

Crowd Calendar Cheat Sheet 2025 2026

Visit on the right days and cut your wait times in half

Lowest Crowd Periods (Green Go!)

- Early January (Jan 2-15) post-holiday lull, best weather of the year
- Late January through February MLK weekend excepted, otherwise very quiet
- First two weeks of May after spring break, before summer crowds arrive
- Late August (after Aug 15) families back in school, parks noticeably emptier
- First two weeks of September best kept secret in Disney planning
- First two weeks of November before Thanksgiving week, great fall weather

Moderate Crowd Periods (Yellow Plan Carefully)

- Mid-January through mid-February Martin Luther King Jr. weekend is busy
- Early March (before spring break) manageable with rope drop strategy
- Mid-May through early June graduations and end-of-school trips
- Mid-September through mid-October Food & Wine Festival draws EPCOT crowds
- Early November Veterans Day weekend sees a noticeable spike

High Crowd Periods (Red Avoid or Prepare)

- Spring Break (mid-March through mid-April) among the busiest weeks of the year
- Memorial Day weekend and the week after summer officially begins
- Fourth of July week fireworks bring massive crowds, book 6 months out
- Labor Day weekend last hurrah before school, parks are packed
- Thanksgiving week (full week) one of the top 5 busiest periods annually
- Christmas week (Dec 26-31) the single busiest week; expect 2-hour waits everywhere

Special Event Dates to Know

- EPCOT International Food & Wine Festival late August through mid-November
- Mickey's Not-So-Scary Halloween Party select nights August through October
- EPCOT International Festival of the Arts January through mid-February
- Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party select nights November through December
- Disney After Hours select nights year-round, limited attendance, shorter waits

Penny Mouse's Golden Rules
