

FLORIDA TRIP 2020

Day 1 (Monday, April 13)

- 5:00am - Arrive at Piedmont High School Band Room
 - Follow signs for luggage placement and medicine drop off.
 - Take instruments and uniforms to buses
 - PARENT HELP loading equipment in storage compartments underneath the buses.
- 6:00am – Leave for Florida, relax, and go back to sleep.
 - Stop for lunch (YOU BUY) along the way (fast food)
 - We will take bathroom breaks every 2 or 3 hours.
- 4:30pm – Arrive at Disney Springs for dinner
- 8:00pm – Load Buses, Check-in at hotel
 - Leave all band instruments and uniforms loaded on bus.
- Lights Out - TBA

Day 2 (Tuesday, April 14)

- Set your alarm for 6am or earlier.
- Breakfast at hotel from 6:15am – INCLUDED (grab something light you can eat on the bus such as fruit, dry cereal, etc). Stay away from dairy and sweets.
- **7:00am** – Load the Buses.
 - Spend the morning in the **Magic Kingdom**. Do NOT “hop” to another park.
 - **All uniforms and instruments must be loaded on the buses.**
 - **You will need your BLACK socks and shoes. Leave them on the bus underneath your seat so they will be waiting for you when we get backstage.**
- **1:00pm** – Student Groups need to meet at the Golden Oak Outpost which is to the LEFT of Splash Mountain in Frontierland.
 - Chaperones CANNOT go back stage. Chaperones can use this time to relax, ride rides, shop, or find a good spot to watch the parade.
- **2:30pm** – Parade performance in the Magic Kingdom. The Pride of Piedmont will be showcased as the pre-parade performance before “Disney Festival of Fantasy” Parade.
 - After the performance (approximately 3:45pm) chaperones need to wait at Pirates of the Caribbean. Students will meet them there from the backstage entrance to the LEFT of the Pirates ride entrance.
- Spend the day at Walt Disney World (Hopper Pass).
 - Hopper Pass is good for Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Animal Kingdom, and Disney’s Hollywood Studios.
 - Chaperones will stay with groups of students the entire time on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday to ensure safety and so no one gets lost.
 - Monorails, Trams, Ferries, Gondolas, and Disney Buses are Free to Disney ticket holders. (They are very safe and clean).
- LUNCH and DINNER – DISNEY DINING CARD

- **7:00pm** - All groups must be in the **Magic Kingdom** if not already..
- **9:00pm** - Happily Ever After Fireworks (watch from Mainstreet). If you are at the castle hub looking up at the castle, watch the firework show on the right side closest to the Tomorrowland bridge. There will be a separate walkway to get you to the exit quicker than walking through the main street traffic. After the fireworks, we will report back to the buses at the Transportation and Ticket Center.. It will be VERY VERY crowded trying to leave. Be patient, take your time, and keep everyone in your group close.
 - To get to the bus, you will need to take a ferry or monorail back to the TTC (Transportation and Ticket Center).
 - Here's a secret. Take the RESORT monorail to the TTC. It will stop at the Contemporary Resort first, but just wait and the next stop is the TTC. The lines for the resort monorail will be much shorter than the EXPRESS monorail.
- Arrive back at the Hotel. Lights Out - TBA

Day 3 (Wednesday, April 15)

- Breakfast at hotel from 6:15am to 7:00am – INCLUDED
- **7:00am** – Load bus.
- We will be dropped off at **EPCOT**. However, you may go to any park after you are in your group with your chaperone.
- LUNCH and DINNER – DISNEY DINING CARD
- **6:00pm** – **Everyone needs to be in ANIMAL KINGDOM.**
 - AK closes at 8pm.
 - Meeting directly at the buses after park closes.
 - Mr. Lukac will text the bus location in the AK parking lot to the chaperones once the buses arrive.
- Arrive back at hotel. Lights Out – TBA

Day 4 (Thursday, April 16)

- Breakfast at hotel from 6:30am – INCLUDED
- **7:15am** Load the buses.
- Everyone will be dropped off at **HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS** (park opens at 9am). However, you may go to any park after you are in your group with your chaperone.
- LUNCH and DINNER – DISNEY DINING CARD
- **7:00pm** - **EVERYONE** needs to be at **HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS.**
 - 8:30pm - Fantasmic!. You need to show up an hour or more before the show starts if you want to watch the show. I recommend it. It's AWESOME!!!
 - We will all meet at the buses when the park closes. Mr. Lukac will let all chaperones know the location of the buses.
- Arrive back at Hotel. Lights Out – TBA

Day 5 (Friday, April 17)

- Breakfast at hotel from 6:30am to 7:15am – INCLUDED
- Room checks will begin at 7:30am
- Check out and depart HOTEL at 8:15am
- Late lunch at Savannah mall.
- Arrive at Piedmont HS around 7pm. We will not stop for dinner unless traffic is so bad that we will be very late to Piedmont.

HOTEL INFORMATION (3 miles from the Magic Kingdom)

Springhill Suites
8040 Palm Parkway
Orlando, Florida 32836

MEALS

- Each person will receive a Disney Gift Card that will have at least \$45 value that can be used for meals and souvenirs. Typically, a combo meal with a drink, sandwich, and side item will cost approximately \$15.00. Once your card has a \$0 balance, you will be responsible for buying the rest of your own meals for the trip.
- Breakfast is available for all guests of the hotel each morning at no extra cost.
- Most of Disney Springs restaurants are NOT owned by Disney, so they will not accept the Disney Meal Card that you have. Bring some money for dinner the first night.
- Disney Springs also has many other restaurants to choose from, but they are expensive and highly recommend reservations. I would still to fast food type options for cost reasons.

THE FOLLOWING INFO CAN BE FOUND ON THE FREE DISNEY MAPS THAT ARE OFFERED AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF EACH PARK

HELPFUL HINTS

- There is no way to experience everything you want to see and do in this short amount of time at Walt Disney World, SO DON'T TRY AND DO IT ALL!!!!
- As a group, get together prior to leaving on the trip, and decide on a couple of "must-do's" in each park. Stick to your plan, but allow for unexpected surprises along the way.
- Pick groups no bigger than 8 people. The larger the group, the harder it is to do things and to make everyone happy. Smaller groups can hang out together if they want, and then they will also have the ability to split off into their smaller groups with their chaperones as well.
- DISNEY RULE. Don't miss your fastpass time. If you are one minute late, they will not let you on the ride with your fastpass. You will have to wait in the stand-by line with everyone else.

- Window shop. It's a great way to relax for a bit. Each theme park has unique items that are fun to look at and play with while cooling off in the air conditioning.
- Pace yourself. You can't do it all. Enjoy your time with friends while at Disney!!! When you start to get tired and need a break, here are a few things you can do to rest, relax, and get some air conditioning.

1. MAGIC KINGDOM

- Tom Sawyer Island
- Tiki Room
- Carousel of Progress
- Tomorrowland Transit Authority
- Hall of Presidents
- Country Bear Jamboree
- Ride the Monorail
 - Visit a Monorail Resort
 - Eat Dinner at Monorail Resort. They all have Quick Service restaurants that you can use your Disney Meal Card.
 - Do NOT try to get to the pools. They are for resort guests only. This is strictly enforced!!!
 - Contemporary
 - Polynesian
 - Grand Floridian
 - Wilderness Lodge (by ferry only)

2. EPCOT

- Club Cool... FREE COKE!!!!!!!
- Living with the Land
- Spirit of America
- Any show in the countries is great for a quick nap ☺
 - Canada, Japan, and France all have movies in the AC.

3. HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS

- Lots of shows to choose from for a nice relaxing rest.

4. ANIMAL KINGDOM

- Festival of the Lion King
- Nemo: The Musical (good nap time.. but cool music too)
- Maharajah Jungle Trek (in shade and go at your own pace)
- Pangani Forest Exploration Trail (gorillas are here)

WHAT TO TAKE INTO THE PARKS

- If you want, you can use your carry-on bag as your bag for the parks. All guests can take a small size bag into the parks if they want. **A backpack is HIGHLY recommended simply for the fact it frees up your hands.**
- Take only what you absolutely need. Whatever you take in the morning, will feel a lot heavier by the evening.
- Suggested items (but not limited too) are lightweight jacket for cool mornings and evenings, sunscreen, hat, bottle of water, flavored water packets (Florida water tastes icky), dry snacks, and portable cell phone charger. Disney will allow dry snacks from home, such as pretzels, cheez-its, energy bars, etc (think healthy and something with carbs). This will help you save some money too. I suggest 5 to 6 snacks per day to carry in your bookbag.
- Just remember that if you take a bag into the park, you will be responsible for everything the entire time. You will also have to carry your bag on all rides as well. Almost all rides have different loading and unloading areas, so you will have to keep your bag with you while on the ride, including water rides and roller coasters.
- You may want to bring a couple of Ziplock bags so your wallet, phone, and changer won't get wet when you are on any water rides (or if it starts to rain... it is Florida).
- It is NOT recommended for a bunch of people to share one bag, simply because of weight. Plus, if the bag is too big, it may become a safety issue on some rides.
- Taking a bag with you into the parks is completely your decision, but HIGHLY recommended.
- Disney will search your bag EVERY time you pass through the front entrance of a park. Be prepared.
- Disney also has metal detectors now and they will do a body scan. Don't bring that could get you in trouble.

HOW TO GET FROM PARK TO PARK

- By Bus:
 - Most areas of Walt Disney World Resort are accessible by bus from other areas within the Resort, including Theme Parks, Water Parks, the Disney Resorts and Disney Springs. Buses travel on routes throughout the Resort and do not provide direct service between all destinations.
- By Boat:
 - The Disney ferryboats connect Magic Kingdom Park to the Transportation and Ticket Center (adjacent to Magic Kingdom parking).
 - You can also take a Ferry Boat to and from Epcot and Hollywood Studios
- By Monorail:
 - Disney's monorail runs between Magic Kingdom Park, Disney's Contemporary Resort, Disney's Grand Floridian Resort & Spa, Disney's Polynesian Resort and the Transportation and Ticket Center (adjacent to the Magic Kingdom parking lot). A connecting monorail takes Guests

from the Transportation and Ticket Center to Epcot, which means if you are at the MK or Epcot, you can use the monorail.

- By Gondola:
 - This is brand new. You can take it to get to and from Epcot and Hollywood Studios. It will take you to Caribbean Beach Resort first. You will need to get off and change lines.

FASTPASSES

- Each person in your group (including your chaperone) must have their own account with Disney's My Disney Experience. It is free. You will need to download the app on your smartphone.
- Designate someone in your group to the "leader of the fastpasses."
- Once everyone in your group has an active account, have your leader follow the instructions on the app and link all members of your group together (don't forget your chaperone). This will allow everyone in your group to have the same fastpasses each day of the trip.
- Now that everyone is linked together, we will then need to assign and link your tickets to each person in the group. We will do this one day in class.
- Each person will get 3 fastpasses to start with. These fastpasses can be picked 30 days in advance and can be changed as much as you want until they are used, pending availability. You can pick anytime of the day for the fastpasses. They are required to be no earlier than 1 hour apart from each other. If you want to play the fastpass game, it is recommended to pick your original 3 for late morning or early afternoon times. It is your choice. The fastpass game is a game of risk.
- **THE FASTPASS GAME**
 - The original 3 fastpasses can only be used in 1 park of your choice.
 - After all 3 fastpasses have been used, pending availability, your group leader can now get 1 more fastpass to use in any park you want.
 - **MAKE SURE YOU SELECT EVERYONE IN YOUR GROUP FOR THE EXTRA FASTPASSES.** Each person must have their own fastpasses. The person you designate to pick your fastpasses will need to double check each time that everyone's name has a checkmark by it on their smartphone **BEFORE** selecting the next fastpass.
 - When everyone scans in to use the 4th fastpass, your leader can now find another fastpass, and so on.
 - It all depends on availability. It is a game of risk. You may not find the exact fastpass you want. If you don't find one you want, refresh the app frequently on your phone. If you're lucky, you can get what you are looking for. Magic Kingdom is the best place to play the game because there are more rides with fastpass options. The most Mr. Lukac has ever gotten was 17 fastpasses in one day at the Magic Kingdom.
 - The secret is to not park hop with your extra fastpasses, and then pick a fastpass that is closest to the current time.