

# JOM!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY LIFE & TIMES

Soar into the sky on  
Rio's Samba Gliders.

PICTURES BY HANNA HUSSEIN

## Thrilling rides above the clouds

Genting Skyworlds Theme Park brings to life all your favourite animations for a fun-filled family day, writes **Hanna Hussein**

at the colourful facades.

There are three rides in the zone and we head to the first one, the thrilling Samba Gliders, which is said to be one of the best in the park.

Two riders are strapped side by side facing front and back on a "hang glider chair" that can accommodate four people. The chair is connected to a rail above as it circles the park section like a roller coaster at a height of almost 20m, providing an adrenaline-charged bird's-eye view of the whole area.

### EPIC WORLD

Next we head to the "Epic" section. At the entrance, visitors will walk through a "machine" that shrinks them into "tiny humans", just like in the 2013 animated movie, and be "teleported" to a woodland kingdom inhabited by talking slugs, flower people and tiny soldiers called Leafmen.

Flowers and bugs are now giants and we, the tiny humans, get a chance to marvel at the secret kingdom up close. Not only that, there are also two rides — Voyage to Moonhaven and Hummingbird Flyers — to

### COOL ICE

If you are into roller coasters, you must try the Acorn Adventure at the Ice Age zone.

This amazing ride will take you on a "nutty" journey in search of a mystical acorn with Scrat, the lovable pre-historic squirrel in the famous *Ice Age* movies.

The ride will take you as high as 20m before making a rush down the spiral tracks around the icy fall.

The zone also features three other attractions: the Ice Age: Expedition Thin Ice, which is still under construction; Sid's

**S**INCE its opening last February, I have been wanting to visit Genting Skyworlds Theme Park, the outdoor theme park of Resorts World Genting in Pahang, and see what the hype is all about.

The highland resort has been receiving a lot of visitors with its hotels fully booked on weekends and public holidays.

So, my husband and I decide to go on a weekday instead, and it turns out to be the best move.

The entrance to Genting Skyworlds isn't that crowded, and since we already purchased our tickets through the Genting Skyworlds Mobile App, we begin our day quite smoothly.

After scanning the QR code on our phones at the entrance, we proceed to our day of adventure starting at the Studio Plaza.

### HELLO, RIO!

A bright and vibrant zone, the Studio Plaza is a place to celebrate all things cinema. It is also where the main retail stores and exciting restaurants (especially the candy store!) are located.

There are not many rides here, so we head to the "Rio" section on the right side of the park, where a summer party is held all day, every day, with loud, funky Brazilian samba music that gives the place an atmosphere of the carnival.

*Rio* is one of my favourite animated movies produced by Blue Sky Studios and 20th Century Fox Animation. The movie is about a domesticated macaw named Blu going on an adventure to Rio de Janeiro with a fiercely independent hen named Jewel.

We get to waltz through the bustling neighbourhood of Santa Teresa and marvel

My husband and I choose the front-facing seats so we can enjoy the ride going forward.

Not really a fan of thrilling rides, my sister opts for the Rio Carnival Chaos, a chaotic spinning ride in a colourful teacup — something that lets her keep her feet on the ground.

Joining her later, I thought I might get dizzy from all the spins, but it is actually quite fun and enjoyable.

Another ride in Rio is the Blue Sky Carousel, a double-decker carousel with stunning details and artistic elements. Unfortunately, the ride is undergoing maintenance.

better enjoy the "kingdom".

Since Voyage to Moonhaven is a water ride that doesn't promise to keep you dry, it is highly recommended to take it last before you head home.

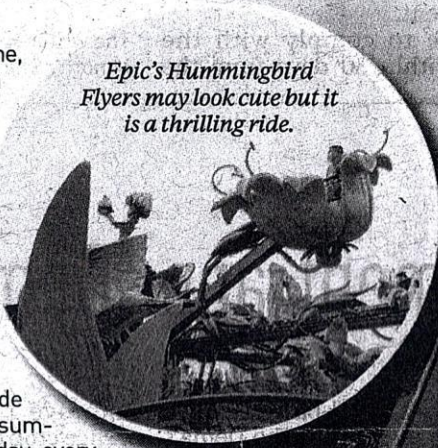
The boat ride takes us on a whimsical tour around Moonhaven while exploring deep into the macro-world. However, it's not just a leisure cruise, as the ride has its own surprises. Do look out for the scary, unexpected drops that will send you hurtling down the waterfalls!

The Hummingbird Flyers, on the other hand, is a scarier ride that goes round and round, taking you high and low on the back of a "flying hummingbird".

Rock N Slide, which is a super-thrilling motion-filled ride; and the Mammoth Fun Zone, which is a frosty playground for little explorers.

Of course, we also make sure we don't miss out on catching the Ice Age: Time Warp shows at Sid's Playhouse, where we get to meet all the Ice Age characters and watch them perform live on stage with a fun dance that you can join in.

Showtimes are available on the Genting Skyworlds app and it is mandatory to book a VQ reservation to get a seat!



*Epic's Hummingbird Flyers may look cute but it is a thrilling ride.*

*The weekday crowd at Genting Skyworlds Theme Park, Genting Highlands.*

