INDIA

INDIAN SUMMER

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Just Chill Water Park, New Delhi.
Many youngsters frequent water parks,
especially when school is almost over.

India can fill with colours even its most remote outskirts. If the Holi Festival welcomes Spring with the brilliant colours of a thousands-years old tradition, the 120 amusement parks located all over the country represent today's version of the rituals to celebrate life. They're always active, attracting the enthusiasm of all kind of people. After the first one opened in 1984 in Appu Ghar, near Delhi, Indian amusement industry boomed, following the growth of the Indian economy. According to the Indian Association of Amusement Parks and Industries, every year these parks are visited by 30 millions people, creating a USD 237 millions business. So, all of a sudden, the Naga snakes of the Hindu temples became twisted water rides, the purifying water of the Ganges river became crystal clear canals, elegant saris mixed with all kind of swimwear and tigers, elephants and rhinos plaster sculptures now pretend to be at their ease in the happy crowd.

These amusement parks are a clear symbol of a surreal, hedonistic, chaotic India, a country suspended between its traditions and a lust for West: the typical kitsch of parks' style lives side by side with the elegance of the Mogul heritage, and visitors can play any Bollywood role they want for a moment of sparkling joy. Now investments are ready to really take off: with the promise of new jobs and an unsaid hunger for new plots of land to take advantage of, incomes could double as soon as 2020. Because joy is priceless.

Worlds of wonder, New Delhi. The Turbo Tunnel, one of the favourite attractions of this park.

Adventure Island, New Delhi.
A family from Nepal posing at the entrance of the park,
an attraction in itself as it recalls the Eiffel Tower.

Appu Gahar, New Delhi.
The first water park opened in India, in 1984,
featuring a wave pool.

Just Chill Water park, New Delhi.
Funny poses for two young men.

Adventure Island, New Delhi.
Many young people love urban climbing.

Adventure Island. New Delhi. A young Sikh man.

Adventure Island, New Delhi.
A jeep on a trail to simulate an African safari.

Worlds of wonder, New Delhi.
To add speed and thrill, people use special rubber carpets
when going through the water rides.

Worlds of wonder, New Delhi.
10 acres wide, with 23 different attractions,
this park also offers a pool for babies.

Adventure Island, New Delhi.
The external area of the park is often frequented by
young people, like these two girls, even during workdays.

Adventure Island, New Delhi.
Chairoplane is one of the most popular attractions in the whole world.

Appu Gahar, New Delhi.
Water rides areas are usually at the centre of the water parks being the most frequented, and from them the other attractions are easy to reach.

Just Chill Water Park, New Delhi.
A young couple posing inside the main pool.

Chennai, Express Avenue Mall.
Wide areas of Indian malls are dedicated to games like billiard, basketball, arcade and bowling.

Appu Gahar, New Delhi.
Four young men posing in one of the 'chill out' pools of the park.

Adventure Island, New Delhi.
A statue of an elephant inside the park.

Appu Gahar, New Delhi.
The park is surrounded by an artificial river
offering a comfortable view on all the attractions.

Adventure Island, New Delhi.
A young man posing in front of a bar of the park.

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