

Nighttime Spectacular ‘Fantasmic!’ Returns to Disneyland Park with New Scenes and Dazzling Visual Effects

Monday, July 17, Marks Both the Premiere of a Newly Enhanced ‘Fantasmic!’ and the Anniversary of the 1955 Grand Opening of Disneyland

ANAHEIM, Calif. (July 17, 2017) –“[Fantasmic!](#),” Disney’s popular and longest-running nighttime spectacular, returns to the Rivers of America in Disneyland Park July 17, 2017, with enhanced, awe-inspiring effects; innovative, state-of-the-art projection technology; and new storytelling elements.

Also on July 17, guests will celebrate the 62nd anniversary of the grand opening of Disneyland, envisioned by Walt Disney as a place where family members of all ages can have fun together. For more than six decades, Disneyland Resort has explored the frontiers of interactive storytelling and entertainment technology, bringing exciting attractions and innovative entertainment to life for guests from around the world. Walt Disney’s promise for a new family entertainment concept continues today: “Disneyland will never be completed ... as long as there is imagination left in the world.”

The return of “Fantasmic!” builds on that promise, taking the journey into Mickey Mouse’s imagination to brilliant new heights. The story that has been treasured by Disneyland guests for more than 25 years continues, as Mickey Mouse conjures dreams of beauty, adventure, romance and, in the show’s thrilling climax, danger.

New magic is incorporated with Aladdin and Jasmine floating over a bed of fog on their flying carpet, Captain Jack Sparrow at the helm of a ghostly pirate ship, and special new appearances by characters from “The Lion King” and “Finding Nemo.” And Rapunzel and Flynn Rider from “Tangled” join other Disney couples in an inspiring romantic sequence.

Additional enhancements give the popular show an even brighter look, with more vibrant projections and new mist screens. Every inch of every surface on the show’s island “stage” has been digitally mapped. Projection mapping and three-dimensional video combine, allowing the creative team to transform the island as never before. All technical elements of the show, including lighting, fountains and water screens, have been upgraded.

The return of "Fantasmic!" also coincides with the return of some classic Disneyland attractions this summer. The Disneyland Railroad, Pirates' Lair on Tom Sawyer Island, and the watercraft that sail around the Rivers of America in Frontierland, Mark Twain Riverboat, Sailing Ship Columbia, Davy Crockett Explorer Canoes, all return on July 29, 2017.

This summer guests at Disneyland also have a last chance to view the lights, music and fun of the beloved Main Street Electrical Parade through Aug. 20, 2017. Nightly performances of the parade feature favorites such as Cinderella's ball, Elliot, the smoke-breathing, tail-waggin' "Pete's Dragon" and the glittering "To Honor America" finale.

Guests this summer also will enjoy Summer of Heroes, a new, limited-time celebration at Disney California Adventure Park. Guests are invited to experience epic adventures with some of their favorite Super Heroes through Sept.10, 2017, along with the new attraction, Guardians of the Galaxy - Mission: BREAKOUT!, which opened May 27, 2017.

"FANTASMIC!" FUN FACTS

- Central to the magic of "Fantasmic!" are the three mist screens, each 60 feet wide by 30 feet tall, upon which the films are projected.
- New scenes will feature songs such as "Friend Like Me" and "A Whole New World" from Disney's animated classic, "Aladdin."
- A crew of ghost pirates man an eerie pirate ship that appears on the Rivers of America. These professional stunt performers execute all the spectacular duels and falls.
- More than 100 cast and crew bring "Fantasmic!" to life, in the 23-minute show.
- As part of the "Fantasmic!" story, the wicked Maleficent from "Sleeping Beauty" will rise to a height of 45 feet in 17 seconds, before transforming into the dragon.
- The dragon is a fully animated three-dimensional design that replicates the movements of the dragon in "Sleeping Beauty." The dragon is 45 feet tall by 28 feet wide and weighs approximately 18,000 pounds.
- The dragon lights the Rivers of America on fire for 25 seconds
- Approximately 9,000 guests can view "Fantasmic!" at each performance. The audience is approximately 70 feet from the main stage on Tom Sawyer Island.
- Water effects include 21 fountains and six "whale tails" in the scene when Monstro the whale charges across the Rivers of America
- At the beginning of the show, two light towers appear on either side of the main stage. During the day, these towers rest 26 feet underground. They rise to a height of 40 feet in less than a minute.
- The audio surrounding "Fantasmic!" spectators is created by four speaker stacks on Tom Sawyer Island and three on the mainland.
- Kaa, the conniving snake from "The Jungle Book" who slithers across the "Fantasmic!" stage, is 100 feet long.

HISTORY OF "FANTASMIC!"

- "Fantasmic!" premiered to the public on May 15, 1992, at Disneyland
- An enhanced version of that original "Fantasmic" presentation, featuring digital projections and the

spectacular new 45-foot-tall dragon, premiered June 12, 2009.

- The main stage on Tom Sawyer Island, including underground housing for many special effects, was specially built for “Fantasmic!” By day, it is a boat dock and “cider mill” visited by guests on the island.
- In 1992, the original estimate for the prospective audience size was 6,500. Spectators, however, found every space they could and the average number of guests per performance was 11,000 that first summer.
- Within days, the area was re-landscaped to accommodate more guests in the viewing areas. “Fantasmic!” was scheduled for three shows per night that year, and extended to four shows on July 4 and New Year’s Eve. Before summer 1993 arrived, the walkways and planters in New Orleans Square had been redesigned in the “terrace” style from which today’s guests view the show.
- A different version of “Fantasmic!” premiered in October 1998 at Disney’s Hollywood Studios (then Disney-MGM Studios) at Walt Disney World Resort in Florida.

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