

In the year 2009 my dream came true I finally went to the United States, though I got a ten year business visa in 2005 but could not make a trip then. The destination: FLORIDA, The sunshine state and the purpose to see my partner Michael and observe working at home office for a while and gain from there style of functioning.

USA is really amazing. Everything was quite systematic and automated in a real sense. Obtaining a car train ticket, boarding pass printing on the airports, car parking tickets, even fueling of vehicles is unattended! Michael came over to pick me up at Orlando International Airport, I was surprised to see him inside the Airport and that too before the baggage claim.

Roads were huge and wide and traffic seemed to be quite smooth. There were a number of freeways (roads without any signals) where the cars speed up like anything there were systematic provisions for pedestrian crossings too. It's about 90 minute drive to Palm Coast, we stopped over for lunch at Wing House, a bit of wild place to be in with girls in shortest of the skirts and tightest of the outfit (rest I will leave for imagination). We stopped over to say hello to every one at office, though I was tired of being in air for about 20 hours, the sheer excitement of being in USA kept me going, I was welcomed by Sara (Michael's wife) as if I am a family member and trust me as an Indian who are always proud of there hospitality it was an amazing experience.

The towns was extremely clean and well maintained, as there weren't any paper cups being flung out a car window, nor were the streets dug up and re-paved to the extent that you feel like you're riding down a roller coaster with your vehicle.

It was 3rd. of July and a day just before America's Birthday There were celebrations all over the State of Florida the following day, so we had a short day at the office.

Thanks to Florida gymnasium who allowed us to be the part of the Parade, Thanks a ton to all the organizers for a truly fun day. The atmosphere was great. It was so exactly like a small-town American 4th of July picnic. I kept thinking 'this is so weird', but in a good way. I would like to thank everyone involved in planning and working for this successful celebration. We had a wonderful time. The outdoors made it feel like a family picnic. I was also surprised by how child-friendly the event was.

We headed for Georgia same afternoon where Sara's parents an elderly loving and full of life couple lives, Once again I was taken by surprise with the ease I was welcomed in the family, we had some great fun there, a life time experience.

Being a small town you don't find much public transport and you are depended on other I wanted to do many things, but I just didn't know how to proceed. I wanted to go shopping, but I neither had a car nor knew where the nearest shop was located and then every one is busy in his/her work.

Most of the restaurants have good food and service, I got asked by about 5 or 6 different people if the food was okay and if we wanted more, I'm just not used to that kind of service. American food portions are very large and then they serve you unlimited cold drinks (drink till you drop or

carry home if you want) I knew Indian portions were smaller - about the size of an American appetizer - but I could not believe just how large the difference was. For the first 2 days, I only ate about ¼ of what was presented and not only this if you have not liked the taste of what you have ordered you get a free replacement that is just “wow”, you can’t think of having such a nice gesture in India, as restaurant will close before they start making any money...One day we went to an extremely good pizza place, had some beer, place looked like a small European town and reminded me of my London days.

Weather was great blue skies with a few wispy white clouds, perfect temperature of high 80s/low 70 degree F, and minimal humidity, Gorgeous.

The rest of the week was spent in many, many meetings at work and a few evenings with Michael and Sara’s friends. Everybody was incredibly welcoming. It was great to see everybody and was really nice to know that I am not yet considered an "outsider".

20 miles south of Orlando and about 90 miles from Michael home is Walt Disney World which covers 43 square miles, and includes four separate theme parks—the original Magic Kingdom; Epcot; Disney's Hollywood Studios; and Disney's Animal Kingdom. It has often been said that the true essence of Disney magic can be experienced simply by stepping foot inside the Magic Kingdom, I along with Devin, Rachel and Michael just got back this weekend from my trip to Disney magic Kingdom and I'm still glowing! I don't even think I can choose a favorite attraction...there were so many great ones! Disney is about being a kid again and learning and having fun at the same time and for the records I took more than 200 pictures.

Magic Kingdom made me feel like I was in a fairytale. It made me feel like a kid again. I still remember the books my father used to read me like Dumbo and Pinocchio when I was a kid. I loved those books. I just found it fascinating and yes, even magical, to see those characters in the Magic Kingdom. They were found on murals or rides or during the parade or fireworks show. It made me remember those old time Disney characters from when I was a little kid.

Unfortunately Space Mountain was closed, we would have liked to have ridden that. A pirate of the Caribbean was as cool as the Haunted Mansion was. There were a few entertainment features we enjoyed. 3D Donald duck picture show, Laugh Floor was surprisingly entertaining. It's rather interactive and gets the audience involved with the show and then the parade which is lit up with lights, I saw parade viewers start camping out at the best spots along the parade route an hour or two before the parade actually starts, Those Disney characters you would imagine to be there were all in attendance. Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Goofy, Pluto, Cinderella and numerous others, It’s full of lighting effects to re-create pixies and peacocks, sea horses and flying horses, flower gardens and fountains It was a fun parade.

My trip to US is coming to an end and I really don’t know how fast time has passed, though I missed my family, it gave me enough understanding of the home office.