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The Complete Walt Disney World 2011



Synopsis

Over 500 color photographs highlight this beautiful yet remarkably thorough guide, a straightforward, fun-to-read, show-and-tell extravaganza that rates and reviews nearly 700 attractions, restaurants, shops and hotels and offers hundreds of helpful tips. Theme parks are the heart of the book. Each ride and show is showcased on its own page or pages, with an insightful description, frank review, specs such as hour-by-hour wait times and often quirky bonuses such as Fun Finds and Hidden Mickeys. A fantastic planning tool Those who love to plan a vacation will delight in the guidebook's obsessive attention to detail. Comprehensive hotel reviews spotlight discount rates, room quality and decor (with photos!) and fun swimming pool features. An Activities chapter uncovers unique experiences outside the parks, whether expensive or free. New for 2011, a Walt Disney World A-Z section is an exhaustive Disney planning encyclopedia. Telephone and Internet directories hold hundreds of useful listings. Smartly organized with color-coded chapters, the book makes it easy to find what you need. A family favorite Moms will love the book's thoughtful focus on children. Included are creative ways to involve kids in planning a Disney vacation, Fear Factors for every ride and show, and many Family Matters theme-park tips. A Character Guide reveals where to meet Mickey Mouse and 80 other Disney stars. Young families in particular will find the book helpful, as the abundance of photos give children a way to read it with their parents. Award-winning advice The only independent Disney guide ever honored by the Walt Disney Company, The Complete Walt Disney World is the winner of Disney's iParenting Media Award for Outstanding Family Product. Altogether the book has won 15 national and international book awards. From the back cover: Don't miss out on top experiences thanks to a colorful Best Bets showcase. Fully enjoy rides and shows thanks to in-depth theme-park chapters. Avoid long lines with Fastpass tips and hour-by-hour attraction wait times. See the rides and shows before you leave home, thanks to 530 color photos. Add variety to your trip with activities like fishing, golf and surfing. Ensure quality family time thanks to child-focused activities and advice. Book the right hotel with reviews that include photos, swimming pool features and discount rates. Be armed with resources on everything from face painting and tea parties to park tickets and dining plans.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Seriously thorough. --Family Circle Magazine
Highly recommended. --New York Daily News
Should leave fans of Mickey smiling from ear to ear. --Chicago Tribune
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CHARACTERS Page 324 Although some fantasy-free adults may not see them as such, the Disney walk-around characters are real to many visitors, especially children. That's not a sweaty young woman in a fur suit, that's Pluto!!! Dozens of Disney stars appear in shows and parades and personally greet guests at theme parks, water parks and resort hotels. Character types Disney has two types of walk-around characters, "face" and "fur." Face characters, such as Cinderella, appear in a costume that shows the face of the performer, who talks to and interacts with guests in character. Fur characters, such as Pluto, appear in a complete costume that includes an oversized head. Most of them don't speak, and interact with guests purely through mime. However, fur character Mickey Mouse does speak at Town Square Theater in Magic Kingdom. His mouth moves and when you talk to him, he often talks back. Meet-and-greet lines Most characters pose for photos and, in most cases, sign autographs at designated locations, many of which draw long lines. Guests with autograph books should bring a pen or, better, a Sharpie marker. Some characters don't sign because of costume limitations. It's fine to hug, kiss or pat characters, but not to give them gifts. A PhotoPass photographer is often on hand, although guests are welcome to take photos themselves, or have the PhotoPass photographer take a photo for them with their camera or phone. How to help your child interact Though face characters rarely intimidate children, the fur folks, with their cartoonishly large heads, sometimes do. To help your child feel comfortable, talk with her beforehand so she knows what to expect. For meet-and-greet lines, buy her an autograph book to give her something

to focus on besides the face-to-face encounter. When it's her turn don't push her; the characters are patient and are trained to be sweet. Approach a character from the front. Fur characters in particular often cannot see guests standing behind or beside them. Character meals A handful of Disney buffet and table-service restaurants offer character meals, in which an assortment of characters come up to each table to greet guests as they eat. Each theme park has at least one character-meal restaurant, as do many Disney resort hotels. How to find a character Though the following Character Guide lists the official locations of characters, they often show up other places. To learn where, ask any Disney cast member. They can usually find out. Character guide More than 70 Disney characters greet guests at Disney World parks and resort hotels. Here's a list of the ones who appear most often, and where you're most likely to find them: Aladdin: Arab street rat, star of 1992's Aladdin. Wins love of princess Jasmine after learning to be true to himself. Magic Kingdom: At Magic Carpets of Aladdin, Adventureland. Epcot: Morocco pavilion. Alice: Star of 1951's Alice in Wonderland. Curious, proper British girl dreams of nonsensical Wonderland. The park character has confided to the authors that many young girls confuse her name, thinking it's Allison Wonderland. Magic Kingdom: Mad Tea Party, Fantasyland. Epcot: Tea garden, U.K. pavilion; Akershus Royal Banquet Hall meals (often), Norway pavilion. Grand Floridian Resort: 1900 Park Fare breakfast. Anastasia and Drizella: Squabbling stepsisters to Cinderella in 1950's Cinderella, daughters of Lady Tremaine. Redhead Anastasia is spiteful and graceless; brunette Drizella disorganized. Magic Kingdom: Great wall, Fantasyland. Grand Floridian Resort: 1900 Park Fare dinner. Anna and Elsa: Loving sisters in 2014's hit Frozen. Redheaded younger Anna is the optimistic, fearless, awkward princess of Arendelle. Older platinum blonde Queen Elsa is more quiet and reserved, and can magically conjure snow and ice. Anna wears her blue embroidered dress; Elsa her silver and blue gown. Magic Kingdom: Princess Fairytale Hall, Fantasyland. Ariel: Rebellious redheaded teen mermaid, star of 1989's The Little Mermaid. Sick of swimmin', loves all things human. Falls in love with Prince Eric. Best friend is a fish, Flounder. Wears a seashell bikini top as mermaid, a turquoise gown as a human (though it's pink in the film). Magic Kingdom: Ariel's Grotto, Fantasyland; Cinderella's Royal Table breakfast, lunch (often), Cinderella Castle. Epcot: Akershus Royal Banquet Hall meals (often), Norway pavilion. Aurora: Blameless blond princess of 1959's Sleeping Beauty awakened from Maleficent's cursed coma by Prince Phillip's kiss. Also known as Briar Rose. Pink gown. Magic Kingdom: Town Square, Main

Street U.S.A.; Cinderella's Royal Table breakfast, lunch (often), Cinderella Castle. Epcot: France pavilion fragrance garden; Akershus Royal Banquet Hall meals (often), Norway pavilion. Baloo: Happy-go-lucky, lazy bear in 1967; Jungle Book - teaches man-cub Mowgli how to relax, live in wild. Loves to scratch back on trees, eat fruit. Magic Kingdom: Move It! Shake It! Celebrate It! Street Party, Cinderella Castle hub.

Disney's Animal Kingdom: Upcountry Landing, on trail off Asia-Africa walkway. Beast: Selfish prince is transformed by sorceress into a hideous creature in 1991; Beauty and the Beast. - Has face of wildebeest; tusks of boar; mane of lion; body of bear; legs, tail of wolf. Transforms back into prince after learning to be kind and earning love of Belle. Magic Kingdom: Be Our Guest at dinnertime to greet diners. Belle: Heroine of 1991; Beauty and the Beast, - in which the brunette bookworm falls in love with beastly captor. Stands up for herself. Wears golden gown or modest blue dress with a white apron. Magic Kingdom: Enchanted Tales with Belle, Fantasyland; Cinderella's Royal Table, Cinderella Castle. Epcot: France pavilion promenade; Akershus Royal Banquet Hall meals (often), Norway pavilion. Disney's Hollywood Studios: Sorcerer's Hat, Hollywood Blvd. Buzz Lightyear: Confident; Toy Story - space ranger is Woody - best friend. Magic Kingdom: Alongside Carousel of Progress, Tomorrowland. Disney's Hollywood Studios: Woody's Picture Show, Corral, Pixar Place. Chip & Dale: Playful, fast-talking chipmunks from 1940s; 1950s cartoons. Smarter, sneakier Chip has small black nose that resembles chocolate; chip. - Goofier Dale has large red nose, two separated buck teeth. Magic Kingdom: Rivers of America Crossing, Liberty Square; Move It! Shake It! Celebrate It! Street Party, Cinderella Castle hub. Epcot: On walkway behind Innoventions West. Garden Grill dinner, The Land pavilion. Disney's Hollywood Studios: Sorcerer's Hat, Hollywood Blvd. Disney's Animal Kingdom: Conservation Station courtyard, Rafiki's Planet Watch. Fort Wilderness Resort: Mickey's Backyard Barbecue dinner show, Chip & Dale's Campfire Sing-A-Long. Cinderella: The definitive rags-to-riches heroine, upbeat strawberry-blonde saved by Prince Charming from life of stepmother servitude in 1950; Cinderella. - Friend to animals, especially Gus, Jaq and other castle mice. Lives in Cinderella Castle with her prince; wears light blue gown at Disney though in the movie it's white. Magic Kingdom: Princess Fairytale Hall; Cinderella's Royal Table, Cinderella Castle. Epcot: Akershus Royal Banquet Hall meals (often), Norway pavilion. Grand Floridian Resort: 1900 Park Fare dinner. Country Bears. The stars of the infamous Magic Kingdom attraction Country Bear Jamboree. Square-dance with guests during the Frontierland

Hoedown street show. Magic Kingdom, outside the show, Frontierland. Daisy Duck: Donald Duck's impatient, sassy girlfriend from 1940s/1950s cartoons. Likes shopping, flowers. Best friend of Minnie Mouse. Magic Kingdom: Pete's Silly Sideshow, Storybook Circus, Fantasyland. Epcot: Entrance Plaza. Disney's Hollywood Studios: Sorcerer's Hat, Hollywood Blvd. Disney's Animal Kingdom: Discovery Island Landing, Discovery Island; Donald's Safari Breakfast and Lunch, Tusker House, Africa. Doc McStuffins: The star of the Disney Junior show; Doc McStuffins, a 7-year-old African-American girl pretends she's a doctor like her mom, and cures her toys. Disney's Hollywood Studios: Play N Dine character meals, Echo Lake. Donald Duck: He's rude, he's crude, he doesn't wear pants. He shouts, pouts and loses his temper at the drop of a pin. He likes to be mean. Yet who doesn't love Donald Duck, a character who responds to life the way we want to, but rarely dare? Created in 1934 as a foil for Mickey Mouse, Donald soon emerged as Disney's most popular star. The duck with all the bad luck is known for his hopping mad boxing stance, a leaning, jumping posture with one arm straight, the other twirling like a windmill. Magic Kingdom: Pete's Silly Sideshow, Storybook Circus, Fantasyland; Move It! Shake It! Celebrate It! Street Party, Cinderella Castle hub. Epcot: Mexico pavilion (in garb from 1944's The Three Caballeros). Disney's Hollywood Studios: Sorcerer's Hat, Hollywood Blvd. Disney's Animal Kingdom: On the Cretaceous Trail, DinoLand U.S.A.; Donald's Safari Breakfast and Lunch, Tusker House, Africa. Beach Club Resort: Cape May Café breakfast. Contemporary Resort: Chef Mickey's meals. Duffy the Disney Bear: According to Disney Merchandise lore, yes, there is such a thing; the teddy bear Minnie Mouse made for Mickey to take on his travels. Named for duffel bag Mickey uses to carry him. Has no cartoon or film credits. Epcot: World Showcase Friendship Ambassador Gazebo, in front of the Disney Traders East gift shop. Eeyore: Gloomy plush donkey from 1960s Winnie the Pooh's shorts used to create the 1977 movie The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh. Speaks in depressed monotone. Devoted to friends. His tail, tied with a pink bow, often falls off. Magic Kingdom: Crystal Palace meals, Main Street U.S.A.; The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh, Fantasyland. Esmerelda: Beautiful gypsy of 1996 movie The Hunchback of Notre Dame. Helps Quasimodo gain confidence to escape evil master Frollo. Musical free spirit, loves soldier Phoebus. Epcot: Akershus Royal Banquet Hall meals (often), Norway pavilion. Fairy Godmother: This absent-minded fairy helps Cinderella go to the ball in 1950's Cinderella. Rotund, grandmotherly, uses

wand to make magic with a “Bibbidi, bobbidi boo!“ Magic Kingdom: Cinderella Castle fountain, Fantasyland. Frozone: Superhero name of Lucius Best, a confident speed-skater and best friend to Mr. Incredible in 2004“The Incredibles.“ Can freeze moisture in air, make snow. Magic Kingdom: Move It! Shake It! Celebrate It! Street Party, Cinderella Castle hub. Disney“ Hollywood Studios: The Magic of Disney Animation, Animation Courtyard. Gaston: Vain, flirty he-man villain of 1991“Beauty and the Beast“ often flexes his biceps, stares at his own reflection. Magic Kingdom: Outside Gaston“ Tavern, Fantasyland. Genie: Witty, fast-talking blue genie in 1992“Aladdin“ channels his voice talent, the late great Robin Williams. Reshapes body. Grants Aladdin three wishes. Magic Kingdom: Magic Carpets of Aladdin, Adventureland. Goofy: Good-hearted country simpleton appeals to your inner idiot. Clumsy and gullible, has hard time concentrating. Has bad posture, ill-fitting clothes, big stomach yet always mugs for camera (just like, ahem, many husbands). Has many physical characteristics of a dog; was first known as Dippy Dog in 1930s cartoons. Later hosted series of “How To“ cartoon sports parodies; in 1950s was oddly transformed into suburban everyman, the sometimes earless George Geef. Magic Kingdom: Pete“ Silly Sideshow, Storybook Circus, Fantasyland; Move It! Shake It! Celebrate It! Street Party, Cinderella Castle hub. Epcot: Character Spot, Innoventions Plaza. Disney“ Hollywood Studios: Sorcerer“ Hat, Hollywood Blvd. Disney“ Animal Kingdom: DinoLand U.S.A. Service Station; Donald“ Safari Breakfast and Lunch, Tusker House, Africa. Beach Club Resort: Cape May Cafe breakfast. Contemporary Resort: Chef Mickey“ meals. Fort Wilderness Resort: Mickey“ Backyard Barbecue dinner show. Blizzard Beach: On the walkway that circles the park. Green Army Men: Molded-plastic “Toy Story“ soldiers have green mesh over faces; don“t speak. Humorously mime guard duties. Disney“ Hollywood Studios: Pixar Place. Handy Manny: Star of Disney Junior TV show “Handy Manny,“ bilingual Hispanic handyman Manny Garcia uses talking tools. Disney“ Hollywood Studios: Play ‘N Dine character meals, Echo Lake. Jake: Fearless, enthusiastic leader of the Never Land Pirates, from Disney Junior“ “Jake and the Never Land Pirates.“ Disney“ Hollywood Studios: Animation Courtyard. Play ‘N Dine character meals, Echo Lake. Jasmine: Spirited 16-year-old princess in 1992“Aladdin.“ Long black ponytail. Wears aqua bedlah with pouffy pants. Has pet tiger. Magic Kingdom: Magic Carpets of Aladdin, Adventureland; Cinderella“ Royal Table breakfast, lunch (often), Cinderella Castle. Epcot: Morocco pavilion; Akershus Royal Banquet Hall meals (often), Norway pavilion. Jessie: Plucky yodeling

• Toy Story • cowgirl. Woody •s exuberant friend; has crush on Buzz Lightyear. Magic Kingdom: Splash Mountain exit courtyard, Frontierland; Move It! Shake It! Celebrate It! Street Party, Cinderella Castle hub. King Louie: Orangutan from 1967 •s •Jungle Book • plays practical jokes, kidnaps boy Mowgli to learn about fire and therefore learn to be like a human. Magic Kingdom: Move It! Shake It! Celebrate It! Street Party, Cinderella Castle hub. Disney •s Animal Kingdom: Upcountry Landing, on trail off Asia-Africa walkway. Lady Tremaine: Imperious, belittling stepmom in 1950 •s •Cinderella • treats Cinderella as servant. Mother of Anastasia, Drizella. Magic Kingdom: Outside Cinderella Castle, Fantasyland. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I only give this 3 stars due to the brilliant and abundant color photos. I really wanted to give it 2. The writing leaves MUCH to be desired. I have the 2008 edition of this book, have enjoyed it, and since my husband and I are going back this year (special couples trip!) I thought I'd purchase the newest version with all its many updates. Wow, has the writing taken a down turn. I think the authors need to consider someplace else to visit and review for a while; clearly WDW is wearing thin on them. I get that any piece of writing, short of a technical manual, is going to have the author's personal touch, but these folks just take it too far. Yes, the Country Bear Jamboree is hokey and silly, but it's also a MK original and really, there's no need to trash it so harshly. The same goes for many restaurant reviews. Describe for the reader the facts, and let them form their own opinions (honestly if I were a first-time visitor I would be quite apprehensive after reading this guide!!). Also, there are FAR too many "typos" in this tome. Not outright misspellings, perhaps, but plurals where there should be singulars, and vice-versa, as well as the wrong tense of verbs. Auto-correct isn't going to catch such things, you need to have a human do some proof-reading to put things in the correct context! It's too late to return this via but I am certainly going to sell privately and find something a tad more uplifting.

We travel to Walt Disney World (WDW) two or more times per year. I have been purchasing the updated version of this book every year since 2007. There are some parts that are not rewritten each year, but not everything there changes every year. That said, many aspects of WDW change in a blink. The Neals do an excellent job of following those changes. I look forward to the release date of this book. I had this one in hand two days after released it. Just in time for our next trip at the end of October 2014. There hasn't been a new edition in some time. Very grateful the Neals were able to make one available. (Bless the Neal family) I enjoy The Complete Walt Disney World

books more than any other guides, and I have purchased many over the years, Birnbaums is too proDisney, Granted, we are huge fans, but not everything is perfectly delightful to every person that passes through the gates. The Unofficial Guide has good information for a military march with the objective of get in, do as much as possible in the least amount of time and get out unscathed. The Complete Walt Disney series is much more balanced, not motivated by kickbacks, or with any other agenda than having a great time. It is obvious the Neals actually enjoy their time at the resort. They aren't afraid to be honest about everything they review, good, bad or indifferent. The books are made up of so much more than just reviews. Tips, phone numbers, address and so on abound. The photos in the book are excellent. The shots are unique and not always taken from the typical picture spots located everywhere throughout WDW. They are clear, beautifully composed and give a real taste of the variety and detail found in the parks and surrounding areas. Walt Disney World is huge and complex with millions upon millions of things going on, anywhere from updates to landscape, food to fireworks, entertainment to accommodations. What an informative resource to touch on all of it with clear, concise reviews. There are so many tips and treasures to be found on the pages, I read it from cover to cover each and every time I purchase one. The cost of the book is well worth the payoff. It has given us so much insight. We take it with us and review the activities we have planned, just so we don't forget any tidbits we want to check into. Do we agree with everything? No. Everyone has different tastes. But the information here has opinion attached to it but by no means is so stringent in their way that it doesn't leave room for your own take. It does tell things in a neutral voice often enough. I DO refer all of our friends and anyone who asks to these books, even Disney Travel Company agents. The information about how to score higher at the games in Toy Story Midway Mania alone is so worth it. Reading keeps me in touch and makes us look forward to our next trip all the more. Buy it, read it love it. Even if you aren't ready to make plans for a visit, it's such an interesting read. But if you are hoping to venture to the big WDW in the future, this book is the absolute best place to start.

Julie and Mike are back!!! This book just knocks it out of the park. I got mine yesterday and could not wait to dig in. I have been waiting 2 years for another edition of this amazing book. Each year the information in this book is updated and different so you are not reading the same thing over and over if you buy the 2008-2012 editions. The pictures are all updated too. So if you are a nerd and you love reading Disney Travel Guides every year...this is so refreshing because while the information given is accurate...it's always new. This is hands down by far the BEST guide out there. If you are new to Disney, or even if you are a "pro" this book is a must.

Great WDW guide book. Whether you are new to WDW or a regular visitor this guide book is really fantastic. Detailed info on every ride, attraction, restaurant and shop and an amazing amount of photos. The only drawback is the weight of the book but this is because it is printed on very high quality photo paper, so it is hard too mark it down for that. This book really gives you a great overview of the entire complex and making your way around. It includes lots of detailed info and insider tips. I am a long time Disney visitor and have purchased many of the different WDW guide books over the year. This one has now become the only one I purchase. I recommend it to everyone, especially anyone who is making their first trip to WDW. I continue to get one for myself so I can catch up on anything new, since there is usually several years between my visits. If you are going to buy a guide to WDW, you would be smart to make it this one.

Best Guidebook on Disney I have ever used--hands down! It is well-documented, filled with pictures, extremely easy to read (often funny) and quick to navigate - with its color-coded sections. The reviews are honest (no Disney platitudes here) and the tips are excellent. We're going to Disney World this coming February - so will be able to give a better assessment after we use it on site. But so far, very impressed!

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