



## Orlando -- Not Just for Kids!

By Mira Temkin



Having survived many visits to Orlando with my family, I was curious to see what this magical city was like, sans children. In a few words...just fabulous!

### AAA Four Diamond Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando's newest meeting, convention and vacation hotel

Situated on 230 acres of lush landscape, Rosen Shingle Creek welcomes you to a world of luxury accommodations, enticing restaurants, four pools, 18-hole championship golf course, spa and fitness center. Designed in Spanish revival architecture, the resort boasts 12 dining and refreshment choices ranging from a fine-dining Italian bistro and a classic steakhouse to a 24-hour NY-style market and ice cream parlor. Very simply, we didn't want to leave the walls of this grand facility.



But if you do, everything from Universal Studios, SeaWorld and Walt Disney World (all with complimentary shuttle service) to other popular Orlando attractions are nearby. And if you decide to bring the kids along, you can take them to "The Swamp," with supervised kids' activities.



### Universal Excitement

I've been to Universal before, but I wanted to see their newest attractions within the two theme parks. Islands of Adventure features five remarkable islands where comic

After a day at the parks, the Spa provided a delightful respite. I opted for the Calusa Cocoon, a hydrating body treatment using restorative oils in a warm, body wrap that left my skin feeling soft and smooth. I practically floated back to my room. The Spa also offers a complete selection of massages, signature facials, hair, nail and beauty treatments.

We escaped to the countryside of Tuscany for dinner at Cala Bella featuring gourmet Italian, inspired by Mediterranean and American classics. Their signature dish, Cala Bella Lamb, was outstanding. But I left room for their signature dessert...Chocolate Sabayon, topped with the restaurant's logo in hard chocolate.

One of the things I liked about Rosen Shingle Creek was its location...near enough to the attractions, yet what seemed miles away from all the hustle and bustle. After spending a few wonderful days at this luxurious retreat, I came to realize that Rosen Shingle Creek is a destination unto itself! For reservations, call (866) 996-6338 or [www.rosenshinglecreek.com](http://www.rosenshinglecreek.com).

### Hello, Dolly -- Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede

Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede was more than just a show, it was an adventure! This action-packed extravaganza with amazing horse feats, stunt riders and audience participation was great fun. Plus, the four-course dinner was delicious. What a great night's entertainment for the whole family. Even in the attraction-capital of the world, the Dixie Stampede is one show you don't want to miss! Call 800-637-3686 or [www.dixiestampede.com](http://www.dixiestampede.com).

book legends, cartoon heroes and children's stories come to life on innovative rides and attractions. My favorite? The Spiderman 3-D Thrill Ride -- where you see, hear and feel all the action. At Universal Studios, you're the star! This real film and television studio takes you behind the scenes and right into the center of your favorite movies. I loved the 4-D Shrek Show and the classic E.T. ride, where E.T. personally says goodbye to you! Visit [www.universalorlando.com](http://www.universalorlando.com).



At night, a stroll down Universal's CityWalk entertainment complex made us feel we were miles away. Whether you're young or young at heart, Orlando still holds the magic!

For more information, go to [pwww.orlando.info.com](http://pwww.orlando.info.com)

*Mira Temkin is a North Shore freelance writer specializing in advertising, promotional marketing and public relations. As a travel journalist, she has ventured across Europe and the Caribbean. In addition, she is Editorial Consultant for Suburban Woman Publications. She can be reached at 847.433.2109 or [mtemkin967@aol.com](mailto:mtemkin967@aol.com).*