FACT SHEET

Walt Disney World®



CONTACT US:

Walt Disney World Resort
Communications: WDW.Communications@disney.com
Public Relations: WDW.Public.Relations@disney.com
wdwnews.com

Walt Disney World Resort is a world-class entertainment and recreation destination featuring four of the most popular theme parks from around the globe, two thrilling water parks, nearly 29,000 hotel rooms, a sports complex, four golf courses and Disney Springs—a metropolis of shopping, dining and entertainment. Since 1971, Walt Disney World has focused on delivering legendary guest service and one-of-a-kind experiences that make it the largest and most visited theme park destination in the world where families create magical memories.

With a rich heritage of storytelling, Disney Parks combines creativity, innovation and technology to immerse guests of all ages in classic Disney tales and family entertainment. Whether celebrating a special occasion, the vacation of a lifetime, or just a day of fun, there's nothing like a visit to Walt Disney World. No matter how guests choose to visit, there's always a wide variety of ticket, dining and hotel options, and promotional offers during the year to help families save on their Disney vacations.

Disney is one of the largest employers in Florida, directly and indirectly accounting for more than a quarter of a million jobs as a result of its presence in Florida with approximately 80,000 cast members wearing the iconic Walt Disney World name tag. One in every 32 Florida jobs can be attributed to Disney. Without Disney, Florida's unemployment rate would jump from the 21st lowest to the second highest among all 50 states.

WALT DISNEY WORLD RESORT

- OPENING DATE: October 1, 1971
- LOCATION: Lake Buena Vista, Florida, just 30 minutes from the Orlando International Airport and 20 miles southwest of Orlando
- THEME PARKS: Four
- RESORT HOTELS: More than 25



© Disney

OVERVIEW









NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- A newly reimagined Animation Courtyard is now open at Disney's Hollywood Studios. Inspired by The Walt Disney Studios lot in Burbank, California, the outdoor courtyard features magical new details for families and animation fans of all ages to enjoy. The area also features a new experience inspired by The Walt Disney Studios and the Emmy Award-winning short film, "Once Upon a Studio." "The Magic of Disney Animation" includes character greetings, an animation experience, a short film and the indoor Drawn to Wonderland play area.
- Cinderella Castle has a new color palette after months of collaboration and work at Magic Kingdom. The castle now features colors of gray, creams, blues and touches of gold – which was inspired by the castle's original look in 1971.
- Walt Disney's Carousel of Progress is now closed as Imagineers update new scenes to new decades. The classic attraction will also feature an all-new audio-animatronic of Walt Disney when it reopens to guests in 2027.
- Opening on July 1, 2027, Disney's Lakeshore Lodge will celebrate the beauty and magic of nature as seen through the eyes of Disney artists and storytellers. Inspired by Walt Disney's lifelong admiration for the great outdoors, the resort's design will pay tribute to decades of animated stories rooted in nature, with subtle nods to classic films — from the lush forests of Bambi and the colorful winds of Pocahontas to the sweeping glacial landscapes of Brother Bear.

Construction has already begun to bring new stories to life at Walt Disney World, including:

- Monstropolis at Hollywood Studios, where you can join Sulley, Mike, and the rest of the crew from the Pixar Animation Studios film "Monsters, Inc." and experience the first suspended coaster ever in a Disney theme park.
- Tropical Americas at Disney's Animal Kingdom will share new stories from renowned archeologist Indiana Jones, and the Madrigal family's magical casita from Walt Disney Animation Studios' Oscar-winning film "Encanto."
- Piston Peak National Park, a new area inspired by Pixar's "Cars," will race into Magic Kingdom with two new attractions, one inviting guests to embark on a thrilling rally race through the mountains.
- An all-new multi-acre land dedicated to the Disney Villains will add to the largest expansion in Magic Kingdom's history with two major attractions, plus dining and shopping.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

For more than five decades, Walt Disney World Resort has played an active role in finding solutions to important matters affecting Floridians. Our company and its cast members show up as a force for good. We create happiness for kids and families when they need it most and strengthen Florida's economy in ways only Disney can.

We are constantly investing in nonprofit organizations through volunteering and by making significant financial and non-financial contributions to causes that address basic needs and are valued by our cast members. In 2026, we supported more than 100 nonprofit organizations across Florida with cast contributing 200,000 VoluntEAR hours. We also provided millions in financial and in-kind donations to nonprofits, schools, children's hospitals and more.

Earlier this year, Walt Disney World Resort announced a new collaboration with Boys & Girls Clubs to expand Disney Dreamers Academy into a year-round, multi-year experience designed to reach students earlier and keep them connected over time. The initial pilot brings the program to middle school Club members in the Orlando, Miami, Atlanta and Houston metropolitan areas.

We continue to move forward with developers on work around an attainable housing community in Central Florida. In addition to providing approximately 1,400 units, this community will create new jobs as part of construction and operation.

More than 50,000 Florida-registered car owners have purchased Walt Disney World specialty license plates to date. Launched during our 50th Anniversary celebration and updated in 2023 with

© Disney

a new design, 100-percent of the proceeds from the plates benefit Make-A-Wish of Central and Northern Florida. More than $6 million has been raised so far, directly supporting their mission of making wishes come true for children with critical illnesses.

Disney has a longstanding relationship with Make-A-Wish dating back to 1980, and since then, more than 165,000 Disney-inspired wishes have been granted, including thousands taking place at Walt Disney World Resort alone. Through the experience of wishes coming true at Disney, children and their families find the hope and joy needed to confront and overcome the challenges of tomorrow.

Throughout the 2025 holiday season, we celebrated some favorite annual traditions by serving 1,000 meals at Coalition for the Homeless on Thanksgiving Day, collecting more than 25,000 toys for families in need alongside the U.S. Marines as part of the Disney Ultimate Toy Drive supporting Toys for Tots and more. We were also honored to surprise Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida with a donation equaling 600,000 meals.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Walt Disney World Resort is an economic engine that fuels Florida's economy, jobs and tourism. The resort, which is one of the world's most visited vacation destinations, generated $40 billion in economic impact across the state and more than a quarter of a million total jobs in fiscal year 2022, according to a study by Oxford Economics.

Beyond our own workforce, Disney also supports thousands of small businesses, many who are local to Florida and employ additional workers.

Walt Disney World contributed $1.236 billion in state and local taxes paid and collected in FY24, representing a $2.4 million increase over FY23.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Walt Disney World Resort is committed to minimizing its overall impact on the environment, focusing on reduced energy consumption, water conservation and diversion of waste from landfills.

Single-use plastic straws and plastic stirrers have been removed as part of The Walt Disney Company's commitment to eliminate these items at locations around the globe. Across Walt Disney World resorts, plastic packaging has been phased out of bath amenities and vanity amenity kits, helping prevent millions of pieces of plastic waste.

Disney's Animals, Science and Environment team cares for thousands of animals in Central Florida and partners with the Disney Conservation Fund (DCF) on its efforts to save wildlife around the world, inspire action and protect the planet.

The animal care team has welcomed numerous baby animals to the herd at Disney's Animal Kingdom Theme Park and Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge, including the most recent additions of Bakari the silverback gorilla and Ivy the Masai giraffe. These births are part of the Species Survival Plan overseen by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, which ensures responsible breeding of threatened and endangered species.

Since 1995, the Disney Conservation Fund has directed $141 million to support nonprofit organizations working with communities to save wildlife, inspire action and protect the planet – including more than 1,000 species around the world and more than 332 million acres of habitat. Additionally, Disney Conservation Team Wildlife leads best-in-class scientific programs to conserve wildlife in Disney's backyard and beyond, connects people to build a network for nature, and cares for the planet through everyday actions.









WALT DISNEY WORLD RESORT PARKS

MAGIC KINGDOM PARK

Opened: October 1, 1971

Disney's first theme park in Florida has six themed lands with dozens of attractions built around wonder, fantasy and fun: Main Street, U.S.A.; Adventureland; Frontierland; Liberty Square; Fantasyland and Tomorrowland.

ATTRACTION & EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS:
Big Thunder Mountain Railroad, Buzz Lightyear's Space Ranger Spin, Disney Starlight: Dream

© Disney









The Night Away Dumbo the Flying Elephant, Happily Ever After presented by Pandora® Jewelry, "it's a small world," Jungle Cruise, Mickey's PhilharMagic, Monsters, Inc. Laugh Floor, Peter Pan's Flight, Pirates of the Caribbean, Seven Dwarfs Mine Train, Space Mountain, Tiana's Bayou Adventure, Tomorrowland Transit Authority PeopleMover, The Haunted Mansion, The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh, TRON Lightcycle / Run presented by Enterprise, Under the Sea ~ Journey of The Little Mermaid.

EPCOT

Opened: October 1, 1982

Spark your imagination in a place where the impossible becomes possible. At EPCOT, guests discover an amazing array of attractions, shows, interactive presentations, live performances, seasonal festivals, and architectural wonders in four distinct neighborhoods: World Discovery, World Nature, World Celebration, and World Showcase.

ATTRACTION & EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS:
Frozen Ever After, Gran Fiesta Tour Starring the Three Caballeros, Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind, Mission: SPACE, Journey of Water, Inspired by Moana, Luminous The Symphony of Us, Remy's Ratatouille Adventure, Soarin' Across America, Spaceship Earth, Test Track Presented by General Motors, The American Adventure, The Seas with Nemo & Friends, Turtle Talk with Crush.

DISNEY'S HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS

Opened: May 1, 1989

Disney's Hollywood Studios is where imagined worlds become adventurous realities. Guests become part of the story while sharing belly laughs with favorite pals or feeling the excitement in every drop, loop or blast off.

ATTRACTION & EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS:
Alien Swirling Saucers, Beauty and the Beast - Live on Stage, Fantasmic!, Disney Jr. Mickey Mouse Clubhouse Live!, For the First Time in Forever: A Frozen Sing-Along Celebration, Mickey & Minnie's Runaway Railway, Millennium Falcon: Smugglers Run, Rock 'n' Roller Coaster Starring The Muppets, Slinky Dog Dash, Star Tours — The Adventures Continue, Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance, The Magic of Disney Animation, The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror™[2], Toy Story Mania!, Wonderful World of Animation

2 Inspired by The Twilight Zone® a registered trademark of CBS, Inc. All rights reserved.

DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM THEME PARK

Opened: April 22, 1998

From unparalleled experiences to award-winning conservation efforts, and faraway lands to global cuisine, Disney's Animal Kingdom Theme Park is a world of adventures with exotic animals, prehistoric giants and beloved Disney characters. Jungles, forests, floating mountains and a vast savanna are divided into five themed lands: Africa, DinoLand U.S.A., Discovery Island, Asia and Pandora - The World of Avatar.

ATTRACTION & EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS:
Avatar Flight of Passage, Expedition Everest – Legend of the Forbidden Mountain, Feathered Friends in Flight!, Festival of the Lion King, "Finding Nemo: The Big Blue... and Beyond!", Kali River Rapids, Kilimanjaro Safaris, Na'vi River Journey, Bluey's Wild World at Conservation Station, The Tree of Life.

DISNEY'S TYPHOON LAGOON WATER PARK

Opened: June 1, 1989

Disney's Typhoon Lagoon is a themed water park inspired by the imagined legend of a typhoon, earthquake and ensuing tidal wave combining to create an inland sea with breaker waves and a towering watershed mountain atop which is a stranded shrimp boat, the park's iconic Miss Tilly.

DISNEY'S BLIZZARD BEACH WATER PARK

Opened: April 1, 1995

Disney's Blizzard Beach is a themed water park inspired by the mythology of a snow ski resort

© Disney

that didn't exactly find a suitable climate in Florida. The park features 13 water attractions including Tike's Peak, a water play area for kids inspired by Disney's Frozen.

DISNEY SPRINGS

Disney Springs is a one-of-a-kind retail, dining, and entertainment district at Walt Disney World Resort, with beautiful open-air promenades and lakefront views reminiscent of Florida waterfront towns at the turn of the 20th century. The area features over 60 restaurants, including dining experiences crafted by world-renowned chefs, over 80 shops combining top-name retail brands and specialty boutiques, and more than 120 acres of fun. Disney Springs is home to four distinct, outdoor neighborhoods: The Landing, Marketplace, West Side and Town Center.



DISNEY RESORTS COLLECTION

- HOTELS: More than 25 resorts owned and operated by Walt Disney World Resort (includes 12 Disney Vacation Club properties).
- TOTAL NUMBER OF HOTEL ROOMS: Nearly 29,000 hotel rooms at Walt Disney World Resort.

MAGIC KINGDOM RESORT AREA

Disney's Contemporary Resort
Bay Lake Tower at Disney's Contemporary Resort
Disney's Grand Floridian Resort & Spa
The Villas at Disney's Grand Floridian Resort & Spa
Disney's Polynesian Village Resort
Disney's Polynesian Villas and Bungalows
Island Tower at Disney's Polynesian Villas & Bungalows
Disney's Wilderness Lodge
Boulder Ridge Villas at Disney's Wilderness Lodge
Copper Creek Villas & Cabins at Disney's Wilderness Lodge
The Cabins at Disney's Fort Wilderness Resort
The Cabins at Disney's Fort Wilderness Resort – A Disney Vacation Club Resort
The Campsites at Disney's Fort Wilderness Resort



EPCOT RESORT AREA

Disney's Yacht Club Resort
Disney's Beach Club Resort
Disney's Beach Club Villas
Disney's BoardWalk Inn
Disney's BoardWalk Villas





© Disney

Disney's Riviera Resort



DISNEY SPRINGS RESORT AREA

Disney's Port Orleans Resort – French Quarter
Disney's Port Orleans Resort – Riverside
Disney's Old Key West Resort
Disney's Saratoga Springs Resort & Spa

DISNEY'S HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS AREA

Disney's Art of Animation Resort
Disney's Pop Century Resort
Disney's Caribbean Beach Resort



DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM RESORT AREA

Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge
Disney's Animal Kingdom Villas – Kidani Village
Disney's Animal Kingdom Villas – Jambo House
Disney's Coronado Springs Resort
Gran Destino Tower at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort
Disney's All-Star Movies Resort
Disney's All-Star Music Resort
Disney's All-Star Sports Resort



WALT DISNEY WORLD FEATURES

CONVENTION FACILITIES

More than 500,000 square feet of ballroom, meeting and function space is available in five convention resorts throughout the Walt Disney World Resort.

ESPN WIDE WORLD OF SPORTS COMPLEX

Walt Disney World Resort opened ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in 1997, and in so doing, pioneered a new type of Disney vacation experience where athletes at all levels and ages could pursue their sports dreams. The complex is the home of a variety of events including Disney Soccer and has accommodated 70 different sports featuring athletes from 70 different countries since opening in 1997. The complex also continues to attract unique, high-profile events such as Banana Ball and WWE, helping draw new audiences to Central Florida and further strengthening its reputation as a premier destination for sports tourism. The 260+-acre facility features multiple competition venues, including 16 baseball/softball fields; a 9,500-seat stadium; a state-of-the-art indoor arena and two versatile field houses for basketball, volleyball, and other indoor sports; and 17 multipurpose fields for outdoor sports including soccer, football and field hockey. The complex includes a professional production center that produces content for global distribution on the Disney family of networks.



DIGITAL GUEST EXPERIENCE

The My Disney Experience app offers an array of convenient features designed to maximize vacation time. Guests can do everything from enter the park, unlock their resort room, book lightning lanes, mobile order food, view wait times, make dining reservations, and check out for merchandise at several Walt Disney World locations.

MagicBands are all-in-one wearables that provide easy access to our theme parks and Resort hotels while seamlessly linking in-park experiences to tools in the My Disney Experience app like Disney PhotoPass photos, Lightning Lane reservations and more. Experience even more with MagicBand+, which retains the popular MagicBand features while adding functionality that unlocks new moments of magic, including immersive theme park experiences – like Star Wars: Batuu Bounty Hunters at Disney's Hollywood Studios – and integration with Disney Live Entertainment shows and our nighttime spectaculars.

© Disney

FUN FACTS

- Following the success of Disneyland, which opened in 1955, entertainment pioneer Walt Disney (1901-66) set his sights on what he called his company's "most exciting and challenging assignment" — the creation of a vast vacation paradise known today as Walt Disney World Resort. The Walt Disney Company acquired more than 25,000 acres in Central Florida and after seven years of preparation, including 52 months of construction, the first of four theme Parks - Magic Kingdom Park - opened in 1971.
- Walt Disney World Resort is approximately the size of San Francisco.
- Magic Kingdom Park's blue- and gold-turreted, 18-tower icon, Cinderella Castle, rises 189 feet above the park's 142 acres.
- The icon of EPCOT, Spaceship Earth, is a geodesic sphere standing 180 feet tall. It's made up of two spherical structures with a ride track encased inside. On the outside, 11,324 aluminum triangle tiles catch the attention of guests as soon as they walk into the park.
- The Millennium Falcon docked at the Black Spire Outpost Spaceport in Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge measures more than 100 feet long.
- Inspired by the icy peaks of the Himalayan Mountains in Asia, the Expedition Everest mountain is considered the tallest "mountain" in Florida at almost 200 feet.
- All aboard! The Walt Disney World Railroad operates four steam-powered trains originally built between 1916 and 1928. That means some of them are more than 100 years old.









© Disney

WALT DISNEY WORLD MAP



© Disney