

SPECIAL CONVENTION ISSUE



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WORLD WATERPARK

The Official Magazine of the World Waterpark Association

A World-Class Getaway

Center Parcs U.K.

Aye, Calypso!

West Palm Beach's Calypso Bay Waterpark

Splashin' About on an Island in the Sun

Splash & Fun Water Park in Malta

Where the Water's Wild

Southern Georgia's Wild Adventures Water & Theme Park



Red Sea





Renaissance

With the addition of Aqua Park City and more resorts, the Red Sea region of Egypt has become a tourist destination.

When you think of Egypt, think big. Think exotic. Think historic. And think fun.

Located on the cliff of Ras Om El Seid, close to Alf Laila Wa Laila Entertainment Centre in Sharm El Sheikh, South Sinai, is Aqua Park City, one of the Middle East's largest and most popular waterpark and resort getaway.

Aqua Park City encompasses more than 133,905 square meters (33 acres) in the ancient Red Sea region and includes two hotels with 260 rooms and a 450-meter promenade with cafes, restaurants, bazaars, a supermarket and a bakery. When you think about it, Aqua Park City is really a full-fledged entertainment venue where you and your family could spend your entire holiday. Aqua Park City consists of 16 waterslides with several different themed children's waterslides, many fountains and themed showers, splash pools, swimming pools and a big aqua play structure.

"The very first dream for Aqua Park City came in 2006 with its initial design phase and finally, early in 2007, the waterpark opened its doors to visitors with a great celebration," said Khaled Atef, project manager for Emak Pools.

Hitting a growth spurt

Apart from the Pyramids, the Red Sea region—with its sea, climate and natural elements—has been a significant tourist



Aqua Park City consists of 16 waterslides.

Aqua Park *Suppliers*

Development/Design: Albatros; EMAK Co;
Polin Waterparks and Pool Systems Co.

Consultants: Albatros co.

Construction: EMAK Co.

Waterslides: Polin Waterparks and Pool
Systems Co.

Wave pool: Polin Waterparks and Pool
Systems Co.

Wave generator: Polin Waterparks and
Pool Systems Co.

Raft/Tubes/Mats: Zebec

FEC equipment: Atlantis Co.

Children's equipment: Polin Waterparks
and Pool Systems Co.

Pool and/or deck coatings: EMAK
Swimming Pools Center

Filtration equipment: Desjoyaux Pools

Pumps: Desjoyaux Pools

Chemical: Desjoyaux Pools

Chemical controllers: Desjoyaux Pools

destination for hundreds of years. And more recently, as a greater number of hotel complexes have been built in the region, a greater number of tourists have also started to flock to the vacation hot spot.

Charting that growth was the Pick Albatros Group, a pioneering firm dedicated to turning the Red Sea region into a modern and luxurious tourist destination spot. The group not only has built high-quality hotels but also has graced the luxurious structures with thrill-seeking recreational waterparks such as Aqua Park City—something new to Egypt.

Kamel Abu Al, owner and the general manager of the Pick Albatros Group, recognized that Egypt always has been an attractive country for local and foreign tourists. From the first phases of waterpark construction in the Group's hotel complexes, he is personally interested and invested in the projects.

In 1998, Polin Waterparks and Pool Systems first connected with the Pick Albatros Group, and the two have been working together now for more than a decade. Together the two designed, produced and installed three major waterparks and numerous waterslides and offered them as resort packages in Pick Albatros hotel chains — Alf Leila Wa Leila, located in Hurghada and built in 2005; Aqua Park City, in Sharm in 2007; and Jungle Waterpark in 2008.

With new attractions added every few years, Aqua Park City, with its numerous waterslides and play structures, continues to be the largest and most popular waterpark in the Middle East.

That designation comes with years of experience. The Pick Albatros Group has been involved in several waterpark projects as the owner and investor—even before they decided to create Aqua Park City. The Group traded on their experience when they decided on which major water attractions to install at Aqua Park City.

From the early planning stages, the waterpark was

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With the addition of resorts and family recreation, the Red Sea area has become a travel destination.

A *Tourism Player*

Owned and managed by Kamel Abu Aly, the Pick Albatros Group is a privately owned company specializing in the development and management of a wide variety of hotel properties located in prime locations on the Red Sea coast. For more than a decade, Pick Albatros Group has built exceptional hotels, resorts, holiday villages and various tourist attractions in the region. The Group has grown into one of Egypt's most important players in the tourism sector.

The Group's first hotel, Beach Albatros Hurghada, was opened in 1992. A new resort followed nearly every year thereafter: Alf Leila Wa Leila Hurghada, Beach Albatros Sharm, Albatros Resort, Royal Albatros Moderna, Dana Beach Resort, Aqua Blu Hurghada and, most recently, Aqua Blu Sharm.

Pick Albatros also offers a variety of exciting educational, family and entertainment projects such as Alf Leila Wa Leila Hurghada and Sharm; Aqua Park City in Sharm-El Sheikh; The Higher Institute for Hotel & Tourism Management; and the Museum of Ancient Egyptian Heritage in Hurghada.

Apart from the hotels, resorts and tourist attractions, Pick Albatros also owns two travel agencies: Albatros Tours and Morgana Tours. Both specialize in incoming services throughout Egypt. The Group also owns M/S Albatros, a line that has cruised the Nile since 2006.

Aside from tourism, Pick Albatros has achieved success producing films. Albatros Film Production & Distribution was established in 2001 and has created numerous movies and series for television.

designed to feature undisturbed natural rock elements to transform the Red Sea area into a major travel destination. Visitors to the region's premier waterpark can enjoy not only the classical must-ride slides and attractions, but also the new, signature and extreme slides as well. Aqua Park City continues to be the first waterpark in the Middle East with such a big interactive aqua play structure. But that's just the beginning. Hang on for a wild ride:

Twisters

Aqua Park City welcomes two knitted twisters. Both are 51 meters long and one stands tall at 8.75 meters and the other is a respectable 8.75 meters tall. This high-speed slide, with twists and turns, is a blend of speed and fun, welcoming those who love high adrenaline surges. Not all guests have the courage to try Twisters, but even those who are watching will surely be excited.

Multislide

This competitive bad boy is 41 meters long and stands 8.75 meters. A multislide, which features a waterslide path for six lanes, is surely a good choice to increase the fun factor. These interactive slides are a great way to enjoy the thrill of head-to-head competition. On your mark, get set, Go!

Freefall

"Freefall" offers one of the park's most exciting drops—with a maximum of safety. It is really a challenge with a 42-meter speed slide that features a breathtaking 11.5 meter free fall into the splash pool below.

Tube Freefall

An inner-tube slide ride designed for this park offers the best combination of adrenaline and fun. Hold on to your beating heart as you race down this monster, high-speed free-fall slide that measures 51 meters long and 12 meters tall.

Kamikaze

"Kamikaze" is a high-speed thrill ride. "Kamikaze's" configuration features a slide path consisting of more than just one fall. You experience the excitement and the fun of

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Aqua Park Details

Aqua Park
Sharm El Sheikh , Egypt
<http://www.pickalbatros.com/>

Owners: Mr. Kamel Abu Aly
Admission prices: \$25 US
Dates open: Year-round
Size/Acres: 60,000 m² (14.8 acres)

Capacity: 1500
Number of employees:
Year-round: 100
Clientele (local vs. tourist): Both

falling over a multi-bump slide path, ensuring a soft landing. At 42 meters long and 11.5 meters tall, this crowd-pleasing slide is one of the guest favorites.

Body Slide

"The Body Slide" at Aqua Park City is a versatile, open slide that ensures a safe, smooth ride on your back. The design configuration makes the "Body Slide" one of the most preferred slides at Aqua Park City. It is 98 meters long and 11 meters tall.

Flying Boats

"Flying Boats" at Aqua Park City provide an expertly engineered path that maxes out the thrill factor while preserving complete rider safety. The flying boats at Aqua Park City stretch for 42 meters and can be as tall as 10 meters.

Up Hill Flying Boats

Guests get a journey full of surprises on this rollercoaster-style ride in which they are lifted uphill on jetted water. They will go down and then up, and just when they think it is over, they will again experience a great ride downward on this 54-meter run. "One of the most popular rides at the park, if you ask me," says Khaled Atef, the project manager for Emak.

Black Hole

As the name suggests, this ride features two enclosed slides that catapult riders into pitch-black spirals of darkness. You don't know which way you're turning next, and you don't see a thing until you hit the final splash-down! For adults only.

Space Boat Tube

"Space Boat" is engineered to combine the excitement and joy of "Space Hole" and the "Black Hole." Different from the "Space Hole," this slide utilizes tubes, either single or double. You first experience the surprises and the visual harmony of Black Hole and then live the excitement of Space Hole by using splash boats.



Rafting Slide

"The Rafting Slide" is an open flume slide that offers an unforgettable ride experience. At every corner you will discover new excitement.

Family Rafting Slide

A family rafting experience makes it possible to share entertainment and excitement with the whole gang. You can experience the joy of twists, turns and drops in one of the six- to eight-passenger circular inflatable rafts. The slide path is very exciting, but very safe with high side walls. With this excellent ride, the whole family can enjoy the fun of the water.

Tsunami

"Tsunami" is one of the most exciting slides at Aqua Park City.

An energetic, fun, innovative and high-capacity ride, "Tsunami," as the name suggests, is unlike any other water ride you've experienced. Tsunami is strategically developed to ensure end-to-end excitement and an unforgettable experience.

Just for kids

The exciting line of kids' slides at the park is designed to provide hours of entertainment while ensuring complete safety. "The Kids Freefall" and "Kids's Body Slides" are just two that are designed for children ages 6 to 12 years old. There are so many slides to choose from. How about an octopus, or rabbit or elephant? Or try a mushroom or whale fountain or even a penguin shower? Waterslides, valves, water cannons and many other attractions are all together to enable the little guests to share an unforgettable experience.

With so much to offer locals and tourist alike, the ancient Red Sea region beckons you to enjoy family fun at Aqua Park City, Egypt's answer to water-park fun in the Middle East. [WWA](#)