

# ORLANDO

## WHAT'S NEW IN 2024 AND BEYOND



TIANA'S BAYOU ADVENTURE AT MAGIC KINGDOM PARK



PENGUIN TREK AT SEAWORLD ORLANDO



LEGO FERRARI BUILD & RACE, LEGOLAND FLORIDA RESORT



DREAMWORKS LAND  
UNIVERSAL ORLANDO RESORT

### THEME PARK THRILLS

#### ALL-NEW LAND COMING TO UNIVERSAL

**Universal Orlando Resort's** new **DreamWorks Land** will open this summer at **Universal Studios Florida**. The new area inspired by DreamWorks Animations' characters including *Shrek*, *Kung Fu Panda* and *Trolls*, will feature family-friendly roller coaster, Trolls Trollercoaster; multiple interactive play areas, including Shrek's Swamp for Little Ogres, Poppy's Playground and Po's Kung Fu Training Camp; character meet and greet zones; and live entertainment.

#### WALT DISNEY WORLD'S REIMAGINED ATTRACTION

**Tiana's Bayou Adventure** will replace Splash Mountain at **Magic Kingdom Park** in summer 2024. Guests can explore a musical adventure inspired by the fan-favorite film showcasing the beloved characters as they are brought into the next chapter of Tiana's story.

#### NEW FAMILY COASTER COMING TO SEAWORLD

**SeaWorld Orlando** will debut an all-new immersive family coaster, "**Penguin Trek**," in spring 2024. The unique attraction will be the park's eighth roller coaster, featuring snowmobile-style cars transporting riders on an expedition through the Antarctic wilderness. The ride includes two exhilarating launches; a maze of twists and turns; and a grand finale arrival at the park's penguin habitat.

#### MAKE A SPLASH AT AQUATICA ORLANDO

**Aquatica Orlando's Tassie's Underwater Twist**, the world's most digitally immersive waterslide experience, opened March 15. Guests glide through a vibrant digital underwater world full of seagrass meadows and the marine life of Australia's Shark Bay, all while twisting, turning and swirling through the 129-foot-long attraction.

#### READY, SET, BUILD AT LEGOLAND

**LEGOLAND Florida Resort** debuted **LEGO Ferrari Build & Race** on March 8, offering guests the experience of viewing (and sitting inside) a life-sized LEGO Ferrari car, and building and testing a smaller model in one of three obstacle-laden test tracks. Younger drivers can enjoy the LEGO DUPLO Build Zone to design their own custom creations with larger bricks.

### BRAND NEW UNIVERSAL THEME PARK COMING IN 2025

**Universal Orlando Resort's** fourth theme park, **Universal Epic Universe**, will debut in 2025, transporting guests to expansive worlds featuring more than 50 attractions, entertainment, dining and shopping experiences. **Celestial Park**, inspired by astronomical and mythological elements, will be the first world guests encounter and the gateway to explore four additional worlds:

- **The Wizarding World of Harry Potter – Ministry of Magic**, an all-new land that blends 1920s wizarding Paris from Warner Bros. Pictures' *Fantastic Beasts* films with the iconic British Ministry of Magic from the *Harry Potter* series
- **SUPER NINTENDO WORLD**, where guests will enter the iconic green pipe and discover a new way to play as they step into the worlds of beloved characters like Mario, Luigi, Princess Peach and Donkey Kong
- **How to Train Your Dragon – Isle of Berk**, where guests can soar with dragons in a colorful world filled with Viking adventures based on the wildly popular *How to Train Your Dragon* film franchise
- **Dark Universe**, where guests encounter everything from the experiments of Dr. Victoria Frankenstein to the shadowy landscape where monsters roam in a world of myth and mystery.

### NIGHTLIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

#### CABARET-STYLE MUSIC SPACE

**The Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts** opened its fifth venue in February. **Judson's Live** offers an intimate music space that brings international, national and regional artists for audiences up to 150. Patrons can discover new music with scheduled 50-minute performances while enjoying specialty cocktails and a seasonal scratch-kitchen menu of shareable bites as well as brunch.

### TRANSPORTATION

#### BRIGHTLINE TRAIN CONNECTS ORLANDO AND MIAMI

**Brightline**, the only provider of modern, eco-friendly, intercity rail in America, began service from Miami to Orlando in September. The route includes 16 daily round trips with hourly departures, including stops in Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, Boca Raton and Aventura.

# ORLANDO WHAT'S NEW IN 2024 AND BEYOND



## BOOMING HOTEL GROWTH

Adding to Orlando's more than 490 hotels and nearly 130,000 rooms, the destination will open and expand 10 hotel properties.

### NEW PROPERTIES

**Universal Orlando Resort** will add 1,500 guest rooms to the destination's hotel portfolio, with **Universal Stella Nova Resort** opening January 21, 2025 and **Universal Terra Luna Resort** opening February 25, 2025. The new properties will feature 750 double-queen guest rooms with spaceship-styled windows, a variety of dining options and amenities including resort-style pools, fitness centers, game rooms, recreation rooms and more.

**Evermore Orlando Resort** opened Jan. 1 as Orlando's first beach-like property, with an 8-acre Crystal Lagoon and a 20-acre sandy beach with hammocks, cabanas and recreational activities. Guests can enjoy family paddleboarding, mixology classes, sandcastle-building lessons and more. Evermore, which has the world's first touchless sunscreen application system, is thoughtfully built for large groups and families, offering a range of 2- to 11-bedroom vacation homes.

**Conrad Orlando**, the destination's first Hilton luxury brand, opened Jan. 9 with 433 rooms, a spa, numerous dining options – including its signature rooftop experience – and 40,000 square feet of indoor meeting space. Located at Evermore Orlando Resort, the property overlooks a golf course, a two-story boathouse for private events and Evermore Bay's Crystal Lagoon and sandy beaches.

**Villatel Orlando Resort**, situated within the International Drive area, began a phased opening in late 2023, offering private villa rentals with hotel-style standards and amenities. The property will eventually include an adventure waterpark with multi-story slides and a lazy river, a fully equipped fitness center, full-service restaurant and children's playgrounds. Upon full completion in 2025, the entire resort will have 526 units with apartment-style suites and single-family homes.

**Aloft Orlando Lake Nona**, the closest hotel to the world-class USTA (United States Tennis Association) National Campus, opened with 205 loft-style guestrooms, 15 suites, wellness facilities, a sports-themed restaurant and a 10,000 sq. ft. event center. The vibrant hotel welcomes visitors with eclectic décor and design nods to its music and technology roots that give each guestroom its own character.

**Hotel Landy**, a Tribute Portfolio hotel, opened on Universal Blvd in the tourism corridor in March. The new resort features 400 guestrooms that are family- and pet-friendly, with on-property amenities including a resort-style pool, contemporary fitness center, three dining venues and more.

## RENOVATIONS

**Waldorf Astoria Orlando** unveiled a property-wide reimagining that includes a floor-to-ceiling transformation inclusive of all guestrooms and suites; the lobby arrival experience; new design and culinary innovations at restaurants Bull & Bear and Peacock Alley; enhancements to The Waldorf Astoria Spa; and a complete restoration of the 18-hole Waldorf Astoria Golf Club. The reimagining emphasizes the resort's unique geographic position within the 482-acre Bonnet Creek Nature Preserve.

**The Alford Inn**, a boutique hotel in the heart of the historic Winter Park district, completed an extensive renovation in October, adding 71 guestrooms, a chic café, and a lavish spa, among other features for its 10-year anniversary celebration. Owned by Rollins College, the hotel directs all net operating income to scholarships to underscore its commitment to education, philanthropy and the Winter Park community.

Walt Disney World Resort will replace and upgrade all 365 cabins at **Fort Wilderness Resort & Campground** with new permanent structures featuring a modern, rustic aesthetic, updated amenities and larger windows. Scheduled for completion in March, the new cabins will be available to both Disney Vacation Club members and non-members.

## DINING

### AWARD-WINNING DINING AT MICHELIN GUIDE RESTAURANTS

Orlando's evolving dining scene has been recognized with one of the world's highest culinary honors. In the third edition of the MICHELIN Guide Miami, Orlando and Tampa, inspectors announced four new Michelin starred Orlando restaurants for 2024. The MICHELIN Guide also recognized Orlando's creativity, commitment to service and sustainability with three special awards: Michelin Exceptional Cocktails Award for Justin Levaughn of **Otto's High Dive**; Michelin Service Award to Israel Perez, maître d'hôtel and sommelier of **Victoria & Albert's**; and Michelin Green Star, which recognizes exceptional sustainable dining that doesn't sacrifice flavor, to **Kaya**, led by Chef Lordfer Lalicon. Michelin's recognition of the 48 identified Orlando restaurants includes seven MICHELIN Starred venues, 11 Bib Gourmands and 30 Recommended eateries.

Visit Orlando.

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