

= Super Mario Sunshine =

Super Mario Sunshine ( Japanese : ?????????????? , Hepburn : S?p? Mario Sanshain ) is a platform video game developed by Nintendo Entertainment Analysis & Development and published by Nintendo for the GameCube . It was released in Japan in July 2002 , in the United States and Canada in August and September 2002 respectively , and in Europe and Australia in October 2002 . It is the second Super Mario 3D platformer , following Super Mario 64 in 1996 . Super Mario Sunshine 's successor is Super Mario Galaxy , which was released for the Wii in 2007 .

The game takes place on the tropical Isle Delfino , where Mario , Toadsworth , Princess Peach , and five Toads are taking a vacation . A villain resembling Mario , known as Shadow Mario , vandalizes the island with graffiti and Mario gets blamed for the mess . Mario is ordered to clean up Isle Delfino , using a device called FLUDD ( Flash Liquidizer Ultra Dousing Device ) , while saving Princess Peach from Shadow Mario .

Super Mario Sunshine was well received by reviewers . It sold over 5 @.@ 5 million copies , and was the tenth best @-@ selling game of 2002 in the United States . Due to the game 's commercial success , it was re @-@ released as a Player 's Choice title in 2003 .

= = Gameplay = =

Super Mario Sunshine shares many similar gameplay elements with its predecessor , Super Mario 64 , whilst introducing various new gameplay features . Players control Mario as he tries to obtain 120 Shine Sprites in order to bring light back to Isle Delfino and prove his innocence after Bowser Jr . ( disguised as Mario ) steals the Shine Sprites and covers the island in toxic slime . Players start off in the hub world of Isle Delfino and access various worlds via portals which become available as the game progresses . Similar to collecting Stars in Super Mario 64 , players obtain Shine Sprites by clearing various objectives given to Mario upon entering each stage , with more objectives unlocked in each level after clearing an existing one . There are also various hidden areas and challenges across Isle Delfino where more Shine Sprites can be obtained . Throughout the game , players may also find Blue Coins , which can be exchanged for more Shine Sprites in the boathouse in Delfino Plaza .

In this game , Mario is joined by a robotic backpack named FLUDD ( Flash Liquidizing Ultra Dousing Device ) , which uses the power of water to clean away goop and help Mario reach new places . Mario starts with two default nozzles for FLUDD , Squirt and Hover , which he can quickly switch between . The Squirt nozzle lets Mario spray a stream of water which he can use to clean sludge , attack enemies , and activate certain mechanisms . The Hover nozzle lets Mario hover in the air for a short period of time , allowing him to cross large gaps while simultaneously spraying things directly below him . As the game progresses , Mario unlocks two additional nozzles for FLUDD which can substituted with the Hover nozzle : the Rocket nozzle , which shoots Mario high up into the air ; and the Turbo nozzle , which moves Mario at high speeds , allowing him to run across water and break into certain areas . Each of FLUDD 's nozzles use water from its reserves , which can be refilled via water sources such as rivers or fountains . There are also some areas where FLUDD is taken away from Mario , forcing him to rely on his natural platforming abilities . At certain points in the game , Mario may come across an egg which hatches into a Yoshi after being brought a fruit he asks for . Yoshi can be ridden upon and can attack by spitting juice , which can clear certain obstacles that water cannot . Yoshi can also use his tongue to eat enemies or other pieces of fruit which change his color , depending on the type of fruit . Yoshi will disappear if he runs out of juice or falls into deep water . Juice can be replenished by eating more fruit .

= = Plot = =

The game takes place on the tropical resort of Isle Delfino , which is shaped like a dolphin and comprises ten primary locations . The island is mainly inhabited by the races of the Piantas and Nokis . All the levels either have Piantas , Nokis or both . Delfino Plaza is Isle Delfino 's largest city

and the game 's main hub .

Mario sets out for Isle Delfino for a vacation with Princess Peach , and her long @-@ time steward Toadsworth . Upon a rough plane landing at the island 's airstrip , they find that the once @-@ pristine island has been polluted and plastered with graffiti . As a result of this pollution , sun @-@ shaped objects called " Shine Sprites " , the island 's sources of power , have disappeared , and the island is covered in a perpetual shadow . The culprit seen spreading the graffiti is disguised as Mario , who is named " Shadow Mario " . To help with cleaning the airstrip , Mario finds FLUDD , a powerful water cannon which is toted like a backpack and is also created by Professor E. Gadd . After Mario defeats a giant slime covered Piranha Plant and restores the airstrip , he is promptly arrested by two Pianta police officers who accuse him of vandalizing Isle Delfino with graffiti , despite the fact that he has only just arrived . He is put on trial , however it turns out to be a mere kangaroo court where the judge immediately finds Mario guilty and orders him to clean up the graffiti and recover the Shine Sprites , in spite of Princess Peach 's objection to the ruling . He is forbidden from leaving the island until he does so . The next day , after spending the night in a cell , Mario begins his adventure to find a way to clear his name and locate the real criminal , while restoring tranquility and order to Isle Delfino .

After defeating another slime @-@ covered Piranha Plant and a sunken statue rises from the ground , they see Shadow Mario on top of the statue for the first time . He jumps off the statue , grabs Peach , and runs off with her . Mario chases him and takes him down by spraying him with water from FLUDD . Shadow Mario immediately creates a graffiti portal on the restored statue and escapes through it . Mario follows him through the portal that leads to Bianco Hills , one of the other areas of Isle Delfino where he defeats another slime @-@ covered Piranha Plant and a hill , some trees and a section of wall rise up from the ground . After defeating two more slime @-@ covered Piranha Plants and restoring the disappeared boathouse and lighthouse that unlock portals from Delfino Plaza to two of Isle Delfino 's other locations , Mario follows Shadow Mario , who has kidnapped Princess Peach once again , towards Pinna Island , home of Isle Delfino 's theme park . There , Mario defeats a huge Bowser robot being controlled by Shadow Mario ( titled Mecha Bowser ) by firing water rockets at it on the roller coaster , while also shooting down the Bullet Bills that Mecha Bowser fires. It is then revealed that Shadow Mario 's real identity is Bowser Jr . , the youngest son of Bowser who wields a magic brush that creates graffiti which , like FLUDD , was also created by E. Gadd . Bowser Jr. turns the remains of Mecha Bowser into a hot air balloon and escapes again with Princess Peach , having been told by Bowser that Peach is his mother . When learning the truth , Peach is visually upset for a second . He is last seen heading for Corona Mountain , a volcano where Bowser is holding a family vacation of his own . After Mario beats Bowser Jr. in all nine areas ( not including the Delfino airstrip ) , a flood falls upon Delfino Plaza , opening up a cave that leads into Corona Mountain that Shadow Mario disappears into . While most levels are restricted by this flood , the flood disappears after the player has entered Corona Mountain . Mario enters the volcano , and after getting through the volcano 's inner cave , defeats Bowser and Bowser Jr. by flipping over the hot tub they are in using the Rocket Nozzle and super ground pound , rescuing the princess . Mario and the princess fall from the sky while Bowser and Bowser Jr. are falling onto platforms in the ocean . While the others are plummeting down , Princess Peach puts her skirt back on . Princess Peach lands on an island beside Delfino Plaza on her feet , but on the same island , Mario gets his head stuck in the sand , but gets out . However , FLUDD becomes damaged during the landing , supposedly beyond repair . The Shine Gate 's power is restored and the Toads repair FLUDD shortly afterward and Mario , Princess Peach and the others resume their vacation , while Bowser admits to his son that Princess Peach was not really his mother . After the credits , if the player has collected less than all 120 shine sprites , a picture shows Il Piantissimo , a sprinter that Mario raced during the game , finding the brush that Bowser Jr. used to vandalize Isle Delfino . However , if the player has collected all 120 shine sprites , a picture of the entire cast with the words " Have a relaxing vacation " is displayed instead .

= = Development = =

A sequel to Super Mario 64 had been in the works for several years ; the cancelled games Super Mario 64 2 and Super Mario 128 were some ideas Nintendo had for a direct sequel . Super Mario Sunshine was first shown at Nintendo Space World 2001 . The game was later shown again at E3 2002 .

In an interview about the development of Super Mario Sunshine with producer Takashi Tezuka and directors Yoshiaki Koizumi and Kenta Usui , it was mentioned that the game 's development began with the idea of gameplay involving a water pump . However , at first the developers thought that the world was too daringly out of character with Mario . Therefore , they tried using a man @-@ type character , but thought this was too odd and that " if there was a man next to Mario , there is a sense of incongruity . " There were ten candidates for possible water nozzles , and FLUDD was chosen because of fitting in the game 's setting , despite it not being one of the favorites . They also stated that several Yoshi features were omitted , such as Yoshi vomiting water fed to him .

Koji Kondo and Shinobu Tanaka composed the score to Super Mario Sunshine . The soundtrack features various arrangements of classic Mario tunes , including the underground music and the main stage music from the original Super Mario Bros.

= = = Voice cast = = =

Super Mario Sunshine features many of the usual voice actors for the various Nintendo characters . This is the only 3D Mario game which features full English voice acting in cutscenes ( excluding the Japanese voice actors or in other countries ) . Charles Martinet voices Mario , Jen Taylor voices Princess Peach and Toad .

= = Reception = =

Super Mario Sunshine was commercially successful , having sold 5 @.@ 5 million copies as of June 2006 . In 2002 , Super Mario Sunshine was the tenth best @-@ selling game in the United States according to the NPD Group . It was re @-@ released in 2003 as part of the Player 's Choice line , a selection of games with high sales sold for a reduced price .

Super Mario Sunshine received critical acclaim by game reviewers . IGN praised the addition of the water backpack for improving the gameplay , and GameSpy commented on the " wide variety of moves and the beautifully constructed environments " . The game received a perfect score from Nintendo Power , who commended the " superb graphics , excellent music , clever layouts , funny cinema scenes and ingenious puzzles " .

GamePro also gave Super Mario Sunshine a perfect score , stating that the game was " a masterpiece of superior game design , infinite gameplay variety , creativity , and life . " The American @-@ based publication Game Informer said that the game is arguably " the best Mario game to date . " Computer and Video Games also mentioned the game is " better than Super Mario 64 . " The game placed 46th in Official Nintendo Magazine 's 100 greatest Nintendo games of all time . Allgame gave a lower review , stating that " During the six @-@ year span between Super Mario 64 and Super Mario Sunshine , platform games have become more epic , more interactive , and prettier . Yet the core element of collecting items in a world divided into sub @-@ sections has been left unchanged . So it comes with a modicum of disappointment that Super Mario Sunshine doesn 't shake up the genre with a number of new and fresh ideas other than the usual enhancements expected from a sequel . "

Some reviewers were critical towards certain aspects of the game . GameSpot 's Jeff Gerstmann criticized the various additions , including FLUDD ( the water backpack ) and Yoshi , calling them " mere gimmicks . " He also complained about the camera system . Gerstmann felt that the game seemed somewhat unpolished and rushed , a sentiment shared by Matt Wales of Computer and Video Games .

= = Legacy = =

Super Mario Sunshine has introduced several elements which were carried over to subsequent Mario titles . Many of the characters introduced in this game have been staples in the series ever since : Petey Piranha , Cataquacks and most notably Bowser Jr. who has been one of Mario 's arch rivals ever since this initial encounter . Many of the bosses from this game and Luigi 's Mansion appeared in multiple Mario spin @-@ offs that were to follow on the GameCube , such as the unlockable Petey Piranha and King Boo in Mario Kart : Double Dash ? and the four unlockable characters in Mario Golf : Toadstool Tour .

This was the first game in the Mario series to introduce the Shine Sprites , which have appeared in later Mario titles such as Mario Kart DS and Paper Mario : The Thousand @-@ Year Door . This was the first game in the Mario series which included Bowser Jr .. He has since appeared in New Super Mario Bros. , Mario Kart Wii , New Super Mario Bros. Wii , New Super Mario Bros. U , Super Mario Galaxy , and Super Mario Galaxy 2 , and in later Mario spin @-@ off and sports games . The recurring character Petey Piranha , known as Boss Packun ( ?????? ) in Japan , was also introduced , who has later appeared in a large number of Mario titles .

This game was the first Mario platformer game to be released for the GameCube . It was also the first 3D Mario platformer which included the ability to ride Yoshi and to have him change colors . This feature reappeared in Super Mario Galaxy 2 where the Twisty Trials Galaxy in World S is another recurring theme from Super Mario Sunshine , based off one of the missions " The Secret of Ricco Tower " .

In Super Smash Bros. Brawl , Mario uses FLUDD as a new special move , it does no damage and instead pushes opponents away . Brawl also has the fighting stage Delfino Plaza , a replica of Isle Delfino 's capital city , with a platform carrying the fighters to any location of the stage on occasion . The original background music of Delfino Plaza occasionally plays on the stage , as well as the BGM for Ricco Harbor . The game also features several stickers based on artwork from Super Mario Sunshine . Most of these features were retained in Super Smash Bros. for 3DS and Wii U and the Delfino Plaza was retained in Super Smash Bros. for Wii U. Bowser Jr. himself debuted as a new playable fighter in the game , and utilizes his Magic Paintbrush and Shadow Mario form from Super Mario Sunshine in his Final Smash .