

Hollywood Studios Cheat Sheet

Rope Drop: Hollywood Studios may be the most essential rope drop due to how fast Toy Story Mania wait times skyrocket. If you're not among the first 200 to 300 people inside the Park, you can expect to wait 25 to 40 minutes at Toy Story Mania even if you hurry straight there. Disney usually begins letting guests into the Studios 10 minutes before official Park open, but it may be earlier (30 to 40 minutes) if crowds are expected to be well above average. In order to be among the first to enter the Park, plan to be at the entrance no later than 45 minutes prior to open. Once the Park opens, guests are free to head to the attraction of their choice with no internal ropes, though Toy Story Mania is often the only attraction actually operating until official open.

General Touring Philosophy: Toy Story Mania is the highest priority and should be most guests' first stop. It's also the top FastPass+ priority. Rock 'n' Roller Coaster and Tower of Terror are the other two ride priorities. Star Tours and Great Movie Ride are the only other rides that often have posted waits longer than 15 minutes. The other problem most people run into is trying to schedule the various scheduled shows, all of which take 40 to 60 minutes to experience. With one day, you may need to prioritize several of the lengthy attractions that appeal to your group while skipping others – there just isn't enough time.

Jedi Training Academy: Kids between the ages of 4 and 12 can participate in this show held next to Star Tours. You must bring the participating child to the old Sounds Dangerous building to the left of American Idol Experience and across from Indiana Jones Epic Stunt Spectacular immediately after the Park opens to guarantee a slot. There are usually 12 to 15 shows scheduled throughout the day. Ask for a show in the afternoon so it doesn't interfere with morning touring. If they can't accommodate, let others sign up first and sign up for a show after 12pm.

Characters: The Toy Story characters across from Toy Story Mania are the highest priority and see 30 to 50 minute afternoon waits. Sorcerer Mickey and Sofia the First see 20 to 40 minute waits. Classic characters like Goofy, Donald, Daisy, Stitch, and Pluto greet at the Sorcerer's Hat from open through the early afternoon. Visit before 10am to minimize waits.

FastPass+ Priority:

Tier One (Choose One):

- 1. Toy Story Mania
- 2. Rock 'n' Roller Coaster
- 3. Fantasmic
- 4. The Great Movie Ride
- 5. Beauty and the Beast Live on Stage

Guests may initially select one tier one attraction, which makes it a struggle to ride both Toy Story Mania and Rock 'n' Roller Coaster with a late arrival. Most guests want to select Toy Story Mania and ride Rock 'n' Roller Coaster standby early in the morning. Rock 'n' Roller Coaster offers a single rider line, though waits are usually in the 20 to 30 minute range due to the way the vehicles are loaded and it's impossible to gauge how many people are in line until the final loading area. Select Great Movie Ride as a 4th FP+ or ride after 6pm to minimize waits.

Tier 2 (Choose Two):

- 1. Tower of Terror
- 2. Voyage of the Little Mermaid
- 3. Star Tours
- 4. Indiana Jones Epic Stunt Spectacular
- 5. Disney Jr. Live on Stage
- 6. Lights, Motors, Action! Extreme Stunt Show
- 7. American Idol Experience
- 8. Muppet Vision 3D

FastPass+ Kiosks:

- Main tip board near the end of Hollywood Boulevard in front of the Sorcerer's Hat
- To the right of the Muppet Vision 3D entrance
- Tower of Terror's old FASTPASS machines to the left of the attraction entrance
- Toy Story Mania's old FASTPASS machines to the right of the attraction entrance
- There are usually Cast Members behind Mickey's Sorcerer's Hat with iPads that can help

Ideal Morning Touring Plan:

- Use FastPass+ at Tower of Terror (9am 10am), Toy Story Mania (10am 11am), Star Tours (11am – 12pm)
- 1. Ride Toy Story Mania: 8:55am 9:10am
- 2. Ride Rock 'n' Roller Coaster: 9:20am 9:35am
- 3. Ride Tower of Terror with FastPass+: 9:40am 10:05am
- 4. Ride Toy Story Mania with FastPass+: 10:15am 10:35am
- 5. See Voyage of the Little Mermaid: 10:45am 11:10am
- 6. Ride Star Tours with FastPass+: 11:20am 11:40am
- 7. Visit a FastPass+ kiosk and select The Great Movie Ride for after lunch.
- 8. Have lunch: Studios Catering Co., Backlot Express, and ABC Commissary are nearby. Sci-Fi Dine-In and 50's Prime Time are nearby inexpensive table serve restaurants.
- 9. Ride Great Movie Ride with FastPass+: 12:30pm 1pm.

Alternative: If you'd only like to ride Toy Story once and prefer to ride Rock 'n' Roller Coaster and Tower of Terror multiple times, head to the thrill rides first and rely on FP+ at Toy Story Mania later in the day. Waits won't build at Rock 'n' Coaster or Tower of Terror until 10am.

Afternoon and Evening: It's time for the Studios' scheduled stage shows and high capacity attractions like Backlot Tour, The Magic of Disney Animation, One Man's Dream and Muppet Vision 3D. For good seats at Beauty and the Beast and Indiana Jones, arrive 15 to 25 minutes before show time— earlier always results in better seats. For American Idol Experience, Disney Jr. Live on Stage, Jedi Training Academy, and Lights Motors Action Extreme Stunt Show, arriving 5 to 15 minutes early will suffice. Visit desired characters in the last 60 to 90 minutes that they're scheduled to appear.

Ideal Character-Centric Morning Plan with Kids:

- Use FP+ at Toy Story Mania (10am–11am), Disney Jr. Live on Stage (11am–12pm), and Star Tours (12pm-1pm)
- 1. If desired, sign the kids ages 4 12 up for Jedi Training Academy. If you're not signing up kids, you may be able to ride Toy Story Mania standby with a short wait before meeting the characters. Long waits may develop if you sign kids up for Jedi Training.
- 2. Visit Toy Story Characters: 9:05am 9:15am
- 3. Visit Sofia the First/Jake the Pirate in Animation Courtyard: 9:20am 9:45am
- 4. Meet characters at the Sorcerer's Hat: 9:45am 10:10am
- 5. See Voyage of the Little Mermaid: 10:15am 10:40am
- 6. Ride Toy Story Mania with FastPass: 10:45am 11:05am
- 7. See Disney Jr. Live on Stage with FastPass+: 11:10am 11:45am
- 8. Have lunch. ABC Commissary, Starring Rolls, and Min & Bill's are nearby.
- 9. Ride Star Tours with FastPass+: 12:45pm 1pm
- 10. See above Afternoon and Evening section.

Late Arrival with FastPass+: Use FastPass+ at Toy Story Mania or Rock 'n' Roller Coaster and for two of the attractions from Tier 2 that you would like to experience. Most people will want to select Tower of Terror and Little Mermaid or Star Tours. Visit the anytime attractions in the afternoon when crowds are heaviest, prioritizing the shows that run on a set schedule and Studio Backlot Tour, which often closes early due to darkness. Visit characters in the last 60 to 90 minutes they're schedule to appear. End the evening with Fantasmic or visit Rock 'n' Roller Coaster, Tower of Terror, and Toy Story Mania (in that order) in the final hour when waits are shorter. Disney will allow guests to enter the line and ride any operating attraction right up until official Park close regardless of posted wait time. Posted wait times are usually exaggerated at the end of the night. Double check with a Cast Member at the entrance. Hollywood Boulevard shops operate for an hour after official Park close and Disney will have plenty of buses waiting.

Fantasmic: Hollywood Studios' nighttime spectacular is now scheduled at least once almost every night. During busier times, a second show is scheduled 90 minutes after the start of the first. Shows can start as early as 6:30pm or as late as 10pm. If two shows are scheduled, the second will always be less crowded, especially if that show begins at 9pm or later due to the number of families that will opt for the earlier show. If you're headed to the first or only Fantasmic, plan to arrive 45 to 75 minutes early to secure good seats together. For the second show, an arrival 15 to 30 minutes early should suffice. Seating is bleacher-style, uncomfortable, and without backs. The best seats are at least half way up in the middle section. Any closer and you risk getting wet and won't be able to see what's happening on the water. The Fantasmic Dining Package, a fixed price meal at Hollywood Brown Derby, Hollywood & Vine, or Mama Melrose, guarantees a seat for the show and a three course meal. Reserved seats are now in the middle section. Arrive at least 20 minutes early. There is no reserved section with FastPass+ and users will find seats in the standby section. The only time FastPass+ is beneficial is if the standby section is filling to capacity and only FastPass+ users are guaranteed admittance.

Wait Times in Minutes

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Crowd Level 1 - 2													
	9:30am	10 am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm
Backlot Tour	5	5	5	10	10	10	10	5	5	5	5	n/a	n/a
Great Movie Ride	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	5	5	5	5
Muppet Vision 3D	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Rock 'n' Roller Coaster	20	20	20	25	30	35	30	30	20	20	20	10	10
Star Tours	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	5	5	5	5
Tower of Terror	10	20	30	30	30	40	30	30	30	30	20	10	10
Toy Story Mania	30	40	40	50	50	50	50	40	40	30	30	30	20
Voyage of the Little Mermaid	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Crowd Level 3 - 4													
	9:30am	10 am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm
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	9:30am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm
Backlot Tour	5	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	5	5	5	n/a	n/a
Great Movie Ride	10	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	10	10	10	5	5
Muppet Vision 3D	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Rock 'n' Roller Coaster	20	30	30	35	45	45	45	40	30	25	20	20	10
Star Tours	5	10	20	20	20	20	20	20	10	10	10	5	5
Tower of Terror	20	30	40	40	50	50	40	40	30	30	30	20	20
Toy Story Mania	40	50	60	60	70	70	70	60	60	50	50	40	20
Voyage of the Little Mermaid	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

Crowd Level 5 - 6

	9:30am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm
Backlot Tour	5	10	15	15	15	15	15	15	10	10	10	n/a	n/a
Great Movie Ride	10	15	20	20	20	20	20	20	15	10	10	10	5
Muppet Vision 3D	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Rock 'n' Roller Coaster	30	40	50	60	60	60	60	50	40	40	30	20	20
Star Tours	5	10	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	10	5	5
Tower of Terror	20	40	50	60	60	60	60	60	50	45	40	30	20
Toy Story Mania	50	60	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	60	50	45	30
Voyage of the Little Mermaid	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

Crowd	Leve	l 7 - 8
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Clowd Level 7 - 8													
	9:30am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm
Backlot Tour	5	10	20	20	20	20	20	20	15	15	10	n/a	n/a
Great Movie Ride	10	15	25	30	30	30	30	30	25	20	15	10	5
Muppet Vision 3D	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Rock 'n' Roller Coaster	30	60	70	80	80	80	90	70	60	60	50	40	30
Star Tours	10	15	30	30	30	40	40	40	40	30	20	10	10
Tower of Terror	30	50	60	70	70	70	70	60	60	60	50	30	30
Toy Story Mania	50	70	80	90	90	90	90	90	80	70	70	60	30
Voyage of the Little Mermaid	10	10	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	10	10	10
Crowd Level 9													
	9:30am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm
Backlot Tour	5	15	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	10	n/a	n/a
Great Movie Ride	10	20	30	40	40	40	30	30	25	20	15	10	5
Muppet Vision 3D	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Rock 'n' Roller Coaster	40	70	80	90	90	90	100	90	80	70	60	40	30
Star Tours	10	20	40	40	50	50	50	50	40	40	30	20	20
Tower of Terror	30	60	70	90	90	90	80	70	60	60	60	40	30
Toy Story Mania	50	70	90	120	120	100	100	90	90	80	70	60	50
Voyage of the Little Mermaid	10	10	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	10	10	10
Crowd Level 10													
	9:30am	10 am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm
Backlot Tour	10	20	20	30	30	30	30	30	20	20	20	n/a	n/a
Great Movie Ride	10	25	40	45	45	45	45	40	35	30	25	20	10
Muppet Vision 3D	5	5	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	5	5	5
Rock 'n' Roller Coaster	50	80	90	120	120	120	130	120	100	100	60	50	40
Star Tours	20	30	50	50	60	70	70	60	50	50	40	30	20
Tower of Terror	40	70	80	120	120	120	120	100	90	90	80	60	50
Toy Story Mania	90	120	120	150	150	140	130	110	100	90	90	80	70
Voyage of the Little Mermaid	20	20	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	20	20	10	10