

= Hollywood Rip Ride Rockit =

Hollywood Rip Ride Rockit is a steel roller coaster at Universal Studios Florida in Orlando , Florida . With a height of 167 feet (51 m) , a length of 3 @, @ 800 feet (1 @, @ 200 m) , and a top speed of 65 miles per hour (105 km / h) , it is the largest X @-@ Coaster ever built by German manufacturer Maurer Söhne . It was announced on March 19 , 2008 and officially opened on August 19 , 2009 though originally planned to open in the spring of that year . Some of the special features are that riders are recorded during the entire 1 minute and 37 second ride and can choose one of thirty songs to listen to during the experience .

= = History = =

During the second week of January 2008 , Universal Parks & Resorts filed a Notice of Commencement with Orange County , Florida indicating that they were to construct a ride system that they had code @-@ named " Project Rumble . " The notice also stated that the contractor was " Maurer Rides GmbH , " located in Munich , Germany .

After months of rumours , the new attraction was announced by Universal officials on March 19 , 2008 . Unlike usual announcements , officials did not reveal the specifications of the entire roller coaster . In the original press release , it stated that the roller coaster 's vertical lift hill would be 167 feet (51 m) tall , and that the trains would reach a maximum speed of 65 miles per hour (105 km / h) . The press release also mentioned that each train would be equipped with a multi @-@ media package , LED lights , built in video recorders , and the option for riders to choose a song from a list to be played during the course of the ride . The ride would also include six near miss encounters . At the time , the new roller coaster was scheduled to open in Spring 2009 . Also , in the months after the announcement , Universal surveyed guests on what songs they think should be included in the roller coaster . Some of the artists that guests could choose from were : The Black Eyed Peas , Bee Gees , The Beach Boys , and Johnny Cash .

Construction began in May 2008 with preliminary land clearing . The first track pieces were installed during the week of December 7 , 2008 . In February 2009 , Universal launched a website for the attraction , which included a construction blog and photographs chronicling progress of the attraction 's construction . The track layout was completed at the end of April 2009 with the crowning of the lift hill .

In April 2009 , Universal confirmed that the roller coaster would not open as originally planned and said it would open in the summer . Though Universal has never mentioned what the exact problem with the roller coaster was , it is believed by newspapers that issues with the anti @-@ rollback devices on the lift hill that were not working correctly caused the delay .

After the issues with the ride were resolved , Hollywood Rip Ride Rockit began public previews in mid @-@ August 2009 . On August 19 , 2009 , Universal Studios Florida officially opened the attraction .

= = Ride experience = =

= = = Queue = = =

Guest first enter into one of two queues ; either the main queue , or the single rider queue . In both queue lines , there are several large screen displays that explain how to pick a song to play during the ride and important safety instructions . In the video , characters called " Video DJ 's " are used as demonstrators to provide a visual explanation .

= = = Ride = = =

The station for the roller coaster is quite different than traditional stations . As the train enters , it

slows down but does not stop . There is a moving sidewalk on both sides of the station moving at the same speed as the train so riders can load and unload . Riders have about 45 seconds to take their seat , lower the lap @-@ bar and make their song choice . After the restraints are checked , the train immediately begins to climb the 167 @-@ foot (51 m) vertical chain lift and the song that the rider picked begins to play while the on @-@ ride video recorder begins recording . When the train reaches the top of the lift , it drops back to the ground reaching a maximum speed of 65 miles per hour (105 km / h) . Following the drop , the train goes through a non @-@ inverting loop (meaning that the train doesn 't go through an inversion) , which is nicknamed " The Double Take " . Then the train makes an upward right turn into one of the several mid @-@ course brakes . It then drops back down going through a hole in a wall before entering a left upward helix . This section of the coaster is nicknamed " The Treble Clef " . Next the train enters a quick element nicknamed , " The Jump Cut " which is similar to a non @-@ inverting corkscrew . The train then drops back down before climbing back up into the second mid @-@ course brakes . Following a small drop to the left , it travels straight before making a right turn , followed by a left , and then another right leading into the third set of mid @-@ course brakes . Another drop is followed by the brakes leading into an s @-@ bend / turn . The train then travels into an inclined loop , then the train enters the fourth set of brakes after going back up . Finally , the train drops back down , and goes over a small hill before entering the final brake run where the train enters the station and the riders song ends .

== Track ==

The steel track of Hollywood Rip Ride Rockit is 3 @, @ 800 feet (1 @, @ 200 m) long in length , and the height of the lift is approximately 167 feet (51 m) . Because the lift hill is vertical , a special evacuation system is used in the event that a train stalls on the lift . Also , the track is filled with sand and gravel to reduce the noise when a train is on the track . Throughout the layout of the roller coaster , there are 5 sets of brakes to control the speed of the trains .

== Trains ==

The roller coaster operates with seven stadium @-@ style seating X @-@ Car trains . Each train has two cars that can hold six riders each for a total of twelve riders per train . On the head rest of each seat there are two speakers that play music during the ride . The speakers have been designed so that only the rider 's selected music track will be audible . On the restraint is a small touch screen where riders can choose which song they want to listen to during the ride . Additionally , the trains are equipped with multi @-@ coloured lights that can be seen during the night .

== Musical selections ==

The initial announcement just said that there would be 5 categories of songs . The full track list was not released until July 6 , 2009 , with Universal Studios Florida unveiling thirty songs (6 in each category) that can be played during the ride .

After riders board the train and lower their restraint , attached to the restraint is a small screen containing the logo of the ride and five categories of songs the rider can pick from . The song that the rider picked begins as the train climbs the vertical lift hill . Depending on the song , it may not begin at the beginning and end early as the total cycle time of the roller coaster is 1 minute and 39 seconds .

== Hidden Song Selections ==

In addition to these 30 songs , Universal Studios Florida also provided additional " hidden " songs that are available to riders , but are not included in the queue video .

To access these songs , after lowering the restraint , on the screen , riders must push and hold the logo of the ride for approximately ten seconds . When they release their finger , a number pad will

then show up . Entering a three digit code will allow the rider to listen to the song that the code corresponds to .

== Awards ==