

Learning All About Disney

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General Information

WDW	(800) 828-0228
Priority Seating	(800) 828-0228 option 5
Priority seating calculator	http://pscalculator.net/
Pixie Dust Postcard Program	http://www.themouseforless.com/downloads/trip/pins.shtml

Before the Trip

Autographs & T-Shirts

Autographs

- In Epcot, ask the cast members to each write, "Hello. Welcome to _____!" in their language.
- Purchase a small, inexpensive index card booklet that is spiral bound with perforations on the top of the card. Remove the autographs from the spirals when home and place them into the scrapbook pages, along with the pictures.
- Homemade Autograph Book
<http://www.themouseforless.com/community/showcase/tracy.shtml>

T-Shirts

- I printed up 5 shirts for each of us. On the back they had a map of the park and the symbol of the park. We had one for MK, MGM, AK, EPCOT, and one for all of WDW. (Download the maps from the internet.) On the front were 3 pictures. Tinkerbell representing my daughter, Dumbo for me, and Goofy for Howard. The person whose shirt it was had a bigger version of their character, and then a smaller version of the other two.
- Use Disney Print Creations software to create a shirt, "The Aaron Family Vacation" Then a picture of Mickey and his friends and then "Month Year"
T-Shirts Retailers
<http://www.shirtdistributor.com>

Gifts for Kids

- "Mickey" left cameras and a roll of film
- Autograph books/pen
- Pins for trading

- New pajamas with favorite character
- Disney sleeping bag
- Favorite character plush/doll
- Disney Coloring book/markers (to play with in hotel room)
- New Disney t-shirt or hat
- ANYTHING that a child can use on the vacation (water bottle or pin lanyard, clothes, Disney snacks, etc)
- Create a letter from Mickey, Minnie, Donald and Pluto. Download the Disney, Mickey, and Minnie fonts. Sign the letter with each character's font.

Kids Activity Book

Bring to Kinko's to make a spiral bound booklet or purchase a 3 ring binder

Make Your Own:

Word Search <http://puzzlemaker.school.discovery.com/WordSearchSetupForm.html>
 CrossWord <http://puzzlemaker.school.discovery.com/CrissCrossSetupForm.html>
 Maze Maker <http://puzzlemaker.school.discovery.com/AdvMazeSetupForm.html>

Coloring Pages:

Disney Magic Artist http://disney.go.com/magicartist/index_main.html
 101 Dalmations <http://www.coloring.ws/dalmations1.htm>
 Aladdin <http://www.coloring.ws/aladdin1.htm>
 Cinderella <http://www.coloring.ws/cinderella1.htm>
 Lilo and Stitch <http://www.coloring.ws/liloandstitch1.htm>
 Little Mermaid <http://www.coloring.ws/ariel1.htm>
 Snow White <http://www.coloring.ws/snowwhite1.htm>
 Winnie the Pooh <http://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/cartoons/mpoohposter.html>
 Disney <http://www.ginevra2000.it/Disney/Color/Index.htm>
 Mickey & Friends <http://www.mickeyfriends.com/modules.php?name=coppermine&file=thumbnails&album=7>
 Tinkerbell <http://www.tinkerbellsneverland.com/coloring/1/coloring1.html>

Maze:

Pumba <http://www.disneywarehouse.com/activities/mazes/maze01.html>
 Simba <http://www.disneywarehouse.com/activities/mazes/maze02.html>
 Mickey & Minnie <http://www.disneywarehouse.com/activities/mazes/maze06.html>

Word Scramble:

Disney Character <http://www.disneywarehouse.com/activities/wordscramble/scramble02.html>
 Mickey's Movies <http://www.disneywarehouse.com/activities/wordscramble/scramble01.html>

Word Search:

Disney <http://www.disneyzone.net/puzzle1.htm>
 Disney Characters <http://www.disneyzone.net/puzzle2.htm>

Disney Attractions	http://www.disneyzone.net/puzzle3.htm
Cartoons & Comics	http://www.debidawn.com/cartoonws.htm
Mickey Mouse	http://www.themouseforless.com/100thbirthdaymickeypuzzle.shtml
PB&J Otter	http://www.themouseforless.com/100thbirthdaypbjpuzzle.shtml
Sleepy	http://www.themouseforless.com/100thbirthdaybedpuzzle.shtml
Magic Kingdom	http://www.themouseforless.com/100thbirthdaymkpuzzle.shtml
Kids Travel Journal	http://www.themouseforless.com/downloads/kids/journal.shtml
Home Work Pages	http://www.themouseforless.com/downloads/kids/educational.shtml

Adult's Downloads

Bring to Kinko's to make a spiral bound booklet or purchase a 3 ring binder

Make Your Own:

Cast Member	http://www.themouseforless.com/downloads/trip/cmappreciation.shtml
Appreciation Certificate	
MFL Community	http://www.themouseforless.com/downloads/trip/MFLcard.shtml
Information Card	
Pocket Guides	http://www.themouseforless.com/tripplanning/PocketGuides.shtml
Mousekeeping Envelops	http://www.themouseforless.com/downloads/trip/mousekeeping.shtml
Adult's Travel Journal	http://puzzlemaker.school.discovery.com/AdvMazeSetupForm.html
Ultimate Packing List	http://www.themouseforless.com/downloads/trip/UltimatePackingList.shtml
WDW Planning Kit	http://www.themouseforless.com/downloads/trip/PlanningKit.shtml

Kids Travel ID

<http://www.themouseforless.com/downloads/kids/id.shtml>

Order before you go to include hotel information also.

Letterboxing

Go to the website <http://www.letterboxing.org> for all the details. It's like going on treasure hunts. There are three boxes located at WDW according to the website. These are at Wilderness Lodge, Caribbean Beach, and at Celebration.

You simply take an inkpad, a notepad, and a rubber stamp. When you locate one of the boxes, it will have a notepad and rubber stamp inside. Simply stamp your notepad with it and stamp the box's notepad with your stamp. You can also include names, the date, a message for the hider, etc.

Geocaching

Go to the website <http://www.geocaching.com/> for all the details. The sport where YOU are the search engine. Search for keyword "Disney" or search for city "Kissimmee". There are many caches in and around Disney World.

Geocaching is an entertaining adventure game for gps users. Participating in a cache hunt is a good way to take advantage of the wonderful features and capability of a gps unit. The basic idea is to have individuals and organizations set up caches all over the world and share the locations of these caches on the internet. GPS users can then use the location coordinates to find the caches. Once found, a cache may provide the visitor with a wide variety of rewards. All the visitor is asked to do is if they get something they should try to leave something for the cache.

Mobility / ECVs

Walker Worldwide

(888) 726-6837 <http://www.walkermobility.com/>
standard: \$30.00 heavy-duty: \$39.00 (300 pounds)
per week standard: \$199.50 heavy-duty: \$250.00
* includes pick-up & delivery at the resort

LifeAire Medical Co

(800) 417-9496 or (407) 877-3936
per day standard: \$30.00 heavy-duty: \$40.00 (250 pounds)
per week standard: \$195.00 heavy-duty: \$260.00
* includes pick-up & delivery at the resort

Randy's Mobility

(863) 679-1550 <http://www.randysmobility.com>
2 days standard: \$70.00 heavy-duty: \$80.00 (300 pounds)
add'l day standard: \$25.00 heavy-duty: \$30.00
per week standard: \$150.00 heavy-duty: \$180.00
add'l week standard: \$100.00 heavy-duty: \$100.00
includes pick-up & delivery at the resort

Care Medical Equipment

(800) 741-2282

Discount Mobility USA

(800) 308-2503 <http://www.discountmobilityusa.com/>
per week standard: \$150.00 heavy-duty: \$225.00
* includes pick-up & delivery at the resort

Food for Traveling

Cooler:

- frozen bottled water
- milk
- coffee cream
- lunch meat
- cheese
- condiments packets (ketchup, mayo, mustard & salad dressing)
- lettuce
- tomato
- butter
- jelly
- soda

Non-Refrigerated Food

- fruit cups
- peanut butter
- Splenda, sugar, salt, pepper packets
- raisins and dried fruit
- pre-sweetened kool-aid mix
- granola and cereal bars
- instant oatmeal
- cereal
- popartars
- small box of donuts, zingers, cookies
- trail mix
- microwave popcorn
- extra bottled water
- bottled juice (or juice boxes)
- chips
- bread
- oranges (once in Florida)
- cheese or peanut butter crackers

Other Items:

- zip lock bags
- foil (iron grilled cheese)
- clothes pins (reclose chips or cereal)
- knives, forks, spoons
- plastic bowls and plates
- napkins
- wet wipes

First Night Plan

- Go to **Chef Mickey's!** What better way to start your vacation than by having dinner with the "mouse" himself and a few of his friends! No park pass needed! The food is great, too, and they've added ravioli's shaped like Mickeyheads...and they are scrumptious!
- Then you can take a **ride on the monorail**...it's free! Another thing...when you get to the monorail, ask to sit up front and you can get a "co-pilot's license"free! This is great fun and always puts us in the mood...if we aren't already! (If you want to ride the front of the Epcot monorail, just be the first one to ask the cast member when you're at the TTC. You'll be advised to sit on the purple bench at the far left. That's the bench reserved for the front of the monorail, four guests, total.)

- You can also **stop at the Poly and the Grand Floridian** and check out those resorts and gift shops, too! They're gorgeous,.
- And if you time it right, you can walk down to the beach and **watch the lagoon parade and the fireworks!**

Walt Disney World Theme Parks

Animal Kingdom

Meal Vouchers

Meal tickets are available at Guest Services (just inside the park entrance) and at all the counter service locations that honor them. They are \$12 adult and \$6 child for use at counter service restaurants. Must be used that day.

- Flame Tree BBQ
- Pizzafari
- Tusker House in Africa

Kid Discovery Stations

It will help you better explore all that AK has to offer and the kids get a souvenir book to take home with them in which they also collect stamps. This is also free, but sometimes during low volume days we have seen these stations not manned in some locations

Parade Viewing Location

Just after you cross the bridge going into Asia just before the turn into Asia going to the water ride they string the ropes early and mark the parade route. Most folks want a curb or something to set on. There is no curb there, but I spread out a copy of a map and set down right after the bridge (there is no sitting on the bridge) several folks don't realize you can gather there and it worked well for us. All 3 of us had front row seats.

Disney-MGM Studios

Parade Viewing Location

Find a spot near a lamp post on one of the mediums in the street. Standing on the curb and leaning back on the lamp post it gives a good view and it is hard generally for folks to get in front of you.

Playhouse Disney Live

Characters include Bear in the Big Blue House, Stanley, Rolly Pollie Ollie, and The Book of Pooh. Times will be listed in the park information flyer you can get when you enter MGM Studios. Be at least 15 minutes early – the lines are usually long. Seating for this show is on the floor!

Fantasmic! Dinner Package

Includes dinner at one of the participating Disney-MGM Studios restaurants and reserved seating in the Fantasmic! amphitheater. As of this writing, only Brown Derby, Mama Melrose, and Hollywood & Vine are participating. BUT, at various times the Sci-Fi Dine-In and the '50s Prime Time Cafe have also been included, so be sure to ask what restaurant choices are available. (This means that instead of waiting in line for 60-90 minutes outside the theater, you can walk right up to the theater 30-45 minutes before show time, (no waiting in line!) and still have a seat.) *At busier times of year Disney sometimes offers a Lunch Package for Fantasmic! in addition to dinner. It is not usually announced ahead of time, but you may inquire about it.*

There is no additional charge for the package itself. However, the package, which includes a fixed price dinner and the Fantasmic! seating pass, **MUST** be guaranteed at the time of booking with a credit card. Prices for the fixed price dinners are as follows:

- Brown Derby \$36.99 adult/\$9.99 child (3-11) not including admission, tax, and gratuity. Child's meal includes beverage and dessert. Your choice of appetizer, soup, or salad; entree; and dessert from menu. Items include Spice Grilled Filet Mignon, Pan-Seared Grouper, and The Original Cobb Salad. Alcoholic beverages NOT included.
- Mama Melrose \$28.99 adult/\$9.99 child (3-11) not including admission, tax, and gratuity. Child's meal includes beverage and dessert. Your choice of one wood-fired Flatbread to share from Mama's rustic on-stage kitchen, as well as family style salad, and choice of entrees featuring Linguine Fra Diavolo, Oven Baked Stuffed Chicken Breast, and Char Grilled Filet Mignon with Gorgonzola Butter. Dessert: Mama's signature Fantasmic! Tiramisu. Alcoholic beverages NOT included.
- Hollywood & Vine \$21.99 adult/\$10.99 child (3-11) not including admission, tax, and gratuity (no characters) Child's meal includes beverage. All you care to eat buffet. Choose from a number of selections including; oven-roasted Prime Rib, Citrus Baked Chicken, Pan-seared Salmon, and Stir-Fry Noodles with Sesame. Also includes fresh salads and build your own ice cream/dessert bar. Alcoholic beverages NOT included.

All packages include a special pass for seating at that night's Fantasmic! and dinner at the restaurant chosen. Report to your restaurant 10 minutes before your Fantasmic! Dinner Package PS, and you'll receive your special Fantasmic! seating pass at that time. Theme park admission is NOT included. There is a cancellation period of 48 hours.

Epcot

Viewing Illuminations

- The absolute best place is from the plaza between the two boat docks on the Future World side (except for those portions blocked by trees).
- From the World Showcase, the best viewing spots are: Mexico (waterside tables at the outdoor cantina, they go fast); Norway, Germany, Italy (waterside plaza when not used by private parties), the bridge and plaza between France and Britain (very popular and sometimes the plaza gets the private parties), the Rose & Crown patio and the waterside plazas in Britain (VERY popular with private parties), and a little bit of Canada. I can vouch for the views from the Future World plaza, Norway, Germany, Italy, the Franco-British bridge, and the Rose & Crown. The best photograph I ever took of Illuminations was taken from the plaza across from Italy. (Because of trees and islands, there are no good viewing areas in China, the Outpost, the American Adventure, Morocco, France, Britain past the Rose & Crown, and most of Canada.)
- Right where you enter World Showcase from Future world, between the two stores there, right up front. That is the designed centerpoint for the show, although it does work from anywhere. It is just a little better there!

Hidden Mickeys

Go to Epcot's Guest Relations and ask them and they will give a list of all the Hidden Mickeys in all the parks and resorts. Lots of fun and it's FREE!

KidCot Stations

You will find one in every country - just look for the sign or ask a Cast Member. They are making the mask on a stick. The kids color & decorate the mask and in each country they add something on and get the stick stamped! OR kids can just get the stick stamped in each country.

Autograph Books

In Epcot, ask the cast members to each write, "Hello. Welcome to _____!" in their language.

Kids' Guide to Epcot

Get a *Kids' Guide to Epcot*. It's a small, square, blue booklet, found near the turnstiles or at Guest Relations. There's a place for the child to write his/her name, date of trip, and a list of the people they traveled with. For each ride/attraction, the booklet describes in a sentence or two what to expect at the attraction. There's a small box next to each attraction listing, so that kids can put a checkmark when they visited an attraction.

Name Rings

Ring with my name on it – in Mexico. They have gold, silver & brass. Different price ranges.

Passport

You can buy kids a passport, which are sold at the carts on the way in or at the gift shop at Epcot. What the kids will do is stop at every country in the Land and one of the cast members will stamp their passport to reflect each country that they stop in along with a small personal message written in the native language of that country. Kids love this and it keeps them interested along the way. I believe they cost around \$10 or \$11 apiece. It comes with a Epcot pin the passport and stamps from each country.

Rehitchin' Ceremony

Done at The Garden Grill in Epcot. You can tell them when you make your PS and then definitely tell them when you check in for your meal. It can be done during lunch, dinner or the ice cream social. You stand up and kiss to count of 100 (they counted 1-10 and than to 100 by tens). We received a mini cake and a certificate saying we had been rehitched. The only cost involved was the cost of our meal.

Candlelight Processional

The Candlelight Processional is a moving presentation of the Christmas story in readings by the celebrity narrator and music by a Mass choir and 50-piece orchestra. This event takes place in the America Gardens Theatre in World Showcase in Epcot. It is an outdoor (uncovered, not climate controlled) setting and is not cancelled due to inclement weather. It is recommended you dress accordingly.

It begins November 28 and runs every evening until December 30. Shows are approximately 40 minutes. Each evening there are three shows at 5:00; 6:45; and 8:15 p.m. (Check for possible dinner packages.) More info at: http://www.themouseforless.com/tripplanning/wdwparks/annual/candlelight_processional.shtml

Magic Kingdom

Parade Viewing Location

For fireworks at the MK we have found the benches in front of the castle are great as well as the ones on the walkway going to Tomorrowland.

"Sword in the Stone" Ceremony

Merlin challenges young guests to pull the sword from the stone in regular presentations at the Magic Kingdom in Walt Disney World. The Ceremony is performed several times each day near Cinderella's Golden Carrousel in Fantasyland. *Arrive 10 minutes before the show and stand in the left section of the audience.* Check your *Times Guide* for show times.

Magic Kingdom Height Restricted Attractions

Big Thunder Mountain	40"
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Railroad	
Splash Mountain	40"
Alien Encounter	44"
Space Mountain	44"
Indy Speedway	52" (to ride alone)
Goofy's Barnstormer	35"

Age Restrictions

Dumbo & Aladdin's Carpets	Adults must ride with small children
Mad Tea Party	Adult supervision of children under 7
Goofy's Barnstormer	Age 3 and up
Astro Orbiter	Adult supervision of children under 7
Indy Speedway	Adult supervision required
Space Mountain	Adult supervision of children under 7

Downtown Disney

Guest of Honor badges

\$5 at the Christmas Store (also 5 and 10 at MGM)

Mailing Postcards

When mailing postcards from WDW take them to DTD to World of Memories (the scrapbook store). Don't worry about postage. They have a Pitney Bowes machine and they sell postage *at cost* and can even do international postage *at cost*. The cool thing is

that the postage has the new "magical gatherings Tink" on it! So it really looks like it comes from WDW instead of from the local post office.

Outside the Parks

Fort Wilderness

- Petting Zoo
- Campfire roast and movie

- Trails End Buffeteria

Animal Kingdom Lodge

Go to Disney Animal Kingdom Lodge between 9pm-11pm on any night. The cast member guides out on the savannah lookout area have "night vision goggles" they will let you use (free) to check out the animals roaming around at night! Note: these are almost the same type of goggles the military use on night exercises so it's like turning night into day when you look thru them!

Dining in WDW (restaurants of interest)

Meal	Pricing (based on Dinner)		Rating	Discount
B = Breakfast	\$	Value Items	* Poor	Q&C Quick & Casual
L = Lunch	\$\$	Moderate	** Fair	AK+ Animal Kingdom Plus
D = Dinner	\$\$\$	Expensive	*** Average	
S = Snack	\$\$\$\$	Very Expensive	**** Very Good	
		Entrees Under \$6	***** Excellent	PS = priority seating
		Entrees Under \$12		
		Entrees from \$12-\$20		
		Entrees over \$21		

Animal Kingdom

Restaurant	Location	Meal	Price	Disc	Rating	Service	PS	Other Info
Flame Tree BBQ	Asia	L	\$\$	Q&C AK+	****	counter		Find the dining area by the water for quiet and a view

Disney-MGM Studios

Restaurant	Location	Meal	Price	Disc	Rating	Service	PS	Other Info
50's Prime Time Café	Echo Lake	L/D	\$\$\$		****	Menu	yes	Dinner fare with interactive fun!
Hollywood and Vine	Echo Lake	D	\$\$		****	Buffet	yes	\$21.99 / \$9.99 Fantasmic dinner package
Sci-Fi Dine-In Theatre	Commissary Lane	L/D	\$\$		**	Menu	yes	Sci Fi clips play. Eat in cars (must request)

Epcot

Restaurant	Location	Meal	Price	Disc	Rating	Service	PS	Other Info
Garden Grill	The Land (Future World)	S	\$\$		***		yes	\$6.99 <i>Character Meal</i> Rehitching Ceremony

Magic Kingdom

Restaurant	Location	Meal	Price	Disc	Rating	Service	PS	Other Info
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Outside Theme Parks

Restaurant	Location	Meal	Price	Disc	Rating	Service	PS	Other Info
Chef Mickey's	Contemporary Resort	D	\$\$\$\$		***		yes	\$23.99 / \$10.99 <i>Character Meal</i>
Trail's End Buffeteria	Fort Wilderness	B/L/D	\$\$		****			\$15.99 / \$6.99 Cafeteria; good value

Saving Money on Meals

- Bring breakfast foods and eat in the room or on the go.
- Bring juice/water/soda and snacks from home.
- Share meals from the food courts or counter service restaurants
- Bring a cooler and keep it full of ice. Stock it with lunchmeat / bread / etc and bring sandwiches into the park
- Skip the sit down restaurants. They tend to be more expensive than the counter service options. Look for the less expensive buffets (trails end is supposed to be really good). If you go to a buffet, go toward the end of lunchtime so you pay the lunch price. Then eat your fill and consider it your dinner too.
- If you drink a lot of coffee or soda, and will be at your hotel enough to warrant it, get a refillable mug.

Connections Vouchers

Connections: There is an option to join for a 30 day trial for \$1.00, then a yearly fee of \$139.95. Go to the site www.dealpass.com and click on "Travel & Entertainment", then select Simple Escapes (This club option will allow you to order the Disney Meal

Vouchers). Fill out the information, and you will receive your membership info and be able to order immediately. There is enough time to join, order the vouchers and cancel before the trial period is up, but there are some good deals at the site, which you may want to remain in to keep. No Shipping Charges.

"Quick & Casual" Meal Vouchers (Q&C)

Each Quick & Casual voucher costs \$11.25 and is valid for a full counter service lunch or dinner.

With each voucher you can order your choice of one of the following:

- one combo meal (entree, side dish and beverage) and one dessert OR
- one entree, one side dish (if not included in the entree), one dessert and one non-alcoholic beverage.

Tax and gratuity (if any) are included. Alcoholic beverages, frozen drinks and souvenir drink mugs are not included.

Current vouchers being issued expire 5/31/04. *These vouchers can be used during both lunch and dinner hours.* You will almost always come out at least even on the Quick & Casual vouchers. Rule of thumb: if you would be spending at least \$10.75 for the meal before tax, using a voucher will be a good deal, because tax (and tip, if applicable) is included. Also, many of the combo meals are big enough that two people could share one and just purchase an additional drink (and possibly an additional side order).

Quick & Casual are good at:

Magic Kingdom

Casey's Corner

Columbia Harbour House

Cosmic Ray's Starlight Café*

El Pirate y el Perico

Lunching Pad at Rock Tower Plaza

Pecos Bill Café*

Pinocchio Village Haus

Plaza Pavilion

Epcot

Boulangerie Patisserie (France)

Cantina de San Angel (Mexico)*

Electric Umbrella Restaurant

Harry Ramsden Fish & Chips (U.K.)

Kringla Bakeri (Norway)

Liberty Inn (US)

Lotus Blossom Cafe (China)

Pure and Simple

Refreshment Port

Sommerfest (Germany)

Sunshine Season Food Fair*

Tangerine Cafe (Morocco)**

Yakitori House (Japan)*

Disney-MGM Studios

ABC Commissary

Backlot Express

Rosie's All-American Café*

Toy Story Pizza Planet

Animal Kingdom

Flame Tree Barbeque*

Pizzafari*

Restaurantsaurus

Tusker House Restaurant*

Blizzard Beach

Lottawatta Lodge

Typhoon Lagoon

Leaning Palms Burger & Brew

Typhoon Tilly's

All-Stars

End Zone Food Court*

Intermission Food Court*

World Premiere Food Court*

Animal Kingdom Lodge

Mara*

Bonnett Creek Golf Club

Sand Trap Bar and Grill*

Caribbean Beach

Old Port Royale Food Court

Contemporary

Food and Fun Center

Sand Bar Grill

Coronado Springs

Pepper Market*

Siesta's Pool Bar & Grill

Grand Floridian

Gasparilla Grill & Games

Port Orleans Resort

Sassagoula Floatworks & Food

Factory* Riverside Mill

Wilderness Lodge

Roaring Forks

Yacht & Beach Club

Beaches and Cream***

Hurricane Hanna's Grille

Menus from Around the World

<http://www.themouseforless.com/tripplanning/menus/wdw/menus.shtml>

Animal Kingdom Meal Plus Certificates

Certificates are good at the following Animal Kingdom counter service restaurants:

- Flame Tree Barbecue
- Pizzafari
- Restaurantosaurus
- Tusker House

Each Meal Plus Certificate costs:

Guests ages 12 and up \$11.99

Guests ages 3-11 \$5.99

Certificate is good for:

- one counter service entree plus a beverage
- one box of popcorn or an ice cream bar
- one bottled drink (soda or water)

The certificates can be purchased at any Animal Kingdom counter service restaurant and also at Guest Relations in the park. This program was started as an experiment last summer, and could be discontinued at any time

Special Events

Birthdays

- Go to the guest relations of the park you visit that day and ask for the birthday button.
- When you make PS for a sit-down meal, let them know. When you are to be seated for the meal, let them know again.
- If staying on-site and wish a cake in the room, let the desk know when you check in, and remind them on the actual day.

Transportation

Transportation and Ticket Center

This is not a hub for all the resorts. It's the parking area for the Magic Kingdom, plus a monorail and ferry station. (Monorail to the Magic Kingdom or Epcot, Ferry to the Magic Kingdom). I think there are busses to the Studios and Animal Kingdom parks as well.

Downtown Disney

You can find a bus to ANY Disney resort from here, and this is the best "hub" at night, after the parks close.

Theme parks

You can go to any resort from any theme parks that are still open, or have closed about an hour. This is your best "hub" during the day.

If you want to take a few different types of transportation in one hurrah, you can do so at the Magic Kingdom from your resort, All Star Movies:

- From All Star Movies, take the ****bus**** to the Magic Kingdom.
- Take the ****resort monorail**** from the Magic Kingdom to the Grand Floridian.
- Go to the marina at the Grand Floridian and take the ****resort boat**** back to the Magic Kingdom.
- Heck, if you still want to ride boats and monorails, you can:
- Take the ****ferryboat**** to the TTC and...
- Take the ****express monorail**** back to the Magic Kingdom. (Or you can ditch the Magic Kingdom entirely by taking the ****Epcot monorail**** to Epcot.)

Outside WDW

Margaritaville

We go to City Walk and have dinner at Jimmy Buffets restaurant, Margaritaville. It is a great restaurant with an awesome atmosphere. They had clowns walking around on stilts. They were making balloon animals for the kids.

Shopping for Disney Stuff

<http://themouseforless.com/tripplanning/travel/OutletStores.shtml>

Belz Factory Outlet Mall

(Disney store – "Character Premier") <http://wdwig.com/outlet.htm> "Premier Outlet" Store <http://www.belz.com/realestate/retail/festival/index.html>

Lake Buena Vista Outlet Mall

SR535, near 192, Character Warehouse (not Disney owned)

Orlando Premium Outlets

I-4 at Turkey Lake Road (Exit 72) Disney Store & Universal Store
<http://www.premiumoutlets.com/>

Birkenstock

store is in building #2 of the Belz outlet complex on Oakridge Road in Orlando.

Other Disney Stuff

Decorate A Disney Cake

Take a picture of any character and lay a piece of wax paper over it. Then get some piping gel and trace the outlines. After about 15 minutes or so it is "dry" -really sticky, then flip it over on top of your cake that has a layer of plain icing on it. The gel will stick to the cake and peel off the wax paper gently. Then take colored icing and color in the lines. If you want you can also use black icing to redo the outlines so it looks like you did it by hand.