

The Travis Family Vacation

Well we just got back last week. but with each day it feels like months already!

Figured I would write a short report to help me hold on to the magical memories a little longer. Our cast included myself, my husband, and our two boys ages 3 & 6.

We arranged for a limo to pick us up from our house and take us to the airport. What an exciting surprise for our boys. The limo driver came early and got us all loaded up. We arrived at the airport a little early, but that was ok. With two young boys things seem to take longer. My youngest son wanted to check out every restroom. My oldest was very interested in the various monitors around. He located our flight for us on the screen. We had a 3 hour flight to Disney. The boys brought toys and snacks for the ride and were great.

We rented a car this trip because we wanted to do a side trip to the beach. So we went over to the Dollar counter and got our car.

We had a very quick check in at the Polynesian. We had been to this

resort before for meals, but never really explored it much. It is gorgeous! The lobby is beautiful, and the pool areas spectacular. We had a partial castle view from our balcony which was very nice.

Our first meal was at Ohanas. We had eaten there before and the boys begged to eat there again. We had a nice early dinner, swam for an hour or so and then hit the sack. BTW, the kids loved the volcano pool! Couldnt get them out.

I wont go into all the park stuff, but I will say that we spent most of our time at Magic Kingdom. Our youngest was very excited that he could ride many of the rides, and felt very brave. His favorites were the autopia cars, teacups, Dumbo and Pirates of the Caribbean. My oldest son is really into thrill rides, he acted like he wasnt enjoying the rides at MK but I could tell by his face while on them that he was loving it. He loved Splash Mountain, Goofys Barnstormer and Thunder Mountain the most. We did spend a day at Epcot, which we all enjoyed. We only spent about 1/2 day at Animal Kingdom and actually didnt even visit MGM this trip.

We chose wonderful places to eat this trip. No complaints. We ate at Ohanas, Kona Cafe, Tony's Town Square, Olivias, Teppanyaki, Donalds Breakfastosaurus, The Pizza Place in Tomorrowland, Rainforest Cafe at Downtown Disney, and other counter style places. We skipped Chef Mickeys, Liberty Tree and other more crowded spots this trip. Going in the summer really makes a difference in crowd level. It was not unbearable, but certain spots were very thick with people. We normally travel off-season.

It was a great trip. Weather was warm, rainy, and windy at certain times. But we enjoyed it all. Go prepared and it is all fine. Buy the Mickey ponchos, they are fun souvenirs. I think my oldest will wear his to school on rainy days!

Kids loved trying to find the pressed penny machines, too. There was so much that I cant fit it all into this report! Hope you liked it & hope you get to go soon. Magical wishes to all.

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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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!

Disney is for Everyone

Why is Disney the best place to vacation? I know that many people ask me that on a regular basis. I am a DVC owner, have Annual Passes, and go there at least once a month. I live about 45 minutes away now, moved nearby when I retired. I let my children use the DVC when they come to visit.

Disney World has so much to offer that there is something for everyone. If you like to shop, there are tons of shops, most with very unique items. If you like to eat, I can't think of anywhere else where there are so many different food choices. I try to eat at a different place

each trip. You never get tired of it, there is so much!

If you like rides, well, there are tons. Soft, easy relaxing rides, more exciting ones, and thrilling ones! They have shows going on constantly, ones for tiny kids and some who are just kids at heart. There are parades, fireworks, oh so much to do. They even have a sports complex for men who just can't break away from their sports.

I am sure you'll agree that there is something magical for all at Disney World.

A Couple Restaurant Reviews

Pecos Bills Cafe, by Mona

When in Magic Kingdom plan a stop at Pecos Bills. It is near Splash Mountain in Frontierland. It is a large place so it can handle lots of people. We love the food there. It's a fast food type place but the food is always fresh and very good. One added bonus is that if you get an outside seat you can see the parade. So plan your mealtime well.

They offer hamburgers, hotdogs, chicken wraps, salads, fries, chili fries, and drinks. Oh, don't forget to save room for one of their delicious brownies. Prices are fair, you get lots of food, and you will leave satisfied!

Chef Mickey's, by Allie & Matt

Our favorite restaurant in the entire world is Chef Mickey's at Disney World. Our parents don't like it very much but they let us go there because we beg and beg. They have so many choices of foods that everyone can find something they like.

Our favorite items are the mashed potatoes, the pizza, the chicken strips, and the desserts. They have characters that walk around and come to your table. We don't think these characters are the most friendly ones at the

parks but they do pretend. It doesn't matter though because we come for the food. I think mostly the make your own sundae bar is the best feature of this restaurant. Goofy is funny with little kids. He is usually by the cupcake area. If you have kids you have to take them to Chef Mickey's.

In case you don't know, it is located in the Contemporary Hotel. It is the one with the monorail that goes right through the middle. Make sure you get a reservation if you want to eat here or you will wait for hours for a seat. It is very popular and we know why. It's a fun place to eat.

Scrapbooking Ideas

by Jessie

I know that DZ has scrapbooking ideas on the website but I wanted to add some of my own ideas. I am new to this whole thing. I got the courage to try it because of the tips on the website. I planned ahead of our trip and made lists of things I wanted to make sure I took photos of, things I wanted to bring home as souvenirs, etc.

Preplanning list:

- napkins from fav. restaurants
- mickey confetti
- ticket stubs
- menus (paper ones)
- stickers or name tags
- labels from things

Photos I wanted:

- Kids by certain poles/statues so that I can compare growth between trips
- Kids by the castle
- temporary things
- us with as many characters as possible

Additional things I wanted for the scrapbook:

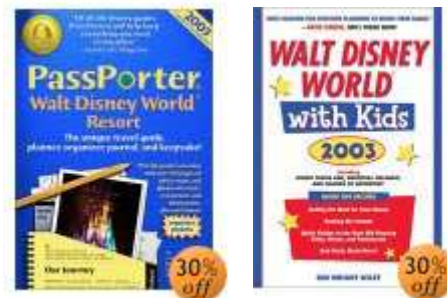
- Kids drawings - I brought small note pads for the kids and they drew while we were in line for rides, or waiting at restaurants, waiting for parades.
- journal type entries from the kids. I helped them write them, memories of that particular day. My daughter

drew a picture of a character each day and described what was funny about them. For instance, she wrote about Goofy that he has very funny shaped teeth and they didnt look sharp. She is 4 so this was observant of her. I put this journal entry in by a photo of her with Goofy. My son wrote about rides mostly, so I found photos of him on the particular rides. He wrote about Pirates of the Caribbean: The best part was the big hill you go down when you arent expecting it. I had a great photo of him hiding his eyes in the ride so it fit well. He is almost 7.

My suggestion about photos:

Take many! Take some that seem odd, those are usually the ones that come out the best. I took some of my kids sleeping in the hotel. I have blown them up and have them in the den. Take twice as many rolls of film as you think you need, because you'll use them.

I got these ideas from the site, so I want to give those people credit. I only wanted to add to it to show what I did with their ideas. I had so much fun gathering these things. My pages are not done, I am taking my time. I am reliving my trip as I compile everything for each page. I will be sad when its done. I guess that will be the time to plan another trip!



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Great News!

I am so excited I had to share my news. Please put this in the newsletter!

I just got the news that I am pregnant. Its no ordinary pregnancy - I conceived at Disney World! We have been trying to get pregnant for 3 years so this is truly a miracle. Was it the pixie dust, or the magic that allowed this wonderful thing to happen? Who knows, but I am thrilled! I am due March 4, 2004 - please keep me and my unborn Disney fan in your prayers!

- Emily in S. Carolina

All articles in this issue were submitted by DZ visitors who entered our latest contest. We are proud to be able to publish their articles in the newsletter. There are still several more, so look for them in the next few months!

Tell your friends about Disneyzone!

They can get their own copy of the DZ 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 just forward it!

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

DZ Kids

by Duncan

I am 8 and I am a disney fan. I also love dz. I try to read the website whenever I can. I have went to disneyworld 3 times so far in my life. I want to go again. I cant go again until next year. I will love it. I will tell you about it when I go.

I went one time when I was 5 and I was ascarded to go on some rides but next time I wont be. I will go on all of them if I can. I mite have to be taller. I hope not. I want to ride on all of the rides. I will tell you about it if I do it.

Please put this in your website or in the e mail so everyone can read it.

Thank you from Duncan.

Contests...

DZ has FREE contests going on. Someone just won a pair of tickets to see the Arabian Nights Dinner show, compliments of Billy Boys Discount Disney Tickets. A new contest will start soon! Keep checking 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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The next page of the newsletter offers ads from various companies. DZ offers very reasonable rates for advertisers. Reach thousands of Disney World fans via the DZ News!

Current Rates:

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21-40 words \$35/month

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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 . . .

Stan, Angela, Kiya, Matthew, Jennifer, Emily - 3, Alysia - 13, Pina - 41, Liam - 4, Susan, Alex, Derrek - 13, Bradley - 10, Lisa, Joey, Patsy, Danielle - 6, Carlee - 10, Daniel, Carson, Becca, Cale - 3, Erick - 19, Saya, Micah - 6, Annie, Trevor - 10, and Kate

To have birthdays listed, please send an email to birthdays@disneyzone.net

Ages are optional!



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