

2026 PARK-DAY GUIDE

7220 TRAVEL GUIDE TO

DISNEY'S HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS

Movies, Adventure, Star Wars & Big Thrills



Plan unforgettable family adventures.

Family-tested planning • park strategy • dining • kids • transportation • worksheets



Park at a Glance

Know what kind of day this park rewards before you start filling the schedule.

Best for Star Wars, Toy Story, thrill rides, live shows and families who like a more concentrated park.	Biggest planning challenge A smaller footprint does not mean an easy day. Several attractions develop long waits at the same time.
Best strategic mindset Protect the first two hours, schedule shows around ride geography, and do not zigzag between Sunset Boulevard and Galaxy's Edge.	Major 2026 updates Rock 'n' Roller Coaster Starring The Muppets is open; The Magic of Disney Animation opens September 14, 2026; parts of Monstropolis are planned for 2027.

BEFORE YOU GO

- ☐ Confirm your exact park hours, Early Entry, entertainment, closures and special-ticket events in My Disney Experience.
- ☐ Rank the family's top three experiences and top three food priorities before buying Lightning Lane passes or dining reservations.
- ☐ Measure children before the trip for any attraction where height restrictions may matter. Do not let the measuring station become the first time a child learns they cannot ride.
- ☐ Connect the entire travel party correctly in My Disney Experience and confirm valid admission before your Lightning Lane purchase window.
- ☐ Decide who is allowed to change the plan. One person managing the app usually reduces duplicate work and confusion.

7220 TRAVEL TIP The “one perfect day” trap

A Disney park day is a moving system: weather, attraction downtime, child energy, dining delays and crowds all change the plan. Build a strong first plan - and a comfortable backup plan.



Your saved Hollywood Studios photo - slow down enough to notice the park's design details.

Important Dates & Lightning Lane

The dates matter, but the strategy matters more.

IMPORTANT PLANNING DATES

WHEN	WHAT TO DO
60 days before arrival	Disney Resort hotel Guests can begin booking dining for the entire eligible stay, up to 10 nights. Other Guests can book dining 60 days in advance. New restaurant inventory generally opens around 6:00 AM Eastern.
7 days before resort stay	Eligible Disney Resort and select hotel Guests can purchase Lightning Lane passes starting at 7:00 AM Eastern, for the length of stay up to 14 days.
3 days before park visit	Other eligible Guests can purchase Lightning Lane passes starting at 7:00 AM Eastern. Ticket type can affect exactly which dates are eligible.
Night before	Charge phones and power banks, check park hours, entertainment, closures, weather, transportation, mobile-order options and your first morning target in My Disney Experience.
Park morning	Arrive before posted opening if you want the lowest standby waits. Resort Guests should use Early Theme Park Entry when it fits the family.

7220 TRAVEL TIP Early Entry is a real advantage

Guests at Disney Resort hotels and select other hotels currently receive 30-minute Early Theme Park Entry at all four Walt Disney World theme parks. Use it for the attraction that matters most to your family - not simply the ride with the biggest reputation.

DISNEY'S HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS LIGHTNING LANE SNAPSHOT

TYPE	CURRENT 2026 EXPERIENCES
Single Pass	Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance
Multi Pass - initial priority group	Mickey & Minnie's Runaway Railway; Millennium Falcon: Smugglers Run; Rock 'n' Roller Coaster Starring The Muppets; Slinky Dog Dash
Other Multi Pass experiences	Alien Swirling Saucers; Beauty and the Beast Live on Stage; Disney Jr. Mickey Mouse Clubhouse Live!; Frozen Sing-Along; Indiana Jones Epic Stunt Spectacular!; The Little Mermaid - A Musical Adventure; Star Tours; Toy Story Mania!; Tower of Terror

7220 TRAVEL TIP Do not buy a pass without a touring plan

Multi Pass lets you choose up to three experiences in advance. After redeeming the first Multi Pass selection that day, additional selections may become available. Pick your first three based on both demand and where you plan to be in the park.

Arrival, Transportation & the First Two Hours

Your first 90-120 minutes can be worth more than several hours in the afternoon.

ARRIVAL REALITY

Disney's Hollywood Studios has one of the simplest park-arrival setups for many resort Guests: Disney buses, boats and the Disney Skyliner all serve the park, depending on resort. Skyliner Guests should still allow time for transfers and morning lines. Because the park's highest-demand rides are spread across Toy Story Land, Galaxy's Edge and Sunset Boulevard, decide the first target before you tap in.

A SIMPLE MORNING SYSTEM

- Know the first attraction before you leave the hotel. Do not hold a family strategy meeting after entering the park.
- Arrive early enough to clear transportation and security before the moment you want to start touring.
- Resort Guests: use the 30-minute Early Entry window for a real priority. Early Entry is less valuable if the family arrives halfway through it.
- After the first headliner, do a nearby second attraction. Walking across the park to chase a posted wait often creates a false savings.
- Mobile order lunch before hunger becomes an emergency, but do not over-schedule the morning with dining too early.

TRANSPORTATION TRICK

- Skyliner, boat, bus and walking options vary by resort. Do not assume the Skyliner is always fastest if you need a transfer; check operating conditions and morning lines.

What to Do: Tour the Park in Logical Blocks

Attractions matter. So does not walking an extra five miles because the app showed a tempting wait time.

AREA-BY-AREA GAME PLAN

AREA	WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOUR DAY
Hollywood Boulevard	Your entry corridor and home to Mickey & Minnie's Runaway Railway. Use it as a hub, not a place you have to revisit after every ride.
Sunset Boulevard	Tower of Terror, Rock 'n' Roller Coaster Starring The Muppets and Beauty and the Beast Live on Stage. Strong morning or evening cluster.
Toy Story Land	Slinky Dog Dash is the headliner; Toy Story Mania! and Alien Swirling Saucers make this an easy three-attraction family block.
Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge	Rise of the Resistance and Millennium Falcon: Smugglers Run are only part of the experience. Give the land time for details, characters, shops and atmosphere.
Echo Lake / Grand Avenue	Useful for Star Tours, Indiana Jones, Frozen Sing-Along and transitions between the front of the park and Galaxy's Edge.
Animation / future areas	The park is changing. The Magic of Disney Animation opens September 14, 2026; Monstropolis construction affects how future visits will flow.

PRIORITY BY TRAVEL STYLE

For Star Wars fans Rise of the Resistance, Smugglers Run, time to explore Galaxy's Edge, and optional premium experiences such as Savi's or Droid Depot if booked.	For thrill seekers Tower of Terror, Rock 'n' Roller Coaster Starring The Muppets, Slinky Dog Dash and Rise of the Resistance.
For younger kids Runaway Railway, Toy Story Mania!, Disney Jr., Frozen Sing-Along, Little Mermaid and character time.	For show lovers Build the day around actual showtimes. Shows can become excellent afternoon air-conditioning and family reset blocks.



Your saved Galaxy's Edge photo - make time for the land, not only its queues.

Dining, Entertainment & the Experiences Between Rides

The best park days are not just a list of attractions.

DINING SHORT LIST

OPTION	WHY FAMILIES CHOOSE IT
The Hollywood Brown Derby	Signature-style dining with Golden Age Hollywood atmosphere. Best when the group wants a true sit-down meal and a pace change.
Sci-Fi Dine-In Theater	Families sit in drive-in-style car booths under a nighttime sky while vintage sci-fi clips play. The setting is the star.
50's Prime Time Café	Interactive 1950s family-kitchen theme with comfort food. Good for groups willing to play along with the atmosphere.
Roundup Rodeo BBQ	Toy Story-themed family-style barbecue inside Andy's world. A natural pairing with a Toy Story Land block.
Quick-service strategy	Docking Bay 7, Ronto Roasters and Woody's Lunch Box are useful when you want to stay in the land you are touring instead of walking back to the front.

ENTERTAINMENT STRATEGY

EXPERIENCE	PLANNING NOTE
Fantasmic!	A full-scale nighttime show with water, projections, characters, stunts and pyrotechnics. Treat showtime as a real appointment because seating and exit crowds matter.
Wonderful World of Animation	Often scheduled near park close; confirm the day's calendar because nighttime offerings can shift.
Stage shows	Frozen Sing-Along, Indiana Jones, Little Mermaid, Beauty and the Beast and Disney Villains can turn the afternoon into a comfortable show-to-show strategy.

7220 TRAVEL TIP 2026 park changes

Rock 'n' Roller Coaster Starring The Muppets is operating in 2026. The Magic of Disney Animation is scheduled to open September 14, 2026, while Monstropolis construction continues toward 2027 openings.

Disney With Kids: Build Margin Into the Day

The goal is not to prove how much your family can accomplish. The goal is to have a day everyone still likes at dinner.

THE FAMILY SURVIVAL PLAN

Hydration before thirst Start drinking water early. Refill bottles often, use indoor attractions as cooling breaks, and treat headaches, irritability and unusual fatigue as warning signs.	Stroller strategy Park only in designated areas and expect Cast Members to reposition strollers. Add a simple visual identifier so your stroller is easy to spot without placing valuables on it.
Rider Switch For participating attractions, adults can take turns supervising a child or other non-rider so the whole group does not have to wait through the full queue twice.	Baby Care Center Every Walt Disney World theme park has a complimentary Baby Care Center with changing, feeding and nursing space, plus select supplies for purchase.
Rain is not failure Florida rain can change the order of your day. Pack ponchos, protect phones, and pivot toward indoor attractions, meals, shows or shopping rather than fighting the weather.	Know when to quit The last two rides are rarely worth turning a tired family into a miserable family. Leaving on a good note is a successful park day.

IF A CHILD GETS SICK

- Stop touring and assess the child somewhere shaded, quiet or air-conditioned. Do not make the next reservation more important than the child.
- Ask a Cast Member for the closest first-aid location or Baby Care Center. For severe symptoms or emergencies, seek immediate professional medical help.
- Keep a small sick-day kit: thermometer, age-appropriate medication you already know how to use, electrolyte packets, spare clothes, plastic bags, wipes and insurance information.
- Know your exit plan before you need it - which adult goes back to the hotel, how the rest of the family will reconnect, and what transportation makes the most sense.
- Hollywood Studios can create “appointment fatigue” because rides and shows have specific return windows and start times. If a child is fading, drop a lower-priority appointment rather than spending the afternoon sprinting from one end of the park to the other.

7220 TRAVEL TIP A planned break is cheaper than a ruined day

Build lunch, shade and a sit-down reset into the schedule before anyone asks for it. Families often get more done after a real break because everyone moves faster and argues less.



7220 Travel family perspective: the memories matter more than finishing the checklist.

For the Non-Disney Spouse + A Realistic Sample Day

There is plenty to notice even if characters and Disney history are not your main reason for being here.

THINGS TO LOOK FOR

- In Galaxy’s Edge, look at aging, repair marks, signage and exposed infrastructure - the land is designed to feel used, not pristine.
- Compare the Art Deco and Streamline Moderne design language from the entrance to Hollywood Boulevard and Sunset Boulevard.
- Watch operational choreography: Rise, Falcon and the big stage shows move enormous numbers of Guests through very different systems.
- Rock ‘n’ Roller Coaster Starring The Muppets is a fun excuse to talk music, audio engineering, launch-coaster mechanics and Muppet absurdity.

A FLEXIBLE ONE-DAY RHYTHM

TIME	GAME PLAN
Before opening	Pick one first target: Slinky Dog, Rise, Tower/Rock ‘n’ Roller Coaster, or Runaway Railway depending on Lightning Lane plans.
Morning	Stay in the same zone for a second attraction instead of racing across the park.
Midday	Use a show or table-service meal to cool down. Check showtimes before choosing lunch because the schedule can drive the afternoon.
Afternoon	Galaxy’s Edge or Toy Story Land works best as a block. Layer Lightning Lane returns into the direction you are already walking.
Evening	Sunset Boulevard is excellent after dark. Finish with Fantasmic! or the nighttime plan that best fits your family’s exit strategy.

7220 TRAVEL TIP

Architecture challenge for the family

Pick one land or pavilion and ask everyone to find three details they would never have noticed while staring at the app: a sign, a texture, a sound, a hidden view, a transportation system, landscaping, lighting, or a piece of storytelling.

Disney's Hollywood Studios Family Planning Worksheet

Fill this out together before the trip. If everyone knows what "success" looks like, the park day gets much easier.

OUR THREE MUST-DO EXPERIENCES

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

OUR THREE RESTAURANT / FOOD PRIORITIES

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

OUR PARK-DAY AGREEMENT

- ☐ The one thing we will not be upset if we miss: _____
- ☐ Our planned midday break / reset: _____
- ☐ Our nighttime goal: _____
- ☐ If the plan changes, our backup priority is: _____
- ☐ Park rating after the trip: 1 2 3 4 5 Would we come back? YES / NO / MAYBE

FINAL CHECK BEFORE LEAVING THE HOTEL

- ☐ Tickets/admission linked in My Disney Experience
- ☐ Lightning Lane plans checked
- ☐ Dining times checked
- ☐ Phone + power bank charged
- ☐ Water bottles / sunscreen / ponchos
- ☐ Medications / kid supplies
- ☐ Photo plan / Memory Maker checked
- ☐ Transportation route confirmed

2026 ACCURACY NOTE & SOURCES

Attractions, operating hours, entertainment, menus, construction impacts and Lightning Lane availability can change. Reconfirm details in the My Disney Experience app and on the official Walt Disney World website for your exact date.

- Official Walt Disney World: Disney's Hollywood Studios destination page
- Official Walt Disney World: Rock 'n' Roller Coaster Starring The Muppets
- Official Walt Disney World: Lightning Lane Passes
- Official Walt Disney World: Dining Reservations, Early Theme Park Entry, Rider Switch and Baby Care Centers

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