

PIXIE DUST NEWS

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BREAKING NEWS.....The new version of www.pixiedusttours.com is now up and running! Please take a look at it and let me know what you think. If you do not wish to continue receiving Pixie Dust News, please send me an email and I will unsubscribe you. Thank you.

NEW DISNEYLAND DEAL: Stay in the Middle of the Diamond Celebration This Season and

Save

You can save up to 20% on Premium rooms at Disney's Grand Californian Hotel® & Spa and Disneyland® Hotel, or up to 10% at Disney's Paradise Pier® Hotel on select Sunday through Thursday nights Oct. 25 through Dec. 17, 2015, when you book through Nov. 18, 2015.*

You can make memories like never before during the Disneyland Resort Diamond Celebration – commemorating 60 years of Disney magic with dazzling entertainment and sparkling surprises, including three new nighttime spectacles. It's a celebration so big, one day simply isn't enough to enjoy everything in store.

*Savings based on the nondiscounted price for the same room at the same hotel for most Sunday through Thursday nights. Valid for travel between 10/25/15 through 12/17/15. Book from 9/9/15 through 11/18/15, with travel completed by 12/18/15. Savings on Premium rooms are available on Premium, Deluxe and Woods/Garden/Courtyard rooms; select Concierge rooms; and Paradise, Artisan and Regal Suites. Ask about savings on other hotels and room types. Not valid on previously booked rooms. Advance reservations required. Subject to availability as the number of rooms allocated for this offer is limited. Excludes applicable fees and taxes. Limit two (2) rooms per reservation and five (5) people maximum per room. Not valid in combination with any other hotel discounts or offers. Subject to restrictions and change without notice. Separate Theme Park admission required to enjoy the Parks.

17 THINGS YOU CAN ONLY DO AT DISNEYLAND

Disney Parks have a variety of different experiences—from a smoking and growling dragon under the Parisian castle to the first-ever pirate-themed land in the soon-to-open Shanghai park—but Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, California, the original theme park, still offers unique experiences you won't find in any other Disney park.

1. You've never experience Space Mountain like this. This iconic ride went under a major refurbishment to include galactic sound effects and music, starry lights, and other special effects.
2. In other parks, you might take the monorail or boat from the Transportation and Ticket Center and then stop before the gates into the park. Not in California. Here, you board the Disneyland Monorail inside Downtown Disney and enter the World of Tomorrow directly.
3. Ride the oldies! Disneyland is the only U.S. park where you can ride classics like Mr. Toad's Wild Ride and Snow White's Scary Adventures. Finding Nemo Submarine Voyage was originally *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* but now boasts all your favorite characters from the blockbuster Pixar film.
4. Zoom on Gadget's Go Coaster, join Indian Jones on an adventure through a collapsing temple, challenge the Mountain of Mountains (Matterhorn), learn with Pinocchio, and zip about in Toon Town with Roger Rabbit. You can't do any of these on the East Coast.

5. In other parks, Fantasmic has its own arena but not in Disneyland, and that makes it even better. The show takes place on the Rivers of America and Tom Sawyer Island, so grab your seat in New Orleans Square or Frontierland early!
6. All the best rides are super close. You want to ride Star Tours—The Adventure Continues, Matterhorn Bobsleds, Toy Story Mania, Space Mountain, The Little Mermaid – Ariel’s Undersea Adventure, Soarin’ Over California, It’s a Bug’s Life, The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror, AND Turtle Talk with Crush? In California, you can find them all within walking distance of each other. Speaking of which...
7. Walk to California Adventure. It’s literally right across from the entrance of Disneyland Park, and the short distance makes it super easy to bounce between parks.
8. See 1920s L.A. as Walt Disney experienced it when he arrived with the new Main Street in California Adventure. Don’t forget to ride a trolley car!
9. Experience the spectacular of light, water, and color with World of Color, now hosted by Neil Patrick Harris and Mickey Mouse! (The Bellagio has nothing on this show. Just sayin’.)
10. Sure, you might like princesses in your parade, but if you’re looking for the parade with the most fun, then you’ve got to see the Pixar Play Parade with water guns, balloons, and so much more. And you’ll be singing, “The Play, Play, Play—Play Parade” for the rest of the day and not hate it like “It’s a small world.” (Seriously.)
11. Mad T Party is a dance club like no other with neon lights, a jamming beat, and your favorite characters, inspired by Tim Burton’s take on *Alice in Wonderland*.
12. Disney Parks are known for their fantastic worlds, and Cars Land, new to California Adventure, is one of the most magical. You are literally sitting in Radiator Springs.
13. California Adventure allows you to enjoy the treasures of the Golden State, from the piers of San Francisco to the dazzle of Hollywood, and even to the vineyards of Napa Valley.
14. Another California perk: celebrity spotting. No doubt, Disneyland Park sees more celebrities than any other Disney park in the world.
15. Back in Disneyland Park, Disney Club 33 is the ultra exclusive club and lounge in New Orleans Square that supposedly cost more than \$12,000 to join at Platinum Level. Want to be part of this? According to the *L.A. Times*, the wait-list is actually closed, but no worries. You’re still in New Orleans Square, which reminds me...Walt’s apartment, above the Fire Station.
16. New Orleans Square is home to the Disney Dream Suite, Pirates of the Caribbean, the Haunted Mansion, and Club 33. New Orleans Square was actually the first land to open without an attraction (Pirates of the Caribbean and Haunted Mansion were added in 1967 and 1969, respectively), and the opening ceremony was Walt Disney’s last major public appearance before his death in December 1966, which leads us to...
17. Walk in Walt’s Footsteps. You absolutely cannot do this in any other park. While Disneyland Park has changed over the course of its 60 years, this was Walt’s vision, his dream, and his legacy. Though his name may be part of theme parks, his presence remains here more than 49 years after his death. Explore the world through his eyes with a specific tour about the man who created more than a park—he created an ideal.

Experience it for yourself during Disneyland Resort’s Diamond Celebration!

CHANGES TO THE DISNEY DINING PLAN

As of May 31, 2015, the following changes were made to Table Service and Quick Service Entitlements:

You may now use an unlimited number of your available meal entitlements at one time. For example, if you wish to cover dinner for friends dining with you who are not on the Dining Plan, you will be able to use your entitlements to do so. (You must specifically request this.)

If you are using the Deluxe, Premium or Platinum dining plan you may now use any child meal entitlements for adult entrees. (This change does not apply if you are on the regular dining plan.)

Dessert substitutions by request only: You may substitute your dessert for a fruit plate, side salad or cup of soup where available. You still cannot swap your dessert for a regular appetizer. This will only be done at your specific request.

You can now substitute any dessert or non-alcoholic beverage for a DDP snack credit. This must be done in the same transaction. You are now able to substitute one Quick Service meal for up to three Snack DDP items, but this must be done during the same transaction. Instead of a single Quick Service meal you could, for example, get three sodas.

As of May 31, 2015, the following changes were made to Snack Entitlements:

Snacks are no longer determined based on price. Here are some examples of items now considered snacks: any soup at a Quick Service location; any ice cream novelties; any hand-scooped ice cream (including sundaes) with two scoops or less of ice cream and NOT in a souvenir container; anything listed as a side at a Quick Service location; any single-serve, non-alcoholic beverage that's not in a souvenir container.

You can now also use a snack credit for the following breakfast items: cereal, French toast sticks, oatmeal or quinoa, grits, biscuits and gravy, hard-boiled eggs or a side of bacon, sausage, potatoes or eggs.

STAR WARS-THEMED LANDS COMING TO WALT DISNEY WORLD AND DISNEYLAND RESORTS

At D23 EXPO 2015, the Walt Disney Company Chairman and CEO Bob Iger announced that **Star Wars**-themed lands will be coming to **Disney's Hollywood Studios**® at the **Walt Disney World**® Resort, and **Disneyland**® Park at the **Disneyland** Resort.

Ambitious plans to bring **Star Wars** to life in the two parks include creating Disney's largest single themed land expansions ever at 14 acres each, transporting your Clients to a never-before-seen planet, a remote trading port and one of the last stops before wild space where **Star Wars** characters and their stories come to life.

"I am thrilled to announce the next chapter in the long and exciting history between Disney Parks and **Star Wars**," said Iger. "We are creating a jaw-dropping new world that represents our largest single themed land expansion ever. These new lands at **Disneyland** and **Walt Disney World** will transport guests to a whole new Star Wars planet, including an epic **Star Wars** adventure that puts you in the middle of a climactic battle between the First Order and the Resistance."

These authentic lands will have two signature attractions. Along with the thrilling battle experience, another attraction puts Guests behind the controls of one of the most recognizable ships in the galaxy, the Millennium Falcon, as they take on a customized secret mission.

AVOIDING EXHAUSTION AT WALT DISNEY WORLD

Amy Wear, PassPorter Guest Contributor

From adults with chronic pain and fatigue to seniors with arthritis and other conditions that limit mobility, many visitors to Walt Disney World need to make energy conservation a top priority when planning their vacations. While it's common to return from Walt Disney World needing a vacation from the vacation, adults with special needs want to avoid exhaustion so they can enjoy their entire trip. Here are just some of the strategies you can put in place in the vacation planning stages:

Choose your vacation dates carefully. While park touring in high crowds can be aggravating for everyone, the stress involved for someone with chronic pain and fatigue is magnified and can easily lead to a flare-up. Use a site like

www.easywdw.com or have a travel agent specializing in Disney destinations help you plan for the least crowded days and times of the year to visit. Also consider the possibility of weather delays when traveling during the winter months and how these could impact your vacation enjoyment.

Beware extreme heat and humidity. Extreme heat can be a major obstacle and should be anticipated between late April and mid-October. Some people with conditions such as fibromyalgia, however, actually tolerate heat very well and welcome the chance to be in high heat and humidity. If you must travel in the hotter months, plan to take frequent rest breaks and avoid the peak heat of the day.

Choose optimal flights. Where possible, choose flight times for when you are at your best. Consider paying more for a direct flight from a nearby airport, so you can minimize the energy drain that comes with air travel. Midday flights are ideal for ensuring adequate sleep the night before you travel and for giving you time to unwind once you arrive at your resort.

Stay close to the parks. If you can afford it, book your vacation at one of the deluxe Disney resorts close to your favorite park(s) to drastically cut down on the energy expended just traveling to and from your resort. It will also make afternoon breaks from the parks more feasible for you.

Since you are apt to spend more time at your resort than others, splurging on deluxe is an extra-special treat. Many guests would rather visit the World less frequently in order to afford the special perks of staying at a deluxe resort. It is also wise to choose a smaller resort that doesn't require as much walking or to pay for a preferred room that is close to the amenities you wish to use.

Skip the park hopper. Since you want to pace yourself and avoid spending full days at the parks, you will likely manage fine with a base ticket. Simply return to the same park after your break from the parks. If you do want to retain the option to visit a different park after a break, however, or have more flexibility with dining reservations, a park hopper will come in handy.

Make advance dining reservations. Using MyMagic+, you can make dining reservations 180 days prior to your arrival to Walt Disney World. Make a general plan for each day of your vacation so that you can try to overlap dining reservations with the park you will visit that day. This way you won't waste time and energy traveling from one part of the World to another.

Consider booking some restaurants for convenience rather than rave reviews, such as the low-key restaurant at your resort for a planned rest day. Note that most of the character meals are buffets, which can be overstimulating and usually require several trips to and from the table to gather your food. You may prefer quieter a la carte table service restaurants, which allow you to have a restful meal.

Prioritize park attractions and use Fastpass+. Make a list of all the attractions you'd be disappointed to miss in each park. Disney resort guests can choose Fastpasses 60 days prior to their scheduled arrival at Walt Disney World. Off-site guests must wait until 30 days prior to arrival. Use the My Disney Experience app to reserve three attractions for each day of your vacation. Give careful thought to the best time of day for you to enjoy the Fastpass attractions.

Use a packing list. Start with a thorough packing list like the one provided in *Passporter's Walt Disney World* or search for one on Pinterest. Be sure to add to the list any special equipment, devices, or medications you may need to be at your best while on vacation. Plan to dress for function and comfort. Disney is not a fashion show!

Do not overlook footwear! Ensure you pack comfortable footwear that won't leave you with blisters after just one day of walking. Be sure to bring your orthotic insoles with you. Most first-timers severely underestimate the amount of time spent walking at Disney parks.

THE ULTIMATE U.S. BUCKET LIST

By Susie Reese

The United States is not like any other travel destination in the world. When you travel five hours in Europe, you can drive from London to Paris. When you drive five hours in Pennsylvania...you're still in Pennsylvania (though yes, we will concede that a five-hour drive can also take you from New York City to Washington, D.C.). But with so many great places and so many great things to do in Ol' Red, White, and Blue, your bucket list doesn't need to include Big Ben, Nessie, or fondue.

Theme Parks

America doesn't have a shortage of world-class theme parks. In California alone, there is Disneyland® Resort, Universal Studios Hollywood®, Six Flags® Magic Mountain (with a record 19 coasters in one park), and Knott's Berry Farm® (a historic park with modern additions), all within 65 miles of each other. But if you're wary of so much awesomeness in such a small area, check out Florida with the Mouse's main domain and Harry Potter's world, plus a handful of waterparks and other amusement areas. And of course, you can't forget Cedar Point® in Ohio, which is located on a peninsula in Lake Erie with a world-record 72 rides. It also has been named "Best Amusement Park in the World" by Golden Ticket Award for 16 consecutive years.

Mardi Gras—New Orleans

Dubbed the "Greatest Free Show on Earth," Mardi Gras is celebrated in New Orleans, specifically in the French Quarter, with awesome parades—as many as 12 in a day—contests, and balls. And Mardi Gras isn't one day, "Fat Tuesday," but 10 outrageous days. America's ultimate party, especially in the French Quarter, can get rowdy and mature, so for those who want to enjoy a tamer experience, try Family Gras. Family Gras takes place over a weekend with family-friendly concerts, such as Jesse McCartney, Montgomery Gentry, and more, plus a Flambeau Food Court with New Orleans favorites like jambalaya, crawfish pasta, muffulettas, and gator-on-a-stick. This celebration takes place on the grounds of Veterans Memorial Boulevard.

New York City during the holidays

New York City should be on any U.S. bucket list unless you live less than 30 miles away from the Big Apple and visit there regularly. (We're headquartered in New Jersey and realize how lucky we are to live near this amazing cultural hub.) Perhaps we are even dampening the importance of New York City with recommending you visit during the season, but the city is transformed into a magical paradise in winter with glowing trees and buildings, holiday markets, and numerous ice-skating rinks. So when you visit the Empire State Building, (new) Yankee Stadium, Broadway, MoMA, One World Observatory, Time Square, and Central Park, they'll all be pretty and sparkly. Just make sure to bundle up.

Las Vegas

While we're talking about sparkly places, Las Vegas is a sight to behold. The Strip is lined with themed casinos, world-class eateries, and unparalleled performances. Experience one of the numerous Cirque Du Soleil shows, live magic shows, popular and still popular acts like Mariah Carey, Boys II Men, Donny & Marie, Britney Spears, and more. The city's nightlife is second-to-none with trendy bars and lively clubs in every casino, and unique experiences, like the Voodoo Zipline, the Stratosphere rides (and SkyJump), and the Fremont Street Experience get your heart racing. In between all the exciting entertainment, take a break at one of the many culinary meccas, like Top of the World or Il Mulino New York. For those who love all of Vegas, including the history, don't miss the old signage from Caesars Palace, the Stardust, and more, at the Neon Museum. Oh, and this is Vegas. You might want to do some gambling, too. Just saying.

South Beach, Miami

"Party in the city where the heat is on," raves Will Smith, and he's so right. South Beach in Miami is a culture all its own that must be on any bucket list. Drive down Ocean Boulevard and be stopped by a model and her photographer taking pictures in the middle of the street (true story). Experience the historic signs on the modernized hotels (thank you, historical society). Eat at one of the many delectable outdoor bistros that actually drape plastic curtains to stay open during rainy weather, and stay at one of the many luxurious resorts with their upscale clubs and elegant spas. And unlike Vegas and New Orleans, South Beach has...y'know, a beach.

Graceland—Memphis

One of the iconic American singers of all time, Elvis Presley called Graceland® his home for more than 20 years, and the King of Rock 'n' Roll didn't just have a house in Memphis. He built a compound with a mansion, a racquetball building, a trophy building (that was once used for recreation), his father's office, and a meditation garden, and every year, millions of fans make the pilgrimage to his house to pay their respects. Addition exhibits include the Elvis Presley Automobile Museum, Elvis' Custom Jets, Elvis' Hawaii: Concerts, Movies, and more. After Graceland, explore the National Civil Rights Museum® at the Lorraine Motel, where Martin Luther King, Jr. was killed; the blues haven of Beale Street; and watch the march of the ducks at the Peabody Memphis.

Live Volcano—Big Island, Hawaii

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park is home to the fiery Kilauea and Mauna Loa, two of the world's most active volcanoes in the world. See how the Hawaiian Island chain formed when Kilauea shoots molten lava more than 150 feet into the air. Mauna Loa stands about 56,000 feet above the depressed sea floor, higher than Mount Everest by 27,000 feet. Besides the natural phenomenon of the lava flow—which you can't experience almost anywhere else in the United States without first having to run for your life—the national park also boasts rare plants and animals.

Napa Valley/San Francisco, California

Only an hour apart, Napa Valley and San Francisco are the sophisticated spots on our bucket list. World-class vineyards offer exquisite wine tastings, culinary classes, and luxurious spas. Take a ride on the Napa Valley Wine Train, which serves a gourmet three-course meal with expert wine pairings as you ride through the enchanting vineyards. San Francisco offers upscale escapes like Sunday City Brunch in The Garden Court at The Palace with tables upon tables of exquisite dishes; the California Academy of Sciences—a planetarium, aquarium, a natural history museum, and a rainforest all under one roof; and the Golden Gate Bridge. And...okay, you have to see Alcatraz, the famous prison (all right, perhaps not quite high-end there), and don't forget to try the sourdough bread!

Washington, D.C.

Our national's capital deserves to be on any American's bucket list. After all, our founding fathers designed it to be the ultimate home court advantage, and it does not disappoint (though the White House does look tiny in comparison to say, Versailles). Between the Washington Monument, the Jefferson Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial and the Reflecting Pool, Ford's Theatre, all the Smithsonian museums, Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, the National Archives (The Constitution and The Declaration of Independence), the Library of Congress, the U.S. Capitol—I'm running out of room to write all the different exhibits you must see! Do it all!

Grand Canyon, Arizona

Sometimes, places don't live up to their superlatives. (Is a great lake really great?) But the Grand Canyon is certainly grand. It stretches more than 277 miles long, 18 miles wide, and a mile deep. (Don't look down!) More than 1,800 million years old, the Grand Canyon is one of the most records of geological history that can be seen anywhere in the world, and with three distinctive experiences—the South Rim, the North Rim, and the West Rim—the weekly pass you receive upon entry (costing \$35 for a family) might not be enough time to see and explore this natural wonder. Seek adventure with a rafting excursion on the Colorado River or hike with a multi-day backpacking trip. Take a guided tour or ride on a bike or a mule!

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta—New Mexico

The premier balloon festival in the world. Watch more than 550 balloons take flight in less than a half hour, or watch one of the evening balloon blows. Don't miss out on the Albuquerque Box, which allows the balloons to rise and head in one direction, and then once they reach a certain altitude, fly back and land at their original launch points.

Florida beaches

Revered as some of the best beaches in the United States, Florida beaches offer warm water and powdery, golden sand. The serene waves of the Gulf of Mexico are generally favored, but the cool Atlantic Ocean offers its share of surfing havens.

Freedom Trail in Boston

A 2.5 red-lined route through the center of Boston takes you on a journey with our founding fathers to Boston Common; the site of the Boston Massacre; the Old North Church; Bunker Hill; and more. Book a tour to hear the storied past from a guide dressed in period clothing!

Glaciers in America

Generally in western states like Washington, Oregon, California, and Montana, these masses of ice are so large that they flow like a heavy liquid. Due to recent climate change, glaciers throughout the world are shrinking, so if you want to see an American one, there's no time like the present.

HAVE A FUN FALL, HAPPY HALLOWEEN AND ENJOYABLE THANKSGIVING!