project, note however a rehab is scheduled for It's a Small World from Aug 1st-Oct 22nd. This massive project is going to include various lands themed around most of your favorite princesses, including a new Little Mermaid Ride, Beast's castle, many new restaurants and attractions, and of course even Disney's wildly popular villains will have a place here. Dumbo will find himself doubling in size in the new "Circus Grounds", taking the space currently occupied by Mickey's Toontown Fair. You will find your favorite fairies joining the party in the new Pixie Hollow and much much more.

Disney is always working to make its guests experience new and exciting ,and rehabs and refurbishments are just part of the necessity. So next time you visit Disney and wonder wow, how do they do that, or when did they add that. Remember while magic and pixie dust play a large part all that you see, it not without lots of hard work and imagination that Disney keeps Walt's dream alive for us to enjoy year after year!

By Stephanie Johnston-Sprenkle
WDWTravels



Disney Heads to Egypt

Think Disney is all about movies and theme parks? Well that might have been true at one point, but not anymore.

Adventures by Disney has been providing people with the Disney vacation touch they want, without having to spend their time at a Disney theme park and resort since 2005. Travel locations such as Australia, China, Costa Rica, England, France, Italy, and South Africa, just to name a few. In total there are over 20 different destination packages that Adventures by Disney has to offer, except they have just added 2 more to their listing.



Starting in 2011 Adventures by Disney will be heading to Egypt with 2 different treks, a 7-night option and 9-night option. Both vacations include a camel ride past the pyramids and sphinx in Giza, as well as three nights in Cairo, Egypt's capitol city, and a three night Nile cruise. On the 9-night option you will also spend two nights at the Red Sea Resort of Sharm el Sheikh.

The recommended age for both options is 8 years old or older, but the minimum age requirement is 4. (Note guests under 18 must be accompanied by parent or legal guardian.) The price tag for a vacation like this isn't very little either, but is sure to be worth it from reviews people have posted about past Adventures by Disney vacations. For an adult expect this vacation to cost around \$5,000 - \$6,000 plus airfare to and from the destination, and for children expect it to cost around \$4,500 - \$5,700 plus airfare to and from the destination, on the 9-night option. The 7-night option is a little bit less, ranging from \$4,000 - \$5,300 for adults and \$3,600 - \$4,800 for children. Both prices include the service of two Adventure Guides, luggage service, transportation within your adventure, family activities, special fun for the kids, accommodations, VIP access and exclusive activities, cultural entertainment with local experts, scheduled meals, activities, and entertainment. Be sure to contact your travel agent or call (800) 543-0865 to book your trip today. It's sure to be a trip that you will never forget.



MAGIC IN THE MEDITERRANEAN (PART 1)

I just returned home from yet another amazing Disney cruise. This time was a bit different, all my other cruises have always visited the Caribbean, well this time I sailed with Mickey all the way to the Mediterranean! The itinerary for our 11 night sailing included Malta, Tunisia, Naples, Rome, La Spezia, Corsica, and Villefranche... with 3 days at sea.

Our journey began at JFK Airport where we (just hubby and I, no kids this time) boarded our direct flight to Barcelona. Once arriving in Barcelona we retrieved our luggage (after going through customs and getting our first stamp in our passports) and proceeded to find our Disney shuttle bus. About a 20 min bus ride later we arrived at the port. Of course check-in wasn't as smooth as it is at Port Canaveral, but we were on the first sailing out of Barcelona so I am sure they were still working on the kinks.



While waiting in the terminal Spanish Mickey came to pay a visit.

Once we were onboard we headed right to Parrot Cay for lunch and then at 1:30 we were able to check out our room, this time we were in a Cat 7 with a navigator's veranda, it was fantastic we had a veranda but enclosed with a large open port hole! After the lifeboat drill a nap was needed; then we got ready for the show and dinner. Our first night we ate in Lumias, my favorite of the 3 main dining rooms where we met our servers Agus and Guissipe and our tablemates Heather and Brian. After dinner we called it a night, we were exhausted!



Our first day was at sea, it also happened to be my birthday. Sea days on Disney Cruise Line are wonderful, they offer just enough stuff for everyone throughout most of the day and if you don't want to do anything but relax, there are many areas for that! We attended a DVC Members Celebration in the morning and then ate brunch. We then decided to watch a cooking demonstration and attend the art auction (didn't get



MAGIC IN THE MEDITERRANEAN (PART 1)

anything this cruise). Then we just relaxed until it was time to get ready for the show and dinner. Since we had late seating we had our show at 6:30 and dinner at 8:30. Tonight's dinner was at Animators Palate and before dessert they brought me a cake and sang "Happy Birthday".

After dinner we went over to Rock'n Bar D and enjoyed the comedy show. Then off to bed, our first port of call awaits for us in the morning.... Malta....



Malta is a small island off of Sicily. It is rich in culture with a mix of history from Phoenicians and Romans to the French and British. The great thing about this small island in respect to traveling by ship is you can see most everything in a day. You can also walk to most of the main attractions, just as we did. We visited the fort where they do the cannon salute at noon every day. We also visited a few Cathedrals and the Armory. While

there we tried the local food and wine at a wonderful restaurant, La Mere. We just stumbled upon it and later found out how highly recommended it was. **** Note that there are many steep inclines and many stairs while walking around the city, wear comfortable shoes and dress modestly if visiting the Cathedrals, women must have their knees and shoulders covered. Also, if you are wearing a backpack they will ask you to carry it in front (trust me, I know).**

After returning to the ship we got ready for dinner and off we went for the evening. There is always entertainment going on down at Beat Street, the over 18 area. Sessions piano bar offers a relaxing social environment where Rock'n Bar D has music and lively entertainment. Kid's areas are always open to at least midnight.

Next up... Tunis, Tunisia

When we pulled up to the port we were greeted by locals and their camels. It was so neat to wake up, look out our veranda and see camels!





MAGIC IN THE MEDITERRANEAN (PART 1)



Tunisia, the smallest country in Africa, boasts an array of diversity for an entire continent. We decided to take a Disney Port Excursion for this port since it was pretty foreign to us and attractions weren't too close to the port. We boarded a bus and headed to the city of Sidi Bou Said, a Moorish village on top of the cliffs overlooking the Bay of Tunis. While there we visited a palace and the market, beware that the villagers in the market are very pushy, much more so

than any Caribbean islands I have visited. After a couple of hours in Sidi Bou Said we traveled to Carthage where we visited Roman ruins; the Theater and the Antonin Baths. By this time we were getting very hungry so luckily we were heading back to the ship. That was the only problem I had with the tour, no time for lunch. When we came to the port they were doing camel rides, so my hunger had to be suppressed for just a little while longer while I had my turn.

Once we came onboard though we headed straight to the pool deck to Pluto's Dog House for some chicken tenders and fries! YUMMY! Then back to the cabin for a quick nap then to get ready for the show and dinner.

Stay tuned... up next, our first of 3 stops in Italy, Naples...

By Alyson
WDWTravels



Disney's FastPass System

Disney's FastPass system is easily one of my favorite features in the theme parks. I remember that when it debuted in 1999 I was amazed that Disney would let their guests get away with "not standing in line!" Even though I was quite young (a teenager), I immediately recognized that this was a big deal in terms of the way we toured the parks.

For those of you unfamiliar with the FastPass (FP) system, the simplest breakdown is this: In an effort to alleviate long lines at certain popular attractions, Disney created the FP, which allows guests to come to an attraction at a designated time and enter with very little to no wait.

Here are some tips to help you use FP:

MAKE A PLAN: You are probably not going to be able to utilize a FP on all of the attractions for which it is offered (especially in the Magic Kingdom!). Go through your park map before you get there and determine which attractions are "do or die." This will mean either using the Stand-By Line for some attractions or coming back a second day to do some attractions. Making this decision beforehand will reduce disappointment and frustration in your group.

GET TO THE PARKS EARLY: There is a set amount of FP distributed for each attraction in a day. For some headliners, if you do not get a FP within the first few hours that the park is open, you will be relegated to the Stand-By Line (I'm talking to YOU Toy Story Midway Mania!!!!)

IF POSSIBLE, HAVE A RUNNER: If your group has a reliable teenager or otherwise energetic person, send THAT person to get a FP for everyone. It is more efficient for one person to navigate crowds than a whole group, and it allows the others in the party to take a breather (i.e. restroom break, quick shopping, grab a snack, etc...) as they work their way to the next attraction or meeting spot. I have been the designated runner since I was a teenager, and this definitely helps in my family.

BE AWARE OF THE TIMES!: This tip is two-fold. First of all, look at the Stand-By Line. If the wait is 25 minutes or less, you should just get in line and save your FP for another attraction. Secondly, be aware of the return time—especially if you are park hopping later or have ADRs. If the return time is 6:30pm and you have ADRs at a resort for 7pm, you are NOT going to make it!





Disney's FastPass System

****Spread the magic****

If you have a FP for later, but realize you'll be unable to use it, for whatever reason, give them away to unsuspecting strangers! This way the FP is not wasted AND you've spread a bit of pixie dust to another family.

I really wanted to share SPECIFIC directions, an itinerary even, for making the most out of your FastPass (FP)—which ones to get, when, and in what order—but it really all boils down to what YOUR family's favorite attractions are. That being said, I'll tell you with a few thoughts on individual attractions and some of my personal strategies.

In the Magic Kingdom

-- FP for Space Mountain run out early. If you want to ride, get this FP first.

--If your child wants to ride The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh or Peter Pan's Flight, you have only 3 options that will keep your sanity:

1. Be there at park opening.

2. Get a FP.

3. Ride during a parade/fireworks. Otherwise you will be left in a LOOOOONNNNG-GGG line for a short (although adorable) ride.

--If I have to choose between a FP for Splash Mountain or Big Thunder Mountain Railroad, I'm going to choose BTMR every time. The queue for Splash Mountain is much more interesting, and it is much cooler temperature wise. Also, although the logs seat few people, they load very quickly, making for a constantly moving line (for me, a moving line makes me feel like I'm not waiting long).

--I never waste a FP on Mickey's Philharmagic*. The theater seats several hundred people at a time, so even when a line looks long you generally only have to wait for the next show. If worse comes to worse, you can literally walk into the attraction directly after the fireworks.

*It should be noted that I avoid d the Magic Kingdom like the plague on high capacity days, so I might rethink the FP on those days.

In Epcot

--If you want a FP for Soarin', get it early. However, I must interject that because of the slow-loading nature of this attraction, even with a FP I waited nearly 30 minutes to ride. In my opinion, if the wait is 45 minutes or less I would rather go through the Stand-By Line because it has some very cool interactive games along the way to keep guests entertained while they wait.

--Test Track and Mission: Space are about even when it come to running out of FP during the day. Base your decision on what your group wants to ride and check the Wait Times Boards in Future World to check out Stand-By times.



Disney's FastPass System

In Hollywood Studios

--Toy Story Midway Mania: get there early, or don't get a FP. My husband and I could never get to the Studios early enough for a FP on this attraction, thusly dooming us to a 1+ hour wait in the Stand-By Line (totally worth it though; this attraction is awesome!).

--Rock 'n' Roller Coaster vs. Tower of Terror: I always get a FP for Rock 'n' Roller Coaster and go through the Stand-By for Tower of Terror. Similar to the BTMR vs. Splash, this boils down to the fact that the Tower or Terror loads much more quickly than the Rock 'n' Roller Coaster.

In Animal Kingdom

--Arrive early! Get a FP for Expedition Everest, then go straight to the Kilimanjaro Safari. Being early has two benefits: you'll beat the crowds and you'll see more animals on the safari, as they tend to be more alert in the cooler mornings.

--On hot days FP for Kali River Rapids will run out quickly.

By: [Aubrey Cooper of WDWTravels](#)



World of Color - By Numbers

I am so excited to share with you some exciting details about...



...the newest show to premier at Disney's California Adventure Park in California.

As a Special Guest, I was invited to view the show at the World Premier along with Disney celebrities and movie and television personalities.

From the official program I received on June 10th, I've detailed



WORLD OF COLOR - By NUMBERS



26 minutes = length of the show
15 months to transform Paradise Bay
Almost 1,200 powerful and programmable fountains
Nearly ONE acre of engineered superstructure rises out of Paradise Bay
6 = Number of dome projection screens
At 120 yards, the Paradise Bay stage is longer than a football field
Fountain heights range from 30 ft. to 200 ft. in the air (Mickey's Fun Wheel is 150 ft. tall)



The underwater grid has over 18,000 points of control
One of the world's largest projected WATER SCREENS = 50 ft. HIGH, 19,000 sq. ft.
in all, 380 ft. wide



WORLD OF COLOR - By NUMBERS



Show score features more than 79,241 musical notes

Soundtrack performed by 100+ musicians and a choir of 100+ voices

36 fire cannons of varying sizes

12 of them mounted on swivels

50 animators from Disney and Pixar created the elements of the show

9-24-1961 is the date Walt Disney's Wonderful World of Color first aired on TV

More than 100,000 images are featured in World of Color ~ Can you see Dory?



Score spans 8 decades of classic Disney music and songs

28 high definition projectors, 14 of them are submersible

5 months to program the show

6 Technical Directors to run the show



WORLD OF COLOR - By NUMBERS

For more information about the World of Color,
included tips on the best place to view the show,
contact me:

Terri Hawkyard

Your Personal Travel Consultant ~ Disneyland Destination Specialist

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Attraction Closure

Walt Disney World The Magic Kingdom

- "Summer Nightastic!" Fireworks Spectacular Performs 6/5/10-8/14/10
- Liberty Square Riverboat Closed 8/16/10-8/25/10
- "it's a small world" Closed 8/1/10-10/22/10
- Wishes! fireworks Return 8/15/10
- Storytime with Belle Final Performances 9/12/10
- "Play and Greet with Characters from "Tangled" Debuts 10/15/10
- Spectromagic parade Returns TBA
- Walt Disney World Railroad will close for 3-4 months in 2010 to accommodate Fantasyland Expansion
- Mickey's Toontown Fair Closes Permanently Fall 2010
- Goofy's Barnstormer at Wiseacre Farm Closes TBA to be transformed into a Dumbo themed coaster
- The Many Adventures of Winnie The Pooh facade, queue, and Pooh's Thoughtful Spot will be re-themed to the Hundred Acre Woods during Current Exterior Refurbishment & Closure 10/25/10-11/14/10
- Fantasyland Forrest Expansion Phase I (includes Cinderella, Aurora, Belle, and Ariel Realms, and Dumbo's circus area) Opens Fall 2012
- Fantasyland Forrest Expansion Phase II (includes Pixie Hollow) Opens 2013



Attraction Closure

EPCOT

- Hacienda de San Angel Restaurant Opening Fall 2010
- “Via Napoli” Pizzeria/Restaurant by Patina Restaurant Group Opens 8/2/10
- Werther’s Original Candy Shop replaces Goebel Store in Germany Fall 2010

Disney’s Hollywood Studios

- The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror Adds “Summer Nightstastic!” Drop Sequences and Effects 6/6/10-8/14/10
- Toy Story Midway Mania! Closed 8/16/10-8/28/10
- Walt Disney: One Man’s Dream Closed 8/16/10-11/2/10
- Sounds Dangerous Starring Drew Carrey Open 8/16/10-8/28/10 & 9/8/10-5/16/10
- Muppet What-Not Workshop inside Stage 1 Studio Store Opens 2010
- Star Tours Closed 9/8/10-5/16/11
- “Star Tours: The Adventures Continue” in Disney Digital 3-D Opens 5/11
- High School Musical 3: Senior Year – Right Here, Right Now Final Performance 10/2/10
- New Disney Channel Stage Show Debuts 10/22/10

Disney’s Animal Kingdom

- Flame Tree Barbecue restaurant Closed 8/9/10-9/19/10

Downtown Disney

- Pollo Campero fast-food restaurant Opens Fall 2010

Resort Hotels

- Disney’s Art of Animation Resort Opens 2012

Water Parks

- Typhoon Lagoon Closed 10/31/10-1/8/11
- Blizzard Beach Closed 1/9/11-3/19/11



Attraction Closure

Disneyland Park:

- Star Tours Closed 7/27/10
- Roger Rabbit Cartoon Spin Closed 9/20/10 – 12/16/10
- Mark Twain Riverboat 9/27/10 – 9/30/10
- Main Street Vehicles Closed 9/7/10 – 9/30/10
- Newsstand Closed 9/7/10 – 9/30/10
- Village Haus Closed 8/30/10 – 12/19/10
- Alice In Wonderland Closed Indefinitely
- French Market Closed 9/13/10 – 9/17/10
- Haunted Mansion Closed to Install Holiday Overlay 8/30/10 – 9/16/10
- Space Mountain Closed to Install Ghost Galaxy 9/12/10 – 9/16/10
- Star Tours II Opens Spring 2011

Disney's California Adventure:

- Toy Story Midway Mania Closed 8/30/10 – 10/10/10
- Pizza Oom Mow Mow Closing 9/7/10
- Catch a Flave Closed 9/7/10 – 9/16/10
- Corn Dog Castle Closed 6/1/09-3/24/11
- Souvenir 66 Closed 6/1/09-3/24/11
- Twilight Zone Tower of Terror FASTPASS Closed 4/10/10-8/15/10
- A Bug's Land/Hollywood Land Path Closed 4/19/10-8/15/10
- Mulholland Madness Scheduled to Close Fall 2010
- Buena Vista Street Construction Scheduled to Begin 2010
- Paradise Garden Grill Opens 2011
- Boardwalk Pasta and Pizza Opens 2011
- The Little Mermaid: Ariel's Undersea Adventure Opens 2011
- Cars Land Opens 2012



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