

20th Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival March 6-May 19 Debuts Illuminated Blooms and 'Garden Marketplace' Dining

'The Land of Oz' Garden and Playground Filled with Movie-Themed Fun for All



LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. – Disney festival planners will boost floral fun and plant power to a whole new level during the 20th Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival presented by HGTV March 6-May 19, 2013 at Walt Disney World Resort.

Whimsical Disney topiary spectacles and sweeping garden landscapes set the colorful scene this year for new festival additions that include food-and-beverage Garden Marketplaces, a circus-like “Land of Oz” play area and nighttime illuminated gardens.

Debuting this year:

- **Garden Marketplace culinary creations** ranging from smokehouse barbecue and shrimp with grits and Zellwood corn to sweet “frushi” made with fresh fruits and coconut rice. Chefs are perfecting menus for marketplaces that will include *Florida Fresh* at World Showcase Promenade, *Smokehouse Barbecue and Brew* at American Adventure courtyard, *Primavera Kitchen* at Italy showcase, *Hanami* at Japan showcase and eight others. *Around the World Showcase promenade*
- **Garden Marketplace refreshing libations** with a kick like Hot Sun Tomato Wine from Florida Orange Groves Winery and Dole Whip with Spiced Rum, as well as non-alcoholic drinks like Frozen Desert Violet Lemonade

and Wild Berry Slush. Beverage specialists will feature brews and beverages at food marketplaces and at *Fruits by the Glass* and *Pineapple Promenade*. *Around the World Showcase promenade*

- **The Land of Oz Garden** circus-like play area, based on the Disney fantastical film adventure “Oz The Great and Powerful” to be released March 8, 2013. The interactive children’s play zone will feature play systems adorned with giant flowers and designed to stretch kids’ imaginations and muscles. Midway-style games, circus-themed game tents and the “Oz Movie Garden” of intriguing plants will capture the spirit of the upcoming film. Also on tap: photo opportunities and the “great and powerful Oz’s” crashed hot-air balloon. *Imagination Walkway*
- Larger-than-life **Fab Five Disney character topiary**. Floral versions of Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Goofy, Pluto and Donald Duck (with Daisy Duck in a cameo) star in a celebratory cookout scene in living topiary color. The 14-foot-tall Goofy topiary will bobble an anniversary cake while Donald and Daisy play badminton, Mickey fires up the grill, Pluto swipes a link of hot dogs and Minnie chills out on a colorful blanket of blossoms. *Epcot Front Entrance*
- **Illuminated Gardens** in the park’s Future World and World Showcase will twinkle and glow over the festival’s world-famous Disney gardens and topiaries each festival evening. *Epcot Future World and World Showcase*

Throughout the 75-day garden party, guests will discover festival surprises around every corner including new topiary triumphs, a butterfly bounty, whimsical children’s play areas, HGTV celebrity designers, daily hands-on gardening seminars and a Festival Center packed with events that offer innovative ideas, gardening know-how and design tips. Weekends, top Flower Power rockers of the 1960s and ’70s will perform.

Every Friday through Sunday, HGTV design celebrities will host Festival Center seminars. During opening weekend, March 8-10, Chris Lambton of “Going Yard” will appear; other designers scheduled to take the stage include David Bromstad of “Color Splash” and Meg Caswell of “Meg’s Great Rooms.”

More festival highlights include:

- **“Monsters University” topiary**: Floral representations of Mike and Sulley from the hit Disney-Pixar film “Monsters, Inc.” and stars of Disney-Pixar’s June 2013 release, “Monsters University,” will join the festivities as new topiary family members. *On the Future World Walkway*
- **Phineas and Ferb topiary**: The popular Disney Channel animated celebs limit their shenanigans to go green for a family photo-op. *Behind Spaceship Earth*
- **“Radiator Springs” interactive play zone**: Race car Lightning McQueen and tow truck “Mater” of the Disney-Pixar film “Cars 2” will be the well-maintained topiary stars of this play area. *On the Test Track Walkway*
- **Flower Power Firsts**: 1970s top disco band the Village People (April 19-21) and 1960s singer-songwriter Tommy Roe (May 3-5) bring on the Flower Power beat when they take the concert stage. *At America Gardens Theatre*
- **Tinker Bell’s Butterfly House**: Eight fanciful fairy topiaries of Pixie Hollow, including Tinker Bell, Fawn, Vidia and Terrence, take over the Butterfly House this year where hundreds of colorful winged beauties flit to life. *On the Imagination Walkway*

In all, more than 100 topiaries, 225 floating mini-gardens, dozens of flower towers and sweeping beds of multi-colored blooms will add floral splendor to the park landscape. Speaking of “flower power,” the Flower Power concert series kicks off March 8-10 with Micky Dolenz (“I’m a Believer”) and continues each weekend with pop favorites including:

March 15-17:	Chubby Checker & The Wildcats
March 22-24:	The Guess Who
March 29-31:	Nelson
April 5-7:	The Turtles featuring Flo & Eddie
April 12-14:	Paul Revere & the Raiders
April 19-21:	Village People (new!)
April 26-28:	The Orchestra, Featuring Former Members of ELO and ELO II

May 3-5: Tommy Roe (new!)
May 10-12: Herman's Hermits starring Peter Noone
May 17-19: Starship starring Mickey Thomas.

While Disney guests celebrate spring during their festival visit, they also can explore the reimagined, design-centric Test Track Presented by Chevrolet, the hang-gliding sensation of Soarin' and other high-tech Future World marvels. In World Showcase, where the spotlight will shine on topiaries of Disney princesses, storybook characters and even pandas and trolls, guests will discover the attractions, shops and restaurants that represent cultures and cuisine of 11 countries.

For more information about the 20th Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival, call 407/W-DISNEY (934-7639) or visit www.EpcotInSpring.com. The festival, including all gardening programs and exhibits, is included in regular Epcot admission.

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