

Worlds of Fun Tour of the Park 2017 Edition

**Scandinavia Africa Europa Americana Planet
Snoopy The Orient**

Please be aware that this page is currently under construction and each ride and attraction will be expanded in the future to include its own separate page with additional photos and details.

Africa

Big Jack's Jungle Juice 1973-current



This small snack stand is directly on the right, following the train trestle that separates the Scandinavia and Africa sections of the park. Big Jack's serves various flavors of ICEE. Big Jack's is an original food service location to the park both in location and name, and is named after Worlds of Fun founder, Jack Steadman.

Shooting Gallery 1973 (rename/re-theme 2008)-current



Guests can take their best shot with one of the many infrared rifles. When targets are shot, they usually react with some kind of sound or animated effect. Shooting Gallery was originally named Big Game Hunt and previously featured a jungle scene with gorilla that banged its chest when shot. Big Game Hunt was renovated and renamed in 2008; today it features a western motif in addition to a few of the original effects such as the hotel sign, piano, and sewing machine.

Zulu 1979-current



Zulu is a thrilling, spinning ride located right next to the Shooting Gallery. Zulu is also one of the few rides that require riders be 54" to ride. Zulu starts flat to the ground, with riders seated in one of the 20 enclosed cars. As the ride begins spinning, it is hydraulically lifted into the air, with the centrifugal forces keeping riders in their seat (there are no seat belts or restraints of any kind on this ride). Zulu was manufactured by Huss Rides of Germany, and was added in 1979. Interestingly enough, Zulu's small queue house was originally used by The Safari an original, if short-lived ride, for its queue house. Guests must be 54" or taller to ride.

Prowler 2009-current



Located just past the train trestle near Zulu, Prowler is Worlds of Fun's second wooden coaster, introduced to the park in 2009. Unlike Timberwolf, Prowler is a terrain coaster- it uses the natural, wooded terrain as its layout, meaning the track stays within 10 feet of the ground for most of the ride following the first drop. A ride on Prowler begins with the lift, which takes riders 102 feet above the ground and then drops and turns them 85 feet down, reaching a maximum speed of 51 MPH. The train then heads out towards the woods, with the course undulating through various up and downs and quick turns. Unlike many terrain coasters, Prowler is more of an out-and-back coaster, in that its track goes straight out, turns around and comes back. The turnaround is followed by quick, straight drop, before it seemingly picks up speed into the brake run. Any time of day is good for a ride on Prowler, but nighttime, when the course is almost completely dark, and riders are blinded by a well-timed on ride photo flash, is amazing. Prowler literally hit the ground running- it was voted best new ride of 2009 by

Amusement Today when it first opened and frequently made top ten lists for wooden coasters worldwide. It is a coaster not to miss. Guests must be 48" or taller to ride.

Gorilla Grill 1973 (rename 2012)-current



Located across the bridge is an outdoor counter service restaurant, Gorilla Grill. Gorilla Grill is also infrequently open, but when it is open, it serves burgers, foot long hot dogs, corn dogs and fries. It does offer one of the most beautiful dining locations in the park- it is completely shaded, and surrounded by lush and tropical landscaping. Gorilla Grill, like most food service locations in the park, is an original structure built for its current use. However, it was originally named Congo Clearing and was renamed to Gorilla Grill in 2012 (for one season in 2011 it was named Junkyard Burgers). Also of note, the gorilla statue that is located here was originally used for theming on the Safari ride that was located just across the bridge from this restaurant.

Dinosaur's Alive 2013-current



Added as a new pay-extra attraction in 2013, Dinosaur's Alive is \$5 for a single day regular ticket admission and included free for season pass holders. Dinosaur's Alive is an interesting, and rather educational, walk through past life-size Dinosaur animatronics. The entire area is shaded and is fascinating to visit anytime during the daytime. Dinosaur's Alive closes at dusk. As many who have visited the park for years have noted, Dinosaur's Alive is built, at least partially, on the land previously occupied by Zambezi Zinger. In fact, the Zinger's tunnel was originally planned to be used as part of the attraction but was reburied when it was determined to be unsafe. The tunnel, though buried and unable to be seen, is located approximately near the final scene featuring an egg nest.

Moroccan Merchant 1973 (rename early 90's)-current



Across from Boomerang is the Moroccan Merchant gift shop, offering t-shirts, plush, as well as clearance and sale items. Moroccan Merchant is an original structure and retail location to the park but opened in 1973 as the Diamond Mine. It was renamed in the early 90's to Moroccan Merchant.

Auntie Anne's early 90's (rename 2013)-current



This small snack stand is across from Moroccan Merchant and offers many of Auntie Anne's favorites including classic pretzels, pretzel dogs, and pretzel nuggets. Auntie Anne's, like many food service locations in the park, has been through a variety of renames. The stand opened in the early 90's as Rick's Cafe (named after Rick Rau who was director of Marketing at the time). In 2001 it was renamed for the first time to King Tut's Fresh Cut fries, and retained the name King Tut's, with a variety of menus (including Zarda BBQ and Sheridan's) over the years, until 2013 when it became known as Auntie Anne's.

Dino Store 1973 (rename 2013)-current



The exit to Dinosaur's Alive ends in this shop, but can be entered from the midway also; it features a wide variety of dinosaur-related merchandise including fossils, t-shirts, and dinosaur plush. The location of the Dino Store has, like Moroccan Merchant, been a retail location since the park opened, but opened as Bwana's Bargains in 1973. It became known as Tangier's Traders in the early 90's and by 2000 was known as the Wood & Leather shop. In 2013, it was extensively remodeled to the Dino Store.

Casbah Games 1981-current



A small strip of traditional midway games that runs from Moroccan Merchant to Boomerang's entrance- includes Mamba Mamba (throw a baseball into a milk jug), Jump Shot (basketball free throw), Dart Knight (darts), Fun Ball, and Lion's Den (knock down lion's teeth). Casbah games was added in 1981 and stands today, virtually identical to when it was added.

Boomerang 2000-current



Added in 2000, Boomerang is one of two coasters in the park that take riders upside down. It is also the only one those under 54" can ride, as Boomerang has a height requirement of only 48". Boomerang is manufactured by Vekoma Intl of the Netherlands, and is a mass-produced coaster, in that there are over 50 models worldwide of the exact same coaster. A ride on Boomerang starts as the 28-passenger train is pulled backwards out of the station up the 116-foot tall lift via pulley system. Once the train has reached the top, the station brakes open, and the train is released, dropping the train down the 116-foot incline, through the station, and through three inversions, one boomerang, followed by a loop, forwards. The train then is hoisted up the second lift hill, also 116 feet tall, via chain lift. Once it reaches the top, the train is again released and navigates the same course as before, backwards which gives the ride its name sake name "boomerang". Guests must be 48" or taller to ride.

Fury of the Nile 1984-current



Added in 1984 at a cost of 3.5 million, Nile is a river rapids ride built by Intamin AG of Switzerland, with

various components designed by Burns & McDonnell of Kansas City as well. Riders board a six-person raft that navigates 1,800 feet of trough filled with over a million gallons of water filled with rapids and geysers. At over thirty years old Nile has changed a bit over its years, including the removal of a waterfall in 1985, as well as the removal of several geysers from the ride over the years. Two of the most amazing engineering feats with Nile though are those that make it unique; the first is its first ever use of a turntable loading station (though there are many rapids rides today that incorporate this design element, Nile was first). Second, most water rides also require a separate basin (many refer to it as an ugly lake) to hold the ride's water when the ride is not in operation. Nile is designed to not require a separate basin, and holds its water in a 25-foot deep storage pit under the ride's lift hill. Guests must be 46" or taller to ride.

Mummys Yummys 1992-current



Located at the combined entrance and exit to Fury of the Nile, this small snack stand offers hand rolled pretzels, nachos, pickles, popcorn, and soda. It also offers a convenient, shaded picnic area nearby. Mummy's Yummys was added in 1992 with the addition of Monsoon.

Coasters Drive-in 1999-current



Coasters Drive In, added in 1999, is one of three of the park's indoor counter service restaurants, in Coasters case, themed to a 1950's diner. Coasters serves burgers, fries, and milk shakes. Though Coasters is listed on the official park map as being located in Americana (an attempt to fix the theming issue), it is directly along the pathway to Mamba and Monsoon, which is why it is listed as Africa in this listing.

Mamba 1998-current



As the tallest coaster at Worlds of Fun, Mamba is hard to miss, towering 205 feet into the air- only Steelhawk is taller. Mamba was added in 1998, and was the third of the Morgan manufactured hypercoasters. A hypercoaster is defined as any coaster 200 feet or taller, and Mamba's statistics are hard to beat- 205 feet for the first hill, 184 feet for the second hill, a maximum speed of 75 mph, and a total track length of just over a mile (5,600 feet). A ride on Mamba begins on its lift hill, which seems to last an eternity, but on clear days offers a beautiful view of the downtown KC skyline. The first drop is exhilarating; the second hill and drop are filled with airtime, or negative g-forces as riders are left floating all the way down the drop. Next, comes the spiral helix, 580 degrees around, with tantalizing track supports that only SEEM to close for comfort and offer a fun thrill (in addition to watching everyone in front put their hands down!). B-block brakes are next- depending on weather, wind and how hard the brakes are set, they can either trim just a little speed off, or take the train to an almost dead stop before heading for Mamba's four camel back humps. The camel back humps are followed by one last double-up which ends the ride on a high note before coasting over Mamba plaza and hitting the brakes. When Mamba opened, it was one of the tallest, fastest, and longest coasters in the world. Today, those statistics have been eclipsed, in some cases, massively, but Mamba still continues to offer the almost perfect package of a thrilling coaster, that also happens to be quite fun. Guests must be 48" or taller to ride.

Monsoon 1992-current



Added in 1992, Monsoon is a thrilling water ride, which is also an updated version of the classic shoot the chutes amusement park ride. Riders board a 20-passenger boat, which takes them up a 55-foot lift, turns, and then drops riders, almost immediately, back down a 55-foot double down drop. The ride ends with the signature massive wave generated by the flat-bottomed boat hitting the water basin. Generally, riders themselves only get a little wet, while those waiting on the bridge overlooking the ride are left completely soaked. Monsoon has a rather interesting story to tell in that, with its addition, Worlds of Fun and Oceans of Fun were first joined as part of the Same-Day-Gateway. It wouldn't be until twenty years later, in 2014, that both parks would be joined as a single ticket, so for most of its existence Monsoon served as a sort-of border patrol between the two parks. Guests must be 46" or taller to ride.

<-- Back to Scandinavia To Europa -->