



Princess Planning Co.

Quick Guide to Lightning Lanes - Updated 12/2/24

The Gist of Making Lightning Lane Selections

OK so it is the morning of your visit and you have already downloaded the app and linked all tickets ahead of time. In my opinion, the easiest way to explain the process itself is by using examples, so I will use what I did during my most recent visit as an example scenario. I'll go into different strategies for optimization after this section, but here I just want to explain the gist of the process.

9/13/24 6:00AM: I was able to make my Lightning Lane selections in advance for all three days of my vacation. More specifics on this process below.

9/21/24 6:00AM: Woke up and started getting ready. Since we already had a Lightning Lane booked for Tiana's Bayou Adventure, I did not need to worry about any virtual queues. (We had Park Hopper tickets so that is the version I bought which allows you to toggle between parks to make reservations at any of them). I also purchased an *Individual* Lightning Lane for *Seven Dwarfs Mine Train*. The standby line for this ride is always crazy so my group had pre decided it was worth it for us to just purchase the Individual Lightning Lane.

9/21/24 9:25AM: After rope dropping Peter Pan's flight, it was time to scan into our first pre-picked lightning lane, Haunted Mansion. Once we scanned into Haunted Mansion, I opened up my app and picked up a return time for a Big Thunder Mountain.

And that's how the rest of the day went. Once we scanned into a ride, we could make a return time selection for a new one. Important to note here: you can only use a Lightning Lane/ Individual Lightning Lane once per ride per day. So for example since I booked *Haunted Mansion* I can not book it again for a future pick.

How To Make Pre Selections Before Your Vacation

If you are staying on property at a Disney resort, you have the opportunity to book three Lightning Lanes per day for up to 14 days of your vacation, as well as any Individual Lightning Lanes you and your party would like to purchase. (If you are not staying on property, you can do this same process three days prior to your vacation). Of course, there are caveats here. Disney has separated their rides in each park into Tiers¹⁸ which I will list below. For each day, you can only choose one attraction from the Tier 1 List and two from the Tier 2 list (or all three from Tier 2 if you want) plus any Individual Lightning Lanes you would like to add on. FYI- Because Animal Kingdom is a smaller park with fewer attractions, it does not have Tier 1 or 2, there is just one list to choose from. Please see list for each park below:

Magic Kingdom—

Tier 1 Attractions (Choose up to one experience from this group):

- Big Thunder Mountain Railroad
- Jungle Cruise
- Peter Pan's Flight
- Space Mountain
- Tiana's Bayou Adventure

Tier 2 Attractions (Choose your other 2 experiences—or all 3—from this group):

- The Barnstormer
- Buzz Lightyear's Space Ranger Spin
- Dumbo the Flying Elephant
- Haunted Mansion
- "it's a small world"
- Mad Tea Party
- The Magic Carpets of Aladdin
- The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh
- Mickey's PhilharMagic
- Monsters Inc. Laugh Floor
- Pirates of the Caribbean
- Tomorrowland Speedway

- Under the Sea ~ Journey of The Little Mermaid

Single Pass Attractions AKA Individual Lightening Lanes (Not Available with the Multi Pass):

- Seven Dwarfs Mine Train
- TRON Lightcycle / Run

Epcot—

Tier 1 Attractions (Choose up to one experience from this group):

- Frozen Ever After
- Remy's Ratatouille Adventure
- Soarin' Around the World

Tier 2 Attractions (Choose your other 2 experiences—or all 3—from this group):

- Disney and Pixar Short Film Festival
- Journey into Imagination with Figment
- Living with the Land
- Mission: SPACE
- The Seas with Nemo & Friends
- Spaceship Earth
- Turtle Talk with Crush

Single Pass Attractions AKA Individual Lightening Lanes (Not Available with the Multi Pass):

- Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind

Hollywood Studios—

Tier 1 Attractions (Choose up to one experience from this group):

- Mickey & Minnie's Runaway Railway
- Millennium Falcon: Smugglers Run
- Rock 'n' Roller Coaster Starring Aerosmith
- Slinky Dog Dash

Tier 2 Attractions (Choose your other 2 experiences—or all 3—from this group):

- Alien Swirling Saucers
- Beauty and the Beast Live on Stage
- Disney Junior Play & Dance!

- For the First Time in Forever: A Frozen Sing-Along Celebration
- Indiana Jones Epic Stunt Spectacular
- Muppet*Vision 3D
- Star Tours – The Adventures Continue
- The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror™
- Toy Story Mania!

Single Pass Attractions AKA Individual Lightning Lanes (Not Available with the Multi Pass):

- Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance

Animal Kingdom—

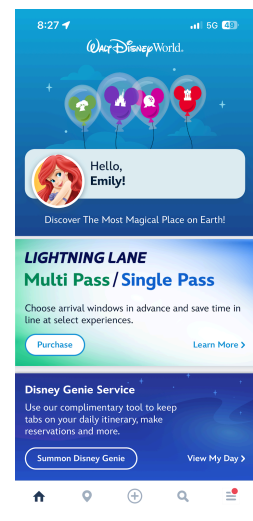
- DINOSAUR
- Expedition Everest – Legend of the Forbidden Mountain
- Feathered Friends in Flight!
- Festival of the Lion King
- Finding Nemo: The Big Blue... and Beyond!
- It’s Tough to Be a Bug!
- Kali River Rapids
- Kilimanjaro Safaris
- Na’vi River Journey

Single Pass Attractions AKA Individual Lightning Lanes (Not Available with the Multi Pass):

- Avatar Flight of Passage

How To Make Selections:

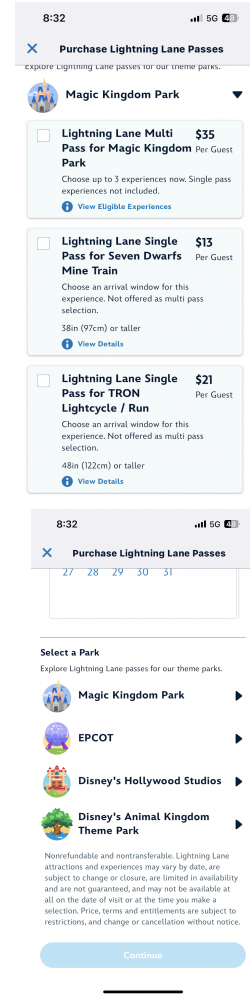
1. To make selections, you will go onto the MyDisneyExperience app, and on the homepage you’ll click on “purchase” on the multi / single pass lightning lane module
2. From there, you’ll choose the date for which you want to make selections for (PS must be at least seven days prior to your first vacation day).



3. Then you'll be able to click the park you want to start your day at (*Pro Tip*: this is where having that initial outline will come in handy). We'll use Magic Kingdom as an example. Here, you can select any single passes you'd like to buy (so for MK that includes Tron and Seven Dwarfs) and/ or select the Lightning Lane Multi Pass. NOTE ABOUT PARK HOPPING: For your pre-selections, you can only choose one park per day. If you have Park Hopper⁹ tickets, you will be able to select Lightning Lanes for other parks, but only after you scan into your first Lightning Lane of the day.

4. After selecting these options, it will bring you to a screen that lets you pick what rides from each tier you would like to book Lightning Lanes for. Then you can select the return time windows that you would like from what is available. Key word: available. *Pro Tip*: Make sure you go in with an idea of what attractions you want and that you make those pics exactly seven days out (or three if you are off property) to make sure those Lightning Lanes don't get snatched up.

5. Once you have picked your return times, the app will take you to check out. FYI- the app will let you know if you have any overlapping plans. For example, it will alert you if you book Haunted Mansion for the 11:00-12:00 PM return window, and if you also book Pirates of the Caribbean 11:45-12:45 PM that you have overlapping plans. For the most part, you can ignore those warnings, just make sure to double check that you will have enough time to scan into a ride, ride that ride, and head to the next one before that overlapping return window is up. Something to note, you will only have 5 minutes at this stage to check out and secure those Lightning Lanes before the app will cancel the transaction and push those back out into the pool of availability. This is where that prep work can come in handy. Having a general idea of what attractions you want to book and rough return times can help make this process go quickly and smoothly. *Pro Tip*: you can modify your return times after they have been secured, so it is OK if it's not perfect at check out. As



long as you have the Lane secured, you can go back in later and modify to get the schedule you want.

6. After check out, your selections will appear in “My Day” on the app, and you’re ready for your park day!

Rides to Prioritize with Multi Pass

*These rides are all very popular AND tend to have extremely long wait times which is why you want to prioritize your picks for THESE above all else (Not to say that PhilharMagic isn’t worth it, because it SO is, but the wait for that is usually pretty decent and can be a filler ride in between LL return times)

- **Magic Kingdom:** Tiana’s Bayou Adventure, Peter Pan’s Flight, Space Mountain, Jungle Cruise
 - Haunted Mansion, Big Thunder, and Pirates are also good rides to consider when you have return times to choose from
- **Epcot:** Remy’s Ratatouille Adventure, Test Track, Frozen Ever After
 - Spaceship Earth and Soarin can also be good to consider
- **Hollywood Studios:** Slinky Dog Dash, Toy Story Mania!, Rock 'n' Roller Coaster Starring Aerosmith, Tower of Terror
- **Animal Kingdom:** Kilimanjaro Safaris, Expedition Everest - Legend of the Forbidden Mountain, and Na'vi River Journey
 - Dinosaur (typically there isn't a huge wait time for this ride, but it might creep up since Disney is reimagining DinoLand USA in the coming months

