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ATTRACTIONS: That's what Disney officials want you to do at their new Downtown complex.

By VIK JOLLY The Orange County Register



ANAHEIM - You may want to linger, soak up the ambiance, browse the boutiques.

Downtown Disney mean-

ders through four architectu-ral settings, all the while subtly

carrying on a vine motif through planters and side-walks. The benches are in the shape of leaves.

The art deco look is sprinkled in the area of the AMC theaters and in other places. French Quarter and Spanish provincial styles prevail in the malls of Paradise Plaza, a baseball-stadium feel graces the ESPN Zone, and Craftsman design can be seen at the esplanade's east end, says Mike Berry, senior vice president.

"Most developers, when they are thinking of developments, there's a unique mix of tenants," he said. "We really were trying to get some small stores and not great big department stores, so that you graze your way through."

This is not the place for the presentials.

This is not the place for the prom-night

Disney officials envision, instead, a family-outing location during the day and a roman-



MARK RIGHTMIRE/The Orange County Register JAZZING THINGS UP: Passers-by check out the menu at Ralph Brennan's Jazz Club.

tic getaway at night.

Officials say their typical guest profile is 21 to 50 years, and they expect a 50-50 split be-

tween tourists and locals

"We always called it a lush urban garden by day that turns electric at night," Berry said.

"Whether it's neon (lights) that accentuate a lot of the buildings to the Tivoli (lights) in plants, it has a wonderful feel after the sun goes down." More than 150 different types of trees and

plants are here. Fully matured, Berry points

Disney boxed and stored about 30 ficus trees at the Pond of Anaheim for three years after they were unearthed from Culver City because of a sewer project. They have found a home at Downtown Disney.

"What we were planning for and what we achieved is a place where people could relax in the day and decompress from the park and have a nice ambiance, a garden atmosphere that turns into a high-energy place at night where there's a lot to do and lots of lights," Berry said. Disney planned no special events for today's

official opening.

AMC will mark the opening of its 12-screen theater with 3,000 seats at 10:30 a.m. by cutting a giant paper admission ticket. The box office will open at 11 a.m., with the first movie, "Save the Last Dance," screening at 11:30 a.m.

Proceeds from a specially priced pop-corn-and-drink combo sold throughout opening weekend will go to the Elizabeth Glaser Pediat-

ric AIDS Foundation. Show times and reservations are at www.amctheatres.com.
"Look for us doing art fairs, festivals and var-

ious ways to keep (Downtown Disney) contem-porary," Berry said.

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Hanging out at Downtown Disney Downtown Disney, a non-gated promenade between Disneyland and Disney's new California Adventure, features shops, In the Zone Throne eateries and nightclubs along 20 acres of "Vine Street" lined with gardens and fountains. The complex opens at 8 a.m. daily. For sports fans, ESPN Zone offers eight plush leather recliners called Zone Thrones in front of a 16-ft. TV screen and 12 32-inch screens. Here's a closer look at what's there: World of Disney: From backpacks to jewelry to children's clothing, this 40,000-square-foot center offers loads of Disney merchandise, including 15,000 character La Brea Bakery Cafe: Offers Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen: Brenann ➤ Armrest control gives choice of 12 audio channels through headrest speakers. full-service dining and grab-and-go breads, pastries, sandwiches, soups and salads. Also has coffee and an espresso bar. The first La has brought chefs straight from his New Orleans restaurant to showcase gumbo, seafood and spicy Cajun-style chicken. AMC Downtown ➤ Servers bring food and drinks to Disney 12: Listen to jazz every night in downstairs club or dine on French Quarter-esque toys. You can also watch scenes from a 12-screen megaplex Brea Bakery was founded in Los Angeles in 1989. Disney films and meet Disney characters. ater with stadium-style seating. pring: Liquid Soliton: Sephora: Marceline's: candy and fragrances Naples Ristorante e Pizzeria: A southern Italian restaurant. Watch the pizza chefs hand-patting dough on marble slabs and pizzas cooking in 700-degree handcrafted wood ovens. Pizza dough is made with imported water from the East Coast.

operation: 8 a.m to 2 a.m. Individual stores may vary

Visitors: Disney expects 7.3 million guests a year at Downtown Disney

Design: Modeled after European shopping and theater districts like Copenhagen's Tivoli Gardens and

Plantation-style house has rock, R&B, Latin, reggae, hip-hop and blues, along with voodoo shrimp and Memphis-style

- Gospel Brunch buffet held Sunday For show times and tickets, call (714) 778-2583 or visit www.hob.com.
- Venue is harr the size \$1.5 million sound system Venue is half the size of L.A. club.

Y Arriba! Y Arriba!

Live music and dancing every night in a tapas-teatro setting. Opens Feb. 1

- Offers tapas dishes from 21 Spanish and South American countries
- Several bars, coffee area and Stage lowers to become a
- dance floor
 In-house dance orchestra, Latin specialty acts, concerts by Latin stars, fashion shows

Rainforest Café Tropical-themed restaurant and shop Dine among audio-

animatronic gorillas and elephants inside a structure that looks like an Inca palace and has real jungle plants

 Menu of grilled meats, alads and natural foods

Bird show outside

ESPN Zone

Sports/dining/ entertainment complex equipped with:

- 165 video monitors
 Radio studio and TV studio to tape "Up
 Close" with Gary Miller
- American grill food in re-created sets of ESPN SportsCenter and NFL Primetime in Studio Grill Sports telecasts from around the globe

in the Screening Room and interactive games in the Sports Arena, including rock climbing

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