

Vol. 31 No. 1

GIVE THE GIFT

OF AAA

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WESTMORELAND REGION

JANUARY 2024

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REAL ID Extended to May 7, 2025

The Department of Homeland Security extended the REAL ID deadline to May 7, 2025. The REAL ID Act established minimum security standards for state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards and prohibits Federal agencies from accepting for official purposes licenses and identification cards from states that do not meet these standards. Beginning May 7, 2025, every state and territory resident will need to present a REAL ID compliant license/ID, or another acceptable form of ID for boarding commercial aircraft, accessing Federal facilities and entering nuclear plants. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) considers a current passport or military ID acceptable identification for boarding an aircraft. For more information on Pennsylvania's REAL ID compliant license, visit dmv.pa.gov/REALID/Pages/default.aspx.

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Turn to page 9 for more information.



Westmoreland Region

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Disney World continues wave of growth Journey of Water, Inspired by Moana most recent update

he Walt Disney Company knows how to put on a celebration. It has spent more than a year commemorating its 100th anniversary and it's enhancing the festivities with the debut of Journey of Water, Inspired by Moana.

Guests can explore a beautifully landscaped walking trail at EPCOT. Experience fun and surprises around each turn while engaging with water in magical ways like Moana did with the ocean – from a simple greeting to a high-five or even a crashing wave of entertainment.

This lush and tropical path is the first Disney Parks experience to immerse guests into a world inspired by the hit Walt Disney Animation Studios film, "Moana".

The walkthrough attraction is the most recent addition to the expansive vacation destination, continuing a wave of growth and Journey of Water, Inspired by Moana is the newest chapter in the expansion. Debuting as part of a multi-year transformation of EPCOT, the attraction showcases the innovation and creativity for which Disney is synonymous.

Guest will have the opportunity to meet Moana in a new area of World Nature. Nestled across from Journey



SAFE WET – Journey of Water, Inspired by Moana is a recent addition to the transformation of EPCOT. *Image: Disney.*

of Water, Inspired by Moana, it will be an ideal place for fans to take photos or recount their important learnings about water conservation with the Wayfinder, herself.

From the youngest little ones to the generations who are young at heart, each member of the family can enjoy the dun, lively and interactive experience as they discover the best ways to befriend, protect and cherish the water that connects and gives life to the world. Water here has a playful personality and guests can join in the fun by making music with "rain harps," waving to jumping streams and creating a roaring ocean wave.

Guests will encounter Te Fiti as

they walk along the trail. Te Fiti is seen protecting water as it travels through the water cycle. Guests might even discover beloved characters carved in rock formations like Heihei, Pua and, of course, Moana.

Journey of Water, Inspired by Moana joins new experiences like Guardian of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind, Remy's Ratatouille Adventure, Connections Café & Eatery and much more meant to transform EPCOT's already renowned reputation. Addition elements include the debut of the new Walt Disney statue called "Walt the Dreamer" at Dreamers Point and the World Celebration gardens with plenty of lush green space to enjoy.

In addition to the new attraction, Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse will wear their platinum-best attire to greet guests in the Imagination! Pavilion, and Spaceship Earth will light up each night with a colorful lighting display accompanied by the Disney100 anthem. There also are four new Global Marketplaces that feature celebratory dishes and drinks.

To learn more about Walt Disney World vacations, visit your local AAA branch office to meet with a travel advisor or visit AAA.com/Travel.

Beauty, charm, history define Charleston South's finer attributes can be found in South Carolina town

harleston is considered one of the prettiest towns in the South. It blends magnificence with charm to create a delectable recipe.

Character and charisma help build a winner that attracts thousands of travelers annually. It's historic and humble, and bold and most definitely beautiful.

Alfred Hutty, a 20th-century artist and considered to be one of the leading figures of the Charleston Renaissance, perfectly described the city in a wire sent to his wife.

It read: "Come quickly, have found heaven."

Charleston's Holy City cobblestone streets are hundreds of years in age and only eight remain. They're comprised of stones used to weigh down ships that didn't carry enough cargo. They symbolize Charlestown's rich history.

Chalmers Street grabs the most attention. Nestled in the French Quarter, it's the most photographed cobblestone road in the city. Rumors swirled that ride on the rockiest road caused pregnant women to go into labor. Thus, labeling it Labor Lane.

South of Broad sits Adger's Wharf. A well-known cobblestone way, the once-busy dock is a shortcut to the harbor and Waterfront Park.

Alexander Gillon's fame originates from the Revolutionary War. He served



SOUTHERN COMFORT – Boats sail in Charleston Harbor in the background of Pineapple Park Fountain. *Image: Matthew. Adobe Stock.*

as commodore of the South Carolina navy and Gillon Street honors his past. Gillon founded Charleston's Chamber of Commerce, which today is the oldest in the United States.

Longitude Lane doesn't garner much attention, but it might hold the most splendor. Sharing the appearance of an alley, it's a path that leads to a narrow street with a handful of old homes.

The cobblestone roads are paths to Charleston's antiquity that includes the site where the first shot was fired during the Civil War. Pendleton House Museum was built in 1755, and Boone Hall Plantation has been growing crops more than three centuries. Both are open to visit and satisfy the appetites of the most serious history buffs.

Visitors also can tour the Charleston Jail, the Spirits of Magnolia Cemetery,

USS Yorktown – where ghost stories are told – antebellum homes and much more.

Charleston's deep roots, however, spread beyond its history. The town offers entertainment for visitors.

Its pristine beaches are among the South's finest. Comprised of Kiawah Island, Folly Beach, Sullivan's Island, Isle of Palms and Seabrook Island, each offers an eclectic list of activities from fishing, kayaking, sailing, kiteboarding, bicycling or just lying on the beach.

Wild Dunes Resort is rated among the best golf courses in South Carolina. Located at Isle of Palms, the course rests near the coast of the Atlantic Ocean. Magnificent views and manicured greens should entice the most avid golfers. It offers vacation rentals, condos and cottages for those interested in a golf getaway.

The shopping district and beauty spas provide a getaway from the beach, and dining and nightlife include fresh seafood restaurants, rooftop bars, breweries and Deep Water Vineyard – Charleston's only winery that provides tastings and nearly 50 acres to explore.

Charleston, no doubt, lives up to its reputation. The path to its amenities might be bumpy, but it's well worth the trip.

Heaven awaits. Don't miss an opportunity to visit.

Hyundai introduces in-vehicle pay service Automaker partners with Parkopedia to alleviate stress

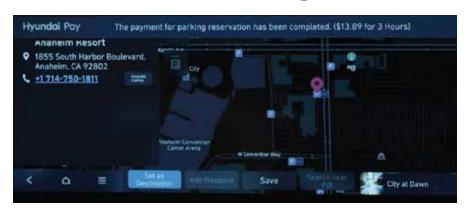
yundai Motor America recently introduced Hyundai Pay, a service that brings in-vehicle to customers. The system allows customers to find and pay for things with their vehicle's touchscreen by using securely stored credit card information.

Hyundai partnered with Parkopedia to launch Hyundai Pay's first service, a parking-payment system. The system enables U.S. drivers to locate, reserve and pay for parking at 6,000 locations – all from inside their vehicles following an initial set-up.

Hyundai Pay began with the 2024 Hyundai Kona. An addition nine Hyundai models will get the new system via model-year changes or over-the-air updates and include Parkopedia parking-payment services. Soon, the platform will have additional features and electric vehicle-related use cases.

Platform highlights include:

- Offering customers features via the vehicle's touchscreen and the Bluelink connected car system to enhance the driving experience.
- The scalable in-car payments system including other uses and selected scenarios that are part of daily drives and longer trips.
- Offering this level of convenience is part of Hyundai's ongoing effort to create best-in-class



PARK PLACE – Hyundai and Parkopedia teamed together to make finding a parking spot less stressful. *Image: NewsPress USA.*

digital-ownership experiences.

- Offering easy-to-use payment options as part of the navigation will simplify the driving experience.
- Keeping payments secure by using tokenization (replace card-account details with a unique-digital identifier or token that keeps data from being compromised.

"Hyundai Pay is the latest example of our continuous advancements in smart mobility and software-defined vehicles," said Olabisi Boyle, vice president, product planning and mobility strategy, Hyundai Motor North America. "With Hyundai Pay's scalable e-commerce platform, we can elevate customer convenience and extend their digital reach by making every day needs – like finding and paying for parking – easier, swifter and safer via our connected-car, integrated-cockpit and secure-transaction technology."

Hyundai provides a convenient and seamless parking experience for drivers through the integration of Parkopedia's Payment Platform. It removes the stress of finding and paying for off-street garage parking by using on-street curbside services to be provided in a future update.

Drivers also can access the Hyundai Pay system through the automaker's Bluelink connected-car services app. This provides a seamless connected service whether drivers are at home or on-the-go, with the app enabling drivers to view, book and retrieve past parking sessions for future journeys.

The new service helps to address the stress experienced by many drivers when searching for parking, with 94% facing difficulties to locate parking – including 18% who encounter issues finding a space on every parking search, according to Parkopedia's 2023 Global Driver Survey.

There also is a significant demand amongst American drivers for being able to find parking while inside their vehicles, with 58% wanting to be able to search for parking through their vehicle and 68% wanting to pay for parking through their in-car media system.

"American motorists report significant challenges in finding parking and a distinct desire for in-car parking services, with U.S. Hyundai drivers showing a particular interest in accessing parking information through their vehicles," said Hans Puvogel, chief operating officer at Parkopedia. "We are proud to be the first in-car commerce service to launch on the future-proof Hyundai Pay platform, which shows significant faith in the auto-grade quality of our services from one of the leading automakers. We look forward to additional models and vehicle services going live in the future."