# OLD FASTPASS+ LOWER CROWD ITINERARY, NOW SUPERSEDED

Below is a **FastPass+ based Disney World itinerary** that replaces my old Autumn-Winter-Spring Itinerary.

It does **not** work all dates, and some dates that it works it **needs some little adjustments**. **Check your week** <u>here</u>.



(For a PDF, <u>click here</u>.)

It has several differences from the old Autumn-Winter-Spring Itinerary--I'll get more into the details another time, but here's the key points:

- It is built on FastPass+, not legacy Fastpass, assumes just one headliner per day, and takes advantage of multiple features of FastPass+
- **It's simplified.** There's just one table service meal in Epcot now, rather than two, and Cirque du Soleil is out. As wonderful as Cirque is, the cost and complexity it adds to an already rough visit just aren't worth it. The net is a slightly easier trip, and a much less expensive one

- It **doesn't require a park hopper**, but now costs one more ticket day--which is cheaper than a hopper anyway!
- It **avoids Extra Magic Hours (EMH) entirely**. EMH are generally a bad idea, so my past itineraries have used them sparingly for specific purposes. FastPass+ lets me address the purposes for which I used EMH before, so now no parks are visited on EMH days. This means, incidentally, that the itineraries work both for those staying on and off-site.

**There's details still to be filled in**--e.g. the daily itineraries. But, because park days and dining are set, you will be able to make your dining reservations at the 180 day mark!! And recommended FastPass+ are in the **To-Do List**, so you can book them at the 60 day window for FastPass+ sign-ups.

Thanks are especially due to Josh from <u>easyWDW</u>. With his permission, I picked the targeted park days based on both my own practices and his daily park recommendations.

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#### OLD TO-DO LIST FOR FASTPASS+ LOWER CROWD ITINERARY, NOW SUPERSEDED

This To-Do List is for the <u>FastPass+ Lower Crowd Itinerary</u>. For To-Do-Lists for other itineraries, <u>see this</u>. [pinit]

### CLICK TO ENLARGE

### Disney World FastPass+ Lower-Crowd Itinerary from yourfirstvisit.net

This does not work for all dates! See yourfirstvisit.net/itineraries

Meals:	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	
Breakfast	Travel	Hotel Room*	Hotel Room*	Hotel Room*	
Lunch	Travel	Backlot Express	Sunshine Seasons	Flame Tree Barbecue	Underline =
Dinner	7p Akershus or San Angel Inn	6p 50's Prime Time Cafe	Hotel or Epcot Counter	Yak and Yeti	Counter/Quick Service
Parks, Etc:				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Early Morning	Travel	At Hollywood Studios by 8.15a	At Epcot by 8.15a	At Animal Kingdom by 8.15a	Bold =
Late Morning	Travel	Hollywood Studios	Epcot	Animal Kingdom	Table Service
Early Afternoon	Check In/At Epcot ASAP	Hollywood Studios	Epcot	Animal Kingdom	
Late Afternoon	Epcot	Hollywood Studios	Epcot	Animal Kingdom	Italic =
Evening	Epcot	Off	(Optional) Epcot	Off	Cash, not Dining Plan
Late Evening					
Notes:					Red =
Parade				Afternoon Parade	Character Meal
Fireworks	Illuminations				
Park-Open Target	N/A	Rock 'N Roller Coaster	Test Track	Expedition Everest	
FastPass+ Target	Illuminations	Toy Story Midway Mania	Soarin	Kilimanjaro Safaris	
				9	
Meals:	Wednesday**	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Breakfast	Hotel Room*	Hotel Room*	Hotel Room*	Hotel Room*	10.30a House of Blues
Lunch	Chef Mickey's 11a	Hotel Counter	TBD Cinderella's Royal Table***	Magic Kingdom or Hotel Counter	Gospel Brunch
Dinner	Magic Kingdom or Hotel Counter	Hollywood Studios Counter	6.15p Hoop-Dee-Doo Revue***	6p Crystal Palace	Travel
Parks, Etc:					
Early Morning	At Magic Kingdom by 8.15a	Off	At Magic Kingdom by 8.15a	At Magic Kingdom by 8.15a	Off
Late Morning	Magic Kingdom	Off	Magic Kingdom	Magic Kingdom	Gospel Brunch
Early Afternoon	Magic Kingdom	Off	Magic Kingdom	Off	Travel
Late Afternoon	Magic Kingdom	At Hollywood Studios by Sp	Magic Kingdom	Off	Travel
Evening	Off	Hollywood Studios	Hoop-Dee-Doo Revue	At Magic Kingdom by 5.30p	Travel
Late Evening				Magic Kingdom	
Notes:					
			Afternoon Parade	Evening Parade	
Parade		Fantasmic	10000 C 10000000 C 10000000000	Wishes	
Fireworks					
1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Space Mountain	N/A	Big Thunder Mountain	Peter Pan	

\*Cereal, fruit, Juice etc. in room \*\*If no tiering, can FP+ Space Mountian, and take morning off \*\*\*Two Table Service credits \*\*\*\*If not open, Main Street Electrical Parade \*FastPass+ Target<sup>®</sup> is the Tier One Fastpass+ to aim for; at time of writing, only Epcot and Hollywood Studios have tiered FastPass+ Version 1/14; Hanks to Josh of easyWDW.com for help and permission to build on his findingm\_but conclusions are mostly mine, and errors are mine alone

## A. MORE THAN 180 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PLANNED ARRIVAL DATE

(Note that a good travel agent, such as <u>Destinations in Florida</u>, can do almost all of this for you, for free. If you use <u>Destinations in Florida</u> as you travel agent through a link for this site--<u>like</u> <u>this one</u>--then they share a bit of the pixie dust they get from Disney with me.)

1. Confirm your <u>budget</u>, planned <u>dates</u>, intended <u>hotel</u>, kids' <u>development and heights</u>, and your transportation choice and its availability for your planned dates.

2. Make your <u>plane reservations</u>, if flying. Make any other needed transportation arrangements.

3. Create your My Disney Experience account here and add your family members to it

4. Set up your hotel and tickets. Call 407-939-7675 (preferred, because this allows you to tell the reservationist which building at your resort you wish to be in), or click <u>here</u> to use Disney's online system. (Note: if your dates are later than what the online system permits, <u>see this</u>.)

- If you are following my itinerary, you want the <u>hotel</u> you've picked for 8 nights, eight day, no hopper, no "water parks and more" tickets, the Dining Plan, and Disney's Magical Express
- Itineraries other than mine will have different requirements here

#### **B. 181 DAYS BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL DATE**



Decide whether on your first night you'll be

dining at <u>Akershus</u> or the San Angel Inn. Akershus is a princess meal--you'll have another princess meal at Cinderella's Royal Table on Wednesday. If you really like princesses, do Akershus; otherwise, San Angel Inn is the better choice.

Login to your MyDisneyExperience.com account, click the "Things to Do" tab at top right, under Dining hit "Make Reservations," and practice trying to reserve restaurants (hint: use the search box at the upper right).

This may well drive you crazy, but the site works better than it used to...and is likely the only way you can get your Cindy reservations done! (as the site opens up a new reservable day at 6a, whereas the phone reservation line opens at 7a).

Collect your restaurant reservations together. You will want to do them online in order of hardest to reserve first. This is how they are listed below.

## C. EXACTLY 6am EST, EXACTLY 180 DAYS BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL DATE

(For an 180 day calendar, see <u>this</u>).

Be on the restaurant website by at least 5:50am EST, and have your Cindy reservation all set up on the page. Keep refreshing, as you will be let in as soon as Disney's system decides it is 6a.

Make as many of the following as you have patience for (try to get through at least Akershus), in the exact order listed:

- **Cinderella's Royal Table Lunch** (dining plan, two credits): Friday at 11a or later if you can; earlier than 11 only if your sole option...
- **Chef Mickey's** (dining plan, one credit) Wednesday 11a. Later is OK, but not a whole lot earlier--no earlier than 10.30a
- **Crystal Palace** (dining plan): Second Saturday 6p if you can; earlier OK, but not later
- Akershus Banquet or San Angel Inn (dining plan): First Saturday 7p. No later, but earlier is OK.
- **50's Prime Time Café** (dining plan): First Sunday 6p. Can be earlier but not later.

For those you don't make online, make them by calling call (407) WDW-DINE (939-3463)

#### **D. 180 DAYS BEFORE YOUR HOUSE OF BLUES DATE**

Call the House of Blues Orlando at (407) 934-BLUE and order tickets for your second Sunday 10:30 Gospel Brunch (cash)

#### E. 60 DAYS BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL DATE



1. Go to your MyDisneyExperience account and set up the following

FastPass+

- **First Saturday afternoon and evening at Epcot**: Tier One: Illuminations. Tier Two: Spaceship Earth and Mission Space. Note that the Illuminations FastPass+ may not be available until closer to your arrival date—if not available, make Test Track your Tier One instead, and try to change it to Illuminations later. Set the Tier Two times for when your travel plans permit you to be in the park. If one is impossible to set at a good time because of your travel schedule, leave it as is—Disney requires you to book three Fastpass+.
- **First Sunday at Disney's Hollywood Studios**: Tier One: Toy Story Midway Mania. Tier Two: Tower of Terror and Great Movie Ride. Set Tower of Terror to begin between 9.30a to 10a, and Toy Story Midway Mania and Great Movie ride for early afternoon. (At park open, head straight to Rock 'N' Roller Coaster.)
- **Monday at Epcot**: Tier One: Soarin. Tier Two: Turtle Talk with Crush and Living with the Land. Set all for late mornings/early afternoon. (At park open, head for Test Track.)
- **Tuesday at the Animal Kingdom:** Kilimanjaro Safaris, Kali River Rapids, and Festival of the Lion King (if open by your dates—Finding Nemo if not). Set all for midlate afternoon, with Kali River Rapids last. (At park open, head for Expedition Everest.)
- Wednesday at the Magic Kingdom: Enchanted Tales with Belle, Buzz Lightyear, and Under the Sea: Journey of the Little Mermaid. Set Buzz for late morning, and Belle and Little Mermaid for after. (At park open, head for Space Mountain.)
- **Thursday afternoon at Disney's Hollywood Studios:** Tier One: Fantasmic. Tier Two: Star Tours and Voyage of the Little Mermaid. Set all for the late afternoon/early evening.

- **Friday at the Magic Kingdom**: Splash Mountain, Jungle Cruise, and the Haunted Mansion. Target Splash Mountain around 2p, the others for earlier. (At park open, head to Big Thunder Mountain.)
- **Saturday at the Magic Kingdom:** Seven Dwarfs Mine Train and Winnie the Pooh late morning, and the Main Street Electrical Parade (MSEP) in the evening. Note that MSEP may not be available until close to your trip. If so, book Pirates of the Caribbean now, and change to MSEP if/when it becomes available. Set for late morning/early afternoon, with last window ending by 3p. (At park open, head for Peter Pan.)
- 2. Do online check in, requesting as you do special location points
- 3. Customize your MagicBands

#### F. NOTES ON PACKING ETC. BEFORE YOU LEAVE

1. Bring your MagicBands in your carry-ons

2. If you use Disney's Magical Express, you do not need to collect your bags at the Orlando airport unless you arrive late in the evening/at night or are an international traveler. Disney will get them for you and, eventually, deliver them directly to your room. Your bags may arrive hours after you do; so, depending on the weather forecasts, have a carry-on with an appropriate change of clothes for Orlando weather on Saturday, as you will almost certainly go to Epcot on Saturday before your checked bags arrive.

3. Follow the instructions in the Magical Express packet you will receive in the mail regarding both tagging your bags pre-departure, and where to go at the Orlando airport to find your transport to your resort.

4. Bring a copy of your room reservation, confirmation numbers and any tickets for special events you may have received in the mail.

5. Pack breakfast utensils, as they are not always available in the gift shop: bowls, spoons, napkins

6. When you arrive at the hotel, look for the special "On-line Check-in" line, and get into it.

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