

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

**Episode 62 | Ernie Carr from @erniewcarr | May 23, 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**

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**Please introduce yourself to our readers.**

Hi there! My name is Ernie Carr and I am a Walt Disney World (WDW) local. I am a full time Integration & Test Engineer at Lockheed Martin and in my spare time, I like to visit the Disney Parks a few times a month with my camera to capture some crispy new content.



*Pictures provided by Ernie*

## **Q 02 | THE PARKS**

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

So far, I have visited all the theme parks at Walt Disney World Resort in Florida and I have also visited both Disneyland Resort parks in California. My home resort is obviously Walt Disney World and my favorite park here would have to be Animal Kingdom because of the diverse and unique experiences you can find there.

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

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

My platform where I love sharing my content is on Instagram @erniewcarr (<https://www.instagram.com/erniewcarr>).

## 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 really like posting on Instagram because I like to focus mainly on pictures. I bought my first digital camera when I graduated college and started taking it with me on a few family vacations. From there, I was starting to get the shutterbug and I really wanted to get better at photography, so naturally I searched my backyard and figured exploring the parks with a camera would be a great creative opportunity. I think there are so many unique ways to experience the parks and you can always find something new, so that really drives me to go back and see what I can find.

## Q 05 | THE LOVE

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

I visited Walt Disney World several times as a kid growing up in New Jersey, but it wasn't until my now wife, Paige, introduced me to the parks again when we were dating in college. After graduation and moving to Orlando, being a WDW local really amplified my desire to visit and experience the parks from a new perspective.

## 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?**

That's a very tough question!! My best guess is 57 times in 2019, 32 times in 2020, and 9 times in 2021 with a camera. My trips are typically just a few hours where my intent is to capture some shots of a specific event like park opening, a parade, sunset, fireworks, or closing.

## Q 07 | THE FAVORITS

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

I would say my favorite attraction would be "Radiator Springs Racers". I almost picked "Rise of the Resistance", but something about the nostalgia and Americana of the Radiator Springs land and beautifully designed the ride is creates such a cool experience. Because of this movie and land, I made a point to visit the real Route 66 when I traveled to Arizona just because I wanted to get an experience like that for myself!

## Q 08 | THE MEMORY

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

I would have to say getting engaged to my now wife, Paige when we visited California Adventure. It was the first day of our trip out to Disneyland Resort and I had a surprise of her. I joked many times with her that I would never propose at Walt Disney World because it would be cliché for us, so joke was on her when I did it out there and she wasn't expecting it. That was the start of one of our favorite vacations together!

## 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?**

Make the trip memorable and make sure to experience the things that interest you. When I went on my first Disneyland trip, I wanted to experience all the things that made the park special like riding the train and the monorail and riding all the classic rides. While that may not seem super exciting, I wanted to experience them because it is what makes those parks special for me.

## Q 10 | THE CHOICES

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**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 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 do you find special about the Disney Parks and what is something that is a “must do” when you visit?

Niels: *I think it's the total package of great rides, parades, character meets, shows, fireworks, food, cast member magic, shopping, storytelling and overall theming & landscaping that make Disney Parks special to me. The amount of detail and 'nothing being there without a reason' is typically Walt Disney Imagineering and something that I adore too. A must do? A visit to Thunder Mesa (Frontierland) in Disneyland Paris. It has the best backstory of any themed land and it houses my Disneyland Paris favorites; Big Thunder Mountain (on an island where you get to via dark tunnels at high speed!) and Phantom manor (the Paris version of the Haunted Mansion). Be sure to do some online research about Thunder Mesa to discover how everything connects in Thunder Mesa.*

## THE END

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I would like to thank Ernie 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

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