

# Going Beyond February 2023

Planning Spring Break

the stories inside

# & Summer Vacations

More Disneyland Discounts

Save Up to 25% on select Disneyland rooms

Marvel Day at Sea

A recap of time onboard the Disney Dream

Flower & Garden Festival

See what's budding starting March 1st





Bruce Beil 407&Beyond Owner Bruce@407Vacations.com

#### Message from Our Owner

Earlier this month I sailed on a 5 night western Caribbean itinerary onboard the Disney Dream for one of its themed cruises: Marvel Day at Sea. As a big fan of the Marvel Cinematic Universe I wanted to experience this fairly new cruise itinerary where I could meet characters, watch movies and be fully immersed in Marvel while onboard Disney Cruise Line. The verdict: if you are even remotely into Marvel movies and tv shows then this is a cruise itinerary for you.

Marvel Day at Sea is as close to perfect as you can get for a Marvel experience onboard a cruise ship. Throughout the day Marvel soundtracks play around the ship, making even the walk to breakfast feel heroic.

In the Buena Vista theater the ship was showing Thor Love and Thunder, as well as a documentary style show called Marvel Origins. In addition, there were drawing courses to learn to draw favorite Marvel characters, Marvel trivia, and Marvel Comics vault.

There were abundant opportunities to meet the Marvel heroes throughout the day, many walking around the ship talking to guests. Several times I saw Ms. Marvel. Kate Bishop, Ant-Man, Hawkeye, Dr. Strange, Shang-Chi, Shuri, Starlord, Groot and Gamora hanging about the atrium. In addition, Mickey and friends made an appearance dressed in their superhero attire to take photos with guests in the Mickey and Friends Superhero Celebration.

There were additional events happening around the ship in addition to meeting characters. Guests could take drawing lessons to learn to draw their favorite Marvel character and there was a comic vault where guests could read comics and drink coffee. For Marvel fans looking to test their knowledge there were also trivia events scheduled throughout the day.

The highlight of the day for me was Heroes Unite, the evening show on the pool deck. This nighttime spectacular showcased many of Marvel fans favorite characters including Dr. Strange, Iron Man, Captain America, Star Lord, Shang-Chi who fought a common foe in Scarlet Witch, Taskmaster and the Tracksuit gang. I will stop there to avoid any spoilers, but this is an absolute must do!

The best thing about Marvel Day at Sea is that there is something for everyone of all ages and for those who are new to the comics and movies and those who have been lifelong fans.

#### Where Magic Meets



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### Our Vacation Planners of the Month

Congratulations to February's Top Sellers



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#### **Travel News**

#### **Disneyland Villas**

Get ready to experience the magic of Disney storytelling like never before at The Villas at Disneyland® Hotel, opening at the Disneyland Resort this September.

The Villas at Disneyland Hotel will blend timeless Walt Disney Animation Studios classics with contemporary designs, delicately curating a celebration of Disney history in the place where it all started—the Disneyland Resort. This will be the fourth tower at the Disneyland Hotel, located just steps from the Downtown Disney District. Bookings will open to the public on March 17, 2023, subject to availability.

#### **Disneyland Discounts**

Save Up To 15% at a Disneyland Resort Hotel This Spring Be among the first to experience the Disney100 Celebration at the Disneyland Resort, and save up to 15% at a Disneyland Resort Hotel on select Sunday-Thursday nights from March 12 through June 8, 2023!Book now through June 5, 2023. Travel must be completed by June 9, 2023. Subject to availability.

## Disney® Visa® Cardmembers: Save Up to 25% on Select Stays at a Disneyland Resort Hotel

Disney Visa Cardmembers can save up to 25% on select Premium room stays at the Hotels of the Disneyland Resort valid Sunday to Thursday nights from March 12 through June 8, 2023. Book now through June 5, 2023. Travel must be completed by June 9, 2023. Subject to availability and restrictions



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## A New Theme Park and New Dates Added for Disney After Hours Events

For the first time in forever, guests can experience EPCOT for three glorious hours after the gates close and get access to top attractions, like Frozen Ever After, Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind and Remy's Ratatouille Adventure. This is their chance to explore all four neighborhoods in the park with shorter attraction wait times. Be sure to snap a few photos with our favorite Disney characters and munch on some of our favorite Disney snacks. Delight in ice cream novelties, popcorn and select beverages—all included in the cost of this ticketed event—available at carts throughout the park. These fan-favorite experiences are scheduled to kick off May 20 at Typhoon Lagoon and June 1 at EPCOT. They join Magic Kingdom Park, running through March 27, and Disney's Hollywood Studios, currently running with additional dates being added beginning May 3. These fan-favorite experiences are scheduled to kick off May 20 at Typhoon Lagoon and June 1 at EPCOT. They join Magic Kingdom Park, running through March 27, and Disney's Hollywood Studios, currently running with additional dates being added beginning May 3.



Kang the Conqueror has slipped through time and arrived at Avengers Campus! Quite possibly the biggest threat Ant-Man and The Wasp have ever encountered, Kang moves stealthily throughout the campus, engaging recruits and seeking information on the heroes in this timeline. Be on the lookout. Kang is only at Disney California Adventure Park for a limited time.

## Marvel and Pixar Days at Sea Returning in 2024 Marvel Day at Sea

Marvel Day at Sea will be offered on 10 five-night Caribbean cruises sailing from Fort Lauderdale, Florida in early 2024.

#### **Pixar Day at Sea**

Pixar Day at Sea will be offered on nine seven-night Caribbean cruises aboard the Disney Fantasy sailing from Port Canaveral, Florida in early 2024.







#### **Interested in Planning the Magic?**

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## **Looking Forward to Upcoming Festivals**

"This festival features

## beautiful

# floral displays all throughout the park..."

This past month saw the conclusion of my favorite Epcot Festival for its 2023 season. The Epcot International Festival of the Arts celebrated its final day of the year on February 20th. In my vlogs I mention frequently how the Epcot Festival of the Arts is my absolute favorite festival and I wish it went on for a longer period of time. However! I was at Epcot just the other night and to my surprise the Disney horticulture team is already prepping for the next Epcot festival, the Epcot International Flower and Garden Festival. This festival features beautiful floral displays all throughout the park and even topiaries of Disney characters. While Festival of the Arts will always

Figment Topiary

be my number 1, I have to admit seeing a little preview of these displays made my night and got me super excited for Flower and Garden to start. This festival officially kicks off on March 1, 2023 and runs through July 5, 2023.

Disney recently released the menus for the food booths that will accompany this festival and there are SO MANY new food and drink items coming this year that I can't wait to try. In addition to tasting these new offerings, I am excited to enjoy some returning favorites that are a must-get for me every single year! One of these Flower and Garden go-to's for me is the Desert Violet Lemonade! It's truly an icon of this festival and makes for the perfect instagram pic! Something I love about the outdoor kitchens at the Flower and Garden Festival is the fact that they put a big emphasis on fresh, farm-to-table ingredients. Many of the food booths even have gardens in front of them that show some of the ingredients used at that kitchen growing in the display! This festival always gives me ideas of recipes I can try to recreate at home!

The Flower and Garden Festival is undeniably the most



beautiful time of year to visit Epcot. As I walked out of the park the other night, I realized Disney had planted what's referred to as the 'carpeting,' where they cover ever inch of the grass with colorful flowers to form a design. This display can be found near the bridge that connects World Showcase and World Celebration. As I walked past the display the first thing I noticed was the incredible smell! This time of year as you stroll through the park you can literally smell the fresh floral scent in the air!

This festival will be here in Epcot for a little over four months, it's a great time to plan a spring getaway! See you in Epcot!



Magical Meg
Official Vlogger
of 407&Beyond

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## Ep. 104: EPCOT Festival of the Arts 2023, Part 2

This month Spill the D wraps up Epcot's Festival of the Arts with YouTube vlogger Magical Meg. They discussed which food items quests should try, and avoid, while visiting the festival and even get into ranking their favorite festivals at Epcot. In episode 105 Gina and Ric give their 'unpopular' Disney park opinions and in episode 106, Gina and guests travel through time as they examine the history of the fan favorite attraction, the Jungle Cruise at Disney's Magic Kingdom.



**Gina & Ric**Podcast Co-Hosts

Official Podcast of 407&Beyond













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## Conversations with a

## **Vacation Planner**

#### What made you want to be a Disney Travel Agent?

When you get in the hustle and bustle of life you forget to enjoy the things that bring you happiness. Disney fuels my soul and I love how many memories I have made with my children. It's my family's happy place. As soon as we leave we can't wait to get back. This is why I wanted to become a travel agent that specializes in Disney vacations. I want everyone to experience the magic, dreams and happy memories.

#### What do you like about working at 407&Beyond?

I say this all the time, Bruce and the Agents are why this company is amazing. Between the communication, knowledge and the teamwork, it's a joy coming to work everyday. Whenever anyone needs anything, everyone is quick to jump in and help. It's nice knowing you have a team you trust and cheering you on.

## What recommendations do you have for those looking to become a travel agent?

If you're looking to become a travel agent I just want you to know, yes it is a job but it is more than that. You'll be creating friendships/bonds with people who will need to trust you with their vacations. Travel isn't cheap, make your clients feel comfortable and happy they contacted you. If it isn't for them, we cannot do what we do.

Is there a news story this month that caught your eye? Starting March 20, 2023 all your Disney World attraction photos will be included to download for free when you purchase Genie+.

## What is a travel tip or recommendation you provide clients who are visiting the parks with kids?

Breaks, take them. There is so much to do and so much going on at Disney you'll never see everything. Children can become overstimulated and then cue in melt down. It's okay to leave the parks for 2-3 hours. Go take a nap or go to the pool to relax. You might actually get more done late afternoon/night because they are well rested and ready to go. Use that break to stack Genie+selections for the afternoon or night.



#### **Ashley Gordon**

AshleyG@407Vacations.com www.407vacations.com/AshleyGordon

# Ashley's Vacation Quote Highlight

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\*Minimum 4-day Theme Park Ticket required. Minimum 4-night length of stay required. Cannot be combined with any other discount or promotion. Offer excludes the following room types: campsites, 3-bedroom villas, and Cabins at Copper Creek Villas & Cabins at Disney's Wilderness Lodge. Gratuities are not included. Valid admission and a Park reservation are required. The digital Disney Dining Promo Card is redeemable at select participating food and beverage locations at the Walt Disney World Resort. Locations that are unable to accept the Disney Dining Promo Card include, but are not limited to: Merchandise locations and candy kitchens, Dining locations at Walt Disney World Swan Hotel, Walt Disney World Dolphin Hotel, Walt Disney World Swan Reserve Hotel, Four Seasons Resort Orlando at Walt Disney World Resort, Disney Springs® Resort Area Hotels, Walt Disney World Official Hotels at Bonnet Creek, and Walt Disney World Gateway Hotels. The digital Disney Dining Promo Card is not valid after September 30, 2023. Issued by, and represents a legal obligation solely of, Disney Gift Card Services Inc. Lost, damaged or stolen cards may be replaced only if original proof-of-purchase receipt and complete card number are provided. For card balance inquiries, call (877) 650-4327.

\*\*The number of rooms allocated for this offer is limited. Savings based on the non-discounted price for the same room. Cannot be combined with any other discount or promotion. Additional per-adult charges may apply if there are more than 2 adults per room at Disney Value, Moderate and Deluxe Resorts, and Studios at Disney Deluxe Villa Resorts. Advance reservations required. Offer excludes the following room types: 3-bedroom villas and Cabins at Copper Creek Villas & Cabins at Disney's Wilderness Lodge. Valid admission and Park reservations required to

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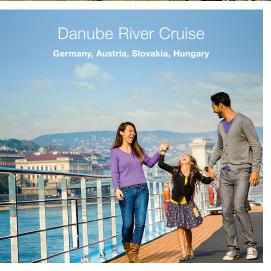
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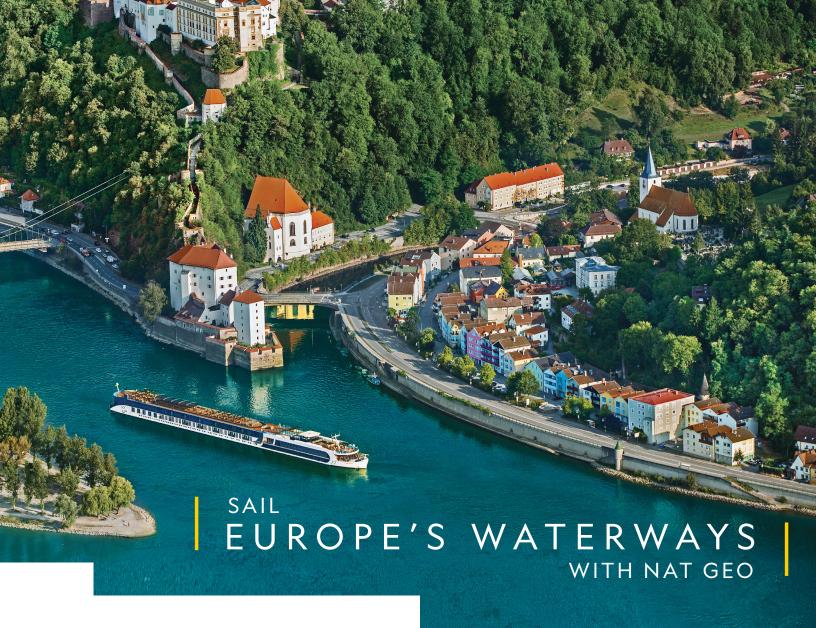




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Day 6 The Beach Club at Bimini, Bahamas (

Day 7 Miami, Florida, USA

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