

= El Toro (Six Flags Great Adventure) =

El Toro , a Spanish term meaning The Bull , is a wooden roller coaster at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson , New Jersey . Designed by Intamin of Switzerland , it opened to the public on June 11 , 2006 . Intamin also worked with members of Rocky Mountain Construction to build the ride . When it opened , it had the steepest drop of any wooden roller coaster in the world at 76 degrees , until the record was broken by T Express in 2008 by one degree . Overall , its structure height of 181 feet (55 m) is ranked fourth , its drop height of 176 feet (54 m) is ranked second , and its top speed of 70 miles per hour (110 km / h) is ranked fourth among all wooden roller coasters in the world . It was also the first wooden roller coaster to use a cable lift as opposed to the traditional chain lift .

El Toro is the main attraction of the Mexican @-@ themed section , Plaza Del Carnaval . It replaced the Viper roller coaster that closed in 2004 .

= = History = =

El Toro sits on the former site of Viper , which closed in 2004 . Everything was removed in early 2005 except for the station . El Toro was announced on September 28 , 2005 along with Bugs Bunny National Park , a new themed area for children . It was also announced El Toro would be part of a new themed area known as Plaza del Carnaval . The lift hill was topped off on December 20 , 2005 . The ride started testing on Memorial Day weekend in 2006 . The ride had a surprise opening on June 11 then held its grand opening on June 12 .

El Toro has several similarities to Viper , the coaster that it replaced . The most obvious similarity is that El Toro uses Viper 's station , the only part of Viper that was not torn down . The station previously held two Viper trains at once , with a loading platform in the front and an unloading platform in the rear . The ramp that was previously Viper 's main exit is now used only for wheelchair access , as El Toro has a new exit on the other side of the station . During El Toro 's construction , the station was gutted and an entirely new platform built . Like El Toro , Viper turned left out of the station before the lift hill and turned left at the top of the lift before the first drop .

El Toro suffered a malfunction with the lift motor in early August 2013 . The motor was sent to Maryland to be fixed . El Toro reopened on August 30 , after it had been down for several weeks .

= = Ride experience = =

= = = Theme = = =

El Toro means " The bull " in Spanish , which is the theme of the ride . The cars are themed as " bulls " with bull heads on the front . The ride 's queue is surrounded by the Southwestern @-@ style buildings of Plaza del Carnaval , and also has abandoned " wagon wheels " and Spanish posters along a wall separating the queue from the ride .

= = = Layout = = =

After departing from the station , the train makes a turn to the left , passing through the ride 's structure . It then begins to climb the 181 @-@ foot (55 m) tall cable lift hill . Once the entire train is on the lift the cable increases its speed to 13 mph . Once at the top of the lift the speed of the cable gently slows down , but it is barely noticeable on the ride . After cresting the top of the lift , the train briefly travels forward and makes a 180 degree turn to the left . It then drops 176 feet (54 m) at a 76 degree angle , reaching a top speed of 70 miles per hour (110 km / h) . As the train reaches the bottom of the drop it comes close to the track above , creating a headchopper @-@ effect . It then travels up a 112 @-@ foot (34 m) camelback hill followed by a second camelback hill at 100 feet (30 m) . It then rises and then travels through a 180 degree downward @-@ banked turn to the right

, and up another banked turn to the left . The train goes through a small second hill that speeds past the station and the lakeside . The ride then makes another turn and up a smaller hill where riders experience ejector airtime . After coming down the drop , the ride snakes through twists and turns . After coming out of the twister section , the train slows down as it moves through small S turn hills and into the brake run .

== Trains ==

El Toro operates with two trains with six cars per train . Riders are arranged two across in three rows for a total of 36 riders per train . It has a capacity of 1 @, @ 200 guests per hour . The trains are simply known as " Train A " (light brown) and " Train B " (dark brown) . The trains have padded " wings " at shoulder level to prevent riders from being thrown too far to the side in the final twister section . El Toro 's lapbars are U @-@ shaped .

In 2010 , one of the trains was re @-@ themed to endorse Stride Gum . The train was wrapped in Stride Gum advertisements , showing a different flavor of Stride gum on each car . The advertisements remained on the train for the entire 2011 season , but were removed before the start of the 2012 season and replaced with Kia Soul advertising .

== Track ==

The wooden track is approximately 4 @, @ 400 feet (1 @, @ 300 m) in length and the height of the lift is approximately 181 feet (55 m) . El Toro is very different from a traditional wooden roller coaster because it uses prefabricated wooden track . It was built and designed by Intamin but they also worked with members of Rocky Mountain Construction to build the ride . Instead of carpenters cutting , shaping , and laying down the track on site by hand , the track is laser cut in a factory . This means that the track is manufactured to a higher degree of precision than could be achieved by hand . The " Plug and Play " aspect of the coaster speeds construction of the coaster since track does not have to be completely manufactured on site . In addition , because of the speed of construction , the costs of building the coaster are lowered due to fewer man @-@ hours spent on the construction . The riders are subject to a coaster that is as smooth as steel . El Toro is the first Intamin " Plug and Play " wooden roller coaster in the United States and one of four in the world . The other three are Colossos at Heide Park in Germany , Balder at Liseberg in Sweden , and T Express at Everland in South Korea .

== Records ==

When El Toro debuted , it broke records as the second @-@ tallest and fastest with the second @-@ longest drop of a wooden roller coaster in the United States . It also had the steepest drop on any wooden roller coaster in the world . As of 2016 , El Toro has the fourth fastest speed , the fourth @-@ tallest lift , and the second longest drop .

== Awards and rankings ==

When the ride debuted , it ranked 3rd for " Best New Ride of 2006 " in the Golden Ticket Awards .