

Capturing Disney Parks presents **DISNEY ICON SPOTLIGHT**

Episode 57 | Jessy from @mykindofdisney | December 09, 2020

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

Please introduce yourself to our readers.

My name is Jessy and I am 26 years old. I live in Berlin (Germany). My first Disney trip was 2017. I was visiting Walt Disney World (Orlando) – Magic Kingdom and Animal Kingdom. Since I was a child it was always my dream to go to Disney, so I decided to visit WDW when I was in the US to do a road trip. Back in Germany I had to finish my studies so there was no time to go to Disney again. At the end of 2018 I decided to create a Disney Account on Instagram: @mykindofdisney to spread the magic and joy I feel while talking about Disney. It was the best decision ever and I met so many wonderful people online. Talking about Disney with people you don't know, but who have the same passion as you do mean a lot to me and still is my favorite part of Instagram.

In 2019 I finished my Bachelor thesis and I wanted to gift myself with another Disney Trip. I decided to buy the Disneyland Paris annual pass, before I have ever been there and planned an 8-day trip in April to celebrate my birthday over there. After this trip the magic began, and I wanted to visit Disneyland Paris more often. Meanwhile Disneyland Paris became my second home, and it is always a lot of fun to be back with all my friends from around the world.

Hopefully I will have the chance to visit all Disney Parks all over the world. It is my biggest wish to visit every park. Maybe it is possible to plan these trips after Corona.



Pictures provided by Jessy

Q 02 | THE PARKS

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

I have been to WDW (Magic Kingdom and Animal Kingdom) and Disneyland Paris. Because of all the beautiful moments, Disneyland Paris is my home park. It is the closest park to my home and all my friends are coming over to visit this park as well. Without my friends it wouldn't be the same. Every Disney trip is special because of them and the fun we have.

Q 03 | THE PLATFORM(S)

Where can we find your Disney fan platforms?

My favorite platform to talk about Disney is Instagram. You can find me on this account: @mykindofdisney (<https://instagram.com/mykindofdisney>). I also have a small Disney blog: <https://ohmykindofmagic.wordpress.com>. Next to Instagram I created a Facebook account: ohmykindofmagic: <https://www.facebook.com/mykindofdisney>. I also have an account on Pinterest: @mykindofdisney (<https://www.pinterest.com/mykindofdisney>).

Q 04 | THE FORMAT

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.

At the end of 2018 I decided to create a Disney Instagram Account. I wanted to share my passion with people who also love Disney and who wanted to follow me along on my magic journey. Before I had a 'normal' account where nearly 4.000 people followed me along, but I didn't feel the magic over there. I couldn't be the Disney-girl I wanted to be, and I was missing the Disney magic. At the moment I only can visit Disneyland Paris, so there are a lot of pictures from this park, but there are also a lot of other things I want to share with the Disney community. I want to talk about my 'normal' life as well and I am happy that my followers also love that. So, sometimes I am talking about my beauty routines or I am sharing recipes. When it is possible again, I want to share some pictures from WDW again, because Animal Kingdom is my favorite Disney Park so far and I can't wait to go back again.

Disney always helps me to see the positive side of life and it makes life so much easier – this is why I love what I do, and I am very happy that there are so many people out there who are interested in all that kind of magic. Talking about the same interests makes it so perfect to me.

Q 05 | THE LOVE

How and when did your love for Disney Parks start?

When I was a child, my grandmother always bought Disney glasses or Disney merch. The first movie I watched was a Disney movie and after school I always watched the Ariel series and "101 Dalmatians" on TV. It was a daily routine for me and my grandmother to watch these series together. When I was older, I was informed that there is a Disneyland Park and I wanted to go there so badly. But my parents thought I was interested in any kind of theme park, so we just visited the German ones. After the "Lion King" musical in Hamburg, I couldn't help myself anymore and saved money for my first Disney trip. I waited until I was old enough and decided to book my trip.

When I was walking across the Main Street at Magic Kingdom for the first time (2017), I couldn't breathe. It was all so magic – it was on Halloween, so the feeling was so intense in America. All the people over there were so happy and had a lot of fun. The cast members had been super friendly and gave me some free Fast Passes – it was amazing. I had a very good time over there. Back in Germany I wanted to go back so badly. But studying was very hard at this time and I had to wait for 2 more years. In 2019 I visited Disneyland Paris and then it became clear: I needed to go there more often. I fell in love with the park and all the kind Disney friends I made over there.

Q 06 | THE TRIPS

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

Normally I visit Disneyland Paris once or twice a month. Due to Corona it is not possible at this moment, so my last trip has been in August (2020). I hope to be back very soon, because I really miss the magic and I miss my friends as well. It is hard to stay at home for a long time and to see Disneyland Paris closing their doors again. Hopefully the magic will be back soon, and we can enjoy our trips to Disneyland Paris again.

Q 07 | THE FAVORITS

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

It is very hard to make a decision. My favorite attraction at Disneyland Paris is "Big Thunder Mountain" and in the Studios I prefer the "Tower of Terror". In Animal Kingdom it definitely is "Flight of Passage" (Pandora). I love that ride so much.

To choose a favorite parade is also very tricky. I love the Halloween Parade, but I also love the Christmas one. Maybe it is possible to say: During Halloween I love the Halloween Parade and during the Christmas season it is the Christmas Parade.

My favorite show... Hmm... Also hard to choose. But I think it is the "Jungle Jive" and in the Studios it is "Mickey and the Magician".

Q 08 | THE MEMORY

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

There are many memorable Disney Park moments. But for me it is always memorable to see my German, French and Belgium friends again. Sometimes we can't see each other for a few months, so this is always the best thing about my trips to Disney. To feel the joy together. And I think to enter the Disneyland Hotel is also very magical to me.

Q 09 | THE TIP

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

If you aren't an annual pass holder: Take your time. Inform yourself about the possibilities at the Disneyland Park and decide which things you want to see with priority. Think about the characters you really want to meet and the attractions you want to ride. Sometimes the queues are very long and you have to wait a lot – so take your time and don't go to Disney without a plan.

You can use the app to get an overview of the attractions and other locations over there – this makes your trip very easy. And if you have questions during your trip, just ask the cast members. They always know what is best to do next and when the next shows are on.

Q 10 | THE CHOICES

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

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|--|----|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mickey | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donald |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Characters | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Attractions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Star Wars | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marvel |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parades | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Nighttime spectaculars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> On-site hotel | or | <input checked="" 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 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

Do you have a question for me?

Thank you very much for this chance to answer your questions. I really enjoyed talking about my passion and when it all started. Hopefully I can meet you in person soon. My questions for you:

What is your favorite part while visiting Disneyland Paris?

Why is Disney a huge part of your life and who is your favorite Disney character?

When and why did you decided to create your own Disney blog?

Niels: That's quite some questions Jessy! 😊 So, here we go!

My favorite part of visiting Disneyland Paris is that feeling of coming home to a wonderful place when entering Main Street USA. I also love looking for seasonal snacks or just strolling around and see the park's beautiful details.

Disney is such an important part of my life as I love their stories and films, that take me out of daily life for a moment, experiencing different worlds. The Disney Parks make me feel like entering those different worlds in real life. Making it story living, an even more magical and intense experience. The amount of detail in Disney Parks is so incredible that it made me an even bigger Disney fan. Oh, and my favorite character... I'm not sure, but I love the Duck family, Jasmine, Baymax, Olaf, and of course, the master himself, Mickey.

I decided to start an Instagram (in 2016) to share my Disney Parks enthusiasm and discoveries. I had so many pictures... I just needed to do something with them and share

them with the world. Later I've added Twitter for news and started a website to have place for these Disney Icon Spotlights (which connect me with wonderful people and give the Disney community a face). In the Spotlight with Eric from Air Magique I got invited to talk on his Disneyland Paris podcast. That resulted in a new hobby and now I've become the co-host of the podcast, besides a monthly segment in the American Diz Hiz podcast that is more focused on WDW.

THE END

I would like to thank Jessy 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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