

## Disney World Dance Nationals 2020

I was on my high school's varsity dance team in my freshman year. At the end of the season, the whole team got to go to the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Florida for nationals. Along with competing, my whole team and I got to go to Disney World together. At the beginning of our trip, we were stuck on a tight schedule of practicing. We would practice our routines in the parking lot, the lawn, and basically anywhere we could. On the day competing, all of the girls would wake up early and run from room to room helping with each other's hair and makeup. We had to wake up so early and be ready in time to get to the bus which took us to the Wide World of Sports Complex. When we got there, we spent so long waiting around for our performance time. There were a bunch of other high schools there to perform, so it was a very hectic environment. We did our practice run, which is where a worker plays your music for you a little bit before you go on stage, and it went well. We performed two routines in the competition, a jazz routine, and a pom routine. Both performances went well, but all my teammates and I really cared about what was being done with the dance season and going to Disney World.

After we were out of the competition, finally, we got to go to the parks. We had so much fun. I was there with girls who I had grown really close to and got to do so many fun things. We would wake up early in the mornings and get breakfast and then spend the whole day riding rides and walking around the parks together. It was a great note to end the season on. My team had 15 girls on it and we were all really close. I had never had the experience of going on a trip with a bunch of my friends before, so I was having a great time. Late at night when the parks closed, the dancers in the competition were allowed to stay a while after. I had been to Disney before when I was little and remembered how much I hated waiting in line. My teammates and I got to stay after it was closed to the public made us all feel like celebrities. We would go to any ride and

there was no line. We got to ride the new Avatar ride and the workers let us stay on any ride we wanted for as long as we wanted. It really was special, and I will never forget that. As the trip was coming to an end, all of the girls started getting sick. A perfect trip always has a catch. We all had stuffy noses and sore throats, so the plane ride back wasn't too much fun. Overall, the trip was a great bonding experience and brought me closer to one of my best friends today. I am so grateful that I got to experience Nationals at Disney and I will cherish that trip forever.

