

# DOWNLOAD PDF STEVE BIRNBAUM BRINGS YOU THE BEST OF WALT DISNEY WORLD

## Chapter 1 : Mouseplanet - The History of Disney Travel Guides by Jim Korkis

*Steve Birnbaum Brings You The Best of Walt Disney World [Stephen Birnbaum] on [blog.quintoapp.com](http://blog.quintoapp.com) \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. The best way to get to Mickey's Starland is aboard the Walt Disney World Railroad.*

As Sklar told the story in his book: As the costs of printing and production grew to 24 cents for a product that sold in the park for 25 cents, the merchandise staff wanted to double the price to 50 cents. I accompanied the merchandise staff to a meeting with Walt, and watched them strike out. Keep the price at 25 cents; I want as many souvenir books as you can sell in homes across the country—around the world. Disneyland was physically unlike any other amusement park. There was only one entrance, whereas most amusement parks and carnivals had multiple entrances around the perimeter of the park. People often struggled to remember where they entered at the end of the day. That confusion was designed to keep people inside the park, along with a chaotic interior layout that twisted around and around. There was no midway nor was there a Ferris wheel or roller coaster rising high in the sky for some sort of reference or filling the air with horrified screams. Disneyland produced a small folded guide map with Tinker Bell on the cover that was available for free to guests. Starting on opening day, the Bank of America that operated on Main Street also gave away free folded colored brochures to guests that featured a map for the park. The primary purpose of Guest Relations was not to handle guest complaints, but to offer vacation planning tips on how to understand and best enjoy Disneyland. The primary purpose of the train was not to provide another attraction, but to allow guests to circle the park to get a sense of what Disneyland was and where things were. Disney Legend Cecily Rigdon was promoted from ticket seller at the outside kiosks to Guest Relations because Walt saw her line was always the longest. Installing microphones, he discovered that she was giving tips about where to go and where to eat depending on the nature of the family. Guests eagerly waited in a longer line to get her suggestions. For Walt, it was very important that guests be able to get around easily to enjoy their day and to understand what was there and where. So Disney travel guides were born. I have many friends who are professional writers. One of them earned his living for many years translating German books into English and writing some historical novels. One day, he called me up very excited because he had been able to purchase a complete set of volumes of the Encyclopedia Britannica from the s. I pointed out that he could have spent much less purchasing a recent set, which had more up-to-date entries. He then revealed to me that he had at least 10 complete sets of Encyclopedia Britannica, but from different time periods and was hoping to purchase more. In , the Britannica became the first encyclopedia and I only know how to spell that word correctly thanks to Jiminy Cricket singing the word on the original Mickey Mouse Club television series to continually update entries on a regular schedule. As my friend patiently explained to me, an early edition of Britannica might have two or three pages devoted to buggy whips with detailed descriptions, history, illustrations and more, because it was a vital tool at the time. However, even a decade later, because of space restrictions and new entries, that entry on buggy whips might be severely edited to a half page or eliminated entirely. He was buying sets from different eras to help him with accurate details for his historical novels. He had access to information that he could trust that literally existed nowhere else. That conversation taught me two things. Because there was a multi-page article credited to Walt Disney, but obviously done by the Disney publicity department, and several black and white photos all about Disneyland, obviously written shortly after the July opening. Just like the Britannica, the Birnbaum guides have significant changes each year as old things close, new things open and policies change. The Walt Disney World Birnbaum guide from has three pages devoted to Pleasure Island because that location had just opened months before the guide went to press. Yet just a few years later, the entry shrunk to miniscule size taking valuable information away. Steve Birnbaum was a writer best known for his travel commentary and guide books. He created his own travel guide series in the mids that totaled 36 different books from Italy to Germany to Disneyland at the time of his death from leukemia on December 20, , in Manhattan at the age of . He was well known not only for his books but his appearances on television, his

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syndicated travel column for newspapers and his articles in many high profile magazines. His wife of 31 years, Alexandra Mayes Birnbaum, continued his work, including editing the Birnbaum travel guide books. The Disney books were published by Hearst while many of his other guides were published by HarperCollins. In , Disney bought the brand and began publishing under its own imprint. The virtue of the Birnbaum Disney guides is that they are always clearly written and organized, colorfully illustrated with photos, have accurate information, and are accessible to all levels of Disney guests, especially first time visitors. I was impressed that even Steve, with his acclaimed travel book reputation, would want to tackle such a project. It still remains the top-selling edition to this day. Why did Birnbaum select Walt Disney World to do first as a guide book? It turned out that all my doubts were unfounded, for although certain of the basics of the two extraordinary establishments are undeniably the same, Disneyland is possessed of a unique charm. Sehlinger used to recommend to his readers that they buy the Birnbaum guide, as well, until MacMillian who was publishing *The Unofficial Guide* at the time, started objecting strenuously. Some, like the one produced by Mike and Julie Neal, are jam packed with amazing color photos. In addition, there are many fine websites, especially MousePlanet, that offer current advice and information about visiting the Disney theme parks. Just two months ago, a new travel guide was released that immediately became one of the three top sellers and has remained near that position ever since: This book is published by Theme Park Press, the same publisher that publishes my books. I had no input into this book, nor did I see it until a month after it was published and I receive no compensation for telling you about it. Basically, I wanted to let you know that this book exists and seems to be very popular judging by not only the sales but the many positive reviews on Amazon by people who know a lot more about Disney park traveling than I do. This edition will soon be replaced by an improved edition before the end of the year. After all, Disney is constantly changing so there is always a need for an annual update. Along with co-author Humphrey, he has refined all of that material and formatted it for this handy guide. Actually, the title of the book is misleading. I found there were plenty of hints and new perspectives for even veteran visitors. I suspect that even before this column sees print, there will be at least three or four more specialized guide books produced on everything from best places to blog if you are a panda, to how to make sure you meet Anna and Elsa in the parks, to just simply here are the top 10 things to do in each park and why. For me, I am still struggling to complete my Birnbaum collection since I foolishly missed many years and regret that choice today.

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## Chapter 2 : Birnbaum's Disneyland Resort | Disney Books | Disney Publishing Worldwide

*Steve Birnbaum Brings You The Best of Walt Disney World and a great selection of similar Used, New and Collectible Books available now at [blog.quintoapp.com](http://blog.quintoapp.com) - Steve Birnbaum Brings You the Best of Walt Disney World - AbeBooks.*

Authors Bob Sehlinger and Len Testa pull no punches in telling you the best way to organize your trip and avoid hassles and rip-offs. The book covers all the basics in depth – descriptions and reviews of all the Walt Disney World attractions, the hotels, the restaurants and more. There is also some excellent information on the two Universal theme parks and SeaWorld. This terrific book includes articles by experts about things like how to decide whether to buy a vacation package. Many of the write-ups about the attractions provide fun and interesting background information. There are lots of maps and charts, including a great chart of attendance at Walt Disney World by season to help you plan. As a bonus, the Kindle version will automatically get updated on a regular basis throughout the year as new information comes out. Since this is a Disney guidebook, it does not cover other Florida theme parks and attractions, unlike competing guides. There are a few nice coupons in the back. This annually updated guide can help you save time, money and hassles. The book is full of excellent information about how families can prepare for a thoroughly enjoyable Walt Disney World vacation, including detailed information on which attractions are scary for kids and why. As with all of the Unofficial Guide books, this one has excellent information about avoiding crowds and minimizing wait times, and the information is kept updated year-round at TouringPlans. The book is designed to be a supplement to the main Unofficial Guide to Walt Disney World rather than a replacement. It also comes in a Kindle version that is pretty much equivalent to the print version as long as you have a good tablet to read it on. Kids absolutely love finding these as they make their way around the World, and plenty of adults have caught the Hidden Mickey bug as well. This guide is slim enough to carry with you, and it can be fun to check the guide during meals and while standing in line. If you have children old enough to enjoy their own Walt Disney World guidebook, this book would make a good gift and help them prepare for the trip. Includes information about how to save money as well as excellent strategies for maximizing your enjoyment and avoiding long lines. Plus, the information in the book is kept updated year-round at TouringPlans. Naturally it tends to glorify Disney a bit, but it provides plenty of useful, in-depth information about the two parks and the three Disney hotels. Since this is a Disney guidebook, it does not cover other Southern California theme parks and attractions, unlike competing guides. There are plenty of practical tips for how to choose between the different ships and itineraries, pros and cons of the various stateroom types, and how to prepare for your cruise. There is a nice color section at the front with pictures of shows, rooms and public areas. The port adventures available on Castaway Cay are covered comprehensively, and Nassau is covered fairly well, but there are only a handful of specific reviews of other adventures at other ports. On an e-paper Kindle or on a small device like a phone, the formatting is not as successful, but you can still get the key content. Instead it focuses on the history and lore of the Caribbean and Bahamas, plus in-depth coverage of all the major cruise ship ports in the Caribbean and Bahamas, including all of the ports Disney Cruise Line visits. This is a great guide to help you choose between different itineraries, and figure out what to focus on once you get to each port. The photography is excellent, and the writing is sharp. A pull-out map of the Caribbean helps you understand the relationships between the islands, and would be a fun thing to bring on the cruise so the kids can plot your progress with highlighters.

*Mediterranean By Cruise Ship 7th Edition* – Like the other books in this series, this book focuses on ports and information, especially about history and sightseeing. It has a short overview of cruising and cruise lines, but spends the bulk of the book on information that will help you figure out what you want to see and gives you useful and interesting background on the places and sights of the Mediterranean. The ports of the Mediterranean Sea have more history packed into them than pretty much any other place on Earth, and the depth and richness of the area is covered well in this book. A great single-book resource for those interested in learning more about the Med prior to a cruise. Other cruise guidebooks spend much of their available space

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telling you about the cruise lines, the cruise ships, how to find the buffet, and other basics that are covered in more depth in one of the Disney Cruise Line books listed above. This book assumes you know your way around the ship and cruising and focuses on the ports of call, Alaska history, and the Inside Passage. The pictures and production values are excellent, and it describes the major attractions of each of the Alaskan ports of call in detail, which is a great help when trying to figure out which port excursions to take. A pull-out map shows the Alaskan coastline and the major cruise ship routes, so you can plot your progress and orient yourself. They both have a nice fold-out map and plenty of information. As far as we know, MouseSavers. This fairly comprehensive book, revised in October , has good coverage of a lot of important stuff at the resort, including descriptions of each attraction, dining location and shop. It also has worthwhile material about the Disney hotels. Website content may not be reproduced in whole or in part without the prior written permission of MouseSavers, Inc.

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*Steve Birnbaum brings you the best of Walt Disney World Steve Birnbaum brings you the best of Walt Disney World. by Birnbaum, Stephen. Publication date*

There is a whole chapter devoted to each of the theme parks: Now kids can help plan the family vacation! Burgee on Feb 13, I bought this book for my daughter who will be taking her 2 children, ages 4 and 7, to Disney World for the first time. She loves the book and so do her children! They keep looking at the photos and want to know all about the rides, waterparks, etc. Each ride is described, then listed as scary, noisy or fast, with the required height of the child to ride. For each theme park, check out the tips for parents to plan your time so you can "see it all". This is the perfect book for parents planning their first Disney trip. Davignon on Jun 07, I have found this book to be a very good resource for tips when traveling to WDW with young kids. My 4 year old really enjoys looking at the book and the big colorful pictures. The point of view from the young contributors is very helpful as well. Orth on Nov 30, There was a lot of info for kids and what there is for them to do and when u should get to the parks and were to go first.. Kennedy on Dec 02, This book is a great one to help include your child in planning your Disney trip together. It includes maps of the parks and recommendations on where to eat. It includes the highlights of the parks. There are even pages for autographs and places to answer "faves" questions. Great guide for first time DWD visitors! Collins on Jul 06, This book was worth every penny! I bought this book more for my 6 year old daughter than for myself. Our family went to Disney in June and we took this book with us. Our daughter marked the rides and attractions in the book that she was interested in, and it really helped to have an idea of what we wanted to do when we went to each park. There are pages in the book dedicated to each park at WDW. There are also pages in the back for your child to write about their trip, with guiding questions to help them, as well as autograph pages for when your child meets up with the Disney Characters. We did not really use these sections, since we bought an autograph book and chunky pen at the first park we visited. My son loves looking through this to help his "planning" for our trip in December This books also includes activities for before you go after each park and once you are done. The give an autograph section in the back as well as a scrapbook area. This is definitely a keepsake. Great book, wish there were more pictures. He really likes the book, but it is geared toward slightly older kids. I wish there were more pictures of the rides, but he seems to enjoy looking through the pages anyway. Good tips when traveling with kids. Also covers each attraction as far as if children could have issues, example if the ride is scary or very noisy. Good information if you are in doubt if your little one should attempt the attraction. Best of Disney Planning Books!!! Johnson on Jan 09, My kids absolutely love this book. They love reading about our upcoming trip and reviewing the thoughts of others. I always buy the current one when we go to Disney. Best Disney book I have found!! More pictures and fewer words!! A Disney Vacation Essential! By Dawn on Mar 22, This book is essential for a Disney trip. Usually it very accurate, and has great tips about changes from year to year. Making sure to experience the most while still letting the kids get to bed early and fit in naps to keep everyone happy is a tricky balance. The older ones were much more candid, I guess that becoming the "Official Guide" has its downfalls. The books are informative and relevant, it really is like having a veteran showing you the ropes. I also read the "Unofficial Guide", I would not plan a trip without studying both. As a side note, I would not take any children under the age of 5, preferably 6 and above. This book gives basic information for each restaurant throughout all of Disney World, including the parks, resorts and entertainment areas such as Downtown Disney. It also includes some Walt Disney World recipes for those who want to bring Disney home to their own kitchen. Since Birnbaum is the official guide of Disney World, you can be pretty certain that everything in their book is accurate. Of course things change frequently at Disney, so the book should be accurate up to the approximate time of publishing. The book is small enough to take along into the parks with you. This will help you make the most of your vacation. For most restaurants this book contains more in-depth information including reader survey results, service ratings, hours of

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operation, setting and atmosphere, house specialties, etc. Cara Goldsbury goes into depth regarding the better restaurants at Disney. Helpful By Bbcardzetc aol. However, it is not current with the changes made after it was published There are many useful hints like which attractions are most fun for certain ages, how to assist with handicapped needs, best eateries. One needs to remember that this is an "official" Disney guide. As such, I am sure they sugar coated things a bit. By Winky on Apr 20, I was told by a friend who has been to Disney World many, many times to buy this book. I bought the book and have gotten so much great information that you would not find any where else. If you are planning a trip to Disney I think that this book should be called the "Disney Bible" and that you should definitely get your hands on one. I plan to take mine with me. The tips they give you are great and already I can see that they will be so helpful on our fun packed days in Disney World. I also purchased the Dining Guide and Pocket version of the book too. I really recommend all 3. I think they are a must to help you decide what you want to see and do and to make your plan before you walk through the gates. With so much to learn about the parks Especially if this is your first trip to Disney. We have gone 4 or 5 times and it was just time to update our guide as it has been awhile since our last trip. As I said this is not our first Birnbaum Disney book and it probably will not be our last. We have loaned out our old copy many times and this one is getting worn already but only by us so far. Just about everything you want to know about the Disney experience is here. I could go on and on but I would just bore you with the details. All I can say is if you are going to Disney get this book before you make your plans and keep it with you as much as possible. It will really help you plan your trip. Everyone who has borrowed our older book has been glad they did. What a Disney vacation By Sweetp on Sep 09, This book was a great read, there is so much information to take in. I went through each and every page with a fine tooth comb and highlighter. Anything that would help us on our trip I highlighted, now the book is mostly yellow from the highlighter. If you plan on going to Disney World, I recommend getting this book before you travel it will help you out greatly. It gives you the best places to go and the more convenient times to go so that the places are not completely crowded. I plan on taking it with us to each park when we go, so I have the information right at my hands. It gave them time to review what was there and what they wanted to see. It was a great planning tool for the adults, too. It includes tips for each section of the Park and made the planning less stressful. Add a Book Review Book Summary: This particular edition is in a Paperback format. It was published by Disney Editions and has a total of pages in the book. To buy this book at the lowest price, [Click Here](#).

### Chapter 4 : Books by Stephen Birnbaum (Author of Birnbaum's Disney Cruise Line )

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*Stephen Birnbaum, author of Birnbaum's Walt Disney World: The Official Guide, on LibraryThing LibraryThing is a cataloging and social networking site for booklovers Home Groups Talk Zeitgeist.*