

Review: 400014 The LEGOLAND® Train

By lluisgib

Set: 400014 The LEGOLAND® Train

Number of parts: 548

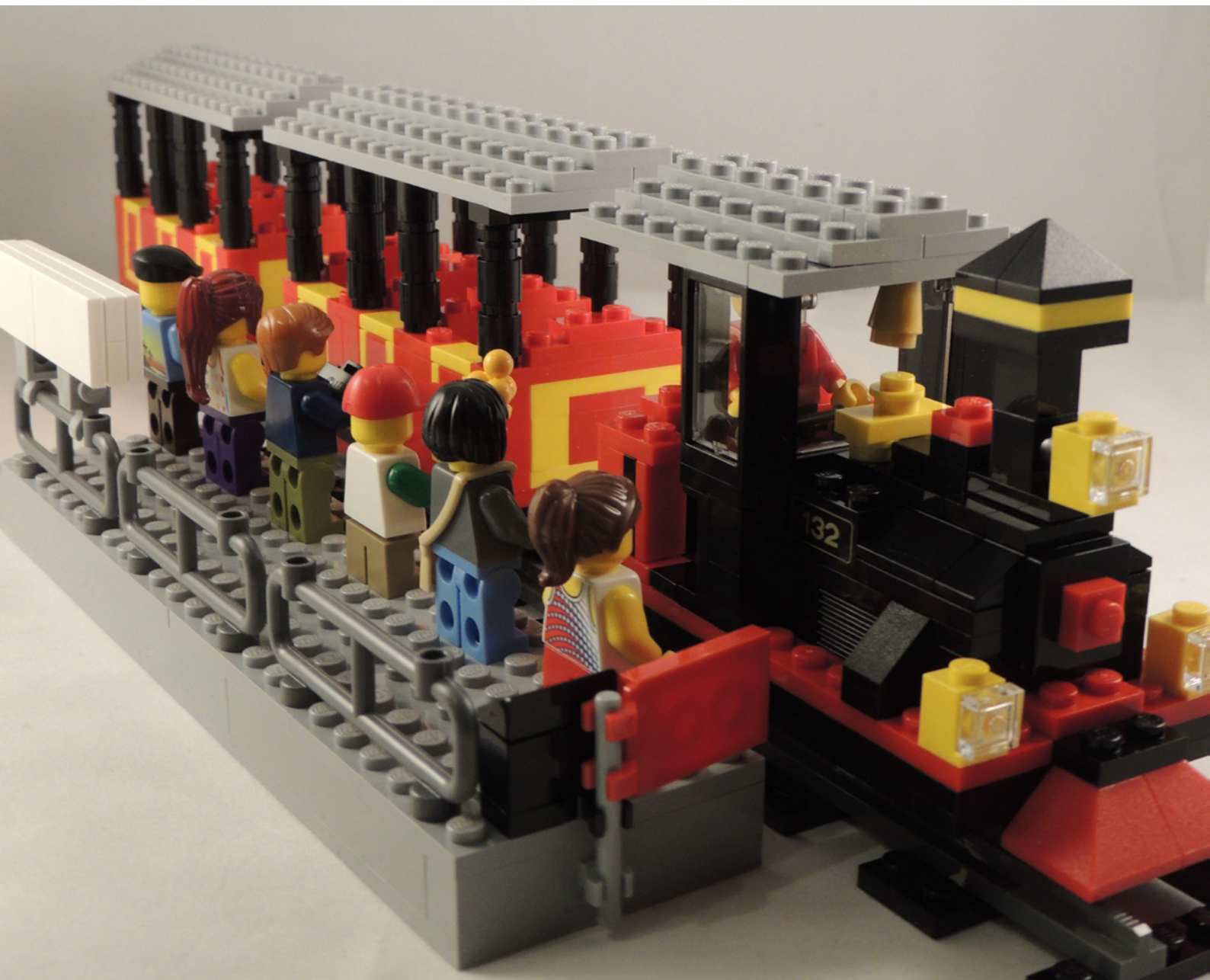
Minifigs: 7

This year I attended the 10th LEGO® Fan Weekend in Skærbæk on September, 27th and 28th. It was my 6th visit to the “best LEGO fan event of the world” and, due that it was the 10th Anniversary of the event, I expected some surprises.

I was somehow surprised because when I registered to the event, on Friday afternoon, I didn't receive the usual set given as a gift to all exhibitors. During all Saturday no news about it, but after closing the exhibition, I was helping to transport all the

boxes of the auction to the dining room, and I saw two pallets full of big boxes without any label.

The dinner started and everything was like other years. Jørgen Vig Knudstorp, CEO of LEGO made a short speech, together with Tormod Askildsen. After the main course, the two pallets were placed in the center of the room and Steen Stig Andersen, LEGO designer, made a speech about how a set is designed. He did a tour on his career and then he explained how he designed the LEGO Inside Tour set of this year: The LEGOLAND® Train. In my mind I thought that he was “bad” because he was talking about a set that almost nobody could have access to. After his speech, the boxes were open and the





CEE team showed us this year's gift: "The LEGOLAND® Train, Fan Weekend Edition". There was a 5-minutes applause of all the people, amazed about the set. I was helping to distribute it, and I saw the face of the AFOLs when they received the set. I couldn't see my face, but I imagine myself with a big smile. There are 360 units of this version of the set.

The set reproduces the train of LEGOLAND® Billund. Anyone who has been to the park knows the train. It makes a trip around the park and it looks like it is built with giant LEGO® bricks. In LEGOLAND® Billund there are three trains. The one reproduced in this set is number "132". This reference is printed on a 1x2 black brick and is one of the two exclusive parts of this set, together with the torso of the train driver.

The train is 6 studs wide, and uses a 4-stud wide track, and there is an engine and two cars, together with a small platform, with a board with the logo of "LEGOLAND® Billund". As Steen Stig explained, one of the tasks that took him more time to design, was the roof of the cars, to allow it to open and put the minifigs inside. The set has 10+ age indication and that is because there are some interesting building techniques, mainly to reproduce the pattern of the cars. It took me around 45 minutes to build it and it has been a fun build.

There is a good selection of minifigures, with 4 adults, 2 kids and the train driver, with some nice accessories like a handbag, an ice cream or a photo camera.

The train is very detailed and it looks almost exactly like the real one is. The set comes in a white box, and there is a cover for the box with the image of the set on a white background and the words "LEGO Fan Weekend" to differentiate it from the "LEGO Inside Tour" version, which has a black background and the picture of the attendants of that LIT.

It's sad that this kind of sets are so limited, because there is a big number of fans who would like to have one. They represent the mythic things of LEGO, like this LEGOLAND® Train, the Ole Kirk's House or the Billund Airport. At least this year LEGO made 350 AFOLs from all over the world happy, giving them the best Christmas-Birthday-Hanukkah-whatever present. I think only people without heart could think about selling it (sadly there were some). I will treasure it and it will bring me good memories of the LEGO Fan Weekend, the AFOLs from 29 countries, and my first visit to LEGOLAND® Billund, when I turned from an adult playing with toys to an AFOL.
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