

The Magic of Disney

Disney Rocks! I love it there. There are many reasons why, but lately I have been using it as a way to reward myself. I am a cancer patient and have monthly chemotherapy treatments. I live in Florida, so I take advantage of my location and visit WDW at least once a month. I plan my daily trips the weekend before I go in for my chemotherapy.

It may sound odd but it really gives me something to look forward to. Knowing that I get to go to WDW helps my mind focus on that and not on the chemotherapy.

I only go one day a month because my body probably couldn't take more. I get very tired. But once I walk onto Main Street the illness fades away. It is like I have gone into my childhood body and am excited. I feel as if I have moved into a different existence. One without cancer.

These day trips have helped me more than I can express in words. I am so thankful for Disney! It helps me escape my illness, it helps me focus on wonderful things, it helps me deal with a situation that is hard to deal with.

Disney Rocks! by Katerina

I had to share this story with you. It is all about the Magic we experienced at Disney World this past summer.

My family split up for the evening, husband took my son to ride Tower of Terror while I took my 7 year old daughter to Fantasmic! She must have ate something that didn't agree with her, and right in the middle of the show she started getting stomach cramps. We had seats in the middle of an aisle, down pretty low. I hurried as fast as I could to get her out and to a restroom, but she had a bout of diahrea before we got out of the place. She was crying, and it was very obvious what happened. So not only was she embarrassed, but she felt horrible!

A very, very, very sweet Cast Member came over to assist us. She took off her coat and put it over my daughter so no one could 'see' what happened. She escorted us to a restroom. I got my daughter into a stall and ran the jacket back out to the nice Cast Member. Her name was Sheri. Thanked her profusely and

went back to my daughter.

About a half hour later, after I got her all cleaned up (wet pants and all) we started walking out of the restroom and Sheri was standing there waiting for us. She had gotten my daughter a pair of pink princess sweatpants! Who on earth would go so much out of their way for a complete stranger? A very wonderful Cast Member, that's who!

She would not accept payment for the pants. She said she was happy to help. My daughter was so appreciative, she kept giving her hugs and telling her that she was the nicest person she ever met!

We went into a small shop and got a necklace with a charm on it and took it to her. I dont know if they are allowed to accept gifts, but it was the least we could do! This could have been a devastating evening for my daughter, but instead it was a magical one, just because of Sheri. - Terri and Shauna

Visit the Message Boards!

The boards are one of the most popular places on DZ. You can post questions/answers and advice. Or just hang around and make some new Friends!

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Please note:

Disneyzone (DZ) is not affiliated with Disney in any way. We are a group of Disney enthusiasts who want to help you in making your next Disney

Early Entry

Don't forget to take advantage of Early Entry privileges for Disney resort guests!

It's a great way to get in some park time prior to scheduled park opening times. You can get quite a bit done in that time!

The schedule is as follows:

Sunday - Magic Kingdom

Monday - Animal Kingdom

Tuesday - MGM

Wednesday - Epcot

Thursday - Magic Kingdom

Friday - Animal Kingdom

Saturday - MGM

Pass the Good News Around to all your Disney friends!

Pin Trading Fad Fading?

First let me say that I have been looking forward to some pin trading for about 3 years. Our first trip was in March of 2000. We spent a good amount of time buying and trading pins during that trip. Meanwhile the Disney Store has had clearance sales on pins, and I have bought many on Ebay, too, in anticipation of this trip we had planned for Oct 03.

I was a little shocked that the hobby has remained as popular as it was. It's the ideal low cost souvenir, and such a unique activity.

We had a hard time finding

other collectors to trade with. I did talk to the Cast Members quite a bit and did get to trade some pins, but there were not many other guests to trade with.

At the Downtown Disney area we did find an impromptu gathering of pin collectors and had a great time chatting and trading with them. I did get to trade most of the pins I brought to trade, but didn't find any of the pins I was looking for.

I still had a good time pin trading but was hoping for more of an official pin trading area for guests, not just stands to buy pins.

Restaurant Review

There is a restaurant on Disney property that you must try. It is called Le Cellier and it's in the Canada section of Epcot. A family that we went with literally forced us to have dinner there with them. We are not big eaters and usually just stick to food carts and snacks.

What a wonderful treat it was. They had made reservations so we didn't have to wait very long to be seated. The waiter we had was spectacular. He told us about the specials, answered all our silly questions about ingredients and things. We were allowed to take as long as we wanted to make up our minds, to eat, and even to sit and chat a little after our meal.

The food was so good. I wanted to lick my plate clean, but of course I

didn't do that.

There were many things to choose from on the menu. They had steaks, fish, pasta, and my personal favorite chicken. I think they even had pork chops.

I ordered this seared chicken meal. It had a slight garlic taste, and some herbs. It was so tender it melted in my mouth. I loved it. It came with these wonderful mashed potatoes, they were creamy and a little sweet. I wish I had that recipe.

We had the Caesar salad, which was very good too. A salad is a salad as far as I am concerned but not this one. The dressing was so good,

and the lettuces were so fresh.

We were all pretty full so just ordered two desserts and we all shared. One was Creme Brulee which was rich, and delicious. The other dessert we ordered was a cheesecake. I didn't try it but everyone said it was very good.

The prices at this restaurant are right along the lines of all the other sit down restaurants. By the time you had dinner, a soft drink and dessert, with tip, it was probably \$30 a person.

My summary: Superb service, great atmosphere and wonderful food. Try it next time you are having dinner in Epcot.

Ask the Experts

Every day DZ gets several questions emailed in, having to do with planning Disney World vacations. We are very lucky at DZ to have several very seasoned Disney World enthusiasts to help with these questions. Here are a few recent questions and their replies.

Can you help me decide whether to rent a car or not? It will be a family of 5 (two adults and 3 kids). We will only be at Disney except for one day we want to go to the Kennedy Space Center and possibly to the beach that same day. Do you think its worthwhile to rent a car? I think it will just sit at the hotel the whole week except for that one day. - Lee

I would only rent the car for the day if you actually need to go off property. While we do drive to Disney each year we only use our car to go off property or to other Disney resorts for dining. If you need to go to another resort for dining, taxis are an inexpensive option. Disney transportation is very good and is part of the total Disney experience. Some of our most memorable moments have been during rides to and from the parks. You can rent a car at Disney, and they will arrange pick up and drop off. Check with Guest Services at your resort when you check in. -Minnie

I am a retired military person and would like to stay at a different resort than the Shades of Green. Do you know how I go about getting reservations at the discounted rate? - Carl

Congratulations on your military retirement! To the best of my knowledge, Disney does not offer military retirees a discount...but...if you try to make a reservation at SOG and no rooms are available, the military does have "over-flow" rooms available at Disney resorts at a discounted rate. It is similar to "non-availability" rates at base billeting. The discounted rooms are not as deeply discounted as SOG and they are subject to the 11% tax charged on all hotel rooms in the area.

Whether you stay at a Disney resort or stay at Shades of Green, be sure to purchase your park tickets at the ticket office at SOG—and until they re-open the newly remodeled SOG, the ticket office is currently on the 3rd floor of the north wing (near MK) of the Contemporary Resort.

Disney does offer special rates for both room and park tickets to "active duty" personnel—but we retirees are not able to take advantage of these offers.

I hope this answers your question. -GoofysGr8

I found some Disney tickets on ebay that look to have a great price. Do you think its ok to buy them from someone on ebay? - Jill

It is not advisable to buy tickets from anyone other than Disney, or a reputable travel or ticket agency. When you buy tickets there is no way to verify if they are good or not until you arrive at the parks. At that time, if they have been all used up, you will be forced to buy tickets to get into the parks. You cannot tell how many days are left on tickets just by looking at them. Disney says that they cannot verify ticket status over the phone, so to be safe, don't buy them on ebay!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Wish you all a safe and wonderful
2004

Articles Needed!

Would you like to share your Disney experiences with others? Do you have some great tips that others might benefit from? Would you like to tell everyone about your favorite WDW restaurant? Have you stayed at one of the Disney resorts lately and want to tell everyone about it?

There are so many things you can write about - please consider contributing to this newsletter. It's the DZ visitors who submit articles that make this newsletter so popular.

Submit articles, or send questions to: kimmi@disneyzone.net



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DZ - The FRIENDLY Place for Disney World Info and Advice!

DZ Kids

I am a kid and I want this in the newsletter. I am 10 and I am a disney world expert. My dad takes us to disney world like 6 times every single year. I am very lucky and I know it. I know a lot about a lot of rides and a lot about a lot of restrants. My restrant revue is this. If you want to know the best restrant there it is defnitly chef mickeys. There you can get anything you want and eat tons if you are really hungry. I think the charcters there are very good too and they do try to come visit everyone at their table. You can make your own desert and you can have as much desert as you want. You can even run around in there an no one really cares. It is a wild place for kids but I dont know if parents like it as much as the kids do because it is noisey and there are tons of kids. The food is good and even adult food is good. I have eaten it all and it is all good. You have to wait a long time to eat if you dont plan and make a PS. So make sure you make a PS. It will make it so you dont have to wait forever. Make sure you go there becuz it is really fun. Say hey to goofy for me he is really cool.

- Adam

Contests...

DZ has a great contest that just started. One lucky DZ visitor will win round trip towncar (Orlando airport to Disney area) transportation!

Go enter the contest by visiting the contest page!

Contest Page:

www.disneyzone.net/contest.htm

- play and you could win a cool prize!

If you would like to donate a prize, please contact us! prizes@disneyzone.net - You get some advertising on the site in exchange for your donation!

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One phone number OR a website address included and not included in word count. Interested? Please email us at advertising@disneyzone.net

Happy Birthday to . . .

Vic, Danny, Marcus - 11, Gary - 62, Sara-4, Jordan, Nicolette -15, Andrea, Bob, Carly, Eric, Shana - 8, Marianna - 29, Elizabeth - 31, Emilee -7, Olivia - 32, Scott -41, Grant -13, DeeAnn, Lisa - 23, Jessica, Kieran, Erin, Evan, Joey & Charlotte - 6.

lease send an email to birthdays@disneyzone.net

Ages are optional!



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