

Cinderella Castle at Walt Disney World Resort Fact Sheet

Description: Cinderella Castle pays homage to the beloved story and characters from Disney's 12th full-length animated feature film, "Cinderella," which was released in theaters in 1950. Painted in traditional colors of grey, blue, and gold, the castle represents a romantic conception of a French palace-fortress. While the base of the castle resembles a medieval fortress typifying the Romanesque architecture and castles of the 11th through 13th centuries, the upper portion of the castle reflects the stately Gothic forms that were prominent in later centuries.

Opening Date: October 1, 1971

Castle Height: 189 feet (tallest structure in Magic Kingdom Park)

Construction: Cinderella Castle took approximately 18 months to build and was completed in July, 1971.

- The castle is made of concrete, steel, cement, plaster, and fiberglass. No bricks were used in the construction.
- The inner castle is structural steel covered with fiberglass.
- The foundation is concrete filled with foam for weight conservation

Cinderella's Royal Table: A circular stairwell or a themed elevator transports guests to Cinderella's Royal Table, the elegant restaurant located on the second level of the castle where guests can meet Cinderella and some of her princess friends. Hosts and Hostesses address younger guests as "princes" or "princesses," while adult guests are addressed as "lords" or "ladies."

Fun facts:

- For inspiration, Walt Disney Imagineering researchers turned to the famous palaces of Charles Perrault's France, still showplaces of Europe. Their design took the form of a romanticized composite of such courts as Fontainebleau, Versailles, and a dozen famed chateaux of the Loire Valley.
- Charles Perrault was the French writer who is best known for his book of fairy tales collected more than 300 years ago, including the original story of "Cinderella" ("The Glass Slipper").
- There are more than 40 coats of arms on display inside Cinderella's Royal Table, located on the second level of the castle. Each coat of arms refers to someone who has played a significant role in the heritage and history of the Walt Disney Company. A short list of noteworthy people whose family names are represented include: Roy Disney, Sr., Diane Disney Miller, John Hench, Dick Nunis, Marty Sklar and Card Walker.
- The columns situated in the walkways that curve around either side of the forecourt to Cinderella Castle are decorated with mice and birds from the Disney animated feature film "Cinderella." These characters were sculpted by Blaine Gibson, who also sculpted the "Partners" Statue on Main Street, U.S.A. and the Cinderella Wishing Well Statue located on the walkway between Fantasyland and Tomorrowland.
- 13 Gargoyles appear on the outside of Cinderella Castle and there are 18 towers with their corresponding spires on the castle.

- Inside the main hall, the tale of “Cinderella” is displayed on five glittering mosaic murals, with each ornate panel in the shape of a Gothic arch 15 feet high and 10 feet wide. It took a team of six people more than two years to complete the murals.
- After careful observation, guests can see that each of Cinderella’s stepsisters appears with her own special facial tint. One sister displays a red tint to show that she is “red with rage,” while the other sister displays a green tint to show that she is “green with envy,” as they both watch Cinderella try on the glass slipper to reveal a perfect fit.
- Tinker Bell embarked upon her first flight from Cinderella Castle on July 4, 1985. Tinker Bell “flies” 750 feet, averaging 15 miles per hour and taking approximately 34 seconds for the trip.

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