

Epcot World Showcase Presents Sweeping Spectacle of Nations

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Eleven countries and four continents in one vacation? A trip around the world is a daily experience for guests visiting World Showcase at Epcot. Awaiting guests is exotic cuisine, entertainment, artisans, cultural ambassadors and scenic wonders of Canada, the United Kingdom, France, Morocco, Japan, Italy, Germany, China, Norway, Mexico and The American Adventure.

Adding to the magic is the fireworks spectacular "IllumiNations: Reflections of Earth."

The journey begins around a 40-acre lagoon beyond Future World. World Showcase nations, in all of their majesty, dot the shores of the lagoon as recreations of landmark architectures and historic scenes familiar to world travelers. Built with finite attention to detail, the villages have buildings, streets, gardens and monuments designed to give Epcot guests an authentic visual experience of each land.

A must is The American Adventure, a 108,000-square-foot Georgian-styled structure featuring perhaps the most impressive Epcot theatrical performance, a 29-minute drama of 350 years of our nation's history, utilizing elaborate three-dimensional settings and a new generation of Disney Audio-Animatronics characters. Host figures Mark Twain, who carries a smoking cigar, and Benjamin Franklin, the first Audio-Animatronics character to walk, narrate the progress of America from the era of the Pilgrims to the present.

Cuisine? Chefs de France offers a world-famous dining experience, and there's also a version of the San Angel Inn of Mexico City and the Mitsukoshi Restaurant of Tokyo. Authentic dining and cooking styles of Germany, the United Kingdom, Morocco, China, Italy and Norway are featured at the World Showcase pavilions.

Motion pictures? Both Canada and China present spectacular versions of Circle-Vision 360 films. Disney and Chinese filmmakers worked together to capture footage from seven cities around the country, showcasing China