



**EXPERIENCE A ROYAL
TRANSFORMATION
WITH KIDS!**

BY DANI MORITZ

Looking for an extra magical Disney experience to splurge on? You'll just need a shimmering blue gown, a twinkling tiara, a dash of makeup—and a reservation at Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique.

My own princess at home, Sagan, is constantly dazzling anyone who will listen with larger-than-life renditions of “Let It Go” and sassy impersonations of her personal hero. That’s why Sagan’s aunties cannot wait to surprise my aspiring ice queen with a special visit to the Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique during an upcoming Disney vacation once it reopens. (Good thing she can’t quite read yet!)

A BOUTIQUE EXPERIENCE

Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique offers a unique opportunity to transform your little one into their favorite princess or a royal knight—all thanks to ~~cosmetologists~~ Fairy Godmothers in Training.

Friends of the Fairy Godmother herself, these gifted Godmothers know just the “thingamabob that does the job” and will have your little one storybook-ready long before the clock strikes midnight.

You can find these boutiques at three WDW locations: Magic Kingdom, Disney Springs, and the Grand Floridian.

But be warned, while Disney World is for the young and young at heart, this experience is exclusively available to children between 3 and 12 years of age. (Just ask my sister who desperately wanted some coveted boutique accessories and tried ... and failed ... to book as a teenager.)

PRINCESS PACKAGES—AND KNIGHTS, TOO!

Bibbidi offers several packages (with some requiring more of a royal budget than others). These range from the \$19.95 Knight Package to the premium Princess Signature Dress Collection Package, which costs four times as much as admission to the parks at \$450.

ENCHANTING EXTRAS

You can purchase extra enchantment to make your child's transformation even more magical. These enhancements include shoes, wands, crowns, and T-shirts.

Each package includes specific components. The more affordable options—like the Crown Package (starting at \$74.95)—come without a princess gown. If an authentic Disney dress is high on your list, you'll need to purchase a pricier package.

Fortunately, you don't have to dole out \$450 for a package that features a dress. The Castle Package, starting at \$199.95, is a mid-range option with a Disney Princess gown, accessories, nail polish, makeup, and hairstyling. (This is the one my princess will likely experience during our trip ... but *shh!* Don't tell her!)

Tip: If your child wants to be a specific princess, verify that the package you select offers that princess. Some packages, like the Deluxe Castle Package (starting at \$229.95), offer a limited number of signature princess gowns.

PREVIOUS PAGE: Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique is the ultimate place to transform your child into knight or princess. PHOTO BY JUDD HELMS

PREPARATION IS KEY

While the boutique is a magical experience, it's still best to come prepared. Make sure your little one arrives with a full stomach and clean, combed-through hair. Review what to expect so they don't get nervous in the salon chair.

(Brushing my little one's hair is my own personal torture, so I'll be sure to thoroughly brush her locks prior to our visit to avoid traumatizing the Godmother assigned to her.)

PICTURE PERFECT

If you're going to splurge on a royal transformation, you're going to want picture-perfect photos to capture the special day. I highly recommend purchasing Memory Maker and taking all the PhotoPass photos you can around the park.

Tip: To maximize your princess's or knight's experience, book a morning reservation. That way, you have plenty of time to get your pictures, and your little one will have a full day to show off their newfound royal look. (But, let's be real, pack a T-shirt and pants just in case.)



Sagan got her first haircut at another, more affordable Disney salon: Harmony Barber Shop. PHOTO BY DANI MORITZ

CLIP THE COST

If Bibbidi is too pricey for your budget, consider visiting the Harmony Barber Shop. My daughter Sagan got her first haircut here, and it was a truly magical experience.

Located in Magic Kingdom, this picturesque working barber shop offers an affordable salon experience. Here, guests of all ages can get a haircut right on Main Street, U.S.A. Packages include a child's haircut (starting at \$18), an adult haircut (starting at \$19), and the My First Haircut package, which starts at \$25 and features a haircut, commemorative Mickey ears, a keepsake lock of hair, and an official milestone certificate. 🧡



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