

WORLD PARK

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Aqualand

Polin adds adrenaline to French waterparks

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Part of the Spanish group Aspro, Aqualand is Europe's biggest chain of waterparks, with 13 properties in France, Portugal and Spain. To mark the end of the 2011 season, Park World takes a look a selection of attractions installed this year by Polin Waterparks & Pool Systems

Aqualand

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It is to France, home to no fewer than nine Aqualand parks, that we turn to uncover new additions to Aqualand St Syr Sur Mer in the south of the country and **Aqualand Bassin d'Arcachon** in the west.

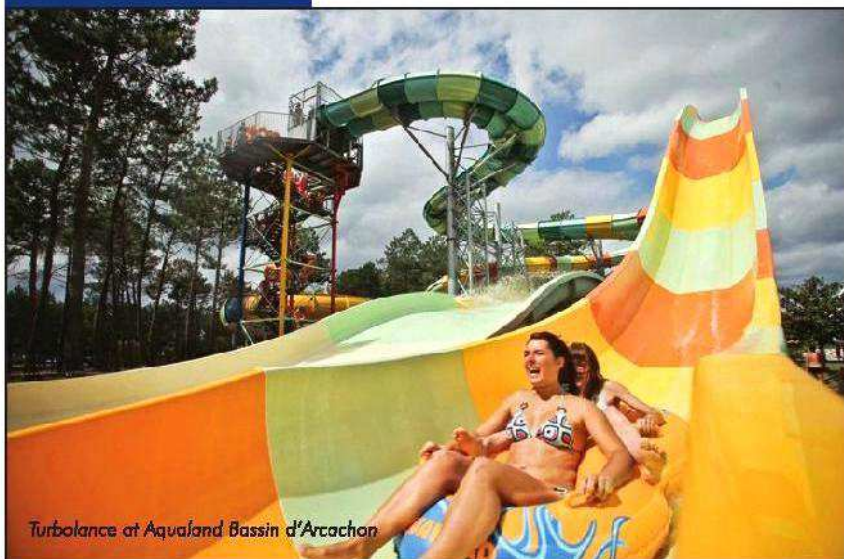
Built on a 6-acre site, the latter is the largest European waterpark on the Atlantic coast, and can be viewed by passing motorists on the Bordeaux-Arcachon highway. Opened in 1985, it has entertained over 4 million guests, including 180,000 last year season (mid-June to September).

Around 70% of these visitors are tourists.

The new additions for 2011 were a pair of different slides from Polin's Racer series, linked to one tower. This unique design features two tube slides that start side by side and follow the same S-shaped path before splitting off into different extreme rides. With inflatable tubes on each slide accommodating two riders, this makes for a high capacity ride.

Those riders that start their journey on the left-hand slide are dispatched into a Space Boat bowl, where centrifugal force pins the tubes to the side of the bowl and they rotate in a whirlpool-like motion before dropping down into the splash pool below. An even more intense ride awaits riders on the other slide, where they rush down towards Polin's Turbulance and are then propelled uphill vertically. Then they travel over another exciting section, a reverse path taking them over a bump and into a run-out.

"It is a high speed, high-capacity, tube racing, multi-lane ride," explains Polin marketing manager Sohret Pakis. "The unique double slide feature effectively doubles capacity over 'regular' waterslides. The colour combination that the park chose is just perfect and the waterslides also have strong spectator appeal."



Turbulance at Aqualand Bassin d'Arcachon



Turbulance at Aqualand Bassin d'Arcachon



"The new slides have enhanced the adrenaline throughout the park," notes Aqualand manager Wilfrid Lenandais "We are very satisfied with the new rides. We invested around €1.5 million 2011 and believe our guests will be as happy as we are when they experience these new slides and other offerings including food and shopping."

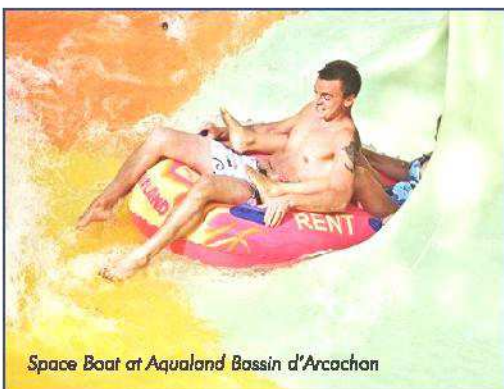
In total, Aqualand Bassin d'Arcachon features more than 1km of waterslides, plus an action river, 800 square-metre wave pool, 1,470 sq m adventure pool and a kid-sized water play area with scaled-down versions of some of the park's more thrilling rides.

Down at **Aqualand St Cyr Sur Mer**, situated between Marseilles and Toulon, the addition of a Black Hole Turbulance represents the waterpark's first significant expansion for seven years. The new Polin attraction, pictured right, is as the name suggests a combination of Polin's Turbulance and Black Hole slides, supplied with a unique colour scheme.

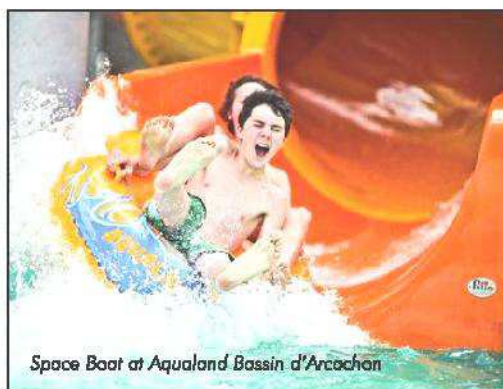
Both sets of slides supplied this season by Polin to the Aqualand parks in France feature the Turkish company's RTM (Resin Transfer Moulding) Magic Shine finish, which ensures its slides are smooth and shiny on both the inside and the outside. As such they add to the aesthetic appeal of each park, standing out over attractions.

www.aqualand.fr
www.polin.com.tr

All photos taken at Aqualand Bassin d'Arcachon unless stated otherwise



Space Boat at Aqualand Bassin d'Arcachon



Space Boat at Aqualand Bassin d'Arcachon

Polin In Kiev

Although Aqualand may now be closed for the season in France, another Polin-supplied park is still going strong as winter approaches. Ukraine's Dream Island indoor waterpark, which debuted this summer in the capital of Kiev, is open-year round on the third floor of Dream Town Shopping Mall.

Now the largest waterpark in the country, it covers about 25,000 square meters and has capacity for around 3,500 people. Immersed in a prehistoric "lost world" theme, visitors soon forget they are in a shopping mall thanks to the many dinosaurs animals and wild plants.

Guests have the choice of 14 Polin slides and water play attractions including a Space Boat, Flying Boats, Turbulance, Space Hole, Black Hole, Tunnel Freefall, Aquatube, body slide, wide slide, multi slide, freefall and rafting slide. Kids' attractions include an Aquatower 310 play structure, iceberg and octopus slide.

"We faced some design challenges due to the existing rectangular shape of the building," reveals Polin architect Sila Gokalp. "All the waterslides had to start above the building and enter through the roof. The new waterslides were then designed using the existing building supports but in the end everyone was happy!"

Also featured at Dream Island are five themed pools, nine saunas, an aquarium and party facilities. Polin is currently working on new projects in Russia, Serbia and Iran, where it will supply another King Cobra slide.

http://dreamtown.ua

