

Virtual reality cinemas coming to El Paso malls

Virtual reality cinemas are scheduled to open in Cielo Vista and Sunland Park malls in coming weeks.

Fata Morgana, an El Paso company, plans to open the cinemas in Cielo Vista in East El Paso by the second week of March, and in Sunland Park in West El Paso by late April, a company official said.

The Cielo Vista location will have a nine-seat, 5-D cinema and a 9-D simulator. Sunland Park will have a nine-seat, 8-D cinema, and three 9-D simulators.

The cinemas allow viewers to feel like they are inside the movie, a company official said. Viewers wear special glasses and sit in seats that move with motions in the movies. Surround sound, aromas, bubbles, and other special effects are part of the experience. The 9-D simulator allows a viewer to experience the movie as if the viewer is one of the characters inside the movie, a company official said.

Movies will run around six to 15 minutes, and cost \$10 per person, the official said.

Vic Kolenc may be reached at vkolenc@elpasotimes.com; 546-6421; @vickolenc on Twitter.