

How to Visit Busch Gardens Williamsburg

If you've never been to but have been wanting to go to Busch Gardens Williamsburg, this article may entice you to go. Find out how you can visit it. Purchase your Busch Gardens Williamsburg tickets online (or over the phone) before...

Part 1 of 9:

Preparation

1.



Purchase your Busch Gardens Williamsburg tickets online (or over the phone) before visiting the park, particularly if you are visiting from outside the US. This will save you time when you arrive at the park and you shouldn't have to wait on any ticket office queues!

2.



Preview the attractions in the park before your visit. Try previewing each attraction (ride or show) on YouTube, or take a peek at the ride through photos from others. Learn from what others see. This can help decide which rides and attractions will take priority during your visit or which attractions you'll feel you or your family will want to miss.

1. **Busch Gardens doesn't allow video-taping on any ride without prior approval by park staff. Ask them for permission, they potentially will.** For most rides on YouTube, you'll need to include a true statement that says that you received permission before riding as anything that doesn't will get taken down if found by Busch Gardens staff. This is to ward off those who post their journey for others so others don't have to ride if they don't want to; they want these videos to be only a preview of the park's attractions and nothing more.

3. **Pack water, snacks, money and most importantly your park tickets before you leave for the park that day!**

Part 2 of 9:

Entering the Park

1. **Decide if you truly want to visit the *Busch Gardens Williamsburg*.** Discuss some of your other options that exist for the other nearby area including Colonial Williamsburg and the Navy base in the nearby city of Newport News (and Hampton Roads), Virginia Beach and bordering Virginia towns offers various aquariums and beachfronts.
 1. If you head about 2 hours northwest, you'll head right into Washington, DC with its many museums and historical attractions.
2. **Drive and park at *Busch Gardens Williamsburg*.** The address to *Busch Gardens Williamsburg* is 1 Busch Gardens Blvd, Williamsburg, VA 23185 ^[1] *The cost to park at this park's parking lot is \$15 per day, though there are multi-day options for \$25 instead if purchased at once.*^[2]



3.

Enter the park. Walk up the path that leads from the parking lot to the park entrance gate. Busch Gardens Williamsburg only has one gate near the England land in the park. Along the path, you'll see other houses for rental equipment (such as toddler strollers, wheelchairs, and the like) and even a few guest relations counters that can help give you information about the park, along with several service counters that can help steer you in the right direction during the day.

1. Stop by the sign outside the gate along the path that says "Welcome to Busch Gardens Williamsburg". This is a highly-photographed spot by visitors who think this is the best thing in or around the park (is that they actually got to this spot).
4. **Look at the set up of *Busch Gardens Williamsburg*.** This park is divided into about ten different lands themed onto European-named countries. These lands include England, Italy, Party Italia, Oktoberfest and nearby Germany, New France, Ireland, Scotland and *Jack Hanna's Wild Reserve*.^[3]

Part 3 of 9:

England

1. **Turn the corner to your left and walk towards either the train station or Skyride.** These will be discussed in a few moments.

2.



Take a trip on the Skyride from the England station. The slow-moving bucket-styled Skyride will take you to three stations set apart in a triangular path at both France and Germany and then back to England. However, at each leg of the journey, you must debunk your bucket and reboard if you are continuing on to each of the other locations on the Skyride route.

1. Sometimes you'll hear this station's Skyride building referred to as the *Aeronaut Skyride* station. Don't worry; although it's not marked on the station entrance, some visitors still use it's much older name to designate this Skyride building instead.

3.



Take a very slow trip along the outer route of the park on the Busch Gardens Train. Although this station is called the Tweedside train station in the English portion of the park, it also travels to the Festa train station in Festa Italia, and also towards the Caribou train station in New France.

1. At times, you'll pass by some of the more famous rides such as the Loch Ness Monster roller coaster and even past Escape from Pompeii, along with many others along the route. At one point, you'll

even go by an intersection, where the train waltzes past a route that walkers can take, which is guarded by a railroad/transportation gate/latch bar like that of a gate of a crossing near a automobile-car transportation stop area, and is controlled by a "traffic light".



Ride Escape from Pompeii, the one and only extreme log flume in this park. Although much similar to Universal Studios Jurassic Park ride and along with SeaWorld's Journey to Atlantis, this extreme log flume is just as extreme and has a surprise at the end that will indeed get you soaked.

5. **Take in the Sesame Street Forest of Fun set of attractions if you have kids.** With various options themed to those furry Muppets from Sesame Street, there's something every child can partake in, in this area of the park. This area features a flat flume ride called the Bert and Ernie's Loch Adventure, a rocking pirate ship ride called Oscar's Whirly Worms, a family-friendly drop tower ride called "Prince Elmo's Spire" and a kid-friendly roller coaster called Grover's Alpine Express.^[4]

Part 4 of 9:

Italy and Festa Italia

Italy

1.



Walk into the Italy section of the park and ride any or all of the three attractions that are available to you. You may also go over top of the train tracks with the trestle bridge that leads you to Festa Italia for a few more choices (this will be discussed later in this article).

2.



Ride the swinging ship ride called "The Battering Ram". This one will have your heart pounding for about three to four minutes.

3. **Get scrambled on the low-powered Scrambler-like flying ride called "The Flying Machine"**. However, note that this ride's official ride time is far too short for most, lasting on average all of about less than two minutes long.
4. **Ride the circular magic carpet-like roller coaster ride called "Da Vinci's Cradle"**. This ride is actually rather stomach-churning and worth the wait in line to ride.

Festa Italia

1. **Ride the mad tea party-like attraction called "Turkish Delight" if you like lower-powered rides that still have a bit of flair.**
2. **Ride the music express ride that Busch Gardens Williamsburg calls "The Trade Winds"**.

3.



Ride the Roman Rapids ride, Busch Garden's version of a rapid rafting ride. Although this ride isn't as bad as many other rapid rafting rides in the United States, this is one ride that (rather mean for the area on which it is stationed) shouldn't be missed. You can find this ride to the opposite side of Apollo's Chariot way past the Turkish Delight attraction and even past the Party Train Station in this area (it is next to Rapids Gifts).

4.



Ride the Tempesto roller coaster. This ride is located in Festa Italia, technically, near Apollo's Chariot former location. Watch for the blue-colored track. If you don't visit any other roller coaster and love roller coasters, this is one that can't be missed on any Busch Gardens Williamsburg visit.

5.



- Ride the Apollo's Chariot roller coaster if you didn't ride Tempesto.** Find the purple-colored track roller coaster in back of Tempesto along a separate path in the Festa Italia area of the park. However, take note that this ride is older than Tempesto, so it's mechanics are based on older-styled mechanics. Apollo's Chariot was one of the major highlights of a Busch Gardens trip in the 1990s, but has become a little less popular now with Tempesto nearby.
- 6. Jump aboard the Busch Gardens train at the Festa Italia train station nearby, and depending on what you did earlier in the day, take a ride aboard or skip it and continue the circular walk of the park towards the Oktoberfest area across the archway bridge past the Il Teatro Di San Marco and Gelato Di San Marco marketplace areas.**

Part 5 of 9:

Oktoberfest and Germany

Oktoberfest



1.

Drop in on the freefall ride that Busch Gardens calls Mach Tower.

2.



Roller-coast through on Verbolten just after walking through the arch bridge from Italy. With some of the ride being indoors and covered and some of it being in a steep decline outdoors, this one is rather scary but if you are in for extreme thrills, you'll definitely love this one. If you are planning to ride, take a longer look at the interior ride queue this is one queue that is not to be missed.

3. **Bump some cars in the bumper cars ride that this park calls it's *Der Autobahn* ride.** They also have a junior bumper cars ride that is meant for smaller children who can't quite reach the peddles yet, but understand that this ride is fun.
4. **Take a ride on the yo-yo swings ride that the park calls *Der Wirbelwind*.** Much like the bumper cars, this also has a younger generation ride of the same type that they call "Wirbelwindchen."

5.



Try and eat in the food establishment in Oktoberfest called "Das Festhaus", which loosely translates out to be "the meeting house", but it has both German and American food served Cafeteria style,

and lots of tables styled in the theme of a German Oktoberfest location. The building is also air-conditioned, so this is the perfect place to go and sit down if it is a hot day outside.

1. Das Festhaus is the one and only place in Busch Gardens Williamsburg where beer is served, but you don't have to get beer if you don't want it.
2. Although there is no stop of the train in this area, you can literally see this building from the train ride around the park.
3. At various times throughout the day, there is a German-themed show that is performed here. So if you're hungry, and want to take a break or enjoy a show, check the board outside for show times, and enjoy your meal during that time period.



Ride the Curse of DarkKastle after digesting your food. Although the ride is slow, it's inside is very dark and intense for those who can't stand the darkness and loud and unappealing sound effects for many who dare enter. And to add to that, this ride features 3D graphics that make this ride rather scary for most who visit. But it does have some great taste to those who can stomach all the previous information.

Germany

1. **Take in Kinder Karussel for the one and only real ride in this area besides the Skyride and Rhine River Cruise.** However, note that this ride is a carousel ride with some German theming.
2. **Make your way to the Skyride and take this ride around the park to it's other two locations in England and France.**

3.



Ride the Rhine River Cruise boats. Although slow and steady "wins the race", this attraction isn't very handicapped accessible it has several stairs, that - though wide have no other way to get down to the boats without wheeling down (bumpety bumpety bump!); they have no elevator down nor are there any escalators either and the only way down is to push the chair or handicap furniture down these stairs stair-by-stair.

4. **Have your kids climb around in the "Land of the Dragons" play area.** Not only does it have rope bridges to climb across and lots of other neat children's energy play areas, it'll drain your kids of their extra energy that might become built up in the remainder of the park.
 1. This area includes a dragon-egg cart Ferris wheel called the Eggery Deggery, a flying dragon ride called Flutter Splutter, a kid-themed boat ride called Chug-a-Tug, a family-friendly music express ride called Bug-a-Dug, a treehouse, and a water play area called "Brook".^[5]

Part 6 of 9:

France sections

New France (French Canada)



1.

Swing by the Alpengeist inverted roller coaster. Although on Alpengeist you don't have a foot plate under your feet when you ride, the few helixes you take in on this ride, make this ride one that is not to be beat if you love roller coasters.

2.



- Ride the one and only true log flume in the park called Le Scoot.**
- 3. Board the train from this area of the park towards the back of the marketplace area, if you haven't yet boarded for a trip around the park. Look for the Caribou train station in the back of the New France area.**
 - 4. Ride Busch Garden's official scrambler ride called *Le Catapult* which is directly next to the train station to it's left as you come out from the train station.**

France

1.



Watch a showing of *Spark Presented by Coca Cola* at the *Royal Palace Theatre*. This show is only performing until August 16th, so be sure to check it out before then if you're there.

2.



Ride the Griffon. This very long, dive-roller coaster is rather new but very intense. Most people come out saying this roller coaster is amazing or stunning all in itself.

3. **Ride the Skyride if you haven't already passed through the other areas of the park, including at the Germany and England stations.**

Part 7 of 9:

Jack Hanna's Wild Reserve

1.



Rest for a few moments to observe a moment of pure peace at the Lorikeet Glen. Watch the birds and take a few moments out to cool off from some of the intense rides you've visited today.

2.



Learn a little about wolves in the wild in the Wolf Haven and Wolf Valley attractions. Catch a one-on-one question and answer session at the gate with a trainer.

3.



Watch the bald eagles at Eagle Ridge attraction. Remember that the Bald Eagle is the United States national symbol, and so it's nice to see these birds in a habitat close to their own without them wandering too far away from being seen.

Part 8 of 9:

Ireland

1. **Watch a showing of the Castle O'Sullivan play/attraction.** Although it's nothing but a stage play, this is a great theater to rest tired feet after a long day of walking and riding other rides and attractions in this park. You aren't too far from the entrance-exit, but you're not can't possibly be quite finished just yet.
2. **Fly on the Europe in the Air attraction.** Europe in the Air is styled after the attractions Soarin' at Walt Disney World and Soarin' Over California at Disneyland and should not be missed. A warning to some

people with certain ailments (recent pregnancies and surgeries) is mentioned at the entrance but this is definitely a ride for everybody else to enjoy.

Part 9 of 9:

Scotland



Visit with the Clydesdale horses, owls, border collie dogs, and owls and other animals just after you pass over the bridge from Ireland to Scotland.



Ride the Loch Ness Monster. You have to save the best and oldest remaining ride for last, but be careful if you don't like roller coasters that take you to unknown places in the dark (at one point but for several minutes). The Loch Ness Monster is Busch Garden's oldest steel roller coaster that is still in operation today^[6], and is also the only remaining ride in the Scotland area of the park.

You finished reading the article "**How to Visit Busch Gardens Williamsburg**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.
