



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
- Disney Scrapbookers

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

Enough of the "Mouse Ear" hats sold each year to cover the head of every man, woman, and child in Pittsburgh.

DISNEY WORLD Guests purchase enough Disney Character T-shirts each year to put MICKEY MOUSE's smiling face on the chest of every person in Chicago.

Priority Seating

Disneyzone receives many e-mails asking about Priority Seating. People want to know what it is, how it works, and more importantly, do they need it?

Priority Seating Reservations (PS) have taken the place of reservations at most of the Sit-Down restaurants at Disney World. Disney started offering these PS reservations to keep the restaurants full, and to eliminate the wait for its guests.

How it works: You call ahead and get your PS reservation; arrive 10-15 minutes earlier than your reservation time & check in at the front desk of the restaurant; you will receive the next available table for a party of your size. That's it! You will always be seated before any walk-in customers. It is amazing how well this system works, we never had to wait more than 10 minutes for a table during our vacation.

Priority Seating Reservations are not just for Disney Resort Guests, anyone can take advantage of these time saving reservations.

How to get a PS reservation:

Decide which restaurant(s) you would like to eat at, and make note of approximate times you would like your meal.

Next contact Disney Dining by:

- calling **407-WDW-DINE**
- Visit guest services in your Disney resort lobby
- Visit the restaurant itself to make the reservations
- In the theme parks you can make PS reservations for restaurants in that particular theme park, for that same day.

You will be given a time for your reservation and a PS reservation number

Plan NOW,
Enjoy LATER!



Do you NEED a PS reservation? Not always, you can still eat at almost any of the restaurants without them, but you may have to wait a while for a table. Many people don't like to plan their day quite that far ahead, and they do fine without them. Personally, it was nice knowing that we had a place planned for dinner. Some character meals are very hard to get into, and without a PS reservation you may not get in at all. For example, Cinderella's Royal Table in Magic Kingdom is available only by reservation. You must call Disney Dining exactly 60 days prior to the day you would like to eat there. They fill up very quickly!

Credit cards are not required to hold your Priority Reservations, and you may have more than one reservation for each day/meal. Although, there are no penalties for no-shows, as a courtesy to others who also want to make PS reservations, you should cancel any reservations you are not planning to keep.

You can make reservations up to 120 days in advance for most restaurants, but it varies. A great site that will calculate exactly when you need to call for your reservations is located at:

<http://home.twcny.rr.com/pscalc/pscalc.html>

Dinner Shows can be reserved up to 2 years in advance, and you will need to supply a credit card to hold those reservations. If you decide not to keep these reservations, you **MUST CANCEL** with Disney Dining or your credit card will be charged! Examples are Hoop De Doo and the Polynesian Luau.

Only a handful of restaurants do not use the Priority Reservation System. Disney Dining will tell you which ones, if you ask them. I really encourage you to use the priority seating system!

Tips for Arrival Day

By Sara

On the boards on Disneyzone and other Disney sites a common question is what to do your first night at Disney World. Here are some of the better ideas I have read, that don't require an admission ticket into any of the parks:

- Dump off your luggage at your resort, and if your room is not ready yet, have them store it for you. Get on the bus/monorail/boat and start your ride around the areas. This is especially good for the first time visitor. You can get an idea of how things are laid out, and a feel for everything.
- Make a Priority Reservation for California Grille for an hour or so before fireworks at the Magic Kingdom. Eat your meal, and if the fireworks are due to start before you are done, watch them from inside the restaurant. If you are finished eating, go wait outside on the observation bridge, which is just steps outside

the restaurant. It is a great place to watch the fireworks.

- Take Disney transportation to Downtown Disney and SHOP! What a great way to get in the Disney mood! We love eating at Rainforest Café. You go over and see what time you can get a table for, usually 90 minutes later or so. Go walk around and enjoy the shopping and atmosphere until your table is ready.
- Schedule a Character Dinner at Chef Mickey's at the Contemporary. Many people love this place. It's a buffet meal, complete with dessert and your drink. The characters are Mickey, Minnie, Goofy, Chip and Dale. They work their way around the restaurant and visit each table for photos and autographs. It is a great way to get in the Disney mood.
- Take a monorail tour. Hop on the monorail at one of the Monorail resorts, ie; Polynesian, Contemporary, Grand Floridian. Hop on, and get off and tour each of the resorts. They are beautiful resorts and have beach areas where you can stroll around and enjoy the views. If you plan it right you

may get to view the Water Pageant and/or the Magic Kingdom Fireworks.

- Hang out at the Boardwalk. Schedule dinner at one of the Boardwalk restaurants, Flying Fish is our favorite. Or you can even eat at the Yacht and Beach Club, or Swan and Dolphin and walk over, or take the boat, to the Boardwalk afterwards. In the evenings there is plenty of entertainment on the Boardwalk, plenty to see and do! And its gorgeous all lit up!
- Another great idea is to hang out at Disney Quest your first day, depending on when you arrive. Disney Quest is an interactive arcade for all ages. They have old video games which are a blast, and also many fun virtual reality type games. Lots to do, and lots of fun. Yummy food inside, too.
- My husbands favorite: check-in and go hang out at the pool! Have a couple drinks and relax! Relax? On vacation?

Cash, Credit or Travelers Checks?

I think a big part of planning any trip is budgeting. Not just how much money you plan on spending, but what forms of payment will you use?

Various forms of payment are available at Disney World. You do not need a large amount of cash. You can pay for practically everything with credit cards, or have items charged to your room if you are a Disney resort guest.

Hotel rooms, tickets, food (except the food carts) and merchandise can all be paid for with cash, travelers checks, Mastercard and Visa, American Express and the Disney Credit Card. You may also use Disney Dollars, which are treated just like cash. You may also leave a credit card

number at your resort when you check-in and you may charge purchases to your room. When you check-out, or any time during your stay you may get a print out of what you have charged so far. We liked using the room key charge, it was very convenient!



Personal Checks are welcome at stores and as payment on your room. But you will be asked for additional ID. Bringing and using your debit card would be easier! They are treated just like credit cards.

If you run short of cash, there are ATM machines all over. We were able to find them very easily any time we needed cash. I believe that each resort has an ATM machine in their

lobby, and each theme park has one near the entrance to the park, and also in other areas of the parks. There are also ATM machines at Downtown Disney and Pleasure Island.

Disney Dollars are fun, and are treated just like cash. They are available at all Disney Stores. They come in \$1, \$5, and \$10 dollar denominations. You may also purchase Disney Dollars at Guest Relations in each theme park. They are not traceable, so if lost, too bad! Because of this, don't let your children carry too much.

If you need to convert foreign currency, you can exchange up to \$50 (U.S. dollars) at Guest Relations at Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Animal Kingdom and Disney-MGM Studios, and at some Disney World resorts. Now the tough question— How much do you plan on spending? Sorry, budgets are not my strong point!

May Chat Room Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Weds.	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
	1 DVC Chat with Chip n Dale 9 PM EST	2 Disney Chat with NHMickey 9 PM EST	3 Disney Chat with Genii 9 PM EST	4 NEW Daytime Chat 11am Pin Collecting Chat with Wiyaka 9 PM EST	5	6
7 Disney Chat with Randy 9 PM EST	8	9 Disney Chat with NHMickey 9 PM EST	10 Disney Chat with Genii 9 PM EST	11 NEW Daytime Chat 11am Pin Collecting Chat with Wiyaka 9 PM EST	12	13
14 Disney Chat with Randy 9 PM EST Mothers Day!	15 DVC Chat with Tim 9 PM EST	16 Disney Chat with NHMickey 9 PM EST	17 Disney Chat with Genii 9 PM EST	18 NEW Daytime Chat 11am Pin Collecting Chat With Wiyaka 9 PM EST	19	20
21 Disney Chat with Randy 9 PM EST	22 Disney Cruise Chat with Tim 9 PM EST	23 Disney Chat with NHMickey 9 PM EST	24 Disney Chat with Genii 9 PM EST	25 NEW Daytime Chat 11am Pin Collecting Chat With Wiyaka 9 PM EST	26	27
28 Disney Chat with Randy 9 PM EST	29 Happy Memorial Day	30 Disney Chat with NHMickey 9 PM EST				

Have you been to chat yet? You are missing a big part of the site—it's a great place to meet other people and talk about our common interest—Disney World!

www.disneyzone.net/chat.htm

Want to Contribute?
Would you like to contribute something to a future Disneyzone newsletter? Articles, tips, and reviews are welcome! Contact me via e-mail and let me know what you have planned.
Kimmi@disneyzone.net

Barb's Restaurant Review

Donald's Restaurantasaurus

This character breakfast is located inside the Animal Kingdom. Hours are from 8-10:30am. The characters you will meet are Donald, Mickey, Goofy and Pluto. Priority seating recommended because the place fills up. They do offer MKC discounts.

The restaurant is located in Dino Land area of Animal Kingdom. The theme of the restaurant is really cute. Mickey and the other characters go out on an expedition. They find this rare bone and come running back to Camp Mickey.

The place had a few large rooms, each with a different décor. We sat in the main room, It was made to look like a campsite. There were fossils all around the restaurant to look at, and notes from the Paleontology class are all over the walls.

Our table was in a bad location, right in the hub of everything as it was where the buf-

fet tables were. People kept banging into our seats. We asked to change but there were no other tables available. We just decided to ignore it all and enjoy our meal. And that's what we did. The food was not great, very typical buffet breakfast foods. But we were hungry so we enjoyed it.



Some of the foods they offered were: Mickey head waffles and pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, some fruit and juices. They did have some delicious muffins which I enjoyed. We had good service for the most part, the only problem we had was get-

ting someone to take our dirty dishes so we could get more food.

The characters came by several times, but didn't stay long. We did get to have our photos taken with them, which was nice. This was our second character meal of our trip so the kids were not as fixated on the characters as the first meal. All in all this was a fun meal. We enjoyed the atmosphere and the food was fine.

Travel Poll

There is a Poll on the DZ Resort Biographies Page on the site. In April it asked when visitors were planning to go to Disney World next

Here are the results :

- Spring: 24%**
- Summer: 36%**
- Fall: 22%**
- Winter: 15%**
- No trip planned: 3%**

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

Be sure to check out the polls, and participate!

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Have questions about this newsletter, or about anything regarding Disney World, please visit the site at:
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

Penny Pressing Machines are all over the place at Disney World. They are fun to try to find and collect the pennies. Each machine usually has 3 design choices to choose from. The characters are different in each machine. Some of them have costumes on or are doing things. It costs 50 cents for each penny and you have to put the penny in, too. We had fun searching for the machines. We found lots of them.

There are also quarter pressing machines but we liked the penny ones better. The machine at the Beach Club where we stayed had characters like Goofy and Mickey dressed like boat captains. And Donald had an innertube on him. At Magic Kingdom we found Mickey looking just like a normal Mickey but it said Magic Kingdom on the penny too.

If you want to collect the pressed pennies, here is what to do. Get some brand new shiny pennies. Put them in a small plastic ziplock bag. Then get a bunch of quarters. Or just get the quarters from your mom and dad later. Put the pennies somewhere where they are easy to find. Then as soon as you get to Disney World start looking around for the machines. They are pretty big and easy to see. They have the machinery part of the machine behind glass so you can watch your penny getting pressed. At every hotel they had the machines and all over the parks mostly near stores. The good ones were near the hotel lobbies or near the restaurants. It was fun trying to get lots of the pennies.

By Lindsey

The airplane ride was very long. We had to get up really early. My mom got us a limo to take to the airport. We hit a lot of traffic and just made it to the plane when they were letting everyone on.

We got to our seats and got our stuff all ready for the flight to Orlando. It was a 4 and a half hour flight. The seats were comfortable on that airplane but we were all kind of squished. sat by Grandma and had fun. We mostly played cards and talked.

My mom packed us some backpacks full of all new stuff to play with and some snacks and some books. I think that was a good idea. My brother played with the gameboy and listened to his CDs. He had to sit with Dad and they just sat there. My brother also liked the little candies that we brought. He wanted to eat them all. We got to have breakfast on the plane and it was gross. It was a quiche. I am glad that I wasn't hungry. I did eat some of the fruit they gave us. I was too excited to eat much food.

They had this screen thing that was like a map in the front of the plane. You could watch it and see how close we were to Orlando.

When we got to Orlando Airport it was very pretty. They had little ponds near it. We liked the monorail that takes you to where your luggage is. We had a lot of luggage and we found a man to help us get it to where the rent a car was. I was so happy to get to Disney World. It was the most fun vacation ever.

Fun Contests

This past month we held a Disney Trivia Contest.

There were 10 questions to answer. We got an unbelievable amount of entries with all the answers correct. Apparently, the questions were too easy! **Our winner received a beautiful Mickey Mouse Watch.** For details; www.disneyzone.net/contest.htm

Our new contest is a word scramble. Don't miss out on winning a great prize! Come play today!

All prizes for the contests are donated. A sincere Thank You to the generous contest sponsors. We are depleting our supply, If you, or know of someone who would like to donate a prize, for a future contest please contact us via e-mail at: info@disneyzone.net

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