

= Superman : Krypton Coaster =

Superman : Krypton Coaster is a Bolliger & Mabillard Floorless Coaster at the Six Flags Fiesta Texas amusement park in San Antonio , Texas , USA . Opened in 2000 , Superman : Krypton Coaster was one of the first floorless roller coasters in the world . The well @-@ received ride held the title for the world 's tallest vertical loop (145 feet) from its opening until 2013 . It is also known as for being the world 's tallest and fastest floorless coaster at 168 ft (51 m) high and a top speed of 70 mph (110 km / h) . Six Flags describes the coaster Thrill Level at MAXIMUM . Six Flags has announced plans to add Virtual Reality to Superman : Krypton Coaster to enhance the experience .

= = History = =

In 1999 , Six Flags Great Adventure spent \$ 42 million on new attractions including a prototype Floorless Coaster by Bolliger & Mabillard , Medusa (later Bizarro) . The immediate popularity of the ride , led to Six Flags Fiesta Texas and three other amusement parks to announce plans to install Floorless Coasters in 2000 ; aside from the announcement of Superman : Krypton Coaster on November 1 , 1999 , Six Flags Discovery Kingdom announced Medusa , Geauga Lake announced Dominator , and SeaWorld Orlando announced Kraken . The \$ 20 million Superman : Krypton Coaster was announced as part of a wider multimillion @-@ dollar expansion of Six Flags Fiesta Texas .

At the time of the ride 's announcement , construction had already begun on unused land bordered by quarry walls and an irrigation pond . The initial plans for the ride specified it would have seven inversions including a 114 @-@ foot @-@ tall (35 m) vertical loop and a 96 @-@ foot @-@ tall (29 m) dive loop . Following the ride 's announcement , the design was altered to remove the dive loop and increase the size of the vertical loop to 145 feet (44 m) . This saw Superman : Krypton Coaster obtain the record for the world 's tallest vertical loop when it officially opened to the public on March 11 , 2000 .

On March 6 , 2010 , Six Flags Fiesta Texas offered exclusive ride time on Superman : Krypton Coaster to help celebrate the ride 's 10th anniversary . On June 22 , 2013 , Superman : Krypton Coaster lost the title of having the world 's tallest vertical loop since Six Flags Magic Mountain in Valencia , California opened Full Throttle which features a 160 @-@ foot @-@ tall (49 m) vertical loop , 15 feet (4 @-@ 6 m) taller than the loop on Superman : Krypton Coaster .

On March 3 , 2016 , Six Flags announced that the ride would be one of several rides at various Six Flags parks to feature a VR system . Riders have the option of wearing a Samsung Gear VR headset , powered by Oculus to create a 360 @-@ degree , 3D experience while riding . It is themed to Superman saving a city from Lex Luthor 's Lex Bots who are causing chaos with an anti @-@ gravity ray . This theming will also come to the Superman : The Ride at Six Flags New England and Superman - Ride of Steel at Six Flags America .

= = Characteristics = =

= = = Statistics = = =

The 4 @-@ 025 @-@ foot @-@ long (1 @-@ 227 m) Superman : Krypton Coaster stands 168 feet (51 m) tall . With a top speed of 70 miles per hour (110 km / h) , the ride will tie with Iron Rattler as the fastest roller coaster at Six Flags Fiesta Texas . The ride features six inversions including a 145 @-@ foot @-@ tall (44 m) vertical loop , a zero @-@ g roll , a 78 @-@ foot @-@ tall (24 m) cobra roll and two corkscrews .

= = = Trains = = =

Superman : Krypton Coaster operates with three floorless trains . Each train seats 32 riders in eight rows of four . This gives the ride a theoretical hourly capacity of 1600 riders per hour . The open @-@ air trains feature seats which leave riders ' legs dangling above the track . Riders are restrained with over @-@ the @-@ shoulder restraints (OTSRs) . As the trains are floorless , the station has a retractable floor for safe boarding .

= = Ride experience = =

After riders have boarded and the station floor is retracted , Superman : Krypton Coaster departs with a left turn out of the station . This leads directly to the 168 @-@ foot @-@ tall (51 m) chain lift hill . At the top , the train crests the lift hill and follows a fairly level 180 degree turn to the right above the quarry wall . This leads into a 168 @-@ foot (51 m) drop off the quarry wall directly into the 145 @-@ foot @-@ tall (44 m) vertical loop . With the quarry wall on the track 's right , the train inclines to the top of the wall where it performs a helix to the right . After dropping from the quarry wall again , the train enters the zero @-@ g roll where riders experience a feeling of weightlessness . This is followed by the 78 @-@ foot @-@ tall (24 m) cobra roll and a mid @-@ course brake run . The exit from the mid @-@ course brake run banks down to the right into the two interlocking corkscrews . This leads to a final turn before the final brake run and return to the station .

= = Reception = =

Prior to launch , General Manager of Six Flags Fiesta Texas John Odum stated Superman : Krypton Coaster was " the big @-@ league ride we have really needed " . He stated the design of the ride , which interacts with the quarry wall , would make a thrilling ride : " being that close to the wall there is a good sense of speed " . In May 2000 , two months after Superman : Krypton Coaster opened , it was reported that the park was " off to a flying start " for the season . Six Flags Fiesta Texas officials stated the ride proved popular in its first year of operation .

In Amusement Today 's annual Golden Ticket Awards , Superman : Krypton Coaster was ranked in the top 50 steel roller coasters numerous times since its opening . It peaked at position 24 in 2002 , before it dropped to 50 in 2008 and rose again to 38 in 2011 .

In Mitch Hawker 's worldwide Best Roller Coaster Poll , Superman : Krypton Coaster entered at position 20 in 2001 and peaked at 17 in 2004 . The ride 's ranking in subsequent polls is shown in the table below .