

## Epcot Guide

### Overview

Located at Walt Disney World in Florida, Epcot was the third most-visited theme park in the world in 2011. The park can be compared to a permanent "World's Fair", and is divided into 2 main sections. Future World is dedicated to technological innovation, and features high-tech attractions and exhibits sponsored by major corporations. World Showcase, situated around the park's lagoon, is made up of 11 pavilions depicting different countries around the world.

### History

Walt Disney originally envisioned Epcot as the centerpiece of his Florida resort. Rather than being a theme park, it was to be a utopian city in which people lived and worked developing the technologies of the future. The park's name derives from Walt's original title - the Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow (EPCOT). Though the concept was scaled back after Walt's death, the park still embraces his aims of celebrating international culture and showcasing cutting-edge technology.

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## Attractions

### Future World - Imagination Pavilion

#### ImageWorks

**User rating:** ★★☆☆☆ (18 votes)

**Type:** Other **Opening date:** 1999

These interactive exhibits (known as the "What If? Labs") allow guests exiting the Journey Into Imagination ride to explore their senses on unique and innovative gadgets.

#### Journey into Imagination with Figment

**User rating:** ★★☆☆☆ (78 votes)

**Type:** Dark ride **Opening date:** Jun 2, 2002

The latest in a series of redesigns to incorporate the best of this attraction's former incarnations, Journey into Imagination allows visitors to unlock their senses using optical illusions, 4-D tricks, and interactive scenes while also reintroducing a mischievous dragon named Figment.

### Future World - Innoventions

#### Club Cool

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (38 votes)

**Type:** Other **Opening date:** Nov 14, 2005

At Club Cool, guests can taste (free of charge) well-loved Coca-Cola products from around the world. From Japan's VegitaBeta to Italy's infamous Beverly, the international beverage choices may leave guests thirsting for a good old-fashioned Coca-Cola Classic.

#### Innoventions East

**User rating:** ★★☆☆☆ (33 votes)

**Type:** Walkthrough **Opening date:** Sep 29, 1994

As its name implies, this exhibit brings the best of innovation and invention together to showcase the latest and greatest technologies available from Disney's sponsors.

## The Sum of All Thrills

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (20 votes)

**Type:** Other **Opening date:** Oct 14, 2009

Sponsored by Raytheon, The Sum of All Thrills allows guests to design their own rollercoaster, jet plane or bobsled ride and then "ride" it on one of four Kuka RoboSim 4-D Simulators. It is the first ride to be located in the Innoventions pavilion at Epcot.

Like many attractions at Epcot, The Sum of All Thrills has an educational theme. In this case, it is part of Raytheon's MathMovesU program, which is designed to engage middle school students in math and science. The experience is designed to show that basic skills picked up at school can be applied to stunning engineering feats such as roller coasters.

## Future World - Mission: Space

### Advanced Training Labs

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (14 votes)

**Type:** Other **Opening date:** Aug 15, 2003

An interactive futuristic exhibit, the Advanced Training Labs at Mission: SPACE allow guests to explore the surface of Mars and create video post cards to email to friends and family once the mission to Mars has ended.

### Mission: Space

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (91 votes)

**Type:** Motion simulator **Opening date:** Aug 15, 2003

Guests on Mission: SPACE feel the effects of a shuttle liftoff on this futuristic simulator. The intense ride experience includes four guests taking on pivotal roles at the control panel as they experience weightlessness through centrifugal technology and video queues.

## Future World - Spaceship Earth

### Spaceship Earth

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (136 votes)

**Type:** Dark ride **Opening date:** Oct 1, 1982

Located inside Epcot's iconic geodesic sphere of the same name, Spaceship Earth is a 15 minute Omnimover ride through the history and future of communication from prehistory to the modern age, remodeled in 2008 to feature new interactive segments.

## Future World - Test Track

### Test Track - Presented by Chevrolet

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (258 votes)

**Type:** Dark ride **Opening date:** Mar 17, 1999

Once visitors strap into these electric cars, they're whisked away into an experimental facility where they become the test dummies. Trying out the car's handling on rugged terrain, resistance to the elements, and acceleration, this thrill ride is a favorite among park guests.

## Future World - The Land Pavilion

## Circle of Life: An Environmental Fable

**User rating:** ★★☆☆☆ (31 votes)

**Type:** 4-D movie **Opening date:** Jan 21, 1995

This brief, 12 minute film hosted in The Land's Harvest Theater uses the characters from Disney's "The Lion King" to warn of the dangers of pollution and over-consumption on a fragile planet that needs our help.

## Living With the Land

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (69 votes)

**Type:** Boat ride **Opening date:** Dec 10, 1993

This informative boat ride travels through the greenhouses of The Land pavilion where food is produced for the park. While on board, guests learn about cutting edge farming techniques and view dark ride scenes depicting ecological systems from around the world.

## Soarin'

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (201 votes)

**Type:** Motion simulator **Opening date:** May 5, 2005

Located in a high-tech aviation center, this attraction places guests on a hang-gliding adventure over the incredible and varied terrain of California, traveling across mountains, seas, orange groves, and finally, Disneyland Park, all with 4-D scent effects.

## Future World - The Seas Pavilion

### The Seas with Nemo and Friends

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (66 votes)

**Type:** Walkthrough **Opening date:** Jan 24, 2007

Reimagined with the characters of Finding Nemo placed throughout, this pavilion still houses one of the largest aquariums in the world and now features a short ride-through featuring "Finding Nemo" characters meticulously projected into the living coral systems.

### Turtle Talk With Crush

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (44 votes)

**Type:** Live show **Opening date:** Jul 15, 2005

Through live digital puppetry, Crush from the film "Finding Nemo" interacts with child volunteers in this incredible hands-on attraction, asking and answering questions, and calling audience members by name.

## Future World - Universe of Energy Pavilion

### Ellen's Energy Adventure

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (43 votes)

**Type:** Dark ride **Opening date:** Sep 15, 1996

This 45 minute attraction including a number of films and a ride through a prehistoric setting with animatronic dinosaurs as Ellen Degeneres and Bill Nye the Science Guy team up to learn about where energy comes from.

## World Showcase

### IllumiNations: Reflections of Earth

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (73 votes)

**Type:** Show **Opening date:** Oct 1, 1999

IllumiNations is a nighttime firework spectacular that takes place on the World Showcase Lagoon. One architectural icon from each of World Showcase's eleven countries is illuminated as a globe at the lagoon's center represents the unity of all the nations as one earth.

## **Phineas & Ferb: Agent P's World Showcase Adventure**

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (22 votes)

**Type:** Other **Opening date:** Jun 23, 2012

The former Kim Possible World Showcase Adventure at Epcot now features new theme based around the Disney Channel's "Phineas & Ferb".

The plot of the revised adventure revolves around Agent P, the alter-ego of Perry the Platypus, as he takes on the evil Dr Doofenshmirtz. "Kimmunicators" still form part of the experience, although they are now known simply as "high-tech secret agent devices".

As with the Kim Possible World Showcase Adventure, the game is designed to keep younger guests entertained during tours of the World Showcase area of Epcot. Clues are hidden in a number of the area's pavilions, which offer a taste of the culture of a variety of different nations.

## **World Showcase - Canada Pavilion**

### **O Canada!**

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (27 votes)

**Type:** Movie **Opening date:** Sep 1, 2007

A Circle-Vision 360 movie showing the natural and man-made wonders of Canada.

## **World Showcase - China Pavilion**

### **Reflections of China**

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (23 votes)

**Type:** Movie **Opening date:** May 22, 2003

Narrated by ancient Chinese poet Li Bai, this film chronicles the history of China while offering a majestic tour of the country's landmarks.

## **World Showcase - France Pavilion**

### **Impressions de France**

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (23 votes)

**Type:** Movie **Opening date:** Oct 1, 1982

A travelogue of famous French sights and landmarks, this film (projected on five screens around the audience) is presented with a classical score.

## **World Showcase - Mexico Pavilion**

### **Gran Fiesta Tour Starring the Three Caballeros**

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (47 votes)

**Type:** Dark ride **Opening date:** Apr 6, 2007

Joined by The Three Caballeros (Donald Duck and his two Latin American friends Jose and Panchito), guests

travel along a meandering river through scenes displaying Mexico's culture and landmarks.

## World Showcase - Norway Pavilion

### Frozen Ever After

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (0 votes)

**Type:** Boat ride **Opening date:** Jun 30, 2016

A boat ride that takes guests on a 4-minute trip through the events of the first Frozen film, complete with animatronics, projection effects, and a room where Elsa sings "Let it Go" while simulated snow falls from the sky.

### Frozen Sommerhus

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (0 votes)

**Type:** Meet-and-greet area **Opening date:** Jun 30, 2016

A meet and greet with Anna and Elsa in a regal setting.

## World Showcase - USA Pavilion

### American Heritage Gallery

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (17 votes)

**Type:** Other **Opening date:** Oct 1, 1982

Filled with tributes to American history and artifacts owned by the country's most renowned figures, providing a glimpse into America's past through informative and interesting exhibits.

### The American Adventure

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (37 votes)

**Type:** Dark ride **Opening date:** Oct 1, 1982

The American Adventure is a 29 minute dark ride narrated by Benjamin Franklin and Mark Twain as they provide insight into the Revolutionary War, Civil War, American Industrial Revolution, and Great Depression with a video montage representing other famous moments.

### Voices of Liberty

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (61 votes)

**Type:** Live show

Acapella group that performs in the rotunda of the American pavilion. Amazing voices!

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## Restaurants

### Future World

#### Fountain View

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (9 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** American

Formerly an ice cream outlet, Fountain View is now one of several Starbucks locations at Walt Disney World. The chain's usual array of hot drinks are on offer, alongside Disney snacks such as cookies, brownies and gourmet cupcakes.

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It's Edy's ice cream on tap next to Future World's magnificent fountain, but the thick, flavorful milkshakes and ice cream cookie sandwiches are the real draw for repeat visitors. Especially before beginning the trek around World Showcase, it's a great refueling point.

## Future World - Innoventions

### Club Cool

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (2 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** Soft drinks

Club Cool doubles as an attraction and a drink outlet. You can try free samples of various wild and wacky Coca-Cola flavors - and you can also buy frozen sodas and bottled drinks.

### Electric Umbrella Restaurant

**User rating:** ★★★☆☆ (12 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** American

Electric and eclectic, this air-conditioned food court style eatery features meatball subs, chicken dishes, veggie wraps, and bountiful salads perfect for families.

## Future World - Test Track

### Cool Wash

**User rating:** ★★☆☆☆ (1 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** Drinks and snacks

A stand serving chips and beverages.

### Taste Track

**User rating:** ★★☆☆☆ (1 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** Sandwiches

A small outlet near Test Track serving grilled cheese sandwiches.

## Future World - The Land Pavilion

### Garden Grill Restaurant

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (15 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** American

Located in the upper level of The Land pavilion's grand atrium, the Garden Grill serves healthy, family-style meals. And the restaurant itself slowly rotates, allowing glimpses into the Living with the Land greenhouses, where much of the restaurant's food is grown.

### Sunshine Seasons

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (21 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** American

Sunshine Seasons offers hearty, healthy meals served with artisan breads. From plentiful sandwiches to Asian noodle bowls and cheese and cracker trays, there's something for just about everyone, and the bountiful, bright food court seating of The Land makes it a pleasant afternoon stop.

## Future World - The Seas Pavilion

## Coral Reef Restaurant

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (16 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** Seafood

In one of Epcot's more sought-after dining experiences, the Coral Reef Restaurant places guests' tables up against glass aquarium walls as they dine alongside tropical fish living in a colorful reef. Maine lobster and grilled gourmet are much of the offerings here.

## World Showcase

### Refreshment Cool Post

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (6 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** American

The cuisine here isn't African, but the setting is. Beer on tap, soft drinks, soft serve ice cream, and hot dogs call out to weary travelers as they near the pivotal "third-of-the-way" point around the lagoon between China and Germany.

## World Showcase - Canada Pavilion

### Le Cellier Steakhouse

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (21 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** Steakhouse

Stepping down into the wine cellar of the Canada pavilion's chateau, this exquisite restaurant features food that's delectably different, but close to home. Pan-seared seafood and filet mignon bring the best of the True North to Florida.

## World Showcase - China Pavilion

### Joy of Tea

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (1 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** Drinks and snacks

In addition to tea, this cart also offers beer, soft drinks, ice cream and various Chinese-style snacks.

### Lotus Blossom Café

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (13 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** Chinese

It's Chinese take-out favorites at the Lotus Blossom Café. Pot stickers, sesame chicken salad, egg rolls, orange chicken, and fried rice bring the comforts of home-town take-out to the elegance of Epcot-style flair.

### Nine Dragons Restaurant

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (10 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** Chinese

Five Chinese provinces come together at the Nine Dragons Restaurant to offer fantastic versions of authentic Chinese favorites: Kung Pao Chicken, Canton Pepper Beef, and Xi'An Pulled Pork are some of the highlights.

## World Showcase - France Pavilion

### L'Artisan des Glaces



**User rating:** ★★☆☆☆ (1 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** Ice cream

Walt Disney World's signature ice creamery offers a huge variety of flavours of both ice cream and sorbet.

## Les Chefs de France

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (22 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** French

One of Epcot's most expensive restaurants, the air is always filled with gentle music in this stunning restaurant located at the base of the Eiffel Tower. In true culinary form, the cuisine rotates seasonally, but the best of nouvelle French dishes are always on the menu.

## Les Halles Boulangerie-Patisserie

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (20 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** French

Serving the best of French deserts, you can find sandwiches, quiches, and pastries to compliment a refreshing beverage at this quick service stand.

## Monsieur Paul

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (7 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** French

Providing stunning views of World Showcase, this exclusive French restaurant offers the best of the country's famous cuisine (sometimes with a twist). Patrons can enjoy a focused wine list and dinners like crab ravioli and rack of lamb.

## World Showcase - Germany Pavilion

### Biergarten Restaurant

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (16 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** German

German entertainment surrounds you as Biergarten brings Oktoberfest to life each and every day. "Beer and a buffet" await, with wurst, schnitzel, and sauerkraut breathing life into the festive menu.

### Sommerfest

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (8 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** German

Taking the best of German Oktoberfest and placing it in the quaint corner of the Germany pavilion, Sommerfest offers bratwurst and beer with an impossible-to-resist apple strudel for desert. It's a quiet and comfortable place to stop.

## World Showcase - Italy Pavilion

### Gelati

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (1 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** Ice cream and snacks

A cart offering gelato and other desserts, along with hot and cold drinks.

### Tutto Gusto



**User rating:** ★★★★★ (6 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** Italian

The Tutto Gusto wine bar is located in the Italy Pavilion at Epcot's World Showcase, in the former lobby area of the Tutto Italia Ristorante. The wine bar area features 96 seats, with vaulted ceilings and stone walls being used to create the appearance of a traditional Italian wine cellar.

In addition to more than 200 Italian wines, Tutto Gusto offers a small-plate menu, including six different types of dish. These are Affettati (cured, sliced meats), Formaggi (Italian cheeses), Panini (sandwiches), Piccoli Piatti (small plates), Cavatappi (pasta), and Dolci (sweets).

### **Tutto Italia Ristorante**

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (12 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** Italian

For a regal Italian experience, Tutto Italia is the place to be. With elite dishes covered with handmade mozzarella, regional specialties, and fresh breads and pastries, this restaurant is the most elaborate in terms of Italian cooking.

### **Via Napoli**

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (23 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** Italian

Wood-burning ovens heat the kitchens of this Italian eatery, where pastas, salads, gelato, and Neapolitan pizzas are available as the cheaper of Italy's offerings.

## **World Showcase - Japan Pavilion**

### **Kabuki Cafe**

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (3 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** Japanese Food

A walk up stand that serves shaved ice, sushi, Japanese beers and other cold beverages

### **Katsura Grill**

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (11 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** Japanese

Sushi lovers can get a little bit closer to the real thing at Katsura with relatively inexpensive roll combos. There's also teriyaki and udon noodles to round out the offerings.

### **Teppan Edo**

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (19 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** Japanese

Focusing on the tradition and power of Japanese cuisine, this restaurant foregoes the modern sleek atmosphere of Japan's Tokyo Dining restaurant in favor of hibachi style dining - food made right at your table by skilled chefs on a steaming hot grill.

### **Tokyo Dining**

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (10 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** Japanese

Set in a contemporary dining room, this restaurant features modern dishes like sushi, tempura, and grilled steaks and chicken. It's an upbeat and dramatic place to dine amid futuristic patterns and elegant seating.

## World Showcase - Mexico Pavilion

### La Cantina De San Angel

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (17 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** Mexican

Located along the waterfront of the World Showcase lagoon, you can find inexpensive Mexican snacks here from nachos and tacos to burritos and margaritas. For Mexico's cheapest eatery, it's not a bad way to try old favorites in a new location.

### La Cava del Tequila

**User rating:** ★★☆☆☆ (1 votes)

**Type:** Bar **Food type:** Tequila and margaritas

This dimly-lit "tequila cave" offers various varieties of the spirit, as well as margaritas.

### La Hacienda de San Angel

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (9 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** Mexican

This restaurant modeled after a Spanish plantation is perfect for new travelers who want the familiarity of their favorite Mexican food, but with an amped-up commitment to authenticity. Grilled red snapper, warm cheese over poblano peppers, and sweet tamales abound.

### San Angel Inn

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (27 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** Mexican

One of Epcot's more visually stunning eateries, the San Angel Inn places you in the courtyard before a looming temple at sunset. With jungle trees all around and a volcano in the distance, this romantic and yet busy atmosphere adds to the enjoyment of eating upscale Mexican fare.

## World Showcase - Morocco Pavilion

### Restaurant Marrakesh

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (11 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** Moroccan

Housed in a Sultan's palace, this unique eatery features shish kebab skewers, roast lamb, and Moroccan pastries while belly dancers entertain diners.

### Spice Road Table

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (7 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** Spice Road Table

Walt Disney World has revealed that a new dining outlet, dubbed Spice Road Table, will debut at Epcot's Morocco Pavilion later in 2013.

According to Disney, the restaurant will serve Mediterranean cuisine, in the form of small plates and refreshments. It will boast indoor and outdoor seating areas.

### Tangierine Café

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (9 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** North African

Lamb, couscous, salads, and burgers are part of the mixed North African and American cuisine at this quick snack location in Morocco. Other Mediterranean-inspired dishes round out the eclectic menu.

## World Showcase - Norway Pavilion

### Akershus Royal Banquet Hall

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (14 votes)

**Type:** Table service **Food type:** Norwegian

Located in the elegant cathedral setting of Norway's banquet hall, this restaurant features Epcot's princess dining experience. Delicious veggie-stuffed pasta, meatballs, and chicken breast round out a royal buffet that stands as one of Epcot's priciest options at all three mealtimes, but is a memorable experience.

### Kringla Bakeri Og Kafe

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (6 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** Norwegian

Pastries and smoked salmon with a tall glass of beer represent the Nordic dishes served at this cheap stand, perfect for sampling the tastes of the region.

## World Showcase - Showcase Plaza

### Promenade Refreshments

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (2 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** American

Walk up snack location that includes hot dogs, pretzels, soft-serve ice cream and beer.

### The Refreshment Port

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (6 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** American

If "fried" is your thing, the Refreshment Port is where to be. The menu consists of fried shrimp, fried chicken breast sandwiches, fried chicken poppers, and of course, fries. It's typical theme park fare, but in a park offering much more, we wouldn't recommend going the "safe route."

## World Showcase - UK Pavilion

### Rose & Crown Pub and Dining Room

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (15 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** British

Famously featured in ABC's "Roseanne" sitcom on the 1990's for its "yard" serving of British ale, this full-service pub offers all the amenities one would expect for a delicious British afternoon on the rocks.

### Yorkshire County Fish Shop

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (18 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** British

Providing Epcot visitors with the time-tested combination of fish and chips with a good British ale, this quick stop location is perfect for a light lunch while browsing the countries.

## World Showcase - USA Pavilion

## Block & Hans

**User rating:** ★★☆☆☆ (1 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** Pretzels

A cart near the American Adventure, serving pretzels, beer and soft drinks.

## Fife & Drum Tavern

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (3 votes)

**Type:** Counter service **Food type:** American

A walk-up stand that serves turkey legs, frozen beverages, beer and more.

## Funnel Cakes

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (1 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** Funnel cakes and ice creams

Funnel cakes and ice cream are on offer from this small outlet on the Japan side of the USA Pavilion.

## Liberty Inn

**User rating:** ★★★★★ (14 votes)

**Type:** Snack location **Food type:** American

Hot dogs, burgers, and salads round out the stereotypical "American" fare here with little attention paid to the historic atmosphere of the pavilion. Though American food feels safe in an American setting, we recommend trying something new.