

Meet Disney Characters ‘In the Wild’ at Camp Minnie-Mickey

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Mickey Mouse and his good friend, Minnie, have just settled in for a welcome respite and a cold lemonade. And Donald Duck and Goofy have arrived to enjoy their favorite vacation escape, the Adirondack-style Camp Minnie-Mickey at Disney’s Animal Kingdom.

The "land" where Disney guests can meet their favorite characters, Camp Minnie-Mickey, is a child’s paradise of woodland trails and "meet-and-greet" pavilions nestled in a Northeastern forest of cedar and birch trees. It also is home to a popular theater show worth taking a vacation to see: "Festival of the Lion King" based on the classic Disney film.

Disney guests who venture to Camp Minnie-Mickey will discover authentic touches throughout. Benches and other furniture were handcrafted by artisans from the Adirondacks. Each trail that leads to a character meeting spot is themed to set the scene for an exciting character encounter.

As guests cross a wood-hewn bridge from Discovery Island to Camp Minnie-Mickey, they stroll alongside a babbling brook to find life-like images of Mickey, Goofy and Donald Duck at their favorite fishing hole.

From there, they can choose a trail that leads to their favorite characters. Next, it’s showtime.

Broadway-style pageantry, stunning performances and spectacular floats and sets bring "Festival of the Lion King" to life at Lion King Theater, a hexagonal timber structure with the atmosphere of an Adirondack summer theater. Simba and other animal heroes of "The Lion King" star with remarkable singers, dancers and acrobatic performers costumed in African tribal garb or dressed to depict exotic animals from Africa.

Popular songs performed from the film include "The Circle of Life," "Can You Feel the Love Tonight?" and "I Just Can’t Wait to be King." The 28-minute performance is staged several times daily.