

Disney Destinations, LLC  
PO Box 10045  
Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830-0045

The Walt Disney World Passholder Newsletter

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Destinations, LLC

# Enjoy a world of springtime fun!

Don't forget to check the latest discounts  
on dining, merchandise and more  
on the updated Passholder website.

Visit [DisneyWorld.com/PassPerks](http://DisneyWorld.com/PassPerks) today.



MONITOR

SPRING 2018

Walt Disney World.

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The fun is in full  
bloom this spring!

PICTURED: Elsa topiary at the  
*Epcot®* International Flower  
& Garden Festival.



## In this Issue

Come on by for a visit this season and discover a world of springtime fun for everyone! Over at Epcot®, it's the Epcot® International Flower & Garden Festival blossoming with new excitement and Passholder extras in honor of the Park's 25th anniversary. Then celebrate the 20th anniversary of Disney's Animal Kingdom® Theme Park. Get an even closer look at Toy Story Land at Disney's Hollywood Studios®. And enjoy a deep dive into some Disney Water Park must-dos. You'll also find even more new Disney Springs® restaurants, plus exclusive Passholder merchandise, discounts and more.

Hope to see ya real soon,

*Your Passholder  
Program Friends*



## A Festival Rooted in Greatness

For this year's Epcot® International Flower & Garden Festival, February 28–May 28, we wanted to take a peek behind the scenes and provide our Passholder friends with a bit of extra intel. So we tapped Eric Darden, Walt Disney World® Horticulture Area Manager, for a little Q&A session. Here's what we dug up.

**From a horticulture standpoint, what does it take to start putting the festival together?**

**Eric:** A whole lot of very experienced Cast Members.

*Funny, but true. In fact, the Walt Disney World horticulture team started planning the 2018 festival while the 2017 festival was still going on.*





**Eric:** One of the first things the team does every year is come up with the best plan for each location where displays will appear in the Park. This needs to be done by September as that's when we put our plant orders in. When you use hundreds of thousands of bedding plants, you can't just run down to the store and pick them up last minute.

**Character topiaries are one of the festival's biggest draws. Which are the most complicated to create?**

**Eric:** The Cars topiaries. They're so large, so detailed and complex that it takes weeks to perfect them. The entire time, we're sending photos to the animators at Pixar to make sure they approve of the work we're doing. Some years they even fly out to work with us, which is a big honor.

*FYI, these breathtaking displays are kept fresh and fancy by staying*

*hydrated through a network of tubing and spouts attached to their frames. Most of the topiaries are watered by zone...like the arm zone, leg zone, head zone and beyond.*

**Over your 20+ years working the festival, what are you most proud of?**

**Eric:** This was the very first Epcot® festival and many of us currently on the horticulture team were here when it started. It's been very rewarding to watch it grow from 38 days then to 90 days now. And to think so much of what Epcot® has become is because of the continued success of the festival.

*Check out the fruits (or flowers) of Eric and his team's labor at this year's Epcot® International Flower & Garden Festival. And for even more festival fun, just turn the page.*

# It's Bloomin' Good Fun for the Whole Family

**P**lant the *Epcot*® International Flower & Garden Festival on your calendar and come explore all things floral, flavorful and fantastical, February 28–May 28. Here's some of what's "growing" on:

## CHARACTER TOPIARIES

Stroll through the Park and discover a world of incredible living sculptures shaped as popular Disney Characters.

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*Plant the **Epcot**® International Flower & Garden Festival on your calendar and come explore all things floral, flavorful and fantastical...*

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## OUTDOOR KITCHENS

Savor a wide variety of garden-inspired dishes, desserts and specialty sips at each of the enticing Outdoor Kitchens sprinkled throughout World Showcase.

## GARDENS

Discover inspirational gardens and displays showcasing some of the wonderful ways that plants can bring a space to life.

## GARDEN ROCKS™ CONCERT SERIES

Catch beloved musical acts performing classic hits every Friday–Monday of the festival. Genres include rock, R&B, pop and, new this year, country!

## MORE RETURNING FAVORITES

Get all aflutter at The Goodness Garden Butterfly House—Presented by GoGo squeeZ® at Future World West. And keep your eyes peeled during the Egg-Stravaganza Scavenger Hunt\*.

## NEW EXCITEMENT

Enjoy a brand-new "Welcome to *Epcot*® International Flower & Garden Festival" at the Park's Main Entrance. Venture through re-imagined play areas, and experience everything from a musical foliage maze and a sensory garden to the return of the "Road to Florida 500" and Cars Bingo. And take part in an additional scavenger hunt\* for the whole family to enjoy.

## PASSHOLDER EXTRAS

Not only can you enjoy dedicated seating at the *Garden Rocks* Concert Series, we're also excited to offer a special Passholder magnet set while supplies last. Pick up your Mickey Mouse magnet 2/28–4/8, and return for your Minnie Mouse magnet 4/9–5/28. For more details, visit [DisneyWorld.com/Passholder!](https://www.disneyworld.com/passholder)

With so much to see and do, you can return again and again—and unearth something new each and every time!

\*Not included with Theme Park admission.

(Top) Character Topiaries  
(Bottom) Musical Play Area









# 20 Years of Wild Times... and Many More to Come

**T**wenty years ago, on Earth Day 1998, *Disney's Animal Kingdom*® Theme Park officially opened its gates. Ever since, those drawn to both the beauty of nature and the magic of Disney have been flocking to this one-of-a-kind world filled with exotic creatures, thrilling attractions and incredible entertainment. And since 20 years is most definitely cause for celebration, we're kicking off this milestone anniversary on Earth Day 2018 with a Park-wide party and the debut of a brand-new show.

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*...we're kicking off this milestone anniversary on Earth Day 2018 with a Park-wide party and the debut of a brand-new show.*

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## CALLING ALL PARTY ANIMALS

Join us as we honor 20 years of adventure with two weeks of excitement. From April 22 to May 5, it's our fun-filled Party for the Planet event! Spanning the entire Park... yes, even *Rafiki's Planet Watch*®... this limited-time happening will be filled with enchanting surprises, special food and beverage offerings and entertainment for Guests of all ages. And with everything from new photo opportunities to unique paid experiences like backstage tours,

dinner with guest speakers and more, this is one party you won't want to miss.

## A NEW "UP" CLOSE ENCOUNTER

Also part of the festivities, Senior Wilderness Explorer Russell and his furry, squirrel-distracted friend Dug from Pixar's *Up!* will be embarking on an adventure alongside toucans, bald eagles, peacocks and other winged creatures from around the globe. And you'll have the chance to get close to these exotic birds during the free-flying new show UP! A Great Bird Adventure.



Join Russell for UP! A Great Bird Adventure

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## Toying Around in Andy's Backyard

When *Toy Story Land* opens June 30, 2018 at *Disney's Hollywood Studios*®, it might make you feel as if you're the size of a toy...but you'll be able to play bigger than you ever imagined! Until then, enjoy this peek into the toy box provided by the assistant producer on the land, Hannah Brennan.

### Whose baby is *Toy Story Land*?

**Hannah:** The land has been a great collaboration between many disciplines and team members. Walt Disney Imagineering and Pixar have worked hand-in-hand from ideating to construction, designing every detail in the land to ensure a unified story and create a wonderful experience for our Guests.

### What went into creating *Toy Story Land*?

**Hannah:** Each project we work on is unique. For *Toy Story Land*, we kicked off creative brainstorming with Pixar to develop the big vision and progressively got more and more teams involved to dive into the details. Thus, we were able to create a completely unique land with brand-new attractions that our Guests have never experienced.

### What are some fun facts you can share about the land?

**Hannah:** One fun detail is that we're currently composing all-new music for the *Alien Swirling Saucers* attraction. The composers actually had the



opportunity to experience the ride system to help create a soundtrack that works perfectly with the motion of the saucers.

Another one is that we feature popular toys from many generations. I can imagine many Guests will be able to find a toy they have connected with in the past here in our land.

And where Andy has created the Slinky Dog Dash coaster out of his imagination by mashing two toys together, he has brought the Alien Swirling Saucers toy home from Pizza Planet. We get to see really cool elements reminiscent of Pizza Planet within this attraction, including pizzas hidden everywhere from the columns to the rockets.

### What's up next?

**Hannah:** It was a motivating milestone when Rex and Jessie were installed in our land late last year. And we're

thrilled that more Characters will be coming in the next few months including Woody, Buzz and a number of Green Army Men. This is the amazing stage in construction when each piece of the puzzle arrives, and together, they make *Toy Story Land* real! It is so rewarding to see the land that we have been designing for years finally becoming a reality.

Be there for yourself to experience the exhilarating joy of being a toy when *Toy Story Land* opens June 30.



*Toy Story Land entrance*





## Take on the Top Ten Disney Water Park Wonders

When it comes to the Disney Water Parks, there's plenty of excitement to soak up in every corner of both watery worlds. From the storm of fun under the sun at *Disney's Typhoon Lagoon* Water Park to the frosty thrills for the whole family at *Disney's Blizzard Beach* Water Park, you'll find that around here, the magic comes in waves.

Check out the top 10 list (on the adjacent page) of Disney Water Park wonders that are sure to add a big splash of enchantment to your next *Walt Disney World*® visit. And BTW, **BB** means it's at *Disney's Blizzard Beach* Water Park; **TL** means it's at *Disney's Typhoon Lagoon* Water Park.

### GET DRENCHED IN SAVINGS

Passholders can take advantage of specially priced 1-day Water Park tickets for just \$49 plus tax! Specially priced tickets can only be purchased at the Water Parks and not online. That's a savings of up to \$16 per ticket per adult and \$10 per ticket per child.

Savings based on non-discounted prices of 1-Day Water Park Ticket. Ticket must be used on or before 12/31/19. Cannot be combined with any other discount or promotion. Passholder must present his or her valid Annual Pass at ticket window. Ticket is nontransferable and excludes activities/events separately priced. Water Parks subject to refurbishment, seasonal and weather closures.

no.

10

### SANDY BEACHES

Both Water Parks boast white-sand beaches, covered areas and reclining lounge chairs scattered around. **BB, TL**

no.

9

### UNEXPECTED EATS

Enjoy lots of tasty treats including delicious mini donuts (**BB**) and the Vegan Black Bean Plantain Burger. (**TL**)

no.

8

### CHAIRLIFT

No ski resort is complete without a chairlift, so hop on and enjoy a leisurely ride to the summit of Mount Gushmore. **BB**

no.

7

### SUMMIT PLUMMET

Take the plunge on one of the tallest, fastest free-fall body slides in the world. **BB, TL**

no.

6

### SLUSH GUSHER

Not ready for Summit Plummet? Then careen down this tamer 90-foot-long waterslide to get your feet (and everything else) wet. **BB**

no.

5

### TEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Grab the whole crew for this wild whitewater raft ride. **BB**

no.

4

### KIDS' AREAS

Little ones love the special themed play areas with pint-size slides, fountains and aquatic activities at both Parks. **BB, TL**

no.

3

### CRUSH 'N' GUSHER

Zoom up, down and all around aboard this roller-coaster-like raft ride. **TL**

no.

2

### SURF POOL

Bodysurf on 6-foot swells and soak the day away in North America's largest wave pool. **TL**



no.

1

### MISS ADVENTURE FALLS

Board a treasure raft and hit the high seas for family fun during the longest ride in Disney Water Park history! **TL**





Feb 28  
–  
May 28

## *Epcot*<sup>®</sup> International Flower & Garden Festival

Enjoy the 25th anniversary  
of this fab floral fest

*EPCOT*<sup>®</sup>

May 27

## *Star Wars*<sup>™</sup>: Galactic Nights

Don't miss the return of this  
one-night special event

*DISNEY'S HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS*<sup>®</sup>

Apr 22  
–  
May 5

## Party for the Planet

Celebrate 20 years of all  
that's wild and wonderful

*DISNEY'S ANIMAL  
KINGDOM*<sup>®</sup> THEME PARK

Jun 30

## Opening of *Toy Story* Land

Be among the first  
to experience the fun

*DISNEY'S HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS*<sup>®</sup>



# Garden Rocks™ Concert Series

America Gardens Theatre

Fri., Sat., Sun. and Mon.

5:30, 6:45 and 8:00 PM

**MAR 2 - MAR 5**

Night Ranger

**MAR 9 - MAR 12**

STARSHIP starring Mickey Thomas

**MAR 16 - MAR 19**

Simple Plan

**MAR 23 - MAR 26**

Little River Band

**MAR 30 - APR 2**

The Orchestra starring  
former members of ELO

**APR 6 + APR 7**

NEW! Foghat

**APR 8 + APR 9**

NEW! Survivor

**APR 13 + APR 14**

NEW! Smash Mouth

**APR 15 + APR 16**

NEW! Rick Springfield

**APR 20 + APR 21**

NEW! Jo Dee Messina

**APR 22 + APR 23**

NEW! Lonestar

**APR 27 - APR 30**

Blood, Sweat & Tears  
featuring Bo Bice

**MAY 4 - MAY 7**

Herman's Hermits  
starring Peter Noone

**MAY 11 + MAY 12**

Village People featuring Victor Willis

**MAY 13 + MAY 14**

NEW! Don Felder  
formerly of The Eagles

**MAY 18 - MAY 21**

The Guess Who

**MAY 25 - MAY 28**

The Spinners

Entertainment subject to change without notice.





Enzo's Hideaway

## Italian Eats with Stunning Settings

Discover the flavors of Italy right here in *Disney Springs*® with a trio of new eateries from the Patina Restaurant Group. Make sure to stop by to experience the delectable dishes and waterfront views at Maria & Enzo's, unique libations at Enzo's Hideaway and ready-to-eat bites at Pizza Ponte. Here's a quick taste of what you can expect from these new ristoranti.

Inspired by 1930s air travel, Maria & Enzo's is housed in an abandoned airline terminal transformed into an open setting, complete with vintage flight artifacts and décor, 50-foot

ceilings and a family-friendly menu. The gorgeous views of Lake Buena Vista are rivaled only by the delicious, Sicilian-inspired food like eggplant parmesan, handmade pastas and fresh seafood. Sounds *delizioso*, no?

Beneath Maria & Enzo's lies Enzo's Hideaway, a speakeasy found within the rum-running tunnels from Florida's yesteryear. This underground haunt pours prohibition-era cocktails at its Tunnel Bar and serves up casual plates of spaghetti and other hearty favorites. We have a feeling this speakeasy won't stay a secret for long.



The third restaurant in this Italian trio is Pizza Ponte, a fast-casual eatery offering everything from savory pizzas and sandwiches to sweet pastries and espresso. Stop by for a slice (or two) of pizza or for some of their signature stuffed pizza bread, but make sure to save room for dessert! You wouldn't want to miss out on Italian donuts or tiramisu.



The Pizza Bianca at Pizza Ponte

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*Discover the flavors of Italy right here in **Disney Springs®** with a trio of new eateries from the **Patina Restaurant Group**.*

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Hungry for more? Keep an eye out for additional openings throughout *Disney Springs®*, including Terralina Crafted Italian, Wine Bar George, Jaleo by José Andrés and Wolfgang Puck Bar & Grill.

Visit **DisneySprings.com** to discover all the incredible dining options only at *Disney Springs®*.



## *Spring Stock Up*

We're rolling out merchandise for everything from anniversaries to brand-new experiences this spring! Make sure to snag these finds while you still can, and don't forget to use your 20% Passholder discount.

With so much new merchandise coming to stores this season, you're sure to find a few (or several) new souvenirs to bring home.



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**An array of exciting items** is also springing up for the Epcot® International Flower & Garden Festival. You can grow your collection with specially themed T-shirts, totes and more created just for you.

Merchandise available while supplies last.



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**You'll go wild** over the 20th anniversary merchandise for *Disney's Animal Kingdom*® Theme Park, including trading pins, ALEX AND ANI® bangles and more. Plus, mark your calendars for April 22 because we'll have special Passholder merchandise during our Party for the Planet.



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**Show off your egg-ceptional hunting skills** at Disney Egg-stravaganza 2018 when the scavenger hunt returns to Epcot® March 16–April 1. Purchase your map at participating locations and then set out to win a fun surprise. Passholders will even have the chance to purchase a special Passholder Egg-stravaganza pin.

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**Our new Parks Passport collection** will have you packing your bags with products featuring Theme Park icons, attractions and Characters. From apparel to home décor, this collection has it all! We'll also debut Passholder-themed items every few months.





#### THE LATEST

## Even More from Around our “World”

Have you heard the latest? If not, you’ve come to the right place. From now on, check out this section of your *Mickey Monitor* to discover more of what’s going on for Passholders... and around *Walt Disney World® Resort*.

### A SUPER SHOPPING EXPERIENCE

Disney shopping is about to get extra magical for Passholders thanks to the brand-new experience Super Saturdays at *Disney Springs®*! Beginning this March, on the second Saturday of every month, you’ll get to enjoy exclusive early access to the *World of Disney®* store from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. And, yes, your 20% discount will be in full effect.

You can also look forward to an array of special surprises that could include food and beverage samples, sneak peeks at new offerings and more. For details, visit [DisneyWorld.com/Passholder](https://disneyworld.com/passholder).

### IN-APP PASS RENEWALS

Remember, you can now renew your passes on your mobile device through the *My Disney Experience\** app. If you’ve already linked your passes, just sign in to the app, select “My Tickets,” select the passes you wish to renew and confirm. It’s that easy!

\*App includes products for purchase. Availability subject to device limitations and features may vary by device or service provider. Message and data rates may apply. Coverage not available everywhere.

## Make it a spring getaway with this Passholder Sun & Fun Resort Offer!

FROM  
\$ **99** \*

per night, plus tax in a standard room  
at *Disney's All-Star Music Resort*! For  
stays most Monday through Wednesday  
nights 4/16–5/23/18.

Ask about great rates at other *Disney Resort* hotels  
for stays most nights 4/15–6/10/18.

**Book through 6/10/18.**

Plus, as a Guest of a *Disney Resort* hotel, you can take advantage  
of benefits like early access to *Disney FastPass*+ planning\*\*,  
complimentary *Walt Disney World* motor coach, ferryboat and  
monorail transportation, and more time in a Theme Park each  
day to enjoy select attractions with *Extra Magic Hours* benefit  
(valid Theme Park admission and Resort ID required).

For reservations, visit **DisneyWorld.com/SpecialRates**  
or call **407-560-PASS (7277)**.

\*The number of rooms available at this rate is limited. Length-of-stay requirements may apply. Additional per-adult charges may apply if more than two adults per room. Cannot be combined with any other discount or promotion. Advance reservations required. Offer excludes 3-bedroom villas, Cabins at *Disney's Copper Creek Villas & Cabins at Disney's Wilderness Lodge*, Bungalows at *Disney's Polynesian Villas & Bungalows* and *Disney's Art of Animation Resort—The Little Mermaid* standard rooms. Passholder must present his or her valid adult pass at check-in.

\*\*Valid Theme Park admission and online registration required. *Disney FastPass*+ attractions and entertainment experiences, the number of selections you can make and arrival windows are limited.



Walt Disney World.