

# Capturing Disney Parks presents **DISNEY ICON SPOTLIGHT**

## Episode 15 | Cate from [cateatdisney](#) | May 1, 2019

In this series of Q&A's, Capturing Disney Parks introduces you to some of the biggest and most iconic Disney Parks fans sharing the magic on their social media, video platform, blog, vlog, podcast, or website. Questions by Niels van Eijkelenburg.

### Q 01 | THE ICON

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**Please introduce yourself to our readers.**

Hello! My name is Cate and I live in Italy. I have been a big Disney fan all my life. Disney is a big part of my family and our values and traditions. That's why all my best family memories have been Disney centered. My favorite movie is "Beauty and the Beast" although I feel very identified with Ariel and Moana because the sea calls me and I'm always looking for adventure in somebody else's pond. I'm also a diehard-fan of "Star Wars" and Marvel, so I'm very happy they're part of the Disney family. I also love tsum tsums. I speak Spanish because I was born in Venezuela and English because my family lives in Baltimore. I love making Disney friends and having fun around the parks doing rides and I enjoy meeting characters and chatting with them. Disney bounding and ear making are a big part of my park experience because it's a way of feeling more immersed in the magic.



*Pictures provided by Cate*

### Q 02 | THE PARKS

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**Which Disney Parks have you experienced, and which one do you consider your 'home' Park?**

I have been to Walt Disney World many times, most recently this past summer, because it was my home park until I moved to Italy.

Ever since I went to Disneyland Paris for the first time, I fell madly in love with it and I consider it now my second home and the place where I can find my Disney family and friends. I went to Disneyland when I was little but I can't remember any of it so I guess it doesn't count and now I need to go back!

### Q 03 | THE PLATFORM(S)

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**Where can we find your Disney fan platforms?**

You can find me on Instagram [@cateatdisney](#) where I'm most active but I'm going to start giving Facebook and Twitter a go too!

### Q 04 | THE FORMAT

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**Tell us something about the format of your online platform(s), how it all started, which Disney Parks you cover, and why you love to put such a lot of effort in those activities.**

I decided to open an Instagram account because after my trip to Walt Disney World this past summer I decided to get an Annual Pass for Disneyland Paris. Since my trips were going to be mostly Han style (solo), I wanted to have a space where I could make new friends to share the magic with and to post pictures of all my memories. Little did I know that I would find such a warm and fantastic community. I post pictures about Walt Disney World and Disneyland Paris alternating between meets and details of the parks and try to always share my experience so people can enjoy them or share fun facts about the rides and characters to keep things interesting. Captions are big part of my posts and I spend a lot of time on them, so I always make the effort of reading and engaging with what my friends post.

### Q 05 | THE LOVE

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**How and when did your love for Disney Parks start?**

My love from Disney Parks came from my parents and older brother. My dad lived in L.A for some years, so he loved going to Disneyland with my mom and brother. Growing we would take a trip a year to Walt Disney World, sometimes for New Year's and sometimes in the summer. My family and I are big thrill lovers, so we love the adrenaline of the rides and the magic of the parks.

### Q 06 | THE TRIPS

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**How many times/days a year do you visit Disney Parks (estimate)? And how many days are most of your trips?**

I usually try to go at least 1 day per park, so when I visit Walt Disney World I go for 4 or 5 days, although I'd love to stay longer and always recommend friends to add an extra couple of days to be able to enjoy more. I try to go every 3 or 4 years. Before getting an AP for Disneyland Paris I visited for two days once a year dedicating a full day for each park, but now I go for 3-4 days and I park hop a lot. Since November, I've already been there 4 times and have 5 more trips planned, so I feel very lucky to be able to visit often.

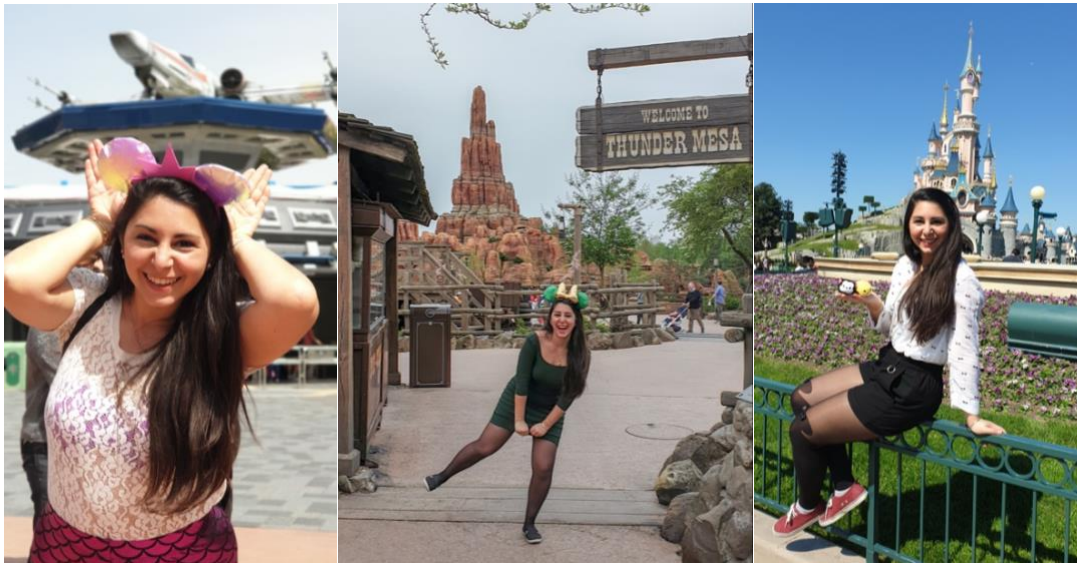


## Q 07 | THE FAVORITS

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Please name your favorite Disney attractions, parades, or shows.

My favorite rides at Disneyland Paris are “Hyperspace Mountain” and “Big Thunder Mountain” at Disneyland Park and “Tower of Terror” and “Rock ‘n’ Rollercoaster” at Walt Disney Studios Park. Those are pretty much my favorite rides over at Walt Disney World too but I absolutely loved “Flight of Passage” at Animal Kingdom and “Mission: SPACE” at Epcot. My favorite parade was the “Electrical Parade” because I have so many beautiful memories of watching it with my family at Christmas and my favorite shows are “Beauty and the Beast Live” at Hollywood Studios and “Mickey and the Magician” at Walt Disney Studios Park, although “Superheroes United” during the Marvel season at Disneyland Paris was absolutely amazing.



*Pictures provided by Cate*

## Q 08 | THE MEMORY

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What’s your most memorable Disney Parks moment? Tell us all about it please!

It’s very hard to choose just one so I’m going to share my top three.

The first was in 2000 when I went with my whole family to Walt Disney World. Back then the AT-AT at (what was then) MGM used to shoot water. I hadn’t noticed and my grandma had me stand in front of it for like 5 minutes for ‘a picture’ just so I would get wet. We did get an epic picture and memory in the end and I’ll treasure it forever.

My second best memory has to be meeting Aurora, Snow White and Cinderella AT THE SAME TIME while bounding as Leia on an unscheduled meet and greet at the Disneyland Hotel. We twirled together and had such an amazing chat and it was a dream come true.

My third and probably best memory of all is of the very first time I rode "Tower of Terror", it was during Walt Disney World's 25th anniversary and I was 5 years old. It was late at night and when we went in the lobby I got scared and told my dad I wanted to leave. He held me in his arms and told me that we needed to get on that elevator to leave the park and not to worry. Never mind the fact that I was tiny, and they had a lap-bar instead of seatbelts, but I was actually sitting on the 'Suicide Seat' in the middle of the back row! Joke was on my dad because what actually scared me wasn't the ride (which I loved) but the ghosts and I spent all 13 hours driving to Baltimore asking who those people were and why they were calling us!

## Q 09 | THE TIP

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**Do you have a tip or advise - about anything Disney Parks related - to share with our readers?**

When you visit Walt Disney World take advantage of the fact that you can book your Fast Passes in advance and don't waste them on smaller rides that don't need them. Also remember to check crowd calendars and plan your park days accordingly, I found that it was better to visit Animal Kingdom on Saturday and Epcot on Sunday during the summer and visiting Magic Kingdom and Hollywood Studios during the week.

When you visit Disneyland Paris make sure to stay around the Fantasyland area around noon because you never know who you might find! I also like to watch the parade from "It's a Small World" because you can get a good place not long before. Then you can go and enjoy some attractions right after while people are still watching it. If you're not into the parade then make sure you go to Walt Disney Studios Park from 5pm because people tend to leave the parks and the lines are shorter. For character meets make sure you talk to them even if it's just asking about their day because the interactions are amazing and you get better pictures than just the classic smiling posed one.

## Q 10 | THE CHOICES

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**Make your choice! You have to choose one...**

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|--|----|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mickey               | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Donald                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Characters                      | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attractions            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Star Wars            | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Marvel                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parades                         | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nighttime spectaculars |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-site hotel        | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Off-site hotel                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual Pass          | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Ticket                            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animation            | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-action                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pins                            | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TsumTsums              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Early morning visits | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening visits                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PhotoPass                       | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FastPass               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jack Sparrow         | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Captain Hook                      |

## Q 11 | THE QUESTION

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**Do you have a question for me?**

What would you like to see me share more of?

Niels: *I would love to see and read more about your Walt Disney World experiences too!*

## THE END

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I would like to thank Cate for participating in this Q&A series. Hope you've enjoyed this episode. Until next time and have a magical day!



**Niels van Eijkelenburg**  
owner of Capturing Disney Parks

**Instagram** <https://www.instagram.com/capturingdisneyparks>

**Twitter** <https://www.twitter.com/captdisneyparks>

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