

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

**Episode 18 | John Newton from thedisneyman | May 17, 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.**



*Picture provided by John*

Hello everyone! I'm John and I'm a Disney photographer! Not only do I take photos of Disney for fun but I actually am a photographer for Disney! I get to help bring the magic to everyone's vacation!

## **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 all four parks here in Florida, of course, but I've also been to Disneyland and Disney's California Adventure twice! I plan on visiting the international parks as soon as I can! My work home park is Magic Kingdom but my true home will always be Epcot.

## **Q 03 | THE PLATFORM(S)**

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

Currently, my platforms are [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#). I post mainly on Instagram and have a larger following there while I have a smaller audience on Facebook but it's slowly growing! Both can be found by searching @thedisneyman.

## 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 started posting Disney pictures about 5 years ago on a personal Instagram account. As I posted more and more, I thought that I might make an account just for Disney photos as I had so many of them! This was before I even lived in Orlando, so I had no idea what I was doing as far as social media. I posted as much as I could, but I always wanted to keep going back and take even more photos. I love being able to share my love of these parks in a way that some people don't get to see them. I try to post unique angles or techniques that can only be achieved through photos. I love taking photos and I love sharing them with everyone who follows along!

## Q 05 | THE LOVE

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

I have always loved the Disney films and I first experienced the parks when I was a child. There was a period of time when I didn't go to the parks at all, but I started going again when I got a bit older. Eventually I moved to Florida and visited much more often!

## 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 work at the Magic Kingdom 3-4 days per week and I try to visit the parks on my own time at least once a week. I probably visit hundreds of times per year!

## Q 07 | THE FAVORITS

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

There are so many favorites I'm afraid I'll leave some out! I love: The Country Bear Jamboree, Living with the Land, People Mover, Flight of Passage, Haunted Mansion, Pirates of the Caribbean. And I love nighttime spectacular Happily Ever After! The Halloween parade "Boo to You" and the Christmas parade are my favorite parades.

## Q 08 | THE MEMORY

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

It sounds cliché but every moment is memorable! As a Cast Member, it's even more special because you're helping create memorable moments for many families every day! I hope that I've been able to be a small part of people's lives and whether they remember me or not as a person, they'll remember that they had an amazing time at Disney.

## 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?**

The best advice I can give to people I'm not sure they'll take, but it's something I've learned over the years. You have to be patient at the parks. Time is valuable, but if you slow down just a little bit, you'll enjoy yourself so much more. Also, remember to try and be courteous to Cast Members. These people work very hard to make the magic happen. Sometimes things don't always go as planned, but we do everything possible to make sure you and your family have the best time you possibly can.

## Q 10 | THE CHOICES

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

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mickey                   | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donald                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Characters               | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attractions            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Star Wars                | or | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pins          | or | <input type="checkbox"/> TsumTsums                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early morning visits     | or | <input checked="" 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?**

When is the best time to visit Disneyland Paris?

Niels: *Well, that's not just one advice. It really depends on a lot of factors what the best time is to visit for you.*

*You can check the official Disneyland Paris website to get an idea of the seasons. They're very different and usually focus on one of the parks. Last couple of years we've had seasons like Pirates & Princesses, Marvel, Star Wars, Halloween and Christmas. Summer 2019 will be all about The Lion King & Jungle Festival, a new season.*

*Crowds wise I would skip Disneyland Paris in the extremely busy Halloween period (end of October), the week between Christmas and New Year, and in the runDisney weekend*



*(usually end of September). Other European public holidays like Eastern could be busy too, just like the French national holiday on July 14. Summers (July/August) are usually busy but still doable as crowds spread over this longer period of time.*

*From a weather perspective I would suggest visiting April – September. It could always rain in Paris, but temperatures are much nicer in those months.*

## THE END

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



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