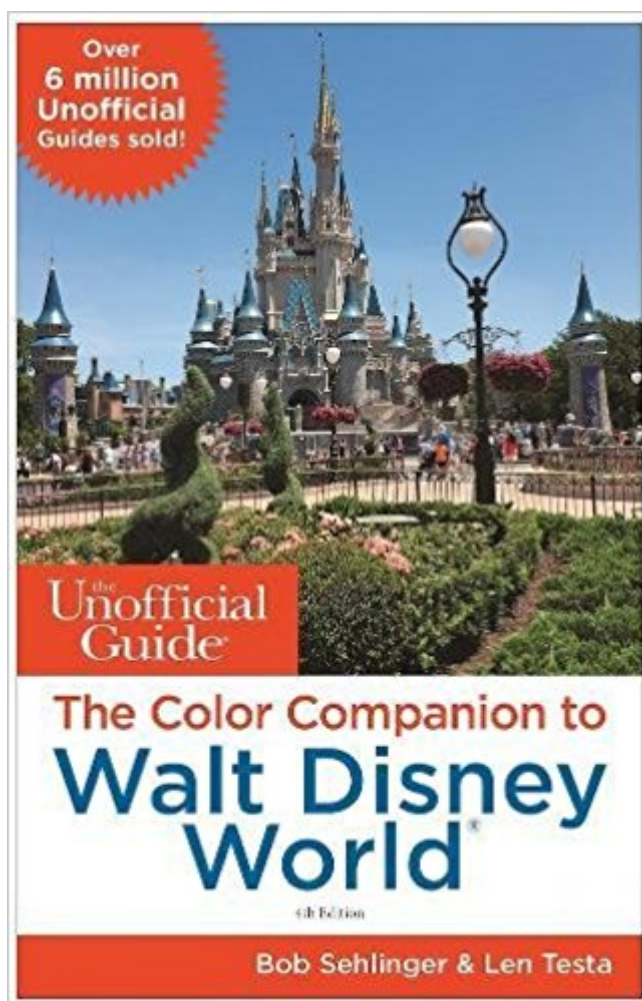


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# The Unofficial Guide: The Color Companion To Walt Disney World



## Synopsis

Following in the best-selling tradition of *The Unofficial Guide to Walt Disney World*, *The Unofficial Guide: The Color Companion to Walt Disney World* shows you how to get the inside track on visiting Walt Disney World and how to make the most of your time in the park. Complete with hundreds of full-color photographs, the Color Companion is a visual guide for your Disney vacation, showing you the best that Walt Disney World has to offer. The Color Companion is perfect for pairing with *The Unofficial Guide to Walt Disney World* ("the big book") or it can stand alone to provide you with what you need to know in a flash when you're visiting the park. The Unofficial Guide gives you more than 800 pages of highly detailed information on planning, staying, and surviving your visit to Walt Disney World. In *The Color Companion* the authors Bob Sehlinger and Len Testa also take the "Unofficial" approach, but their book **SHOWS** you where you'll be staying and what you'll be doing, all in a trim little book that's perfect for tucking into a backpack or totebag.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

*The Unofficial Guide: The Color Companion to Walt Disney World* 560 full-color images prove that a picture is worth 1,000 words! *The Color Companion* is perfect for pairing with *The Unofficial Guide to Walt Disney World* ("the big book") or it can stand alone to provide you with what you need to know in a flash when you're visiting the park. While the Unofficial Guide gives you more than 800 pages of highly detailed information on planning, staying and surviving your visit to Walt Disney World, *The Color Companion* also takes the "Unofficial" approach, but **SHOWS** you where you'll be

staying and what you'll be doing -- in a trim 360-page book, perfect for tucking into a backpack or totebag. This unique visual guide that lets you see how wet you'll get on Splash Mountain® (p. 166), what the crowd conditions are at different times of day in Fantasyland® (p. 34), and how the parks are decked out for various holidays (p. 280). Hundreds of fun full-color photos make this book a perfect keepsake, as well as an incredibly useful on-the-ground resource. The Color Companion provides reviews of all the Walt Disney World® resorts, including pictures of the guest rooms, swimming pools, and resort themes. As with the Unofficial "big book", attractions and resorts are rated based on surveys of thousands of Walt Disney World® guests and the proven, firsthand advice will teach you how to plan and save money on your Walt Disney World® vacation. As always, The Unofficial series is completely independent. If a restaurant serves lackluster food or an attraction is not worth the wait, we'll tell you. Check out The Unofficial Guide to Walt Disney World®, the bestselling independent guide to Walt Disney World® and the perfect companion to this full-color guide. The Unofficial Guide Guerrilla Research Tactics -exclusive content from the authors

What makes The Unofficial Guide to Walt Disney World so "unofficial"?

There's madness to the methodology -- the detailed research that goes into the Unofficial Guides is just as quirky as the guides themselves. We've slept in every Disney resort multiple times and more than 80 Orlando-area properties. Only once did we wake up covered in bugs. (It was an off-site hotel.) We test hotel room soundproofing using a sophisticated digital sound meter and a copy of The Who's Greatest Hits. The first time we did Orlando spa reviews, one of our researchers had an eyebrow burned off during a waxing that went horribly awry. We once logged more than 700 miles in one week on buses to test Disney's transportation system, and never left Disney property. The bus drivers got so used to us being on board that one forgot we were there and took us back to the station when his shift ended. We also test pillow fluffiness using a measurement process we invented. We were going to use a fake human head as part of the test, but worried about getting it through airport security. We settled on a gallon jug of water, which is about the same size and weight as an average adult's noggin. We've dined at every sit-down restaurant multiple times. When we test counter-service restaurants, we order at least one of everything on the menu, and break up in to small teams to sample each thing. I think we've tried every counter-service food item in every Disney theme park. Our crowd prediction models take in to account everything from the day of week and time of year, to the vacation schedules of the fifty largest school districts east of the Mississippi, to weather phenomena including temperature, rainfall and humidity. A few dozen hearty readers per year participate in something called The Ultimate Magic Kingdom Touring Plan, which is a computer-optimized guide

to seeing every ride, show, live performance, parade and fireworks in the Magic Kingdom (between 50 and 60 separate attractions, depending on refurbishments) in a single day. The current record is 55 attractions in 11 hours, 38 minutes. The average wait in line per attraction is less than 2 minutes. Despite sounding more like an endurance race than a vacation, families love it. A few have sent photo albums chronicling their day. The Staff Data is analyzed by a professional statistician, who helps us build models of park wait times. The person who helps us figure out the best Disney deals is a PhD economist at their day job. The person who explains key points in theme park architecture for us is a professional urban designer with experience on a number of Disney projects. Our advice for children comes from a nationally-recognized child psychologist. Len wrote his Masters thesis on how computer programs could create efficient touring plans for theme parks. He was awarded a U.S. patent for this research, which was also published in academic journals. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"If you're looking for a reliable guidebook, the leader is the Unofficial series."--The Mail (London)"A Tourist's Best Friend!"--Chicago Sun-Times"Indispensable"--The New York Times

We got this as a present for an 8 year old boy so he could see the rides and things we planned to do on an upcoming visit to Disney. He put check marks by all the things we did on our vacation. He also used the front and back blank sheets for character autographs. (It would be nice if they had a couple more blank sheets for notes or autographs) This does NOT replace the regular Unofficial Guide to Disney World which we also bought. This should be used as a supplement

Don't get me wrong. I think the (Big Book)Â The Unofficial Guide Walt Disney World 2012 (Unofficial Guides) is the best Disney planning book from start to finish, but this photo version left me a little disappointed. The layout was not as good as it could have been, and some of the pictures did not quite tell the story they could have. If you want a better alternative with just about as many photographs (probably more if you take into account all the photos that were of bogus attractions and menu items--all done for comedy which I thought was very cute, but might be confusing to a first time WDW visitor), then you might tryÂ The Complete Walt Disney World 2011Â which, in my humble opinion is laid out a lot better and has one of the best actual attraction overviews that I've ever seen.

Great book for anyone that is planning a trip to Walt Disney World. A lot of info inside to tell you

about everything there is do and alot of pictures.

If you are planning a trip to Walt Disney World (WDW to its devotees, of whom I am one), the premier guide to WDW's wonders and delights is THE UNOFFICIAL GUIDE TO WALT DISNEY WORLD, an 800+ page behemoth that will give you the straight dope on everything--good, bad, and indifferent. As much as I love and revere that 800+ page fount of information, one thing I have always wished for is color photos. Half the fun of reading the tour guides looking over the color pictures and planning, or remembering, the good times to come. The UNOFFICIAL GUIDE: THE COLOR COMPANION TO WALT DISNEY WORLD aims to rectify that deficiency, in a volume that is more manageable in size. And for the most part, they succeed. In order to keep the book to a smaller size and include a mess o' pictures, much information had to be left out. This book lacks the detailed information that the UNOFFICIAL GUIDE provides. But that's to be expected, after all the reader has to expect to trade out some things for color photos and portability. There's still plenty of good information in this book. What I didn't care for was the quality of the photos. They just weren't as "alive" as the photos in Birnbaum's (which does the Official Guide for WDW). Also I didn't so much care for the joke pages, which could confuse some people with no prior WDW experience. If you are going to WDW and want to buy a few guide books, here are my top favorites (in order): 1) THE UNOFFICIAL GUIDE TO WALT DISNEY WORLD (for a no-holds barred view) 2) BIRNBAUM'S WALT DISNEY WORLD (for the photos) 3) PASSPORTER'S WALT DISNEY WORLD (for your memories) Have a magical visit!

We bought this guide, the full guide, and the kids guide. The full guide is all you really need. The color companion was nice so that our 3 & 5 year old daughters could flip through the pages and see color pictures of the various rides...but the color companion provided very little value to the adults after reading through the full guide first.

I love the Unofficial Guide books and own the traditional large book because of all the information. That being said, there are no pictures in the huge book so that is where this book takes over. It's filled with beautiful pictures of all things Disney! It still has reviews of everything (just not as in depth) as the traditional book but instead of explaining what a room might look like at a specific resort it shows it instead is wonderful color pictures. I love going through it over and over just to see them. It brings back wonderful memories after our trips.

This book gives a lot of info on it's own even though it's meant to be a companion book. Loved the photos.

I absolutely love all things Disney, andÂ The Unofficial Guide Walt Disney World 2011 (Unofficial Guides)Â is my favorite trip planning resource. The Unofficial Guides have few (if any) pictures, so I was very excited when this book came out. Sadly, this book is not nearly as helpful or informative as I had expected, and definitely does not live up to the other Unofficial Guide books. It has far too many failed attempts at humor, wasting so much space in the book. There are pictures of hotels and foods that don't even exist. Someone who knows about Disney would know these things aren't real, but someone just learning about the hotels & parks could easily be misled. (After all, is there anything Disney can't do?!)The pictures aren't anything special. You can find these pictures anywhere. I had hoped there would be more detailed pictures of the hotels, parks & rides, and restaurants. Hopefully they'll publish a second edition of this book that will live up to the other Unofficial Guides.My recommendation: Buy the other Unofficial Guides -They're fabulous. If you want pictures, search the internet. This book isn't worth buying.

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