

= Apocalypse (Six Flags America) =

Apocalypse is a steel stand @-@ up roller coaster located at Six Flags America in Prince George 's County , Maryland . The ride made its debut in 1990 as Iron Wolf at Six Flags Great America before being relocated to Six Flags America and renamed to Apocalypse . The roller coaster was the first built by Swiss manufacturer Bolliger & Mabillard . When known as Iron Wolf , the roller coaster held the records of the highest (100 @-@ foot or 30 @-@ metre) and fastest (55 miles per hour or 89 kilometres per hour) stand @-@ up looping roller coaster in the world before losing them to other roller coasters in 1992 and 1996 .

= = History = =

= = = Six Flags Great America (1990 ? 2011) = = =

On April 28 , 1990 , Apocalypse opened as Iron Wolf at Six Flags Great America on the former site of Z @-@ Force (the only Intamin Space Diver ever manufactured) . At its debut in 1990 , it was the tallest and fastest stand @-@ up roller coaster in the world until 1992 when TOGO built Milky Way which stands at 125 feet (38 m) and 1996 when Bolliger & Mabillard built Mantis at Cedar Point which has a top speed of 60 miles per hour (97 km / h) .

In 1994 , Iron Wolf appeared in the movie Richie Rich as Richie 's backyard roller coaster .

On August 5 , 2011 , Six Flags Great America announced on their official Facebook page that the Iron Wolf would be closed on September 5 , 2011 : " After a long 21 year history at the park , we will be removing Iron Wolf . Make sure to get your last rides in ? Iron Wolf ? s Last Stand is September 5 " . ' The Last Stand ' is also a reference to the slogan afforded to Apocalypse .

= = = Six Flags America (2012 ? present) = = =

On August 22 , 2011 , Six Flags America announced on their Facebook page that they would be adding a new attraction in 2012 . From this day , the park began to slowly remove burnt pieces from an envelope each days leading up to the official announcement on September 1 , 2011 . On September 1 , 2011 , Six Flags America announced that they would be adding Apocalypse in 2012 .

Iron Wolf closed on September 5 , 2011 , and work began on preparing it for transport to its new location . The new owners planned to add the roller coaster to the Skull Island section of their park , but before the relocation could take place , the Skull Mountain ride at Six Flags America had to be closed and demolished to make room for the new attraction . Construction for the coaster continued until the end of March 2012 when the final piece of track was installed .

The official Facebook page for Six Flags America had stated that the ride would officially open on May 25 , 2012 , but this was later changed to June 7 , 2012 .

= = Ride experience = =

After departing the station , the train makes a 180 degree turn leading to the 100 @-@ foot (30 m) chain lift hill . Once at the top , the train goes through a pre @-@ drop before making a sharp left hand turn leading into the first drop . Once the train is at the bottom of the first drop , it immediately goes through the first of two inversions , a vertical loop . The train then makes an upward right turn before making a left turn back down to the ground . The train continues to go left before going through an upward helix . After , the train makes a downward right s @-@ bend leading into the second and final inversion , a corkscrew . The train makes a left turn back up before going through another s @-@ bend , small over @-@ banked turn which leads to the brake run . One cycle lasts about 2 minutes with riders reaching a top speed of 55 miles per hour (89 km / h) .

=== Trains ===

Apocalypse operates with two steel and fiberglass trains . Each train has seven cars with four seats each for a total of 28 riders per train . When the roller coaster was known as Iron Wolf , both trains featured the face of a wolf on the front of the train . After the ride was relocated to Six Flags America , the wolf was removed and the word " Apocalypse " replaced it .

=== Track ===

The steel track is approximately 2 @, @ 900 feet (880 m) in length and the height of the lift is approximately 100 feet (30 m) . The first drop is 90 feet (27 m) . When the coaster was known as Iron Wolf at Six Flags Great America , the track was brown . Today , the coaster features orange and grey track with black supports to match the apocalypse theme .

=== Theme ===

Between 1990 and 2011 , when Apocalypse was known as Iron Wolf , there was no theme for the roller coaster . After its relocation to Six Flags America , to match the new name of the coaster , an end of the world apocalypse theme was added with fire , crashed planes and zombies located in the queue line and along the layout of the roller coaster . As guests go further in the queue line to the end at the station , it mimics an end of the world apocalypse scenario . The skull from Skull Mountain also serves as a backdrop to the ride .