

Natalie's WISH

"I wish to go on a Disney® Cruise!"

Natalie, 4, spinal muscular atrophy

When she was just one year old, Natalie was diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy type 2, a progressive disease that weakens muscles. Natalie can sit on her own, but she needs help with walking and other movements.

When she found out she qualified for a wish, her choice was clear: go on a Disney Cruise with her parents and baby brother, Quinn. Her big hope was to meet her favourite Disney® princess, Elsa, from Frozen!

The trip did not disappoint.

"We had an absolutely AMAZING time on the cruise," said Natalie's mom, Meredith. "It was absolutely over the top, they took such great care of all of us. From the housekeepers to the serving staff to the [on-board] Make-A-Wish guest services staff member that spoiled us, it was unbelievable! We had an amazing time. We did the dog mushing expedition in Skagway [Alaska] ... which was incredible! Then, in Juneau, we were at the Mendenhall Glacier and saw a mamma bear and two bear cubs eating salmon out of the river super close up. Natalie loved meeting the Disney characters and also the Bippity Boppity Boutique was unbelievable!!

"We can't thank Make-A-Wish enough for this incredible journey, the lead up to the trip with Kat, our wish granter, was amazing. She gave Natalie a special 'Frozen'™ dress that she wore multiple times on the cruise."

Natalie's wish was fully supported through the generous donations received from the annual Cactus Club dessert promotion! Natalie may have wished to meet a character from Frozen, and her wish may have taken her to a colder, northern climate, but make no mistake, this was a wish that warmed her heart!

Adopt-A-Wish Supporter: Cactus Club Restaurants

