

= Time Machine (roller coaster) =

The Time Machine is a steel roller coaster which is currently in @-@ storage at Ocean Park in Vietnam . Previously located at Freestyle Music Park in Myrtle Beach , South Carolina , the ride was manufactured by the Swiss company Bolliger & Mabillard , opened to the public on April 15 , 2008 under the name Led Zeppelin ? The Ride as part of Hard Rock Park . Due to financial problems , Hard Rock Park was sold and renamed after one year . The new owners closed the park in 2009 , and it is still closed to this day .

= = History = =

Plans for a Hard Rock @-@ themed amusement park were released in 2003 ; at the time , however , funding and licensing agreements had yet to be finalized . By 2006 , a licensing agreement with the Hard Rock franchise was reached . Hard Rock Park was announced in early 2007 . The park 's flagship attraction , " Led Zeppelin ? The Ride " , would be a Bolliger & Mabillard sit @-@ down roller coaster themed for the English rock band of the same name . By July 2007 construction for the ride was underway , with the lift hill completed .

" Led Zeppelin ? The Ride " soft @-@ opened to the public on April 15 , 2008 , with the first seats auctioned for charity . The ride 's official opening was on May 9 , 2008 . During operation , the coaster would play Led Zeppelin 's " Whole Lotta Love " through an on @-@ board audio system . In September 2008 , Hard Rock Park filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy due to the inability to pay its debts . Its owners later filed for bankruptcy under Chapter 7 , allowing them to sell the park .

In February 2009 , FPI MB Entertainment purchased the park . As part of the acquisition it was renamed Freestyle Music Park , with all licensed themes removed . " Led Zeppelin ? The Ride " was renamed " The Time Machine " , with the on @-@ board audio a selection of songs from the 1960s to the 2000s . The new park officially opened on May 23 , 2009 ; however , the fate of Freestyle Music Park was similar to that of its predecessor and the park closed in September 2009 . As of 2013 the park and its rides remain standing , but not operating .

According to Screamscape , on August 21 , 2014 , cranes had been set up next to the Time Machine to begin the process of dismantling , and elements of the finale had already been removed .

In 2016 , the ride will operate at Ocean Park in Vietnam .

= = Characteristics = =

The Time Machine featured six inversions over the 3 @, @ 738 @-@ foot @-@ long (1 @, @ 139 m) ride , including two vertical loops , a cobra roll , a zero @-@ g roll and a corkscrew . Riders reached a top speed of 65 miles per hour (105 km / h) . Throughout the ride , passengers could listen to five different soundtracks over speakers built into the trains . The trains had eight single @-@ row cars , seating riders four across for a total of thirty @-@ two seats per train .

= = Ride = =

After the train left the station , it climbed the 155 @-@ foot @-@ tall (47 m) chain lift hill . It then dropped 150 feet (46 m) before entering the first 120 @-@ foot @-@ tall (37 m) vertical loop . This was followed by a 95 @-@ foot @-@ tall (29 m) cobra roll and a 75 @-@ foot @-@ tall (23 m) zero @-@ g roll . A second , smaller vertical loop would lead the train into a large helix before the mid @-@ course brake run . The ride then dropped into another small helix before navigating through a corkscrew . A third helix followed before the train slowed in the final brake run and returned to the station .

= = Reception = =

Reviews of the Time Machine were mixed . The Coaster Critic , reviewing Led Zeppelin ? The Ride , described its overall ride experience as a " great attraction " , praising its pre @-@ show and synchronized soundtrack and rating the ride 8 @.@ 5 out of 10 . Jeremy Thompson of Roller Coaster Philosophy gave a similar review , enjoying the ride and ranking it number 15 on his top @-@ coasters list ; however , he criticized the lack of elements during the ride 's second half . Arthur Levine of About.com expanded on Thompson 's criticism , calling the ride one of North America 's top @-@ 10 overrated roller coasters . Levine described it as an " impressive @-@ looking coaster " which " has almost no airtime , shudders a bit as it delivers a few head @-@ banging moments , and is largely nondescript " . In Mitch Hawker 's worldwide Best Roller Coaster Poll , the Time Machine peaked at number 102 in its debut year (2008) . In 2009 , it dropped to 138th out of 368 ranked steel roller coasters .

= = Sale and Acquisition = =

The ride was posted for sale on www.italintl.com included in a bundle of components of the former Freestyle Music Park . In 2014 Time Machine was purchased by an undisclosed park in Vietnam as part of this bundle from the former home of Time Machine , Freestyle Music Park .