

DZ News

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Vacation for your Pet

You get to go to Walt Disney World. You get to have fun all day long, you get to experience new things. What about your dog? Where will he be while you are gone? Left at home, while a neighbor comes over once or twice a day to let him out? In a cage in a kennel somewhere?

There is another option. We drive to Walt Disney World since we live in Georgia. We bring Daisy with us on our drive. It has always been a dilemma of where to leave her. We have tried a few kennels in the Orlando area. They were fine, but Daisy was kept in a cage all day, on cold hard cement. This was not an ideal situation. I heard about an alternative boarding option, which is more of a doggy day care center. They let the dogs play together. They are supervised at all times. There are separate areas for sleeping.

I called and spoke to the owner before making our reservation. She was so nice, she told me all about all the benefits of her services vs. a typical kennel. She assured me that the dogs are watched very carefully. They

also check out the dogs, and only allow certain types of dogs to stay.

She said they have to have all their shots, and a clean bill of health. She says that dogs that exhibit any aggressive behaviors are not allowed. Our Daisy loves other dogs and we knew she would be fine. We took her to our local vet before our trip and had all her shots updated, got the bordetella, and basically made sure she didn't have any sicknesses that she might pass along.

We went ahead and made our reservation, despite the steep price of their services. It was \$32 a night plus \$1 per meal (it was a little odd to have to pay for food, in addition to the other costs). The last kennel we used in Orlando was \$18 a day, so it was almost double the price. We felt it would be worthwhile because Daisy would be having fun all day long!

I was so impressed when we showed up, the building is nice. The staff is very friendly too. First thing we noticed were the bright colored half walls that

separated the rooms. Two little white dogs were playing tug-of-war with a rope toy. We heard some yelping and looked and saw two larger dogs chasing each other. They were having a great time. I knew this was the place for Daisy.

The staff checked her out, and saw that she was raring to get in there to play. They took her to a room/area with similar sized dogs. They showed us where she'd sleep, and around the facility. I was really impressed. They said that most of the dogs are there for the day while their owners work, and that only a few stay overnight, so its much quieter at night. I was a little relieved to hear that. Daisy might not want to sleep with too much 'fun' happening around her.

We felt very good about leaving her there while we were at Disney World.

We picked her up for our drive home and she passed out in the back seat! She slept for about 5 hours straight! She looked happy, healthy and I really felt like she had a fun vacation, too. If you can afford to splurge a little on your pet, I recommend a doggy day care center. There are a few in Orlando, and probably some by you!

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By Ann—DZ long time visitor

Group Travel Experience

I want to first say that I have always dreaded being surrounded by large groups traveling at Disney World.

When my daughters soccer team decided to go play a tournament at WDW, I was very hesitant. I didn't want to be part of a group. I didn't want someone else planning my days, planning meals, having to be certain places at a certain time, etc. I am not a control freak or nothing like that, but on vacation I want to do things when I want to!

After much begging my daughter convinced me to go. I am a single mom, the only one on her team. So that made me nervous too. It turned out fine.

Money was not a huge problem, the team did fundraisers to pay

for much of the expenses. My problem with it all was the commitment of my time.

It all turned out great, however pessimistic I was. We enjoyed this trip so much!

We all stayed at All Star Sports, all our rooms were in one general area. I was happy that they put the rooms near each other.

We could allow the girls to run back and forth between the rooms without too much worry.

I must say that they were all very well behaved. There was no late night screaming and horsing around. We had early morning games so they really couldn't stay up late, but even the siblings were not out of control.

We liked this hotel. I had not stayed there before. We usually

stay at off site hotels. This was a nice treat. We enjoyed the bus service to the parks, and the food court was not far from our room. We liked the pools, too.

We had 2 days in the parks without soccer games, and we were free to go where we wanted, but the other days were scheduled out pretty tight. We did Magic Kingdom one afternoon together as a team. It was a little stressful keeping track of everyone, but we enjoyed it.

The girls are all 12 or 13, so we did allow them some freedom. I saw them on a couple occasions and they were walking nicely to rides, acting like civilized people.

We had meals scheduled most days, so there wasn't much to plan on our own. We had a character dinner our last night at Chef Mickey's. The girls had a wonderful time. It is a fun place. I didn't think the food or service was that great, but the atmosphere is awesome.

I would not be afraid to go with a group again. I think that being prepared and having a plan of attack helps. We had 3 moms that planned everything, collected necessary money, and made sure everyone knew the plan. It was very smooth.

Next time you see a group of people at WDW cut them some slack. Its not easy to get a huge group of people to agree on things, and there is a lot of planning that goes into those types of trips.

- Melissa & Traci, from Kansas

Restaurant Reviews

We tried a new place on our last trip down to WDW. We ate at Bongos Cuban Café in Downtown Disney.

We have walked by it hundreds of times and smelled the delicious smells but for some reason never tried it. I am so glad we decided to stop in.

It feels very ethnic inside which was neat. The atmosphere is almost tropical, but not exactly. Gloria Estefan owns this restaurant. The latin clothes the staff wears is really authentic looking.

We got seated within 5 minutes and our drinks were at our table almost instantly. The service at this restaurant is wonderful. They are very attentive and really seem to want to please the customers.

We ordered a variety of items and shared them. We liked everything we ordered. I think our favorites were the pork sandwich and the flan.

The prices are typical of a sit down restaurant at WDW. I think for 4 of us it totalled about \$50.

Did You Know?

When Disneyland opened in 1955 it cost \$17 million dollars to build. When Walt Disney World opened in 1971 it cost \$100 million dollars to build.

Disney World covers 47 square miles, Walt Disney World is about the size of San Francisco or two Manhattan islands

Donald Duck comics were nearly banned years ago in Finland because he didn't wear pants.

Only 10,000 people visited Disney World during the first year it was open, in 1971.

Morocco was the first country added to Epcot's World Showcase, in 1984

Morocco is also the only government sponsored country in Epcot.

Walt Disney World Lost and Found is one busy place. Every day an average of 100 pairs of sunglasses are turned in at the Magic Kingdom alone.

It would take nearly 9.5 million tennis balls to fill one of the tennis ball cans at Center Court Hotel in Disney's All-Star Sports Resort.

Disney village Marketplace use to be called Lake Buena Vista Village

The Haunted Mansion is the only major attraction that is included in every Disney theme park.

The Disneyland monorail is only one-third the length of the monorail at Disney World.

Mickey Mouse has Mickey Mouse has 175 different sets of duds, ranging from a scuba suit to a tuxedo.

Jack Nicklaus won The first Walt Disney World professional golf tournament

Kodak estimates that approximately 4 percent of all the amateur photographs taken in the United States are snapped at Walt Disney World Resort or Disneyland.

More than 46 million Cokes are consumed each year at Walt Disney World Resort. That goes with 7 million hamburgers, 5 million hot dogs, 5 million pounds of French fries and 265,000 pounds of popcorn.

Disney's Wedding Pavilion was designed to provide the bride with a view of the Magic Kingdom's Cinderella Castle while she is standing at the altar.

Space Mountain was "flight-tested" by U.S. astronauts and Russian Cosmonauts

Cinderella's Castle is not made of stone. The entire shell of the building is fiberglass.

Stormalong Bay, Disney's Beach Club Resort swimming area, holds 750,000 gallons of water, making it the largest sand-bottom pool in the world.

Want more trivia? Visit the site, and follow the link to Rusty Scrappers Trivia!

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 share details?

DZ News is as great as it is because so many of you contribute articles! Thanks!

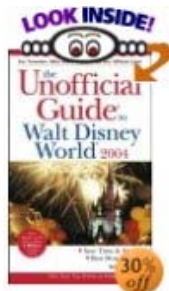
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Have you visited the **DZ Message Boards** lately? It's a great spot to meet other Disney World enthusiasts! There are many topics to discuss, lots of very nice people to meet & a wealth of information for those planning Disney World vacations! Visit today! **CLICK HERE** to go to the boards!

The **NEW LOOK**. The newsletter has changed a little, this layout should make it easier to read. Also, all the links to email & websites now work. Which means you can click on them and they will actually take you to a website, or bring up your email client. Give it a try and visit some of the links within the newsletter!

DZ has a great **contest** that just ended. And another one just started! Contests on DZ are ALWAYS FREE. You can win a great prize, just for participating!

Go enter the new contest, by visiting the contest page!

CLICK HERE to go to the DZ Contest Page - 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!**

DZ Kids

You wanna know how to get your mom and dad to take you on a great vacation. I will tell you how I did it. I begged and begged and begged but that didn't work. So you know what I did. I started to save every single penny I earned from allowance and got from birthdays and other things and put it all in a shoebox under my bed. Every time I begged about going to Disneyworld my mom always said it cost too much.

So then one day I took out the

box and poured it on the couch and asked if it was enough. I think there was like \$130 in the box which I know was not really enough to pay for much, but it made my mom and dad so proud that I saved up all that money that they actually let us go! I got to use my saved up money to buy junk once we got there. It was hard to save up all that money but it was so worth it. So you kids out there gotta give it a try.

- Bradley, 14 from Iowa

Happy Birthday...



Wendee, Jay, Arlene, Adam, Johnny, Eric, Anthony, Corey, Kaitlyn,

Anna, Laura, Terry - 42,
Eric Max - 17, Bryn, Gina,
Ariane - 14, Cailyn - 12,
Emma, Jodie, Sarah - 9,
Lonnie - 11, Ryan - 16,
Scott, Kyle, Samantha - 4,
Todd - 32, Lynda, Paul,
Christina, Joseph - 7, &
Aaron - 12, Terry - 42,

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41-70 words \$50/month

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