

ILLUMINATION



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お届けしたい。

NEWS RELEASE

(TUE) April 24th, 2018

New ride to bring more mayhem to Universal Studios Japan!

『FREEZE RAY SLIDERS』

GRAND OPENING: SAT, JUNE 30TH, 2018

Universal Studios Japan is proud to announce the upcoming grand opening of the new Freeze Ray Sliders ride in “the World’s Largest Minion-themed Area”, on Saturday June 30th, 2018.

The Minions, from Illumination’s Despicable Me franchise are going to be causing even more mayhem across Minion Park. They have transformed the Minion Park pool into an ice rink with their giant freeze ray! Now, guests will get to experience an exciting sliding race on flash-frozen ice.



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【About “Freeze Ray Sliders”】

★The Story of the Attraction★

One summer day, with the fierce heat beating down on them, the Minions came up with a plan... They take over the public swimming pool in the Minions Park and bring the giant Freeze Ray gun out of Gru's lab, fire the ray at the pool and instantly create an ice rink in the middle of the park! As soon as this happens, the Minions explode in excitement, riding the ice making machines (ride vehicle) out onto the ice, slipping and sliding all over. Guests are caught up in the mayhem with cold mist falling from all around in this unpredictable race around the ice. The attraction area also features scenes of Minions using a periscope under the ice, trying to free their fellow trapped Minions and other comical scenes, which are sure to bring a smile in this original story only available at Universal Studios Japan.

★Attraction Specs & Requirements★

- Vehicle Design: Vehicle design based on ice-making machines created in Gru's lab. Each vehicle features a custom Minion flag, making the vehicle selection part of the fun.
- Guest Experience: Approx.: 1.5min
- Capacity: 4 people per vehicle
- Height Restriction: Minimum 122cm if unaccompanied, minimum 92cm if accompanied by a supervising companion.

About Universal Studios Japan

Universal Studios Japan is wholly owned by Comcast NBCUniversal.

Universal Studios Japan located in Osaka, Japan, has succeeded in establishing its position as a prominent entertainment and leisure landmark drawing many guests from distant areas in Japan as well as overseas. "Bringing You the Best of the World" - a theme park where its guests can have the world's best experiences and create the world's best memories, Universal Studios Japan offers world-class entertainment such as authentic attractions and shows, based not only on Hollywood blockbusters but also popular entertainment brands, and a variety of seasonal events entertaining its guests to the fullest.

Universal Studios Japan has continued to evolve since its opening and has recently accelerated its growth with the launch of world-class entertainment experiences such as The Wizarding World of Harry Potter, The Flying Dinosaur and Minion Park and Despicable Me Minion Mayhem Ride. Universal Studios Japan recently broke ground on Super Nintendo World – what will become a Nintendo-themed, expansive entertainment areas featuring Nintendo's legendary worlds and characters.

About Illumination

Illumination, founded by Academy Award® nominee Chris Meledandri in 2007, is one of the entertainment industry's leading producers of event-animated films. The company's franchises include two of the top-four animated films of all time, and its iconic, beloved brands—infused with memorable and distinct characters, global appeal and cultural relevance—have grossed more than \$5.7 billion worldwide.

Illumination was recently honored by Fast Company as one of the world's most innovative companies.

Illumination, which has an exclusive financing and distribution partnership with Universal Pictures, has garnered an extraordinary number of franchise successes for a studio only a decade old. As the creator of the hugely successful world of *Despicable Me*, which was recently crowned the top-grossing box-office animated franchise globally, Illumination has evolved the *Despicable Me* series to include *Minions*, the second-highest-grossing animated film of all time and the most profitable film in Universal's history, as well as the Academy Award®-nominated *Despicable Me 2* and summer 2017's *Despicable Me 3*, which has now crossed \$1 billion at the global box office to become the fourth-highest-grossing animated film of all time.

In 2016 alone, Illumination launched two original properties that captivated audiences worldwide. That summer, *The Secret Life of Pets* achieved the best opening for an original movie, animated or otherwise, in U.S. history. Likewise, the critically lauded holiday favorite *Sing* premiered to a standing ovation at the Toronto International Film Festival before becoming a global smash.

Founded 10 years ago with the mission of putting a smile on the face of every member of the audience, no matter their age, Illumination continues to imagine both original stories, as well as unexpected adaptations of beloved pre-existing works. By infusing joy and discovery into every property, the studio allows audiences to connect their experiences with each property to the Illumination brand itself.

With successful mobile games, consumer products and social/digital media, Illumination's franchises—populated with characters that are as comedic as they are heartfelt and authentic—translate far beyond the theater. "Despicable Me: Minion Rush" has now become the fifth-most popular game ever, while *Despicable Me: Minion Mayhem*, at Universal Orlando Resort and Universal Studios Hollywood, has newly been joined by the wildly popular Minion Park at Universal Studios Japan...where the Minions are the No. 1 licensed characters.

Illumination's upcoming films—featuring creative contributors from an unparalleled collection of writers, artists, voice talent and musicians—include *Dr. Seuss' The Grinch* in November 2018, *The Secret Life of Pets 2* in June 2019, *Minions 2* in July 2020, and *Sing 2* in December 2020.

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