

Now open next to the Olympic park used for last winter's games, Sochi Park celebrates Russia's rich cultural heritage in a colourful family-friendly environment filled with some of the latest rides and attractions.

Following our preview earlier in the year, Park World is pleased to bring you these fresh photos



Zmey Gorynych
(Mack launch coaster)



3,500 per day

Although Sochi Park's rides and attractions were not up and running during the winter Olympics back in February, park spokesperson Elena Logunov says that 140,000 people (up to 12,000 per day) did visit the park over the period to get a sneak preview of the fun that now awaits. Average attendance has now stabilised at 3,500 per day with total daily capacity available for up to 7,000 guests. Taking advantage of Sochi's holiday resort status and subtropical climate (don't let the snow on the surrounding Caucasus mountains fool you), the park will remain open year-round.

Sochi Park

The games are gone, let the fun begin!

Featuring masterplanning, concept design and schematic design by JRA (Jack Rouse Associates), the 13 billion rouble (\$350m/€270m) park covers an area of just over 20 hectares and was developed by JSC Sochi-Park, comprising private investors and individuals.

"Sochi Park is the first Russian theme park," highlights spokesperson Elena Logunov. "The park was built by an international team of professionals, combining European traditions of hospitality, state-of-the-art amusement rides production and Russian spirit of domestic folklore."

For many visitors, their first experience of the park was its showpiece 4-star Bogatyr hotel (pictured below), which opened earlier this year. The first guests were the



Zamperla
Swinger



representatives of international sports federations ahead of the Olympic and Paralympic games. Built and themed in a style of luxurious medieval castle, the property features 280 rooms of different categories, plus conference halls, three restaurants, a spa salon, children's club, indoor and outdoor swimming pool. All hotel guests receive free theme park admission.

The German-based Theming & Animatronic Industries (TAA) carried out much of scenic work on site, using teams from Romania and beyond. Themed zones include Avenue of Fire with a lake and various restaurants and souvenir shops, Land of Bogatyr where Russian heroes live, The Enchanted Forest which features fairies from Russian folklore, the nature-inspired Eco Village and the interactive Land of Science and Fiction.

The park features nine key ride and attractions, some of which were about to go through final testing at the time of writing. Similar to Blue Fire Megacoaster at Europa-Park in Germany, the Zmey Gorynych (Dragon) launch coaster by Mack features four inversions, just over 1km of track and reaches top speeds of more than 100km/h. Mack Rides also supplied a 370m-long Wild

Mouse coaster (already operational) called Sharolot as well as a set of tea cups.

From Vekoma Rides Manufacturing comes the park's other coaster, a Giant Inverted Boomerang called Quantum Leap featuring 367m metre of purple track. During the intense one-and-half minute ride, passengers experience a 90° drop, cobra roll and a 31m-tall loop both forward and backwards, reaching speeds of up to 105km/h as they are suspended beneath the track. Firebird, meanwhile, enjoys the bragging rights of being Russia's highest freefall, a 65m-tall tower ride by S&S.

As well as those manufacturer identified above, suppliers to the park include Zamperla, Maxmakers (Switzerland), Summa (Turkey), Jones Lang La Salle



A general view featuring Fireball, the park's S&S tower

(Russian branch) and many others. Although only 20.4 hectares has been developed so far, the total Sochi Park site spans over 50 hectares. Planned expansions include an indoor waterpark, which has already been designed by an unnamed Canadian company – surely one of two suppliers. ■

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Mack Mouse



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