

The Jungle Cruise



When the Disneyland theme park opened in Anaheim, California in 1955, its most popular ride was the Jungle Cruise, in which guests boarded a tramp steamer for an exciting voyage up a tropical river. The “expedition” passed dozens of jungle animals and temple ruins, sailed behind a waterfall, and narrowly escaped an ambush by spear-wielding native headhunters. That was the plan, anyway. But due to an administrative error, the designer, Bob, instead built a replica of the Great Dayton, Ohio Flood of 1913. It was bad enough that riders had to sit in uncomfortable wooden boats as they floated past 20,000 life-sized flood-devastated homes, but when they entered the Smell-o-vision™-enhanced lagoon that contained the carcasses of 1,400 drowned horses, their patience finally ended – as did, not surprisingly, Bob’s employment tenure with Disneyland.