

February 2009

WORLD WATERPARK

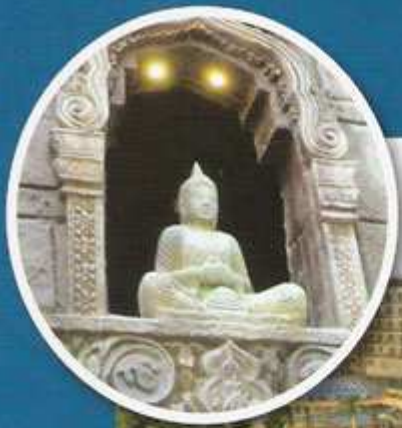
The Official Magazine of the World Waterpark Association

Livin' Large in Budapest At Aquaworld

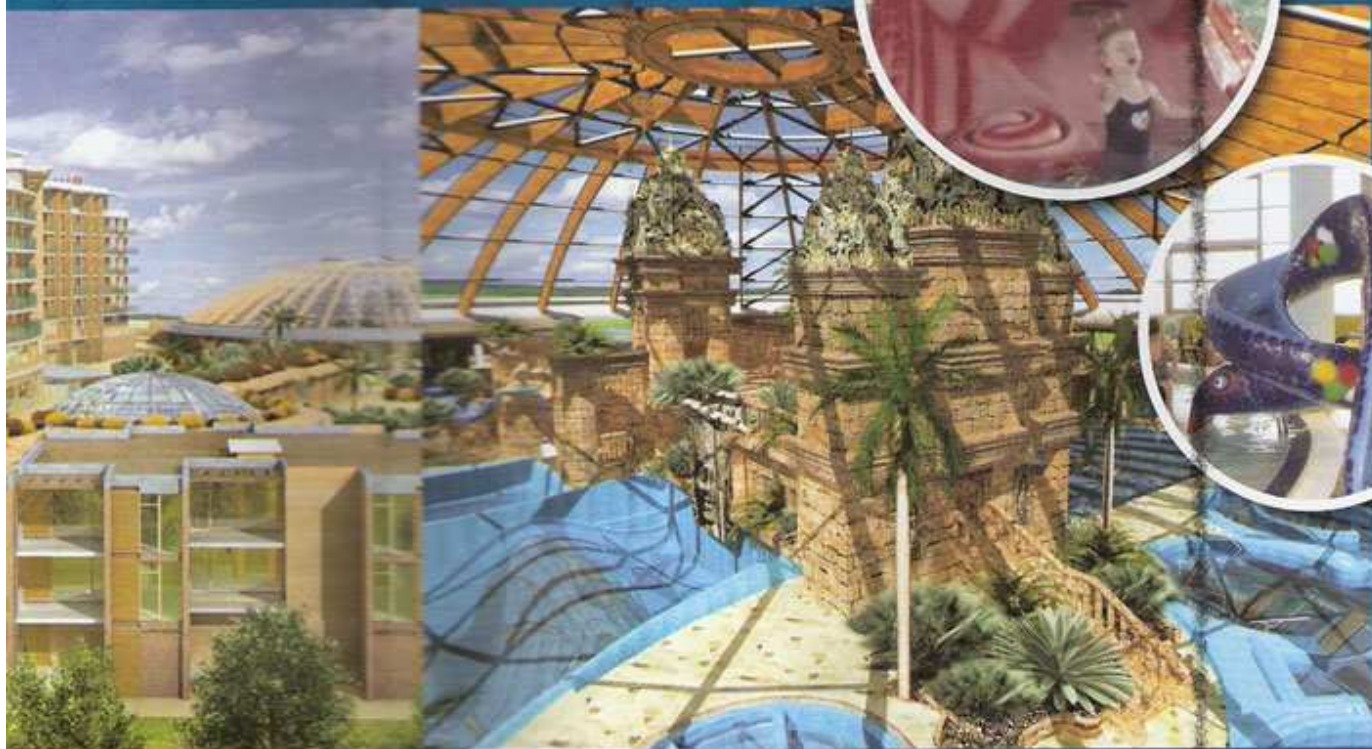
The Story of a Community Pool
St. Joseph Aquatic Park in Missouri

Twin Parks
Splash Universe Water Park Resorts

Water Play Comes to Casablanca
At Tamaris Aquaparc



Livin' large in Budapest



Aquaworld offers immense fun to Central Europe

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ig hotel complexes are including more and more recreational offerings every year, and waterparks are often the capstone to such projects.

One such project opened its doors in December 2008 to join the list of biggest hotel and indoor pool complexes in all Europe: the Ramada Resort-Aquaworld Budapest complex, or Aquaworld to those who know it.

Aquaworld is absolutely unique to Central Europe, offering in its immense size a new look at the destination-resort project.

Where it started

Budapest's Aquaworld benefitted from a decades-old resort trend that began in the late 1990s in the European rivieras. The first hotel complex in which a major waterpark was designed and realized was Club AliBey in Antalya, Turkey.

Club AliBey Resorts is one of the leading resort groups in the world. Little did that development group know that they were one of the first pioneers in a trend of very large water-

parks within a hotel complex. From Turkey, the resulting resorts with first-class waterparks were developed in the rest of Europe, in the Middle East, in countries that were once part of the Soviet Union (CIS countries) and in North Africa.

In fact, Club AliBey's Belek project was so successful that in two years time, the developers opened two more hotels in the famous rivieras of Antalya, Turkey, and now two other major projects are about to be completed by spring 2009, including a waterpark, sport center, and an amusement park.

After the Club AliBey project in 1999, the waterpark projects just kept coming along. All told, the company now has about 50 major waterparks located in destination resorts in Turkey, Egypt, Russia, CIS countries, Ukraine, Hungary and the United Arab Emirates.

"I am talking about waterpark projects that are set on at least an area of 20,000 square meters," says Sohrel Pakis, the Marketing Manager of Polite, a firm specializing in waterparks.

"The park owners and operators discovered that the more they include complex and well-designed recreational



An Inside Look at The Ramada Resort Aquaworld Budapest

Location: H-1014 Budapest, Ives út 16.

Web site: www.aqua-world.hu/index.php?lang_id=2

Owners: InterEstate Real Estate Developer Zrt.

Admission prices:

Adult: 21.00-EUR/day

Kids: 10.00- EUR/day

11.00-EUR/2 hours

6.00- EUR/2 hours

Dates open: Year-round

Size/Acres: 2300 m²

Capacity: 1800 Guests

Number of employees: 50

Clientele (local vs. tourist): Both

Future expansion plans: No

Total area: 86 thousand m²

Building space: 54 thousand m²

Water surface area (of entire complex): 3300 m²

Water mass (of entire complex): 4200 m³

Size of the parking lot, both underground and outdoor:
1,000 spots total

State-of-the-art equipment: Central air management system, air conditioning, a fire alarm and sprinkler system, a computer and telecommunications network and a building surveillance system. Disabled guests are provided obstacle-free access to all facilities.

The karst well, of a bottom-hole temperature of 35 °C and a daily water output of 420 m³, is amply sufficient to supply the necessary quantity of water. Waste water is cleaned and made environmentally friendly by an in-house cleaning system. Cleaned water is fed back partly to the garden lake and partly to the Mogyoródi stream.



The detailed design of the building complex was prepared by Canor Kft., under the leadership of Senior Designer András Ráth.

The complex is located in District IV in northern Pest on an 8.6-hectare site at the end of the new Megyeri bridge across the Danube River. The site will contain a 261-room Ramada Plaza hotel and a separate building with 48 apartments. The focus of the leisure facilities is a 73-meter wide, 21-meter high glass dome.

Aquaworld opened its doors in December 2008.

offerings—waterparks, marine parks, sport centers—the more they increase occupancy and average room rates.”

The latest and greatest

Aquaworld, another major impressive destination resort project, was just completed in Budapest, Hungary.

Aquaworld opened its doors in December 2008. The Aquaworld water empire is now Central Europe's biggest indoor water theme park with: 11 slides, 21 pools, a surf pool (which is extraordinary even in Europe) and further amusement elements make the complex unique among the tourist attractions in Hungary. The summer will end, but water-packed fun will be available all year round.

Development followed two years of preparation by the investor Interestate Real Estate Developer PLC with the help of long-term credits. The consortium leader CIB Bank and the co-financier Hypo Alpe-Adria Leasing PLC provided 80 percent of funds in the form of mixed foreign exchange loans of a term of 15 years.

Partners again

The waterpark offers a number of attractions, including 21 pools (with total surface of 3,300 sqm), 11 waterslides, a jumping tower, sun terraces, a wave pool and a unique surf pool.

After an extensive search for suppliers to the waterpark, Eleven Kft., the project manager of the indoor theme waterpark, slide and amusement elements, water mechanical engineering, visual elements of Aquaworld project, chose to work with Polin.

“The first project that we completed in Hungary was Aquarena Waterpark, which is the largest waterpark of Europe, also in Budapest. Polin supplied all waterslides and animations for this project in 2000,” says Aniko Szuch, the Project Manager of Eleven Kft. company.

“This project was really a success story, and we decided to work with them again. Polin is strictly committed to international norms for quality and safety and has been realizing major waterpark projects all over the world with the strictest quality and safety regulations for many years.”



Suppliers Aquaworld Budapest

Development/Design: InterEstate Real Estate Developer Zrt.

Construction: InterEstate Real Estate Developer Zrt.

Waterslides: Polin Waterparks & Pool Systems

Wave pool: Tempero Zrt.

Wave generator: Tempero Zrt.

Raft/Tubes/Mats: Zebec

Children's equipment: Polin Waterparks & Pool Systems



Features galore

In the indoor adventure pool, 11 slides with a total length of almost 1 kilometer guarantee adventure and entertainment throughout the year. The slide tower next to the dome, the entry point of six giant slides, is accessible by glass lift (elevator) or by stairs.

The unique glass elevator to the tower offers a breathtaking, panoramic view of the park during its ascent, and yet another elevator system for the tubes offers the bravest souls a ride as high as 17 meters up.

The sliding elements are taken back to launch level by

a conveyor-belt-type elevator system. There is also a wide slide, big enough to accommodate three slides side by side: an onion slide offering a shorter but all the more intensive experience, and a 180 m mountain river flanked with steep rocks, designed expressly for the most adventuresome.



Aquaworld offers plenty of entertainment options for children.

The gigantic waterpark has specially designed child-friendly spaces and offers highly enjoyable and safe aquatic experiences to the youngest visitors. Families with young children will love the kids' world, in a separate wing from the dome area, with a pool of different depths, kids' slides, a playhouse and a changing room.

The kids' event room is an excellent venue for birthdays and other parties and events. In the summer, more pools, playgrounds and playhouses are open, beckoning the youngsters. In quieter moments, pint-sized guests can watch the waterside fauna and flora from the bridge over the garden lake or the walkway leading to it.

In the good ol' summertime

In the summer, the indoor adventure center is completed with an attractively landscaped lido offering further aquatic experiences and sports facilities.

Children can play in the kids' pool or build sandcastles in the playground area, and adults can watch them comfortably from the nearby sun chairs.

Swimming addicts will love the waveless pool, and the volleyball and outdoor fitness sections offer excellent opportunities for individual or collective physical exercise. Visitors may recover after their adventure-park experiences in the timber sauna, a rarity in Hungary, and appease their thirst and hunger in the Garden Pavillion.

Given its location and services, Aquaworld has every chance to become a priority domestic and international tourist destination and a popular meeting point of the residents of the capital and its surroundings.

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