

Redwood Canopy Trail now open at Trees of Mystery

June 19, 2020





Becky Jasperse is terrified of heights. However, she accepted her friends' challenge to walk the new Redwood Canopy Trail at the Trees of Mystery in Klamath with her husband P.J.

"I thought, you know what? I love the trees, the atmosphere. I wanted to see the experience, see what it was like," Becky said Jasperse said.

So, they traveled from Redding last week to return to the park for the first time in 15 years.

The Canopy Trail features a 526-foot path over eight suspension bridges and 10 platforms that range from 50-100 feet above the ground.

"The experience puts you into the canopy of the redwood trees," park office manager Brenda Lopez explained. "There isn't another canopy trail in old growth redwoods, anywhere."

She said groundbreaking for the project was in August 2019 and construction by Tree-Mendous Aerial Adventures finished in March 19, 2020.

"That evening is when we got word California had to shelter in place," Lopez said of the safety measures put in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "So, we were not able to open to the public."

She said the park was allowed to reopen May 22 after submitting a safety plan to the Del Norte County Public Health Office.

Just some of the safety measures Lopez said they've taken include:

- Hand sanitizer was placed throughout the park.
- Employees must wear masks at all times and have their temperatures checked each morning before coming in the door.
- Social distancing is encouraged throughout the trails and giftshop.
- Plexiglass was installed between cashiers and the paying public.

- The gondolas on the Sky Trail ride are sanitized after each use and given another full, empty ride around the loop before the next use.

The Canopy Trail has its own safety measures. It's completely enclosed behind netting and undergoes daily inspection before anyone is allowed on board. Lopez said the trail also gets certified on separate weekly, monthly and biannual inspections.

"It's very well engineered," said P.J. Jasperse. "When you look at everything they've done with the supporting cables and anchors and how solid the bridge is, I think it's great."

"That makes me feel better," Becky Jasperse added. "It's not just something thrown together. They put a lot of thought into this. So, I appreciate that safety aspect."

Lopez said the feedback has been extremely positive, adding it's an exhilarating experience that you can't describe until you've tried it yourself. Becky Jasperse couldn't agree more.

"It gives you a new appreciation of this park from the trees," Becky Jasperse said. "Because they are beautiful to come and see, to get up into them a little bit more is even more amazing. I think this is a great addition."

MORE INFORMATION

Trees of Mystery

15500 U.S. Highway 101, Klamath, California

Open 7 days a week except Christmas and half days on Christmas Eve and Thanksgiving.

Trails entrance is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The gift shop is open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Museum is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

General admission for ages 13-59 is \$20. Seniors 60 and older or \$16, children ages 6-12 are \$11 and ages five and under are free.

Admission includes the SkyTrail, Forest Experience Trail, Wilderness Trail, Trail of Tall Tails, Kingdom of Trees, Redwood Canopy Trail and The End of the Trail Museum. (Individual attractions are subject to closure depending upon weather and other conditions).