

TripAdvisor Announces The Top Amusement Parks And Water Parks Around The Globe In Travelers' Choice Awards

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Universal's Islands of Adventure Ranks #1 in World and Disney's Typhoon Lagoon is Best in America; Orlando is the World's Ultimate Theme Park Destination with Nine Winners Overall

Siam Park Wins Again as World's Top Water Park

NEEDHAM, Mass., July 24, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>TripAdvisor®</u>, the travel planning and booking site, today announced the winners of its Travelers' Choice® awards for Amusement Parks and Water Parks. Award winners were determined using an algorithm that took into account the quantity and quality of reviews and ratings for amusement parks and water parks worldwide, gathered over a 12-month period.



Universal's Islands of Adventure in Orlando, Florida continues to capture the imagination of U.S. and global travelers around the world with its eight themed islands as the best Amusement Park for the fourth year in a row. Siam Park continues to thrill visitors to Tenerife, Spain with its Thai architecture, winding rivers and free-fall slides as the world's top Water Park for the fifth consecutive year.

"Featuring adrenaline-pumping roller coasters, thrilling rides and stirring water slides, these amazing theme parks that have been ranked best in the world by travelers around the globe are the perfect next adventure that should be on your 'to do' list," said Brooke Ferencsik, senior director of communications for TripAdvisor. "In addition to providing traveler insights about these popular parks, TripAdvisor also provides easy access to book admission and skip the line passes in advance to let travelers maximize their time playing instead of waiting."

Top 10 Amusement Parks in the U.S.:

1. Universal's Islands of Adventure - Orlando, Florida

Travelers' favorite amusement park for 2018 features exciting rides and attractions on spectacularly themed islands from Jurassic Park to Harry Potter. According to a TripAdvisor reviewer, "I remember visiting Islands of Adventure when it first came out. It was amazing, loud, and fun fun fun! It isn't any different visiting as a parent. There are plenty of rides, lots of good food, and many other things to enjoy." Travelers can buy Universal Orlando Tickets on TripAdvisor from \$180 for admission to three Universal parks for seven consecutive days.

• One-day admission: Adult – \$115, Child (3-9) – \$110

2. Magic Kingdom - Orlando, Florida

Magic Kingdom captures the enchantment of fairy tales with exciting entertainment, classic attractions such as Space Mountain and beloved Disney Characters to meet and greet visitors. "There's absolutely nothing like that first glimpse of Main Street. Magic Kingdom has that aura that nothing else matches, and unlike many of the other parks, it's more thematically varied. It also features the most rides of all of the parks and the most for the younger set," a TripAdvisor reviewer recommended.

• One-day admission: Adult – \$119, Child (3-9) – \$113

3. <u>Universal Studios Hollywood</u> – Los Angeles, California

Travelers can tour the legendary Universal Studios backlot and jump on heart-pounding rides inside some of the world's biggest movies such as King Kong and Fast and the Furious. A TripAdvisor reviewer noted, "I wasn't expecting Universal to be so good, the detail in everything was breath taking, the live shows like waterworks are fantastic and appeal to all ages, the rides like Harry Potter are superb!" Visitors who buy Skip the Line: Express Ticket at Universal Studios Hollywood from \$179 on TripAdvisor will receive priority access and will not have to wait more than 15 minutes for any ride, show or attraction.

 \bullet One-day admission: Adult – \$129, Child (3-9) – \$123

4. Universal Studios Florida - Orlando, Florida

Home of Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure, this park is full of entertainment and nightlife alike along the CityWalk, where travelers can explore rides like The Simpsons and Jimmy Fallon Race through New York. "This is one of the best parks ever with so much excitement and stuff to do for everyone! If you love thrill rides or shows you'll never be disappointed and great food too," commented a TripAdvisor reviewer. Travelers can purchase Universal Orlando Tickets in advance on TripAdvisor from \$180 for admission to three Universal parks for seven consecutive days.

• One-day admission: Adult – \$115, Child (3-9) – \$110

5. <u>Disney's Animal Kingdom</u> – Orlando, Florida

The largest of the four theme parks at Walt Disney World Resort – and the biggest animal-themed park in the world – Disney's Animal Kingdom reflects Walt Disney's dedication to nature and conservation from safaris to roller coasters to Broadway-quality performances. According to one TripAdvisor reviewer, "AK has something for everyone, adult and kid rides and shows, good quick service restaurants and plenty of animals for watching. For night hours, the park is beautifully lit and ambiance is soothing."

• One-day admission: Adult - \$114, Child (3-9) - \$108

6. The Island in Pigeon Forge - Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

This 23-acre entertainment destination offers affordable family fun day and night as the home to Jimmy Buffett'sMargaritaville restaurant, the Margaritaville Island Hotel and Paula Deen'sFamily Kitchen. "A hidden gem. There is something for everyone here to enjoy, no matter what your age or interest. The Island is easy to walk around and there is a wonderful Ferris wheel to ride," said a TripAdvisor reviewer.

• One-day admission: All – \$30

7. SeaWorld Orlando - Orlando, Florida

SeaWorld features Orlando's longest, tallest and fastest roller coaster (Mako), among many exciting rides and adventures featuring a host of marine life such as dolphins, penguins, turtles and more. A TripAdvisor reviewer noted "What a great day out here! So much to do and see here. Que times are brilliant hardly ever had to wait. The food here was really lovely and the air con room was lovely really nice touch. Can't wait to come back - the rides are awesome." Travelers can purchase a ticket on TripAdvisor from \$88.

• One-day admission: All – \$100

8. Disneyland Park - Anaheim, California

Build in 1955, "The Happiest Place on Earth" remains a family favorite with enchanting characters from pirates to fairytale princesses, in the sea to the stars. One TripAdvisor reviewer advised, "Disneyland is a great place for young and old, whether you like to ride the attractions, get photos with Disney Characters or Star Wars, or you watch the parades, shows and fireworks." Travelers can purchase a <u>Disneyland 1-Day Admission with Round-trip</u> <u>Transport from Los Angeles</u> on TripAdvisor from \$197.

• One-day admission: Adult - \$117, Child (3-9) - \$110

9. Disney's Hollywood Studios - Orlando, Florida

This park offers a behind-the-scenes look at Hollywood-style action where travelers can bump into Storm Troopers, watch live shows, ride thrilling attractions like the Aerosmith Rock N Rollercoaster, and experience Toy Story Mania, Beauty and the Beast, and more. "This was our 3rd time at Hollywood Studios and we enjoyed it as much as the first time. Love all the shows and rides and also the story of Walt Disney, with all the memorability from his life and how he created Disney World and Disneyland. Our favorite park."

• One-day admission: Adult - \$114, Child (3-9) - \$108

10. Disney California Adventure Park - Anaheim, California

Travelers can experience the thrill of an old wooden rollercoaster but with modern technology on "California Screamin" or enjoy a live character performance at Disney's newest theme park. One TripAdvisor traveler noted, "Disney California Adventure is a truly magical place. The highlight was the Paint the Night Parade, wow what a fantastic experience! The costumes, lights, music and dancing were just magical. To top it all off we watched the fireworks from the neighboring park!" Travelers can purchase a <u>Disneyland 1-Day Admission with Round-trip Transport from Los Angeles</u> on TripAdvisor from \$197.

• One-day admission: Adult - \$117, Child (3-9) - \$110

Top 10 Water Parks in the U.S.:

- 1. Disney's Typhoon Lagoon Water Park Orlando, Florida
- 2. Aquatica Orlando Orlando, Florida
- 3. Shipwreck Island Waterpark Panama City Beach, Florida
- 4. Disney'sBlizzard Beach Water Park Orlando, Florida
- 5. Holiday World & Splashin' Safari Santa Claus, Indiana
- 6. Water Country USA Williamsburg, Virginia
- 7. Splash Lagoon Indoor Water Park Resort Erie, Pennsylvania
- 8. SplashDown Beach Water Park Fishkill, New York
- 9. Waldameer Park & Water World Erie, Pennsylvania
- 10. Enchanted Forest Water Safari Old Forge, New York

Top 10 Amusement Parks in the World:

- 1. Universal's Islands of Adventure Orlando, Florida
- 2. Magic Kingdom Orlando, Florida
- 3. Le Puy du Fou Les Epesses, France
- 4. Universal Studios Hollywood Los Angeles, California
- 5. Universal Studios Florida Orlando, Florida
- 6. Disney's Animal Kingdom Orlando, Florida

- 7. Europa-Park Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany
- 8. Tivoli Gardens Copenhagen, Denmark
- 9. The Island in Pigeon Forge Pigeon Forge, Tennessee
- 10. Disneyland Park Marne-la-Vallee, France

Top 10 Water Parks in the World:

- 1. Siam Park Tenerife, Spain
- 2. Waterbom Bali Kuta, Indonesia
- 3. Beach Park Aquiraz, State of Ceara, Brazil
- 4. Thermas dos Laranjais Olimpia, State of Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 5. Disney's Typhoon Lagoon Water Park Orlando, Florida
- 6. Aquapark Istralandia Novigrad, Croatia
- 7. Wild Wadi Waterpark Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- 8. Makadi Water World Hurghada, Egypt
- 9. Eco Parque Arraial d'Ajuda Porto Seguro, Brazil
- 10. WetSide Water Park Hervey Bay, Australia

For the complete list of 2018 Travelers' Choice Amusement Parks and Water Parks winners, as well as reviews and candid traveler photos, go to: www.tripadvisor.com/TravelersChoice-Attractions. Travelers can also follow the conversation on Twitter at #travelerschoice.

Prices accurate as of July 17, 2018.

About TripAdvisor

TripAdvisor, the world's largest travel site*, enables travelers to unleash the full potential of every trip. With over 630 million reviews and opinions covering the world's largest selection of travel listings worldwide – covering approximately 7.5 million accommodations, airlines, experiences, and restaurants -- TripAdvisor provides travelers with the wisdom of the crowds to help them decide where to stay, how to fly, what to do and where to eat. TripAdvisor also compares prices from more than 200 hotel booking sites so travelers can find the lowest price on the hotel that's right for them. TripAdvisor-branded sites are available in 49 markets, and are home to the world's largest travel community of 455 million average monthly unique visitors**, all looking to get the most out of every trip. TripAdvisor: Know better. Book better.

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SOURCE TripAdvisor

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^{*} Source: comScore Media Metrix for TripAdvisor Sites, worldwide, October 2017

^{**} Source: TripAdvisor log files, average monthly unique visitors, Q3 2017