

= Goliath (Six Flags Over Georgia) =

Goliath is a steel Hyper Coaster located at the Six Flags Over Georgia amusement park in Cobb County , Georgia , United States . Designed by Bolliger & Mabillard it reaches a maximum height of 200 feet (61 m) , a top speed of 70 mph (110 km / h) , and has approximately 4 @, @ 480 feet (1 @, @ 370 m) of track . Great Gasp and Looping Starship were both removed by the end of the 2005 season to make room for the roller coaster . Goliath was announced to the public on September 1 , 2005 and opened on April 1 , 2006 . In 2006 , Amusement Today 's annual Golden Ticket Awards voted it the fourth @-@ best new steel roller coaster of that year and the 9th @-@ best steel roller coaster . It was voted the 7th @-@ best steel roller coaster in 2013 .

= = History = =

On September 1 , 2005 , the park officially announced Goliath , a \$ 20 @, @ 000 @, @ 000 steel Hyper Coaster . By the end of the 2005 season , the rides Great Gasp and Looping Starship were closed and removed from the park to make room for the new roller coaster . Foundations for Goliath 's supports began to be poured in September 2005 . In early October , track began to arrive at the park ; erection of the supports and track began soon after . In November and December , construction on the lift hill was complete . In March 2006 , Goliath 's trains were delivered to the park . After construction on the track and testing was complete , the roller coaster opened to the public on April 1 , 2006 .

= = Ride experience = =

After being dispatched from the station , the train makes a left hand turn towards the 200 @-@ foot (61 m) chain lift hill . Once at the top , the train drops back down 170 feet (52 m) reaching a maximum speed of 70 miles per hour (110 km / h) . Following the drop , the train goes over the first of its camelback hills , where the train experiences the ride 's tallest drop at 175 feet (53 m) . As the train exits the park boundaries , it enters a banked left turn then its second camelback hill with a 129 @-@ foot (39 m) drop . Next , the train rises back up and enters a 540 @-@ degree downward helix before passing through a set of trim brakes and going over the third camelback hill , this time with a 118 @-@ foot (36 m) drop . The train then enters a horseshoe leading back into the park , followed by the final three camelback hills with a drop height of 79 @-@ foot (24 m) , 56 @-@ foot (17 m) , and 48 @-@ foot (15 m) , each lower than the previous one . Following a banked left turn , the train makes a quick drop before entering the final brake run leading back to the station . One cycle of the ride lasts about three and a half minutes .

= = Characteristics = =

= = = Track = = =

The steel track of Goliath is approximately 4 @, @ 480 feet (1 @, @ 370 m) long and covers an area of about 8 @. @ 5 acres (3 @. @ 4 ha ; 0 @. @ 0133 sq mi) . The height of the lift is 200 feet (61 m) . The roller coaster has no inversions , though it does feature six camelback hills and a 540 degree helix . The track is painted orange while the supports are painted teal . Goliath was manufactured by Clermont Steel Fabricators located in Batavia , Ohio .

= = = Trains = = =

Goliath operates with two steel and fiberglass trains . Each train has nine cars which can seat four riders in a single row , for a total of 36 riders per train ; each seat has its own individual lap @-@ bar restraint . This configuration allows the ride to achieve a theoretical hourly capacity of 1 @, @ 220

riders per hour . The structure of the trains are painted orange and teal , with matching colored restraints and seats .

= = Reception = =

Joel Bullock from The Coaster Critic and Mike from NewsPlusNotes both praised the g @-@ forces experienced while going through the helix , and the amount of airtime Goliath has . Bullock described Goliath as , " not only the park ' s best roller coaster , but arguably the best coaster in the South East (south of Virginia) . " Mike Collins from Coaster Radio particularly enjoyed the section of the roller coaster that takes riders outside of the park boundaries . He also said that , " [Goliath is] a fun and fast coaster . It ' s all about the airtime ... and you get a lot of it . "

In Goliath ' s opening year , it was voted the fourth best new ride for 2006 and the ninth best steel roller coaster in Amusement Today ' s Golden Ticket Awards . The roller coaster peaked at position four in 2009 and 2011 .

In Mitch Hawker ' s Best Steel Roller Coaster Poll , Goliath was voted as the tenth best steel roller coaster in the world in its first year ; it peaked at position seven in 2007 .

= = Incidents = =

On July 27 , 2006 , a 45 @-@ year @-@ old man was found unresponsive and not breathing on Goliath after losing consciousness during the ride . Park employees began to treat the man before he was taken to a local hospital and pronounced dead . After an inspection of the ride showed that the roller coaster was operating properly , it reopened to the public .