



# News

## Message Board Topics:

- General Trip Planning
- Where to Eat & Sleep
- Pin Trading & Collecting
- Disney Vacation Club
- Kids View
- Countdown to Magic
- Great Disney Deals
- Trip Reports
- Disney Cruise Chat

## Notice

Please note that Disneyzone is not affiliated with Disney in any way. We are a group of Disney World enthusiasts who want to assist you in making the most of your next Disney World vacation.

## FUN DISNEY FACTS

### 1. What do the letters in EPCOT stand for?



**Every Payday Comes On Thursday!** That's what one Cast Member told us during our recent trip. The real answer is: **Experimental Prototype Community Of Tomorrow**

## Disneyzone Forums

I want to encourage you to visit the **NEW** Disneyzone Forums, in case you have not already done so. The message boards are a great place to get some valuable advice from others.

When I was planning our trip, I found so much wonderful information on the various Disney World message boards .

You can ask very specific questions, and get several different answers which really assists you in making decisions. Other Disneyzone visitors may ask something you never even thought of, and give you a great idea. People post discount information, to help others save money, and others post time-saving tips. The trip reports that people post are also a great trip planning tool. You learn from their first hand experiences!

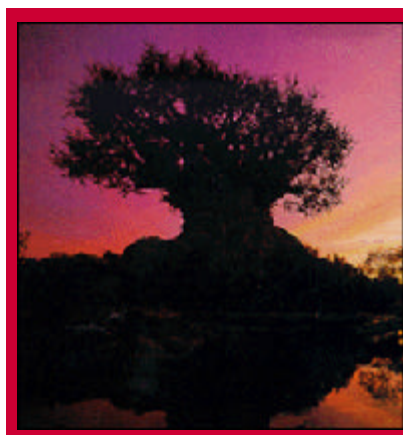
Even veteran Disney World visitors comment on how they have learned something **NEW** on the message boards. There is so much to see and do, how could anyone know it all?

The board moderators do a great job of keeping the messages on-topic and keep the discussions friendly. There are so many people who e-mail me saying they are afraid to post on other sites, because of fights and mistreatment by others, but feel very comfortable and welcomed at Disneyzone.

Become part of the Disneyzone Family and join us on the boards!

[www.disneyzone.net/boards.htm](http://www.disneyzone.net/boards.htm)

Registration is required to post and reply to messages, but it is quick and easy! Why not do it right now!?



## Seniors & Disney World

Disney World is a great vacation spot for people of all ages. Here are some tips to help make the trip even more enjoyable for the older crowd

I suggest you stay at one of the Disney resorts, this will allow you to get back to the hotel easily and relax for a few hours in the middle of the day.

Avoid the hottest parts of the year. The heat is hard on everyone, but it can be devastating to seniors. If you have a choice, go during the cooler months.

Rent a wheelchair if you have trouble walking long distances. All the parks have wheelchairs for rent. We used one for my mother in law, and it was a god-send! She was not happy about it at first, but after adapting about 10 minutes she was thrilled to have it!

Take advantage of all the shows, particularly the inside, sit-down attractions. This will give your body a little while to recoup from all the walking.

Don't try to keep up with the grandkids—sometimes it is ok to relax on a bench while the family goes on rides!

Use some common sense and you'll have a magical Trip!

## New Years Celebration

By Laura

"Laura, you've just been asked where you want to spend the biggest night of your life. Where are you going???" "I'M GOING TO DISNEY WORLD!!!!!" That pretty much sums up how my mom and I along with two friends ended up 'partying like it's 1999' one last time on a spur of the moment trip to Disney World from Dec. 27- Jan. 2.

After finding out that the group Youngstown would be performing at MGM, I knew that's where I wanted to ring in the year 2000 despite our prior plans to go to EPCOT.

Waking up early on New Years Eve day, my mom, our friend Miss Dot, and I got over to MGM right before it opened. Being resort guests at the All-Star Movies, we were guaranteed re-entry into the first park we had entered that day should it fill to capacity as expected. We ran into my best friend, Caitlin, and her cousin, Ashley, who would be spending New Years Eve night with me in MGM. After entering MGM and getting our hand stamped for re-entry later, and after also making sure the special New Years pin really was only being sold at EPCOT, we made a beeline for the exit. We hopped in our car and headed to the Beach Club where we were rendezvousing with the rest of our group for breakfast at Cape May. It was a wonderful breakfast with a lot of one-on-one interaction with the characters. You see, it seems as if everyone else was standing in line at the back entrance to EPCOT, facing over an hour long wait!!! The characters and our waiter got a huge kick out of the line; they had never ever seen that long of a line for entry into EPCOT!

After breakfast, we hopped on a bus for Down-

town Disney. I transferred to another bus to go back to the hotel to rest while the rest of our group did some pin shopping. About three o'clock, our group met up with Caitlin and Ashley and headed to EPCOT on the resort bus. The rest of Caitlin's family was already there at EPCOT. We had dinner reservations at the International Buffet that was set up right outside of EPCOT's International Gateway entrance. Remember that long line earlier that morning? Well, we had no problem getting into EPCOT; I walked right in with no line! While there we rode Test Track, visited the Coca-Cola Station (gotta love the Beverly!), and looked on in amazement at all the people camped out on the ground awaiting the midnight performance of Illuminations. We even saw an inflatable bed set up! About five o'clock, we headed for dinner. The food was ok but since I am very picky, I couldn't find anything I really liked. There was food from all different countries.

Caitlin, Ashley, and I then wished everyone Happy New Year and headed for the boat launch at the Beach Club. When we got to MGM, we went straight to the huge Christmas tree set up in front of the Chinese Theater where LFO and Youngstown would be performing. There was a huge area roped off in front of the stage while a DJ played. Upon asking a cast member if the ropes were going to be dropped so we could go right up to the stage, we were told that only people with wristbands would be allowed up there. Too bad we hadn't stuck around that morning and found out about the wristbands earlier. Oh well, it turned out okay. We were on the right side of the stage. At about 8:30pm, the center section was being moved up to the stage. Apparently the people

in front of us did not like that idea because before I knew it, people were ducking under the rope and rushing towards the stage. I saw Caitlin start to run, so I grabbed her arm with one hand, Ashley's with another (can you see us being separated now???) and we ran for it! It was quite an experience! It was fun although we were stomped on and ended up feeling like sardines in a can. But who cares???

I certainly didn't after ending up front and center! Whoohoo! I was so excited! LFO performed two ½ hour shows at 9:30pm and 10:30pm. Since most of the people there did not know who



Youngstown was (Inspector Gadget theme song), we ended up in the second or third row by Youngstown's 11:30pm performance. Talk about great photo ops! A few minutes before midnight they ended. That's when the fireworks at MGM's entrance started. It was so beautiful. I wish I could say that about the fireworks which were shot off as the clock struck midnight. Unfortunately, the fireworks were behind that huge Christmas tree and we were in front of it. From what I saw though they were great! But I would not have changed our location for anything. I had wiggled myself up to the front row during this celebration with the nicest and coolest cast members you will ever meet (I swear one looked just like Patrick Swayze!) We even became friends with the girls around us! We stayed there for Youngstown's second performance at 12:30pm! Talk about leaving 1999 and entering 2000 with a bang!

After Youngstown left the stage, we rushed around behind the tree. An autograph by Dallas on my hand, a picture of DC with Caitlin and me, and two rolls of film later, we finally sat down and rested our poor legs. We had been standing for 4-5 hours! Our legs had no feeling and we had to learn how to walk again. On our way out of the park, we even got a special New Years mug which was only sold that day.

We met back up with everyone at the Beach Club where my mom's friend was working. Leaving at 2:30am, it took us 30 minutes to drive from the Beach Club to the All-Star Movies. I have never seen so many cars on Disney property in my many trips there! It took me awhile but I finally calmed down and got to sleep around 4am.

**It was the best night of my life and I can't wait to do it all over again next millennium!**

## Taking Kids out of School for Vacations

Recently on the message boards there was a great topic. The question was: Do you take your kids out of school for your Disney vacations? This could have become a hot and heated argument, but the Disneyzone visitors handled it all quite well, and debated calmly.

Some of the issues mentioned really make sense, and there were some great points made. If your child is going to be out of school for a week or so, you will have to ask their teachers to get make-up work to take with you, and you must be willing to make your child do his work during the vacation. Your child may also miss tests, which will have to be made-up after your child goes back to school.

Every child is different, and what one child can handle, as far as making up work and doing work while on vacation differs from one child to the next. Even very bright kids sometimes get very upset when they get behind. Other children can handle it just fine. I have never taken my kids

out for more than a day at a time, mainly because I have never needed to. I certainly can see both sides of the debate!

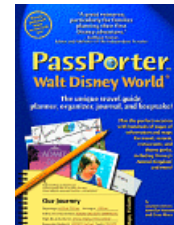
**There is no one answer.** It really depends on your child, and what special effort you will make to help your child make-up the work. I think that younger children will have less of a problem than an older child, just because of the amount of work required. For some families going during the school year is the only time they can go, and I think if I had that limitation, I would choose to go at that time, rather than not at all!

There are many learning opportunities available at Disney World. My children learned a lot during our trip—and we were not even trying to teach them anything! In my opinion, a day at Epcot is easily worth a week at school! You can take a trip to Kennedy Space Center part of your vacation, which would be another wonderful experience that they would surely remember forever. It's all just a personal decision!

## March Chat Room Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Weds.	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
			1 General Chat 9 PM EST	2 Pin Collecting Chat with Wiyaka 9 PM EST	3	4
5 Special Chat Meet the PassPorter's Authors! 9 PM EST	6 Tips to avoid gaining weight on vacation with Tim 9 PM EST	7 General Disney Chat 9 PM EST	8 Chat with Genii 9 PM EST	9 Pin Collecting Chat with Wiyaka 9 PM EST	10	11
12 Chat with Randy 9 PM EST	13 General DVC Chat with Tim 9 PM EST	14 General Disney Chat 9 PM EST	15 Chat with Genii 9 PM EST	16 Pin Collecting Chat With Wiyaka 9 PM EST	17	18
19 Chat with Randy 9 PM EST	20 Low Cost Meals at WDW with Tim 9 PM EST	21 General Disney Chat 9 PM EST	22 Chat with Genii 9 PM EST	23 Pin Collecting Chat With Wiyaka 9 PM EST	24	25
26 Chat with Randy 9 PM EST	27 Cruise Chat with Tim 9 PM EST	28 General Disney Chat 9 PM EST	29 Chat with Genii 9 PM EST	30 Pin Collecting Chat With Wiyaka 9 PM EST	31	

Special Chat - Sunday,  
March 5th at 9pm  
Come meet the authors of  
the PassPorter Walt  
Disney World Guidebook!



[www.disneyzone.net/chat.htm](http://www.disneyzone.net/chat.htm)

## Sue's Restaurant Review

### Coral Reef Review

The Coral Reef is located in the Living Seas Pavilion at Epcot. It is designed to feel as though you are dining underwater. The main focal point is a large aquarium measuring 35,000 sq. feet and 203 feet in diameter. all of the tables are set in tiers so that everyone has an unobstructed view.

Here are a few sample menu items:

Some Appetizers are Cream of Lobster soup, Lobster corn beignets (my favorite) and for the really brave there is Alligator sausage. Entrees include Alaskan Halibut, Seafood Enchiladas, Whole Roasted Snapper and for those of you who don't like seafood there is pan seared Filet Mignon and Grilled Marinated Chicken.

And finally some Dessert choices are Chocolate Wave, Pineapple Upside-dome Cake, and Cheesecake.

The price for dinner at the Coral Reef usually ranges from about \$20-\$30 per person.

Although the Coral Reef is a beautiful Restaurant, I feel that the food could be a little better. In the fall of 1998 the restaurant was refurbished and the menu was changed. I have been to the Coral Reef several times, both before and after the refurbishment, it is my opinion that the food was better before.

Although my husband and other members of my family feel differently than I do and still enjoy going there. I wouldn't say not to try the Coral Reef, but if you do, try it during lunch when you won't spend as much for your meal as you would for dinner.

## Resort Poll

There is a Poll on the DZ Resort Biographies Page on the site, it asks what is the most important to you, when choosing a Walt Disney World Resort.

Here are the results for Feb:

Being Disney-owned: 17%  
Price: 52%  
Location: 18%  
Amenities: 9%  
Décor/Rooms: 5%

We'll have a new Poll for March! It is very interesting seeing what others say.

Newsletter and content  
Copyright © 1999 & 2000  
Disneyzone -  
Please do not alter or copy  
any or all of this material, or  
use it on a website, or printed  
media without prior written  
permission, from Disneyzone  
or the article's author..

Visit [www.disneyzone.net](http://www.disneyzone.net)

[www.disneyzone.net](http://www.disneyzone.net)

Have questions about this newsletter, or about anything regarding Disney World, please visit the site at:  
[www.disneyzone.net/contact.htm](http://www.disneyzone.net/contact.htm)

Tell your friends about Disneyzone!

They can get their own copy of the Disneyzone News emailed to them each month, all they have to do is go to the site and register. They will automatically be put on the list. If you would rather, you may print it out or forward it.

## *The Friendly Disney World Vacation Planning Resource!*

### Kids' Views of Disney World

By Nick

Typhoon Lagoon was fun. We chose to go there because Blizzard Beach was too much for older kids. We took the bus from Dixie Landings. It was a medium length bus ride to Typhoon Lagoon. First my dad and sister went to get towels and a locker. Me and Mom went to find good seats. There was a fork in the path we went to the right. Dad and my sister went to the left looking for us so they had to walk all the way around until they found us. The slides were very fun. My sister got something in her eye and she had to first aid. My dad let me go on the slides 5 times while we waited for my sister and my mom to come back.

There were lots of fun waterslides at Typhoon Lagoon and it was not very crowded so there weren't long lines. I liked Humunga Cowabunga slide the best. You went straight down. We wanted to swim with the sharks, but I didn't even go in the water. The water was too cold. That's my only excuse. Yeah Right said my Mom. We had funnel cakes after that and they were good. My mom sat in the shade while my dad was on the phone and me and my sister swam in the wave pool. We went in there a lot. It was fun at the end of the day. The river was fun but it went kind of slow. We tried to catch the little lizards when we were waiting for the bus to come to take us back to our hotel. It was a long wait.

By Lindsey

Hoop De Doo Revue was so funny. The show is kind of like an old western type of thing, because of their clothes. When you first go in, they give you your seats. We got front row center seats which were great. The show started and they ran in acting like they were late and had to run the whole way. They sang a whole bunch of songs.

They brought us ribs, corn, chicken, and salad and bread for dinner. The food was good. My dad got to be part of the show. We got to be in this contest: half of the room is one team, and the other half is the other team. We had to make a whole bunch of different sounds. Dolly, the girl on the stage, heard my dad say it and liked his voice and she asked him to do it again for everybody. So he did it again and then everyone laughed and then Dolly kissed him. After that Dolly, during the whole show, she would look at him and blow him kisses and say "Hi Stu".

My favorite part about the show was the cute skits they did, and how they got the audience involved. My mom made all the plans for our trip and I am glad she picked this. If I had the opportunity to go again, I would take it. It was the best thing we did that entire day.

There was a petting zoo near where they did Hoop De Doo at Fort Wilderness. When we were going back to the bus, a huge peacock was running in the middle of the path. It was neat.

### Contest Winner

This past month we had a Hidden Mickey Search Contest. We hid "Gardening Mickey" on the site and the winner had to find Mickey! We have over 170 correct entries, so a random drawing will be held to choose the winner:

**Be sure to check the site to see who won!**

[www.disneyzone.net/contest.htm](http://www.disneyzone.net/contest.htm)

The winner gets a Limited Edition **SOLD OUT** Disney Pin—the Last Day First Day Pin. I have also added a couple Disneyland Pins to the Prize Package! What a great prize! Many thanks to DQ for donating our prize this month.

Make sure to check the site for the next contest. We usually make the contests pretty easy, to encourage everyone to play!

In the past we have given away some PassPorter Disney World Guidebooks and Lorus Disney Watches.

We are always accepting donations of Disney-related items, to use as prizes for future contests.

In exchange for these donations, we offer advertising on the site.

Please contact me via e-mail if you would like to donate a prize!

[Info@disneyzone.net](mailto:Info@disneyzone.net)

Newsletter and content Copyright © 1999 & 2000 Disneyzone - Please do not alter or copy any or all of this material, or use it on a website, or printed media without prior written permission.