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Universal Studios Hollywood



Synopsis

Universal Studios Hollywood, or USH, is the theme park that started it all. It started in 1915 with the Universal Studios Tour, the first movie-themed attraction in America. Today, that tour still exists, but now there is a world-class theme park built around it and just about everyone who comes to LA, Hollywood, or just about anywhere in the Los Angeles, California, area should plan on visiting. Universal Studios Hollywood by Kelly Monaghan is your complete guide to this astonishing attraction and nearby CityWalk, an urban streetscape packed with restaurants, shops, and entertainment venues. Every ride, every show, every display is reviewed. There is also guidance on your dining and shopping choices at Universal Studios. CityWalk restaurants like Hard Rock Café, Buca di Beppo, Bubba Gump, Tony Roma's, Karl Strauss, Wolfgang Puck's Bistro, and many more are reviewed. This in-depth guidebook is completely unofficial and tells it like it is – the good, the bad, and the ugly. Fortunately, most of it falls into the “good” category. Every attraction is covered in detail. Remember, this guide is exclusively to Universal Studios LA. It does NOT cover Knotts Berry Farm or Disneyland in Anaheim! Here is a partial Table of Contents.

Chapter One: Planning Your Escape

- What is Universal Studios Hollywood
- Los Angeles Tourist Traffic
- The Best day of the Week to Visit
- Los Angeles Weather
- Getting to Universal Studios Hollywood
- Directions to the Back Entrance
- Buying Tickets (with discount information)
- Ticket Options
- The Front of the Line Pass
- The VIP Experience
- Annual Passes

Chapter Two: Universal Studios Hollywood

- Good Things To Know
- Your Day At Universal Studios Hollywood (USH)
- What To Expect
- The Best Attractions
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- Revenge of the Mummy
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- Coming Attractions: Despicable Me & Harry Potter

Chapter Three: CityWalk

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- Good Things To Know
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- Fast Food at CityWalk
- Entertainment at CityWalk
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- On-Property Hotels
- Nearby Hotels

Kelly Monaghan is the author of “Universal Orlando: The Ultimate Guide To The Ultimate Theme Park Adventure.” His guide to Universal Studios Hollywood employs his trademark wit to make sure you get the very best possible experience out of your visit.

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Customer Reviews

My boyfriend and I are planning a trip to the west coast this spring and we thought it would be fun to head down to Hollywood and see some of the sights. (Think mid-20s - early 30s age range). After scouting around Kindle for a helpful guidebook or two, I stumbled upon this little gem. Talk about helpful! We're not big theme park goers in general, mind you, but I've always wanted to check out Universal Hollywood to see what it has to offer. I'm SO pleased that I read this book before going. Mr. Monaghan knows his stuff and gave me so much info on so many different things. He covered the basics, of course (when to go, where to stay, etc), but also told you what to see - and what NOT to waste your time on. Honesty - I appreciate that! I was especially pleased to find out that the park, while a great place for kids, wasn't totally focused on the younger crowd. Case in point: alcohol vendors trolling the lines of the attractions. Yes I will have another beer while I wait for the Revenge of the Mummy Ride, thank you very much! Even better: I was able to download the e-book to my Kindle app, so I'll be able to take Mr. Monaghan's helpful hints along with me once inside the park. We can't wait! Thanks for a great guidebook to USH!!!

The perfect choice for anyone planning a visit to Universal Studios Hollywood, whether a one-day

marathon or an extended see-everything, do-everything, try-everything holiday. This handy guide covers it all with good humor and a keen eye for detail. Monaghan has done his research - he has truly helpful tips for saving money, planning your visit, where to stay, where to park, how to time your visit to avoid long lines, what not to miss (and some things that can be missed). He suggests the best seats for the shows (and on the trams), the best places to eat (on any budget), and the best deals on admissions packages. The author is clearly a knowledgeable and enthusiastic theme park pro, and his user-friendly book (very handy on the Kindle!) will show you how to make the most of your visit to Universal Studios Hollywood (and CityWalk, too!).

What a great book to read on the way from Las Vegas to Universal Studios, Hollywood. We loved learning about all the background stuff going on "behind the scenes". Helped us during our annual season pass year to know all the neat stuff.

Having taken this tour 30 years ago, this book was very helpful in anticipating the changes. Great information on cityWalk as well.

Kelly Monaghan knows his stuff. Most of the "guide" books I've read in the past are great - for people who are willing to spend \$5,000 or \$10,000 for a week at a theme park. This is the most practical book I've ever read for real people. Like: Strategies for doing the entire park in a day (how many of us really want to do two or three days at a theme park?). Realistic assessments of ride appropriateness and food reviews. Practical tips on where to park, how to shop, what to buy, what to miss, where to leave your dog (!) and page after page of honest assessments and advice. (He's even got tips on how you could get "discovered" and become a Hollywood star!) If you're only going to get one book before you go - or, even if you were thinking you could do it without a guide book - this one is a must-buy!

Good book, worth the read prior to a visit.

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