



## Hong Kong Disneyland: Guide Sheet



### **Introduction**

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**Location:** Penny's Bay, Lantau - about 16 kilometres from Hong Kong Airport and 23 kilometres from the city of Hong Kong.

One theme park: Hong Kong Disneyland

Two official hotels: Disneyland Hotel  
Disney's Hollywood Hotel

The whole resort area covers approximately 300 acres which includes the theme park, two high-quality hotels, and the Inspiration Lake recreation area. Further land reclamation is continuing, with the final resort size being 457 acres once phase two is complete.



Hong Kong Disneyland is the newest of the Disney parks (pending construction of Shanghai Disneyland) and it is also the smallest, however Down Under Disneyana members highly recommend it for the quality of its presentation, friendliness of cast members, and excellence in hotel accommodation. The park is also undergoing a major expansion which will be completed in 2013. Entry price and merchandise is cheaper than the other Disney parks, and it has easy accessibility to Hong Kong via the high speed train network. Hong Kong is 9 hours flight time from Sydney.



### **How to get there**

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If you are staying in Hong Kong, you can get to Disneyland via the MTR (underground railway system). Just take the Tung Chung line from Hong Kong station to Sunny Bay. Change at Sunny Bay for the Disneyland Resort Line.

If you are staying in Kowloon, we recommend you get the MTR from Nathan Road (Tsim Sha Tsui station) to Central, and then follow the signs for the short walk to Hong Kong station.

From the airport, buses operate regularly to the Hong Kong Disneyland Resort Hotels. These can be booked by your travel agent prior to departure, or tickets can be purchased on your arrival for around \$80 HKD per person. Cheap taxis are also available for around \$140 HKD per journey.

## Accommodation

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Hong Kong has an abundance of accommodation within the urban areas, however, Down Under Disneyana Club members highly recommend **Disney's Hollywood Hotel & the Disneyland Hotel** in the Hong Kong Disneyland resort precinct.

Disney's Hollywood Hotel is a 4-star hotel and has previously won the "Best Themed Hotel in China" at the Chinese Hotel Industry Summit in Beijing. Based on a 1940's retro Hollywood theme, the hotel is resplendent with California Freeway-themed walkways through lush gardens, excellent dining locations, well-appointed rooms and lots of little touches that will entertain any Disney enthusiast such as hundreds of "Hidden Mickeys" throughout the rooms, public areas and on the building itself.



The Disneyland Hotel is based on the Grand Floridian Hotel at Walt Disney World in Florida. This is a more formal five-star luxury hotel and is also home to The Enchanted Garden, which hosts the daily character breakfast that is a must see event. The hotel includes Disney Princess character greeting in the lobby, and has excellent restaurants and shopping.



Both hotels are located on the water just over a kilometre from the theme park entrance, MTR station, and Inspiration Lake, and paths make for a pleasant early morning walks to the main gates prior to a busy day at Disneyland. If the temperature is high or you are running late, there are regular free shuttle buses to all these locations from the hotels.

Both hotels also include thoughtful little details, like the widescreen LCD cable TV that includes a channel which broadcasts the nightly fireworks display soundtrack so that you can watch them from your room with the appropriate music.

The hotels are a 30 minute train journey from Hong Kong, so if you've had a full day shopping in the City, you will find a welcome respite with the hotels being away from the noise, fumes, and hustle and bustle of the city.

Rates for both hotels are available on the Hong Kong Disneyland website or from your travel agent.

## The Lands and Attractions

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Here are the main attractions to be found in the Hong Kong Disneyland.

### Main Street, U.S.A.

- **Hong Kong Disneyland Railroad** - train trip around the park featuring stops at Main Street and Fantasyland.
- **Daily Parade** (The current parade is titled *Flights of Fantasy Parade* and its debut coincided with the park's fifth anniversary celebrations in early 2011. Parade times

are published in the daily guide available inside the main gate. Seasonal parades include the *Santa Mickey's Toy-riffic Street Party* at Christmas, and the *Glow in the Dark Parade* at Halloween.

- **Disney in the Stars Fireworks Show** (A spectacular nightly display which is enhanced by colourful projections on Sleeping Beauty castle. Be sure to get a good seat in front of the castle 30 minutes prior to the show.)
- **Animation Academy** – learn to draw Disney characters!

### Fantasyland

- **Mickey's PhilharMagic** (3D film featuring scenes from famous Disney animated movies)
- **Disney's Storybook Theatre** – The Golden Mickeys (Awesome stage show with live actors reliving musical moments from Disney's animated movies. The songs are all in English, however as the narration is in Chinese, we recommend lining up in the right-hand queue and seating in the right-hand side of the theatre so that you can see the large screen with English subtitles. This is the only attraction in HKDL where English is not used in the speaking parts – but it is a must see show.)
- **It's a Small World** – the newest iteration of this classic ride was the first in the world to feature characters from Disney's suite of animated movies.
- **The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh** (Ride featuring characters from the 100 Acre Wood)
- **Fantasy Gardens** a dedicated character greeting area
- **Mad Hatter Tea Cups** – the classic tea cup ride as featured at every Disney Magic Kingdom style theme park around the world
- **Cinderella Carousel** – wonderful carousel in the time-honoured tradition
- **Dumbo the Flying Elephant** classic Dumbo flying elephant ride – a family tradition.

### Adventureland

- **Festival of the Lion King** (This is an amazing live show not to be missed and is classified by most Disney fans as the best version of this show in the world.)
- **Jungle Cruise Ride** (This is also regarded as the best Jungle Cruise in the world. Make sure you get in the clear marked "English" line!)
- **Rafts to Tarzan Island** (Ride to the island housing the Tarzan's Treehouse walkthrough attraction)

### Tomorrowland

- **Buzz Lightyear Astroblasters** (Ride-through attraction where you get to shoot lasers at characters from the Toy Story franchise)
- **Space Mountain** (High-speed, dark rollercoaster – not to be missed!) At Halloween, Space Mountain gets a season *Ghost Galaxy* overlay – making the ride extra spooky!
- **Stitch Encounter Show** (Ask cast when the English language version starts, usually a 2 hr window. queue 20-25 mins before show)
- **Autopia** ride a pint-sized car on the electronic freeways of the future – great family fun.
- **Orbitron** – spinner ride for space pilots of all ages.



### **Toy Story Land (opened Nov 2011)**

This new land is themed to Andy's backyard from Toy Story, where you are shrunk down to the size of the toys and get to play. The theming is fantastic, including oversized old favourites and you even see Andy's giant footprints on the ground. The main attractions are:

- **RC Racer** – a modern take on the old 'pirate ship' type rides of the past. In this instance, you step aboard the radio controlled car "RC" from Toy Story for a ride on a U-shaped hot wheels track – it is a big thrill ride.
- **Slinky Dog Spin** – a caterpillar spin ride themed to Slinky-Dog.
- **Toy Soldier Parachute Drop** – a high parachute type ride which provides amazing views of the Hong Kong Disneyland Resort area.



### **Grizzly Gulch (opened July 2012)**

Grizzly Gulch is a new land that is unique to Hong Kong Disneyland and is themed to an abandoned mining town. The area is dominated by a new E-ticket thrill ride:

- **Big Grizzly Mountain Runaway Mine Cars** – a high speed roller coaster that features a traditional lift hill, backwards running, and a mid-journey linear induction high-speed launch. Sounds like fun doesn't it!

### **Mystic Point (Opening mid-2013)**

Mystic Point is scheduled to open in Hong Kong Disneyland in mid-2013. It is a land unique to Hong Kong and features:

- **Mystic Manor** – a new E-ticket dark ride on similar lines to the Haunted Mansion in other Disney Parks. It is said to operate on trackless technology like Pooh's Hunny Hunt in Tokyo Disneyland.
- **The Adventurer's Club** – this will be a new restaurant – it is not yet known how similar it will be to the former club of the same name in Walt Disney World.

## **Eating Out**

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Here is a selection of some our favourite eateries.

### **Fantasyland**

- Royal Banquet Hall – three-course meals for around \$12 p.p. Amazing value. Includes steaks, satays, sausage, dim sums, tempura and more.

### **Adventureland**

- Tahitian Terrace Restaurant – provides South Asian and Guangdong-style barbeque and wok-fried meals.

### **Tomorrowland**

- Starliner Diner – Western diner food such as cheese and chicken burgers – great for a lunch snack, and plenty of undercover seating in case it rains.

### **Main Street U.S.A.**

- Main Street Corner Café – Good quality diner style food. Great spot for dinner followed by the fireworks.

### **Mystic Point (2013)**

- The Adventurer's Club – awaiting reviews!

### **Hollywood Hotel**

- Chef Mickey - is a buffet style restaurant with an excellent selection of Chinese and Western food. Dinner is expensive.
- Studio lounge – is a favourite place to eat. Great atmosphere in a bar/lounge setting, a good menu of different foods (that is prepared in the Chef Mickey kitchens) and a much more reasonable price!
- Hollywood and Dine – a quick service diner like a milk bar, where you can buy sandwiches, breakfast cereals, coffee, tea and hot chocolates, fruit, pastries etc. Very cheap.

### **Disneyland Hotel**

- The Enchanted Garden. This is a buffet style restaurant that hosts the wonderful Character Breakfast with a selection of Disney characters. It is a must do for one of your mornings whilst at the resort. You can book a day or two in advance, however getting in is not usually a problem.

### **Conclusion**

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Whilst Hong Kong Disneyland is the smallest park in Disney's portfolio, everything that is here has been done right. Its setting amongst the mountains of Lantau Island make for some spectacular vistas.

In 2013, the final land of its current expansion (Mystic Point) will be open and rumours are already circulating of further park enhancements, including new hotels, a Downtown Disney shopping district, and eventually a second gate, abound. A two day stay at the resort will ensure plenty of time to fully explore the park and surrounds, but stay a while longer and use the wonderful hotels as a base to explore the rest of Hong Kong – returning to the peace and quiet of Lantau each night is a welcome respite from the hustle and bustle of the city!