

Capturing Disney Parks presents **DISNEY ICON SPOTLIGHT**

Episode 68 | Q from @qs_trips | November 19, 2021

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.

Hi there! My name is Q from Qs_Trips, which is an account that features... my trips. (I really should come up with a more interesting origin.) I grew up in Southern California in the United States, going to Disneyland. In fact, one of my earliest memories is watching the Main Street Electrical Parade. That love remained throughout my life. My wife, Jennifer and I, have a joint love of the parks, as some of our best memories were made there. We have two girls, the Twintanillas, and enjoy sharing our adventures with the rest of IG. In addition, I have a strong passion for supporting others in the Disney IG community and regularly share and feature others' work. There are so many creative people in our community, and it is an honor to showcase them all!



Pictures provided by Q

Q 02 | THE PARKS

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

I have only been to the US Parks. As I mentioned before, Disneyland is my home park and where I grew up. Disney California Adventure, its sister park, is one I have a fondness for, as I felt like I have watched it come into its own over the years. I finally had the opportunity to visit WALT DISNEY WORLD in 2016 and have been back several times since! My goal is to eventually visit all the Disney Parks and am planning on making Tokyo Disneyland the international park in 2023!

Q 03 | THE PLATFORM(S)

Where can we find your Disney fan platforms?

I am basically Instagram-exclusive (@qs_trips, https://www.instagram.com/qs_trips). However, I also have a website, www.disneyfantography.com, where I have written in-depth features on multiple Disney creatives. From photographers to family bloggers to creatives, the site features their work and other accounts they would recommend.

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.

In my prior life, I used to be a freelance video editor and I missed having a creative outlet, so in 2019 I started my account to dabble in photography. As time went on, I added more and more to what I shared. My Instagram feed now is a collection of my favorite photos in the park, tips and interesting facts I have acquired during my years of visiting, and silly videos that mainly exist to make me laugh. In my stories, most days I'll share a collection of my favorite photos and Reels of the day. On the days I am in the Disney Parks, I like to take people along and share updates, Disney zen moments and fun trivia. My primary beat is Disneyland but I do go to WALT DISNEY WORLD occasionally! As I mentioned before, I enjoy having a space to be creative and thus, everything I share is what I am interested in. So if you're curious about what I like, just follow along.

Q 05 | THE LOVE

How and when did your love for Disney Parks start?

It began from my childhood. I spent quite a bit of my childhood there and thus, every time I think of Disneyland, it's home. As I grew up and moved to Northern California, Disneyland became an escape for me. Now that I have a family, it takes on even more significance. While I acknowledge that the parks have their flaws, I choose to focus on the parts that I love.

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?

We currently live about 7 hours away so unfortunately, we are only able to go to Disneyland once a month for a couple of days at a time. However, we do bring our daughters for a week at a time once a year, which is nice since we don't have to cram everything in. We also visit Walt Disney World once every couple of years, which allows us to see things from the other coast.

Q 07 | THE FAVORITS

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

My ultimate favorite attraction is "Rise of the Resistance". However, that feels like a cheat since it is the most advanced and complex ride in the US parks. So, excluding that attraction, my favorite Disneyland attraction is "Splash Mountain" and my favorite Disney California Adventure attraction is "Radiator Springs Racers". Both rides are an amazing combination of dark ride and thrill ride. My favorite parade is "Paint the Night". It is the next evolution of the "Main Street Electrical Parade" and its song hits me in the feels every time.

Q 08 | THE MEMORY

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

This is a tough one to choose since there are so many. However, one that was unique occurred a few years ago. We were visiting Disneyland and they had a meet and greet with Darth Vader. During the meet and greet, Vader singled out one member of our party and kept pressuring her about being a spy. Immediately afterward, we went to ride Star Tours and the opening sequence was Darth Vader. When he asked for the Rebel Spy, our party member was the person selected! It was a cool piece of synergy for that trip.

Q 09 | THE TIP

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

My biggest piece of advice is to prioritize. If you try to do it all, you'll end up missing out on the little touches the Disney parks have to offer. Take time to enjoy the parks. However, if you're looking for tips and tricks, I have a few Instagram accounts to suggest you follow:

1. @disneyfornia (<https://www.instagram.com/disneyfornia>)
2. @disneyland_ish (https://www.instagram.com/disneyland_ish)
3. @stormtrooping_padawans (https://www.instagram.com/stormtrooping_padawans)
4. @parkhoppingduo (<https://www.instagram.com/parkhoppingduo>)
5. @ourmagicalreality (<https://www.instagram.com/ourmagicalreality>)
6. @disneyparkduo (<https://www.instagram.com/disneyparkduo>)

Each one of these accounts are amazing and are great resources to help you maximize your Disney day!

Q 10 | THE CHOICES

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

- | | | |
|---|----|--|
| <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 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 type="checkbox"/> Jack Sparrow | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Captain Hook |

Q 11 | THE QUESTION

Do you have a question for me?

What is a must-do when visiting Disneyland Paris, that we don't have in the US parks?

Niels: *Thanks for that question, Q! I'm not into roller coasters with big drops or inversions myself. But if you are into that, be sure to check-out "Crush's Coaster". I've heard a lot of happy reactions from foreign guests. Halfpipe ride "RC Racer" might be interesting too. Both - unfortunately - have low capacity and are popular. So, expect some wait time. And although you have "Big Thunder Mountain" versions in both US parks, be sure to ride the Paris version. The Paris version is situated on the island in the middle of the river, like where "Tom Sawyer Island" is in Walt Disney World. It's amazing! The tunnels to and from the island add some extra thrills too. Be sure to check-out some shows when they're back (COVID-19 cancelled a lot of entertainment) as there's high quality entertainment (for instance "Mickey and the Magician").*

THE END

I would like to thank Q 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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