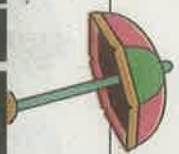




A WORLDWIDE TOUR OF

# WATER PARKS



BY CHELSEA LEU

There is no better way to stay cool in the summer than in a pool. And the only thing better than a pool is a water park, full of massive waves, huge drops and the slipperiest, scarriest rides. We've picked out the best of the best so you can splash, slide and cannonball your way through the rest of the summer.

### 1. BEACH PARK

Aquidua, Brazil

The ideal view of this sprawling, palm-tree-filled water park is from the top of Insano, one of the tallest and fastest free-standing water slides in the world. Sliders descend a stomach-dropping 135 feet — the height of a 13-story building — in five seconds, hitting top speeds of 65 miles per hour.

### 2. AREA 47

Ötztal-Schneeferl, Austria

Built in the Alps, this extreme outdoor playground features attractions like a water catapult, in which a water jet blasts you out of a metal seat into a lake. Or try blobbing, in which one person is launched more than 10 feet into the air from a giant floating air cushion when another person leaps onto it.

### 3. SIAM PARK

Costa Adeje, Tenerife, Canary Islands

Among the decorative dragons, stone sculptures and temples in this Thai-themed water park is the Wave Palace, a gargantuan pool that generates some of the biggest artificial waves in the world. Learn to surf on breakers nearly 10 feet high, or relax on the white-sand beach next to the pool.

### 4. WILD WADI WATERPARK

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

This park is host to two thrilling rides: Tannrum Alley, which flings riders through three huge, funnel-shaped structures called tornadoes, and Jumeirah Sceirrah, in which you're locked into a capsule at the top of a 104-foot tower and then dropped through a trap door into a near-vertical tube to reach speeds of up to 50 miles per hour before splashing down.

### 5. NOAH'S ARK

Wisconsin Dells, Wis.

Wisconsin Dells calls itself the "water-park capital of the world," and for good reason: The city contains approximately one water slide for every 13 residents. At Noah's Ark, a 10-story-tall, 400-foot-long slide called the Scorpion's Tail sends people free-falling and then hurtles them through a giant angled loop — a disorienting, exhilarating experience. It was the first almost-vertical loop water slide in the United States.

### 6. TROPICAL ISLANDS

Krausnick, Germany

The world's largest indoor water park — 350 feet tall and more than 1,000 feet long — used to house airships called zeppelins. Now it's a tropical paradise, with a "sea" the size of three Olympic swimming pools and a lush rain forest of 600 different plant species, populated with pheasants, peacocks and geckos. All splashed out? Take a hot-air balloon ride inside the dome. ♦



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### HOW I BECAME

## DIPLOMAT



BY MARIE YOYANOVICH  
U.S. AMBASSADOR  
TO UKRAINE

**MY PARENTS WERE** boarding school in a small Conn. They were both immigrants from Europe — my father was born in Hungary and my mother grew up in Poland during World War II, so for a while there was much bigger than Kenia. Because I attended a boarding school, there were a number of kids from foreign countries and we were diplomats. That's how you can be paid to go to other countries overseas. You can study in other countries about new cultures for you.

After college, where I studied international relations, I took the foreign-service exam. It is how you qualify to work for the State Department, the branch of government that handles our international relations. There are questions about history, geography, music and architecture, the sciences and the arts. There's also an oral exam, in which you have to pass a security clearance test. I failed the grammar test, so I took it again and passed. For my first job, I moved to Washington, D.C.

Somalia. This was before the war in Iraq, and it took three months for me to get there. I wrote a letter to the time I was in London. I've also worked in London, Ottawa and Uzbekistan — the Operations Center of the State Department in Washington, D.C. I learned about breaking down the barriers between some of which won't be even. In 2005, I became an ambassador to the first time and went to the first time and went to the first time. I have also served as an ambassador to Armenia and as a dean of the State Department.

In 2016, I became the ambassador to Ukraine, two years after the revolution. It's my job to represent the United States' interests in Ukraine and to help Ukraine be a more secure and democratic country. I've been there for a while, and it's different. One day, I'm helping a business set up here, then on an energy issue, then on an energy issue. It's the greatest profession. As told to *Elise Craig*

### SOLUTIONS

MINIPUZZLES

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EASY

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MEDIUM

B	I	O
R	I	N
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HARD

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