

Disney's All Star Movies Resort: Big "Blockbuster" Fun On a Small "Indie" Budget

by Maureen Austin, PassPorter Guest Contributor

The magic of Disney films is the delightful theme for Disney's third value resort - All-Star Movies. Built as the final (so far...) portion of the All-Star Resorts, this 1900+ room resort offers big "blockbuster" fun on a small "independent film" budget. Whimsical accents throughout the resort and the many amenities make this an ideal choice for families. Located in the Animal Kingdom Resort Area, this resort is extremely popular in the value category, so make your reservations early if this will be your home base while at the World.

The action starts in Cinema Hall. This is the central hub for the resort where you can find check-in, guest services and a well equipped gift shop. In addition, the food court offers a wide variety of dining choices throughout the day and evening including pizza delivery to your room until midnight. There is no full service restaurant on site. Kids will especially enjoy the arcade and playground.

Bus transportation to all the Disney theme parks as well as Downtown Disney and the water parks is provided. Resort to resort transportation is also available; however this requires a transfer at Downtown Disney or the Ticket & Transportation Center. Be sure to allow plenty of time for this when making any plans that take you from AS Movies to another resort.

The resort is divided into 5 fun and very "Disney" sections. Herbie fans will enjoy the section devoted to everyone's favorite VW Beetle in the Love Bug section. Those guests partial to Buzz, Woody and the gang will go head over heels for the Toy Story Section. As a fitting tribute to one of Disney's finest animated works, Fantasia is also a section all its own. Filling out the resort are the Mighty Ducks and 101 Dalmatians sections.

Guest rooms are small but adequate for a family of four. Rooms average 260 square feet and have either 2 double beds or a King bed. Accommodations for the physically challenged are available in the King bed layout. Bathrooms are also on the small side. Decor matches the theme of the section but is imaginative and colorful. When my son and I stayed at All-Star Movies years ago, he was absolutely enchanted with our room in the 101 Dalmatians section. A color TV, clock radio and also a table and chairs are in each guest room. Categories for rooms are

standard and preferred locations. Standard rooms can overlook a courtyard or parking lot. Preferred location at All-Star Movies (in the 101 Dalmatians section) are rooms located close to Cinema Hall for easy access to guest services and amenities. Preferred location rooms cost a little more but many guests feel this is worth the price. Laundry facilities are also available at the resort.

The pools at All-Star Movies are bright and colorful. You can take a dip at two different locations - Sorcerer Mickey welcomes you to the water at the Fantasia pool located just behind Cinema Hall. The Mighty Ducks section also has a "quiet" pool that tends to be less crowded.

Rack rates for 2009 begin at \$82 per night for a standard room and go up, depending on the season. Be sure to ask your travel agent or Disney Reservations about any discounts which may be available such as Annual Passholder, Florida Resident, or AAA/CAA just to name a few.

About The Author: Maureen Austin is co-owner of Ears to You Travel and a proud Florida native. Born in South Florida and having lived all over the state, she enjoys writing about the Sunshine State's many attractions and natural beauty.

Article last updated: 01/20/2009

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