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, more than 30,000 hotel rooms, a sports complex, several golf courses and Disney Springs—a bustling 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 number one vacation 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 in classic Disney tales and innovative family entertainment. Today, hundreds of millions of guests from around the globe visit this magical place to enjoy a Disney vacation — where guests of all ages, play and learn together.
OVERVIEW

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

In preparation for its 50th Anniversary in 2021, Walt Disney World Resort is experiencing unprecedented growth. From the highly successful Pandora – The World of Avatar in 2017 to the opening of Toy Story Land in June 2018 and Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge in August 2019, the resort is adding new experiences that combine beloved Disney characters and storytelling, legendary service and the most innovative technology to create extraordinary experiences Disney is known for.

Gran Destino tower, a 15-story tower with rooftop dining, opened July 9 at Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort, joining updated guest rooms that have new furnishings and a color palette that ties the resort together. The new tower offers 545 modern guest rooms (including 50 suites and club-level services), a grand two-story lobby, new meeting venues, new lounges and a rooftop restaurant with spectacular views.

When visiting Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge at Disney’s Hollywood Studios, guests become part of the story on the remote planet of Batuu as they sample galactic food and beverages, explore an intriguing collection of merchant shops and take the controls of the most famous ship in the galaxy aboard Millennium Falcon: Smugglers Run. Opening later this year on Dec. 5, 2019, will be Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance, the most immersive and advanced attraction ever imagined. In spring 2020, Mickey & Minnie’s Runaway Railway, the first-ever ride-through attraction themed to Mickey & Minnie Mouse, will roll into Disney’s Hollywood Studios. Mickey & Minnie’s Runaway Railway will put guests inside the wacky and unpredictable world of Disney Channel’s Emmy® Award-winning “Mickey Mouse” cartoon shorts!

“Epcot Forever”, a new, limited-time spectacle of fireworks, music, lighting, lasers and choreographed, special effects kites debuted on Oct. 1. In 2020, following the run of “Epcot Forever,” the new “Harmonious” will debut as one of the largest nighttime spectacles ever created for a Disney park, celebrating how the music of Disney inspires people the world over.

Epcot’s historic transformation is well underway, bringing the next generation of immersive storytelling to life through a plethora of new attractions and experiences, including Remy’s Ratatouille Adventure, Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind, Journey of Water, Inspired by Moana, the first attraction inspired by Mary Poppins, and more! Epcot will be unified with four neighborhoods that each speak to important aspects of the world and its people: World Showcase, World Celebration, World Nature and World Discovery. These neighborhoods will be filled with new experiences rooted in authenticity and innovation. Walt Disney Imagineering presents the Epcot Experience opened on Oct. 1, giving guests a glimpse into what’s on the horizon for this theme park.

TRON Lightcycle / Run will ride into Magic Kingdom Park in 2021, letting guests board a train of two-wheeled Lightcycles and experience the energy, lights and excitement of TRON’s high-tech universe.

Disney Skyliner, a new state-of-the-art transportation system, took flight on Sept. 29, offering guests sweeping views while whisking them between Epcot, Disney’s Hollywood Studios and four Disney resort hotels.

In December, Disney’s Riviera Resort, the 15th Disney Vacation Club property that was inspired by the grandeur of Europe but reimagined à la Disney magic, is projected to open.

Reflections, A Disney Lakeside Lodge, will be a unique hotel and proposed Disney Vacation Club resort inspired by the wonders of nature and artistry of Walt Disney.

Star Wars: Galactic Starcruiser will be a, first-of-its-kind vacation experience where guests will check in for a two-night adventure aboard a glamorous starship. Once onboard, guests will interact with characters and become active participants in stories that unfold around them on their galactic journey.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Walt Disney World Resort is committed to helping Central Florida become an even better place to live, work and play. The company contributes to the community in many ways, including through cash and in-kind support for local nonprofit organizations, leadership on important community issues and hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours by Disney Cast Members.

As part of its overall $3.9 million community investment in 2018, Walt Disney World Resort awarded $800,000 in Disney Grants to unique and promising community projects ranging from workforce development for students to assisted therapy for veterans and individuals with special needs.

© Disney
More than 1,700 Cast Members participated in the “Disney VoluntEARS” grant program, converting their VoluntEARS hours into nearly $1.6 million in grants to 685 nonprofit agencies and community service groups.

Throughout the years, more than 130,000 Disney-inspired wishes have been granted through Make-A-Wish, including visits to our theme parks, Disney cruises, and meet and greets with beloved Disney celebrities and characters. One of every two Make-A-Wish wishes in the United States comes true each year in partnership with The Walt Disney Company. At Walt Disney World Resort, more than 8,400 wish trips for children annually, and the resort donated complimentary tickets valued at more than $17 million to Give Kids the World Village and other wish-granting organizations.

In 2018, Disney VoluntEARS logged over 360,000 hours of service toward improving lives of Central Floridians. Efforts ranged from donating more than $200,000 worth of school supplies to local teachers, to serving more than 9,000 meals to those in need. Walt Disney World Resort also supports nonprofit organizations that help drive change for local children and families by providing immersive, in-kind experiences, including an exclusive preview of Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge for more than 1,000 students from Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida prior to the land’s grand opening at Disney’s Hollywood Studios.

Additionally, the Walt Disney World Resort made a $1.5 million investment in the reimagination and relocation of Valencia College’s culinary arts and hospitality program to its new campus in the heart of downtown Orlando. With the support from Disney, the new campus features state-of-the-art classrooms, culinary equipment and cutting-edge technology for aspiring culinary arts and hospitality students. Valencia’s culinary arts and hospitality programming offers degree programs, certificates and workforce training.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT**

Walt Disney World Resort is a significant contributor to the economic well-being and vitality of Central Florida. Disney is the largest single-site employer in the United States, employing more than 77,000 Cast Members in Central Florida, in more than 3,000 different job classifications with total 2019 annual payroll exceeding $3 billion. Walt Disney World Resort is the largest single taxpayer in Central Florida, contributing $991.4 million in total state and local taxes paid and collected for 2019.

**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. In February 2019, a 270-acre, 50-megawatt solar facility went online, generating enough renewable clean energy to operate two of Disney’s four theme parks in Central Florida annually, all while reducing greenhouse gas emissions by more than 50,000 tons per year.

In addition, 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. Since June 2018, Disney’s Animal Kingdom has welcomed five Masai giraffe calves, to Kilimanjaro Safaris. Grace, a western lowland gorilla born at the theme park in May, was named after the GRACE gorilla sanctuary in the Democratic Republic of Congo where Disney animal care experts have spent more than 10 years helping the local community rehabilitate orphan gorillas.

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.

Disney has donated more than $2.9 million to the Wildlife Conservation Network’s Lion Recovery Fund and its partners as part of the 2019 release of The Lion King, and invited fans to help double the donation for a total contribution of up to $3 million. Fans participated by taking part in celebratory experiences and purchasing special edition products, as part of The Lion King “Protect the Pride” campaign.

Single-use plastic straws and plastic stirrers have been eliminated as part of The Walt Disney Company’s commitment to eliminate these items at locations around the globe. In addition, Walt Disney World Resort is reducing in-room plastics by 80 percent, reducing plastic shopping bags and eliminating polystyrene cups. In April 2019 Walt Disney World Cast Members joined Disney employees around the world who pledged to reduce their use of single-use plastics. The pledges resulted in a donation of $50,000 by DCF to Ocean Conservancy’s Trash Free Seas® program to help keep oceans and beaches healthy and free from plastic waste.
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 HIGHLIGHTS:**

EPCOT  
Opened: October 1, 1982

Touch the future and travel the world at Epcot. This park comprises an amazing array of attractions, shows, interactive presentations, live performances and architectural wonders. Guests are immersed in a world of technological accomplishments and international cultural achievements.

**ATTRACTION HIGHLIGHTS:**

DISNEY’S HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS  
Opened: May 1, 1989

Celebrating 30 years of epic excitement during the largest expansion in the theme park’s history, 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 from hidden temples to giant backyards or even the ultimate rock ‘n’ roll road trip.

**ATTRACTION HIGHLIGHTS:**

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DISNEY’S ANIMAL KINGDOM THEME PARK
Opened: April 22, 1998

From creatures wild and whimsical to Broadway-caliber shows, from unparalleled experiences to award-winning conservation efforts, from exotic lands to cuisine that celebrates a global park, Disney’s Animal Kingdom Theme Park is a world of adventures from day to night, 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 HIGHLIGHTS:

DISNEY’S TYphoon LAGOON WATER PARK
Opened: June 1, 1989

Disney’s Typhoon Lagoon is a 61-acre 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 66-acre themed water park inspired by the mythology of a snow ski resort that didn’t exactly find a suitable climate in Florida. The park features 13 water attractions and seasonal events.

DISNEY SPRINGS
A bustling metropolis of shopping, dining and entertainment locations, the 120-acre Disney Springs is home to a collection of more than 150 shops and restaurants, including top-name retail brands, specialty boutiques and dining experiences created by celebrity and award-winning chefs. Drawing inspiration from Florida’s waterfront towns and natural beauty, Disney Springs is home to four distinct, outdoor neighborhoods: The Landing, Marketplace, West Side and Town Center. At the recently opened NBA Experience, Guests feel what it’s like to be a basketball superstar in an one-of-a-kind environment with 13 interactive elements and hands-on activities across 44,000 square feet and two floors. Cirque du Soleil artistry combined with classic Disney storytelling will introduce Guests to an all-new Cirque du Soleil show at Disney Springs, opening in spring 2020.
WALT DISNEY WORLD RESORT HOTELS

**HOTELS:** Twenty-nine resorts owned and operated by the Walt Disney World Resort (includes ten Disney Vacation Club properties).

**TOTAL NUMBER OF HOTEL ROOMS:** More than 30,000 hotel rooms at Walt Disney World Resort.

### MAGIC KINGDOM RESORT AREA

**5 HOTELS:** 5 Disney Vacation Club Properties; 1 Campground

- Disney’s Contemporary Resort – 656 rooms
- Bay Lake Tower at Disney’s Contemporary Resort – 428 rooms
- Disney’s Grand Floridian Resort & Spa – 867 rooms
- The Villas at Disney’s Grand Floridian Resort & Spa – 147 rooms
- Disney’s Polynesian Resort – 847 rooms
- Disney’s Polynesian Villas and Bungalows – 380 rooms
- Disney’s Wilderness Lodge – 725 rooms
- Boulder Ridge Villas at Disney’s Wilderness Lodge – 114 rooms
- Copper Creek Villas & Cabins at Disney’s Wilderness Lodge – 184 rooms
- Disney’s Fort Wilderness Resort and Campground – 799 campsites and 408 cabins

### EPCOT RESORT AREA

**3 HOTELS:** 2 Disney Vacation Club Properties

- Disney’s Yacht Club Resort – 621 rooms
- Disney’s Beach Club Resort – 576 rooms
- Disney’s Beach Club Villas – 282 rooms
- Disney’s BoardWalk Inn – 372 rooms
- Disney’s BoardWalk Villas – 532 rooms

### DISNEY SPRINGS RESORT AREA

**2 HOTELS:** 2 Disney Vacation Club Properties

- Disney’s Port Orleans Resort–French Quarter – 1,008 rooms
- Disney’s Port Orleans Resort–Riverside – 2,047 rooms
- Disney’s Old Key West Resort – 761 rooms
- Disney’s Saratoga Springs Resort & Spa – 1,320 rooms

### DISNEY’S HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS AREA

**3 HOTELS**

- Disney’s Art of Animation Resort – 1,984 rooms
- Disney’s Pop Century Resort – 2,870 rooms
- Disney’s Caribbean Beach Resort – 2,109 rooms

### DISNEY’S ANIMAL KINGDOM RESORT AREA

**5 HOTELS:** 1 Disney Vacation Club Property

- Disney’s Animal Kingdom Lodge – 970 rooms
- Disney’s Animal Kingdom Villas – 709 rooms
- Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort – 2,385 rooms
- Gran Destino Tower at Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort – 545 rooms
- Disney’s All-Star Movies Resort – 1,915 rooms
- Disney’s All-Star Music Resort – 1,699 rooms
- Disney’s All-Star Sports Resort – 1,910 rooms

### WALT DISNEY WORLD FEATURES

**CONVENTION FACILITIES**

More than 700,000 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 hosts more than 100 entertainment and sports events a year and has accommodated athletes from around the world in more than 70 different sports. The 220-acre facility features multiple competition venues, including 16 baseball/softball fields, The Stadium at ESPN Wide World of Sports 18 multi-purpose outdoor fields for soccer, football and lacrosse, three field houses for basketball, volleyball, and other indoor sports, a track & field facility and cross-country course, and a tennis court complex with 10 courts. The Arena at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex expanded the complex facilities to create a new home for cheerleading, dance competitions and other indoor sports. The complex has hosted multi-sport competitions and festivals and will serve as the official host of the 2022 Special Olympic USA Games.

CLUB 33

As an extension of the legendary private Membership club founded by Walt Disney at Disneyland Resort, Club 33 Members at Walt Disney World Resort can enjoy special access and exceptional service at select Walt Disney World theme park locations. Each venue is uniquely themed to represent Walt and Lillian Disney’s adventures around the world.

DIGITAL GUEST EXPERIENCE

Walt Disney World Resort features a digital platform centered around the My Disney Experience website and mobile app, a one-stop shop for guests to enhance their experience by allowing them to customize and personalize every aspect of their vacation. Guests may select FastPass+ attractions and entertainment experiences, access park information, buy tickets, book dining reservations, edit PhotoPass pictures and order food and beverage items at participating locations. MagicBands are all-in-one devices that connect guests to the choices they make on My Disney Experience and may be used for room and park entry, dining plan redemption, Fast Pass+ redemption and more.

Guests can also download the Play Disney Parks app, turning visits to Walt Disney World Resort into new, interactive adventures. The app offers unique experiences that leverage the theme park environment—from games that interact with attraction queues, to specially themed, digital achievements they can earn and collect for experiences in the parks or in the app, Disney trivia, curated Disney Parks playlists through Apple Music® and more—all specifically designed for groups and families to play together.

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—opened in 1971.
- The proper ty also features two full-service spas, four professional golf courses, four miniature golf courses and Disney’s Wedding Pavilion.
- Walt Disney World Resort is approximately the size of San Francisco.
- Walt Disney World Cast Members come from all over the world, representing more than 80 nationalities and speaking more than 50 different languages.
- Traditionally recognized as a top-ranked wedding and honeymoon destination, Walt Disney World Resort currently hosts more than 1,200 couples tying the knot each year.
- Magic Kingdom Park’s blue- and gold-turreted, 18-tower icon, Cinderella Castle, rises 189 feet above the park’s 142 acres.
- On the iconic Spaceship Earth at Epcot, 11,324 alucobond tiles make up the exterior of the geodesic sphere, which stands 18 stories tall.
- At 145 feet tall, the Tree of Life is topped with more than 103,000 transparent, five-shades-of-green leaves and features the shapes of over 300 animals carved into the tree.
- The Millennium Falcon docked at the Black Spire Outpost Spaceport in Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge measures more than 100 feet long.
- Walt Disney World Resort recently launched the plant-based menu icon and introduced new options at our theme parks and resort hotels. If you’re craving tasty plant-powered snacks and treats during your visit, you can explore more than 400 craveable dishes!