

Disney's 10 Most Magical Experiences

An Epcot® Illuminations Cruise — Each evening boatloads of visitors depart from *Disney's Yacht Club* Resort headed for *Epcot*. Their destination: a prime position under the bridge between the United Kingdom and France for a view of the *Illuminations: Reflections of Earth* spectacular. Cruises are offered nightly on pontoon boats seating ten. Call 407-WDW-PLAY.

Dinner at California Grill — California Grill on the 15th floor of *Disney's Contemporary* Resort is a definite highlight for any connoisseur of cutting-edge cuisine. Through immense windows is an unbeatable panorama of the *Magic Kingdom*® and the Seven Seas Lagoon with picture-perfect views of the *Wishes* fireworks show. From pristinely fresh sushi to the exceptional New American Cuisine to sensational desserts and the outstanding California wine list, this place has it all.

Dine with Cinderella — High atop the *Magic Kingdom's* Cinderella Castle is your chance to feast in a fairytale setting with Cinderella, Aurora, Ariel, Jasmine, and Snow White. Kids love the grand dining room where through glittering leaded-glass windows you'll find a birds-eye view of Fantasyland. The characters make their way around the dining room and give each child quality time signing autographs and posing for pictures.

A Beachside Vista of the Magic Kingdom's Fireworks — Head to one of *Disney's Polynesian* Resort's idyllic white-sand beaches, grab a hammock, kick back, and view the festivities.

Your First Glimpse of Cinderella's Castle — As you walk under the train station at the *Magic Kingdom* and into a world of make believe, the splendor of *Main Street, U.S.A.*® is spread out before you with that celebrated fairytale castle sitting at the end.

The Sight of Exotic Animals Grazing Below Your Guestroom Balcony — A stay at *Disney's Animal Kingdom* Lodge comes with a view of its marvelous savanna filled with hundreds of roaming exotic animals. After dark the preserves are lit with a moon glow effect, perfect for a nighttime stroll or after dinner entertainment from your room balcony.

A Picturesque Ride on the Monorail — Hop on board Disney's favorite form of transportation for a delightful journey around the Seven Seas Lagoon, through the interior of *Disney's Contemporary* Resort, past the *Magic Kingdom*, and off through the pine trees on your way to *Epcot*.

Cocktails in the Grand Lobby of Disney's Grand Floridian Resort & Spa — This resort's favorite gathering spot is an exquisitely soaring, 5-story lobby of stained-glass cupolas and filigreed chandeliers. Pick up a cocktail upstairs at Mizner's then find a seat on a cushy sofa and take pleasure in the lively big band orchestra while sipping a strawberry-topped glass of champagne.

Reliving the Drive-In of Your Youth At *Disney's Hollywood Studios*[®] — At the Sci-Fi Dine-In Theatre guests are served in sleek 1950s-era convertibles while watching B-grade sci-fi and horror trailers on the big screen. Waiters carhop the darkened starlit theater, speaker boxes hang on the side of your car, and, of course, popcorn and hot dogs dance on the screen during intermission. Though the food is just so-so who cares when Godzilla is your entertainment.

A Float Through Splash Mountain — Who can resist the charms of Brer Rabbit, Brer Fox, Brer Bear, and the rest of the gang, even if it culminates in one heck of a plunge? Drift round the briar patch in a hollowed-out log while toe-tapping music plays among the cabbages and carrots, jugs of moonshine, chirpin' birds, and croakin' frogs as you relax and bob your head to the beat. As you float through bayous, marshes, and caverns, all a delight to the eyes with loads of colorful detail and too-cute cavorting characters, the heartwarming theme song "Time To Be Moving Along" plays. It's guaranteed to put a smile on your face.

Provided the following credit is given, you are welcome to reprint this article for free.

Cara Goldsbury is the author of *The Luxury Guide to Disney Vacations* and *The Luxury Guide to Walt Disney World Resort*. She is Chief Executive Concierge at [Glass Slipper Concierge](#)[®] and has appeared as a leading Disney expert on two Travel Channel specials, Disney Splurge! and Disney Royalty. She has also been cited numerous times in national news articles, in such notable publications as Forbes Traveler, as an expert on the *Walt Disney World*[®] Resort. Visit Cara at wdwLuxuryGuide.com.