

Spring is the Best Time to Enjoy Sunshine, Deals Special Events, New Attractions in Kissimmee, Fla.

KISSIMMEE, FL (Spring 2014) - Kick off those winter boots and break out your flip-flops, spring is here and it's time to shake off those winter blues. With new experiences blooming in Kissimmee, from special events and new thrills to beautiful spring sights and special offers on lodging and local attractions. Now is the perfect time for a trip to Florida – Kissimmee to be exact!

The spring months will see *new adventures* making their debut at Central Florida's world famous theme parks, as well as at local attractions. They include:

Orlando's theme parks are gearing up for an exciting time with new attractions opening this spring alongside longtime favorites. Catch a ride on the **Seven Dwarfs Mine Train** at **Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom**, scheduled to open this spring. The family-friendly roller coaster in The New Fantasyland will travel both indoors and outdoors, and new technology will simulate the swivel, sway and tipping of the mine carts, immersing guests even further into the classic Disney story

At **Aquatica**, SeaWorld Orlando's water park, visitors can test their daring on the 100-foot-tall water slide **Ihu's Breakaway Falls**, scheduled to open May 9. Imagine facing your fears and your friends as you brave the watery free-fall on the tallest, steepest and only multi-drop tower of its kind in Orlando.

North America's tallest freestanding drop tower, **Falcon's Fury** makes its debut May 1 at **Busch Gardens** in Tampa, FL. Passengers will lift above the 300-foot level, tilt their seats toward the ground and let gravity take over as they free-fall like a falcon hunting for its prey.

The very little ones will have a whole new land devoted to them when the **DUPLO Valley** at **LEGOLAND Florida** opens May 23, bringing the LEGO® DUPLO line of preschool building toys to life with new farm-themed attractions, an air-conditioned indoor play area and a water play area all geared to toddlers ages 2 to 5. At a park designed for kids, this land will thrill even the littlest guests.

Nature enthusiasts and animal lovers are sure to find exactly what they are looking for – and then some – at **Wild Florida Airboats and Wildlife Park**. Travel deep into the headwaters of the Everglades on the all-new **Dead River Kayak Tour**, a guided Kayak tour that takes guests deep into the swamps and marshes. On March 1, they opened the doors to a full service indoor restaurant, serving up classic barbeque dishes and a seating area accommodating 200 patrons.

Ordinarily spring doesn't evoke thoughts of frightening thrills but at the new **Legends: A Haunting at Old Town** attraction, scares are plenty all year-round. This spine-chilling attraction features live actors inside a detailed haunted house combining state of the art effects to immerse visitors in the "ultimate" scary, yet fun, experience. Also, the departed may be dead but their stories live on at **Legend's Ghosts of Old Town – Haunted History Tours** available only on Tuesday and Wednesday nights starting at 8 p.m.

-More-

Spring 2-2-2-2

After more than 20 years of entertaining guests of all ages, **Capone's Dinner & Show** is spicing things up in Mama Capone's kitchen by adding a new salad bar full of fresh seasonal ingredients, meat carving station, and meat smokers allowing three extra meat choices to be served on the buffet. Other new features include VIP tickets and the newly decorated Four Deuces Lounge, located upstairs in the dinner theatre.

In addition, the theme parks offer unique celebrations and *special events* in the springtime to welcome weather-weary guests to enjoy the Florida sunshine. They include:

Beauty and excitement are in full bloom at **Epcot's International Flower & Garden Festival**, available free with park admission from March 5 - May 18. This year's festivities will feature new Muppet-themed topiaries, outdoor kitchens and first-time acts in the Flower Power Concert Series. Be on the lookout for topiaries of Goofy, Donald Duck and Daisy Duck celebrating spring with a butterfly hunt at the park's main entrance, while Kermit and Miss Piggy will appear in World Showcase. Illuminated gardens also will set the park aglow each evening of the festival.

Universal Orlando comes alive this spring with its Mardi Gras 2014 celebration, featuring 20 nights of electrifying concerts from the biggest names in music, coupled with the essence of the legendary Bayou bash. On select nights Feb. 8 through May 31, guests will experience a New Orleans -inspired, family-friendly version of **Mardi Gras at Universal Studios Florida**. The celebration combines unmatched theme park entertainment with delectable Cajun cuisine, authentic New Orleans bands, an awe-inspiring parade and live concerts by some of today's hottest artists.

Join the fiesta at **SeaWorld Orlando** every Saturday during **Viva la Música** featuring live performances from award-winning Latin artists and a side stage showcasing local Latin bands from April 26 - May 17. Celebrate with food, fun, sights and sounds of Latin culture at this annual Hispanic festival suited for the entire family included in general admission.

At Kissimmee's Osceola Heritage Park, join Goodguys Rod & Custom Association as they start a BRAND NEW tradition this spring with the spectacular All American Nationals – Kissimmee/Orlando! Bring out the whole family for a full weekend of All American hot roddin' the weekend of April 25-27. In addition to an estimated 1,500 cars on display, there will be racing on the Goodguys AutoCross track, vendor exhibits, a model car show, a swap meet & car corral, live music and more family themed entertainment. General admission is \$15, parking \$6. For more information on this event, visit www.good-guys.com

Attractions and activities aren't the only place visitors will find something new in Kissimmee. Several favorite hotels and accommodations also have unveiled renovated sleeping rooms and new amenities to make a Kissimmee stay even more enjoyable. Among them are:

-More-



Spring 3-3-3-3

Located a half-mile from the Walt Disney Resort, the **Radisson Resort Orlando-Celebration** completed a \$10 million transformation, which included renovated lobby area and sleeping rooms. The property's new guestrooms feature a modern design with new bedding, furnishings with storage, new bathrooms, new carpeting, HDTV, a dining table, free high-speed Internet access, an in-room refrigerator, in-room safe and coffee maker. Visitors staying on property can also take advantage of the all-day shuttle transportation to the Epcot Transportation Center.

Park Inn by Radisson Resort & Convention Center, formerly known as Worldgate Resort and located minutes from Walt Disney World Resort, has renovated its 434 spacious sleeping rooms. Guests can choose from rooms and suites that overlook **Disney's Animal Kingdom** park and enjoy amenities like high-speed internet to stay connected while visiting Kissimmee.

Travelers can enjoy their stay in the comfort and privacy of their own fully furnished 3 or 4 bedroom townhome at **Regal Oaks Resorts**, located right behind the popular Old Town entertainment complex. With more than \$34 million invested to complete a contemporary makeover, including new furniture packages and a splendid two-tiered pool complex with a cascade waterfall, making it a perfect place to unwind and relax after a long day at the parks.

With a wide-variety of attractions and activities for the whole family to enjoy and a number of *special offers* on lodging and activities, Kissimmee is the perfect place to stay and play while on your central Florida vacation.

Two can take the plunge for the price of one on the world's tallest SkyCoaster at Fun Spot USA, sing and dance with the characters at Capone's Dinner & Show for half off, enjoy a full breakfast at Gaylord Palms with their special "stay for breakfast" offer, practice a golf swing at Harmony Golf Preserve while receiving \$10 off the best available rate or save \$50-\$75 on a Disney Area Vacation Home. For more special offers, visit www.experiencekissimmee.com/offers/.

Get the most out of your vacation this spring by staying and playing in Kissimmee. With more than 50,000 accommodations to suit any style and budget, and easy access to all of the great attractions, hidden treasures and unique experiences, Kissimmee is the perfect place to escape the cold weather and soak up some much needed sunshine. For information about places to stay, more discount offers and things to do in the Kissimmee area, visit www.experiencekissimmee.com/.

###

MEDIA CONTACT: Experience Kissimmee, Communications Department
407-742-8211, media@experiencekissimmee.com