

Review 10261 - Roller Coaster

Text by Iluisgib

Images by Iluisgib and LEGO® System A/S

Set: Roller Coaster

Set number: 10261

Parts: 4124

Minifigs: 11

Recommended price: 329,99€ / \$379,99



It all started three years ago when the Fairground Mixer was launched. A fairground attraction! I think at that moment many of us started fantasizing about having a large fairground with all kinds of attractions, including a roller coaster. In 2016 a LEGO® Friends set, 41130 Amusement Park Roller Coaster, made our hearts jump... would this be the prelude to the long-awaited roller coaster? Unfortunately it wasn't, as it only used existing 4-wide train tracks. In the meantime we got the Ferris Wheel and the Carousel. But a large number of fans kept dreaming of a roller coaster.

Everything changed in December of 2017, when a set from The LEGO® Batman Movie opened our eyes and gave us new hope. The 70922 Joker Manor set included a roller coaster with a new track system and cars. How wonderful! The Joker Manor showed us the system, although for a large roller coaster we still needed additional track sections. We had to wait until June to get the brand-new 10261 Roller Coaster set.

In this photographic report we will show you some of the best parts of this set.

1.- The minifigures

The set contains 11 minifigures, including adults, grandparents, and a girl... possibly the most interesting thing, aside from the variety of torsos and hair pieces, is that there are three which are perfect for this set: the scared boy, the dizzy boy, and the girl who is sad because she is not tall enough to go on the roller coaster ride.



2.- Access to the attraction

Beautiful. There is a sand track on top of the grass. It starts at the ticket booth from which you can access the attraction after buying your tickets.



The track twists around several of the supports that hold up the attraction. You pass in front of a juice and ice-cream stand which is right in front of a small pond.



At the end there are a few step that lead to the platform where you get into the cars. There are three gates that lead to the three cars and the control posts for the attraction.



When the ride is over, you go down another set of steps that lead to the other side of the ticket booth, where you can buy a picture taken of you on the first downward ramp of the attraction.



3.- The ride

I was pleasantly surprised with the ride when I saw the first video. There is a little bit of everything, bearing in mind that it is a set with limitations on size and cost. After going up initially, there is a downward slope to gain some momentum after which there is another upwards slope and then a bend.



The second drop takes you through a dip that makes your stomach jump.



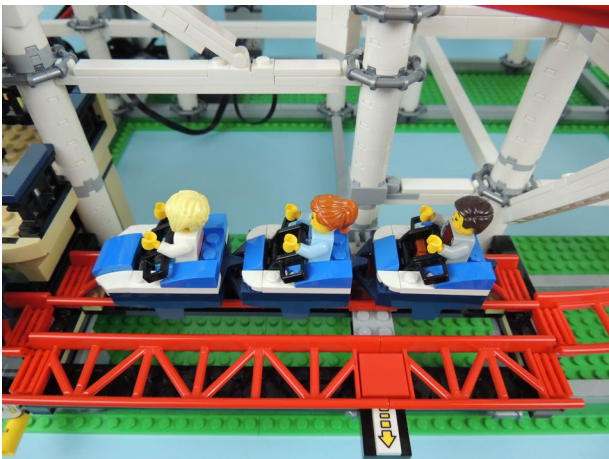
From there on, there is a 180° bend followed by four downwards ramps and a bend that takes you to the final straight.



The last drop takes you to the platform where you can get on and off the roller coaster.



On this straight track there is a parallel track that can be used to park a second train of roller coaster cars. This track can slide in and out to add this second set of cars to the attraction.



4.- Details

The set is full of little details that only improve what you see at first glance.

The 'COASTER' sign: Following the style of the modular buildings, the sign is built with bricks and breaks the red and blue colour scheme of the attraction with an eye-catching azure and dark blue combination.



By changing the colour of the beehive element, the designers have managed to make candy floss – and in order for the girl to get some, there must be a machine to make it. The set includes a portable candy floss machine that includes all the necessary details.



The trees are built using the new leaf element that came out this year. Using a relatively simple system, with brown flower stems, the designers have created a compact tree that is much more realistic than those which use the traditional plant leaves.



En la atracción tampoco faltan los detalles. Al llegar a la parte superior de la atracción hay un cartel que dice que los usuarios no se levanten. En el primer descenso hay una cámara de fotos para captar la cara de susto.



5.- Operation

Although it is hard to describe in a magazine, the operation of the roller coaster is very smooth. During the whole ride, the cars don't lose speed due to friction and they have no trouble reaching the end. There are no shocks of any kind. Possibly the only negative aspect is the first climb on which you can sometimes notice irregularities even if it is perfectly aligned – which is probably due to how the cars don't perfectly connect to the chain.

Conclusion

Sometimes when you have really been looking forward to something, there is a certain possibility that you may feel disappointed with the result. I think that when LEGO® showed the first video of the roller coaster, the AFOL world was fascinated by the potential this system offers.

During these months we have seen models that use this system to create much bigger roller coasters, to the point where they have adapted the system to make vertical 360° loops.

I believe this is one of those sets where the result is many times better than just the building experience. Building the set is quite entertaining, although there are parts that are just stacking columns and beams. Additionally, you have to pay close attention not to skip any steps or the geometry will be off.

The set is fragile during transport and rather hard to store. But aside from this it is a fantastic set that is full of details, and like any good attraction it can also be motorised. I believe the pros clearly outweigh the cons. Basically I feel this is the best set in the fairground series. I can't imagine what we will see next year, but it will surely be hard to make something that is even better.

NOTE: In this issue of HispaBrick Magazine® you can read an interview with Jamie Berard, which contains an explanation of how the roller coaster system was developed.

We want to thank LEGO® for providing this set for review. However, LEGO® neither approves nor endorses the opinions we publish.
#

