

## AMUSEMENT PARKS. TRAVEL TO FAIRY TALE

T. Negelya

N. Shulishova

National University of Food Technologies

Amusement parks are not only noisy places with overpriced food where your kids want to drag you off to every year--and you'd be right. As any parent knows, enduring amusement parks is a part of raising children as braces and funny haircuts. The only thing you can do is suck it up and hope that at least there's a decent golf course nearby.

Amusement parks such as Coney Island, the pier at Santa Monica and even the Atlantic City boardwalk have become iconic symbols of Americana because of their blend of outdoor healthiness combined with adrenaline thrills, and unhealthy (but tasty) fast food. But most people would be surprised to learn that the oldest operating amusement park in the world is not American but Danish: Bakken, in Klampenborg, Denmark, opened in 1583. The oldest in the U.S. is Lake Compounce in Bristol, Conn., which opened in 1846, according to Susie Story of the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions.

Parks are a growing industry, and U.S. parks account for only 54% of the worldwide revenue that, according to New York-based consultant Wilkofsky Gruen Associates, totaled \$19 billion in 2001. The most visited park in the world is Tokyo Disneyland, which had over 17 million attendees last year. What makes the global success of theme parks even more surprising is the disastrous debut of Euro Disney in 1992. Amusement is a great place to relax millions of people around the world. Parks create perfectly attuned world that lets you forget about the daily routine. Modern parks are playgrounds with many attractions that attract tourists.

Amusement parks in the world park refer to a range of entertainment attractions for the whole family. Large numbers of people visit these parks for different exciting rides and other events in a location for the enjoyment. They are much more sophisticated than a simple city park or playground. Entertainment continues to grow and experiment, amusement park attractions keep adding new shows, attractions and entertainment extravaganzas. Introducing new fun in all corners of the world, these have developed into a vacation destination beyond your imagination. Setting a high standard for entertainment, the amusement park attractions today offer many unique world class and technological facilities to the visitor.

Common amusement park attractions. An amusement park contains an assortment of attractions which can be divided into several kinds. Thrill rides, roller coasters, fast and steep drops from high altitudes and water rides are all important part of any amusement park.

Thrill rides. Most amusement parks have is a core set of thrill rides such as the enterprise, tilt-a-whirl, the gravitron, chairswing, twister, and the top spin. However, there is steady innovation that goes on with experimenting new variations to keep attracting customers.

Roller coasters. A steady part of amusement park attractions, the roller coasters feature steep drops, sharp curves, and inversions. These have remained the most attractive aspect of a park. An amusement parks may have anywhere from two to seven coasters, depending on space and budget.

Train rides. Amusement park trains have had long and varied history. The earliest park trains weren't really trains, but were trolleys, which were custom built.

Water rides. Water rides are among the most common amusement park attractions. Featuring different rides, such as the log flume, bumper boats, rapids and rowing boats, they are suitable for all ages. Water rides are especially popular on hot days.

Food and Cuisine. The amusement park attractions generate major portion of their income through the sale of food and drink to their regulars. Food can be bought off the food booths, push carts and indoor restaurants. The offerings vary and range from common fast food items, like hamburgers, hot dogs, candy apples, donuts and local street foods to full-service gourmet dishes.

As we can see, the amusement park attractions offer unparalleled entertainment, and fine dining experience. Amusement parks in the world first evolved as fairs and pleasure gardens which were made for people's leisure and recreation. Most of these parks have a fixed location, and are thronged by a large number of people from all across the world. Each of these has evolved into a specific design and theme of its own.

Water parks, amusement parks, fairs, pleasure gardens. Whatever name you use, theme parks form the bedrock of a huge hunk of the global tourist trade. After all, for mindless thrills, what else offers such pure escape and childlike awe as a roller coaster, a carousel, a Ferris wheel, a water slide, a log flume or a gigantic mouse? In the world there are a lot of parks that will appeal to tourists of all ages, as Walt Disney World Amusement Park, Everland, Typhoon Lagoon, Blizzard Beach, Universal Studios Florida, Universal's Islands of Adventure etc.

References:

1. <http://goldentimestravel.com/ru>
2. <http://www.tourister.com>
3. <http://www.tourism-news.eu>
4. <http://www.bs-amusement-park.com>

Scientific supervisor: O. Kokhan.