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INSIGHT

WTC COMMUNITY WEEKLY



National Ferris Wheel Day

February 14 might be known best as Valentine's Day, but did you know it's also National Ferris Wheel Day?

This famous date is the birthday of George Washington Gale Ferris Jr., the inventor of the everpopular Ferris wheel.

It's an excuse for people all over the country to celebrate National Ferris Wheel Day and take a ride on one of these famous moving wheels.

The very first wheel of this kind was designed and built by George Washington Gale Ferris Jr. He designed it especially for the World's Colombian Exposition in 1893, after graduating with a degree in civil engineering.

Many of the world's most famous cities have a Ferris wheel, including Jakarta, London, Tel Aviv, Helsinki, and Tokyo. So if you're at one of these popular destinations on February 14, take a ride on a Ferris wheel to celebrate the day!

Whether it's your first or hundredth time on a Ferris wheel, you'll never forget the experience of seeing the sights from high off the ground!

the community editor

How many people can a Ferris wheel carry?

The number of people a Ferris wheel can hold depends entirely on the wheel itself. For example, the original "Chicago wheel" invented by George Ferris could hold 2,160 people in total. But this doesn't apply to all Ferris wheels, and many smaller fairground wheels have between 20-40 cars seating 2-4 people in each.

Where is the world's tallest Ferris wheel?

The Ain Dubai in the city of Dubai is the world's tallest Ferris wheel at 820 feet (250 meters). In 2021 it overtook the Las Vegas High Roller, which stands at 550 feet (167 meters) tall.

How long does a ride on a Ferris wheel last?

A typical ride on a Ferris wheel can last between 10-20 minutes. Generally, a Ferris wheel will make at least two rotations and allow passengers to get on and off during the first rotation. The original Ferris wheel in 1893 stopped six times during the first rotation before giving passengers a non-stop ride the second time.