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# AM2

The news & jobs magazine  
from Attractions Management

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24 JANUARY 2018 ISSUE 96

## Vancouver Aquarium reveals plan to end cetacean displays

With pressures on cetacean captivity continuing to mount across North America, Canada's Vancouver Aquarium has announced it will no longer display such animals, instead choosing to focus on creating healthier oceans as part of its public education programme.

The aquarium faced controversy in 2017, when two of its whales died in quick succession, with Aurora and her daughter Qila dying just days apart, leaving the facility with its signature tank empty. A five-month investigation into the deaths determined that the cetaceans were killed because of an unknown toxin introduced "by food, water, or through



Helen the dolphin – the last remaining cetacean at the aquarium

human interference". Starting 2017 with five cetaceans, the aquarium ended the year with just one: Helen – a Pacific white-sided dolphin rescued in 2005. The 30-year-old is

not a candidate for release due to only having partial flippers, and will remain at the facility.

"Despite independent polling, year over year, that clearly shows overwhelming support for our cetacean programme, we have made the difficult decision to no longer display cetaceans, with the exception of doing what is best for Helen and any need to use the Aquarium for the temporary accommodation of a rescued cetacean," a spokesperson for the aquarium said in a statement.

Also last year, the aquarium announced plans for a CA\$100m (US\$76.1m, €72.2m, £61.3m), 12-year expansion of its Arctic habitats.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=n8H4B\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=n8H4B_A)

## Revised plans announced for Obama's Presidential Center

Former US president Barack Obama has provided an update on the plans for his Presidential Center, promising to "create a campus for active citizenship in the heart of Chicago's South Side".

The design, which was unveiled in May last year, has been created by Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects in partnership with Interactive Design Architects (IDEA).

According to Obama and his wife, Michelle, the US\$350m (€293m, £259.5m) Presidential Center – which is now taller and sleeker in appearance – will act as part of a living, working campus.

"While this centre may have my name on it, it will be a place open to everybody dedicated to informing and inspiring the leaders of tomorrow," said Obama.



Designs show more trees in Jackson Park and a sleeker design for the main building

"Michelle and I want this to be more than just a building. We want to create an economic engine for Chicago – a cultural attraction that showcases the South Side to the rest of the world.

"We want it to be a gathering place – somewhere for all kinds of people to come together and learn."

The centre's campus – which sits on the banks of Lake Michigan – is intended to "energise" the Jackson Park site, with a proposed promenade running along the property's east side, leading to the main Museum Building as well as the Museum of Science Industry.

The Museum Building is designed to become a landmark for the South Side.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=3W2W5\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=3W2W5_A)

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The 70m-long tapestry is currently on display in a museum in Bayeux, Normandy

## Bayeux Tapestry coming back to Britain

The Bayeux Tapestry is set to be loaned to a British museum for the first time in nearly a millennium. The artwork, which is nine centuries old and depicts the Norman conquest of England after the Battle of Hastings in 1066, will leave French shores after spending 950 years in the country.

The move was confirmed by French president Emmanuel Macron on 18 January,

when he met British prime minister Theresa May at Sandhurst Military Academy for an Anglo-French summit.

It comes after months of negotiations between the British and French governments and May will use the deal to symbolise the strength of Anglo-French relations ahead of Brexit.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=6P4J5\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=6P4J5_A)

## Investment group announces MX\$550m park plans for Mexico

A series of theme parks will open in Mexico, with the first to open in Mexico City later this year at a cost of MX\$550m (US\$29.4m, €24m, £21.1m).

Entertainment investment firm Grupo Diniz are behind the franchise, called Kataplum, and the first location will open in the municipality of Iztapalapa on the east side of the Mexican capital.

Covering 27,000sq m (290,000sq ft), theme park attractions will be split into three areas covering family, children and adventure. The park will also feature two restaurants, a cafe and a 60-capacity auditorium.

At least one more park will follow, with Grupo Denis executive president Antonio Quevedo announcing plans for a second



The park's attractions will be split into three areas

Kataplum in one of Mexico's central states. The second site is set to open as part of a mixed-use shopping complex in July.

"We see in this model a model to grow and we hope that by 2021, the amusement park model represents 50 percent of the company's total revenues," he added.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=d4a2D\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=d4a2D_A)



## Perkins+Will create science hub for Suzhou culture district

A science museum in Suzhou, China, is to act as the centrepiece of a new cultural district in the city, with the design celebrating nature while highlighting the role of industrial development.

Taking inspiration from its surroundings, the 600,000sq ft (56,000sq m) Suzhou Science & Technology Museum is inspired by the Chinese expression of “shan sui”, which means “union of mountain and lake”.

Forming an infinity loop, the Perkins+Will-designed building emerges from the nearby ‘Lion Mountain’, twisting back on itself at its apex to extend over Shishan Lake. Within the lake will be several man-made teardrop-shaped islands.

The islands will be connected by walkway to the museum, and will serve as both a filtration system for the lake and as a living exhibition for the museum. The museum will feature a 66,700sq ft (6,200sq m) industrial exhibition hall, with exhibits highlighting the role of industrial development.

“Our design recognises the importance of Suzhou in China’s commercial history



The museum will become the centrepiece of a new cultural district in Shishan Park

and underscores its role at the forefront of China’s emergence as a technology leader and innovator,” said Ralph Johnson, global design director of Perkins+Will.

The wider Suzhou Shishan Cultural District has been developed by urban designers Sasaki Associates.

At the heart of the historic city, which welcomes around 38 million domestic tourists each year, the Shishan master plan establishes a new cultural district that blends Suzhou’s garden city history with contemporary cultural facilities.

*More: [http://lei.sr?a=9P8a5\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=9P8a5_A)*

## VR headset with brain sensors catches the eye at CES

A new technology utilising eye tracking and brain sensors has been named most innovative virtual reality product at this year’s Consumer Electronics Show (CES).

Embedded with Electroencephalogram (EEG) sensors and eye-tracking cameras, LooxidVR allows time-synchronised acquisition of eye and brain data concurrent with VR contents and provides an expandable user and application interface.

The technology could be applicable to various VR sectors, helping to better understand users’ emotional statuses, including stress levels, and engagement.

Virtual reality has advanced significantly since entering the mainstream.

Companies such as Anvio VR, Zero Latency and The Void have taken the concept of free roam VR to the next level, while the technology has also been applied to moving objects such as rollercoasters.

Pushing the limits of the medium, tech startups such as Neurale have created an entirely brain-controlled VR system, while Cornell University’s Organic Robotics Lab



LooxidVR is embedded with EEG brain sensors and eye tracking cameras

has created a new method of delivering haptic responses within VR.

“It’s really encouraging to see our technology and potential recognised globally,” said Yongwook Chae, Looxid Labs CEO. “Our future developments will include a comprehensive VR user analytics solution based on eye and brain interface.”

The CES, which took place between 9 and 12 January, acts as a global stage for next-generation innovations, with the Las Vegas event welcoming more than 3,900 exhibiting companies each year. The show has gained a reputation for unveiling technologies, products and services for multiple sectors.

*More: [http://lei.sr?a=W3Z5a\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=W3Z5a_A)*

# Cyprus' national archaeology museum designs revealed

Architect Theoni Xanthi has told *AM2* how her team's vision for the national archaeology museum in Cyprus was inspired by "the materials that gave birth to Cypriot and Mediterranean culture".

The partner at Greek studio XZA Architects is leading the design of New Cyprus Museum – a project the design firm won in a two-stage international competition held last year.

Housing the nation's treasures, the €49m (US\$58.7m, £43.6m) building will replace the country's current archaeological institution in Nicosia, which was established in the late 1800s and now lacks the space to house the museum's growing collection of antiquities.

According to Xanthi, "pure light, deep relieving shadows, open horizons and a strong relationship between the landscape and the built environment" will be created in the public areas to evoke the squares, atriums and promenades where the people of Cyprus traditionally gathered.



The €49m (US\$58.7m, £43.6m) building will replace the current archaeological museum

"The design concept is to create a museum that, when visited and experienced, evokes a transition in time, in space, in memory," she said. "The building will be much more than a stylistic exercise."

The two-year construction period will begin this year, with the first phase including galleries, storage areas for antiquities and F&B and retail facilities.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=B4g9n\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=B4g9n_A)



Work on the project started in 2016

## Oman's first waterpark anchors tourism plan

Oman's first waterpark has opened to the public, kicking off a series of tourist-focused developments in the country as its rulers strive to diversify the national economy.

Called Hawana Aqua Park, the 35,000sq m (378,000sq ft) OMR5m (US\$13m, €10.8m, £9.6m) development by James Cubitt and Partners Abu Dhabi features a selection of water rides, including a lazy river, wave pool, spa pool and slides.

A further 30,000sq m (376,000sq ft) of space is dedicated to a food court, shopping area and car park.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=W8q2s\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=W8q2s_A)

## York's National Railway Museum finalising £50m masterplan

The National Railway Museum in York has said its £50m (US\$67.6m, €56.7m) masterplan is still being finalised, following local reports revealing new details about the institution's redevelopment.

Marking the most significant redevelopment since its opening in 1975, the museum's seven-year masterplan hinges on the wider development of the 178-acre (720,000sq m) York Central brownfield site.

Designated an Enterprise Zone in 2015, the site's regeneration will help fund the museum's redevelopment, with 50 per cent of business rates – which would have gone back to the government, helping to provide funding for investment into infrastructure across the site.



The South Yard will be revamped to provide visitor access

"The detail of our plans and exact timetable are all subject to funding and we have a long way to go to make our vision a reality," said Judith McNicol, director of the National Railway Museum, in a statement to Attractions Management.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=x8R5M\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=x8R5M_A)



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# Gucci Garden, including museum, opens in Florence

The creative director of Gucci has opened a restaurant, museum and gift shop dedicated to the luxury fashion house – in a 14th-century Florentine palace.

Alessandro Michele decided to open the attraction, called Gucci Garden, as a fun and accessible introduction to the brand and “a hypnotic territory that alters the state of consciousness and perception”.

The attraction spans three floors within the Palazzo della Mercanzia, which previously housed a smaller Gucci museum.

The newly designed space features a gift store selling unique Gucci fashion and homeware items, a cinema auditorium and a restaurant run by three-Michelin-star chef Massimo Bottura.

The museum covers two storeys and is divided into a series of themed rooms, curated by fashion critic Maria Luisa Frisa, which celebrate the archives of the fashion house by showcasing old advertising campaigns, design sketches and retro objects. Spaces inside the exhibition space



The newly designed space features a gift store selling unique Gucci fashion and homeware

include ‘Guccification’, where Gucci’s double ‘G’ motif and brand typographies are displayed in their many forms.

‘Paraphernalia’ is a room dedicated to signature codes and symbols that define Gucci’s identity while ‘Cosmorama’

explores “the historical jet-set customer of Gucci”. The gallery continues on the second floor with ‘De Rerum Natura’, two rooms that recall natural history museums and explore Michele’s curiosity for animals.

*More: [http://lei.sr?a=k4C6Z\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=k4C6Z_A)*

## Yorkshire Wildlife Park gets green light for £50m expansion

The £50m (US\$67.6m, €56.4m) expansion of Yorkshire Wildlife Park has been approved, with 150 acres (61 hectares) of new land set to transform the attraction and provide an economic boost to the region. The plan, rubber-stamped by Doncaster Council, includes new animal reserves, lakes, landscaping and a visitor support hub at the new entrance, as well as restaurants and a hotel.

The expansion will double the visitor attraction’s workforce to 600 people and introduce more than 400 new animals from 80 species.

“We’re very excited about this next stage of our life – this is a game changer for Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Doncaster and the surrounding area,” said the park’s CEO,



CEO John Minion hopes the extension will bring more visits

John Minion. “This will attract a wider audience from around the country and will be a wonderful resource for local people.”

Founded in 2010, the park has grown significantly since opening, with visitor numbers last year totalling 761,000.

*More: [http://lei.sr?a=U7Q7g\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=U7Q7g_A)*



Michael Ellis has joined the DCMS

## Michael Ellis to oversee arts in new DCMS role

Former UK House of Commons deputy leader Michael Ellis has been named parliamentary undersecretary for arts, heritage and tourism.

Ellis – who was deputy leader of the House of Commons from July 2016 – takes over from John Glen, who was named City minister in the recent cabinet reshuffle.

Ellis began work in his new role immediately, attending the Creative Industries Federation’s third-anniversary event, held at the Natural History Museum in London.

*More: [http://lei.sr?a=w4B7t\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=w4B7t_A)*



# AM2

## DIARY DATES

1-3 FEBRUARY 2018

### **ATRAX Exhibition and Conference**

**Istanbul Expo Center,  
Istanbul, Turkey**

The only specialised trade event of the amusement industry in Turkey and the region, ATRAX offers an effective business platform for buyers. The conference will bring together people to discuss the major issues in the sector and develop a strategic road map for the sector.

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[www.atraxexpo.com/en](http://www.atraxexpo.com/en)

27 FEBRUARY - 1 MARCH 2018

### **IAAPI Amusement Expo**

**Bombay Exhibition  
Centre, Mumbai, India**

The Indian Association of Amusement Parks and Industries' (IAAPI) annual expo brings a comprehensive range of products offered by the industry under one roof.

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[www.iaapi.org](http://www.iaapi.org)

27 FEBRUARY - 1 MARCH 2018

### **Amusement Expo International**

**Las Vegas Convention Center,  
Las Vegas, Nevada, US**

The annual event for the coin-op and revenue-generating amusement, music and family entertainment industry.

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[www.amusementexpo.org](http://www.amusementexpo.org)

1-3 MARCH 2018

### **RAAPA Expo 2018**

**Moscow VDHN, pav. 75, Russia**

The Russian Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (RAAPA) Expo allows attendees to meet potential customers and partners from Russia and abroad. In addition to exhibiting companies, visitors will include owners and top managers of amusement parks, FECs, waterparks, resorts and other leisure



The FEC Summit is one of IAAPA's year-round programme of events and exhibitions

28-30 JANUARY 2018

### **IAAPA FEC Summit**

**Laguna cliffs Marriot  
Resort & Spa, Laguna  
Beach, California, US**

Family Entertainment Center (FEC) operators from around the globe will

gather for the sixth annual IAAPA FEC Summit. It is an educational event with a specific focus to build the skill sets of FEC owners and operators.

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6-9 MARCH 2018

### **IAAPA Leadership Conference**

**Osaka and Tokyo, Japan**

Attendees to IAAPA's annual Leadership Conference will experience four days of thought-provoking discussions, behind-the-scenes tours, and networking with like-minded individuals that will inspire innovation and success.

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19-21 MARCH 2018

### **MuseumNext Australia**

**Brisbane, Queensland, Australia**

MuseumNext is a global conference on the future of museums. Since 2009 it has acted as a platform for best practice and shines a light on the museum of tomorrow.

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### **Future of Museums: Collections Wellcome Collection**

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03-05 APR 2018

### **AAA 2018 (Asia Amusement & Attractions Expo)**

**China Import & Export Fair  
Complex No.380, Haizhu  
District, Guangzhou, China**

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# Opening date for Dundee's V&A design museum revealed

V&A Dundee, Scotland's first design museum, will open to the public on Saturday 15 September 2018.

New images of the Kengo Kuma-designed building have been released to coincide with the announcement, as have details of the museum's inaugural exhibitions.

Standing at the centre of the £1bn (US\$1.3bn, €1.1bn) transformation of the city's waterfront, once part of the docklands, V&A Dundee has been designed to evoke the dramatic cliffs of Scotland's east coast. The museum will feature permanent galleries of Scottish design, as well as an international programme of changing exhibitions showcasing the very best of design from around the world.

While V&A Dundee has been established in close partnership with the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) in London, drawing on its collections, curatorial expertise and exhibitions. The Dundee site will have its own director, will be run independently and will develop its own exhibitions.



Designed by Kengo Kuma, V+A Dundee will become Scotland's first design museum

The opening exhibition, 'Ocean Liners: Speed & Style,' will explore "the designs behind a mode of transport that came to represent the status of nations and the aspirations of millions," including the

engineering and architecture of ships. Exhibits will include paintings, sculptures, ship and engine models, furniture, photographs, posters and film.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=G9S2n\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=G9S2n_A)



The centre is due to open in 2021

## Water culture centre for Copenhagen's harbour

Stunning designs have been revealed for Copenhagen's new Water Culture Centre, which will feature outdoor and indoor pools, waterfalls, harbour baths and sports facilities.

The municipality has selected Kengo Kuma Associates to create the 5,000sq m (53,800sq ft) Danish Water Culture Center, scheduled to open in 2021.

Copenhagen mayor Frank Jensen said: "Kengo Kuma's vision for a waterfront cultural centre is world class and it will bring something completely new to Copenhagen."

More: [http://lei.sr?a=w5h4w\\_O](http://lei.sr?a=w5h4w_O)

## Norwegian brewery plans to create Stavanger waterfront attraction

Danish architects COBE and Norwegian beer maker Lervig have unveiled plans for a major waterfront visitor centre and brewery in Stavanger, Norway.

Located on a former industrial pier, the 11,000sq m (118,400sq ft) building has been conceived as "a unique attraction for locals and visitors", with a harbour bath, roof garden and street-food market all incorporated into the mixed-use scheme.

COBE have described the design concept of the attraction as "part architecture, part urban space, part landscape".

A large roof, supported by a series of wooden arches, will connect all functions of the visitor centre and brewery, with the choice of material drawing on the region's timber building traditions.



The visitor attraction will explore the origins of brewing

Inside, guests will have an unobstructed view through the building and of Lervig's tanks and fermentation vessels.

Outside, plants and flowers will be grown in the accessible roof garden, along with hops, vegetables and fruit trees used in brewing.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=n6W2q\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=n6W2q_A)



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The show features projection mapping and special effects

### Universal's new projection show to light up Hogwarts

Universal Orlando Resort has unveiled a spectacular new experience at The Wizarding World of Harry Potter.

Launched in January, The Nighttime Lights of Hogwarts Castle is a projection show that celebrates the four Hogwarts houses – Gryffindor, Ravenclaw, Hufflepuff and Slytherin.

Set to music based on the original scores from the *Harry*

*Potter* films, the show tells the story of the Hogwarts houses, bringing to life the essence and spirit of the individual houses through state-of-the-art projection mapping, special effects and lighting.

Nighttime Lights is the second projection mapping experience at The Wizarding World of Harry Potter, after The Magic of Christmas at Hogwarts Castle.



The experience is created using five E-Vision 8500 projectors

### Digital Projection project for London's Mail Rail

Integration firm DJ Willrich (DJW) has installed several of Digital Projection's E-Vision 8500 projectors at the Mail Rail experience at The Postal Museum in London.

The Mail Rail was a network of underground trains used to transport millions of letters across the City of London.

It closed in 2003 after almost eighty years of service,

and has now been repurposed as an attraction, taking visitors on a 15-minute train ride through the original tunnels.

It tells the story of the postal service through a 20-minute audio-visual experience that includes 3D projection and narration. Featuring five E-Vision 8500 projectors, it is supported by 7thSense's Delta Infinity Server.



The Eurosat dark coaster will undergo extensive theming

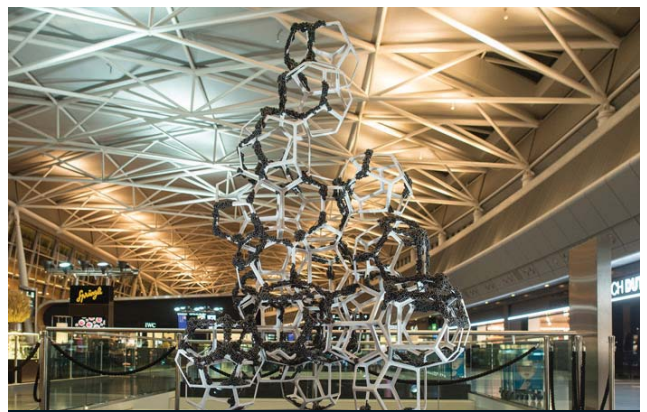
### Mack partners with Moulin Rouge for CanCan coaster

Mack Rides has announced a new collaboration with the Moulin Rouge that will see the Eurosat coaster at Europa-Park, transformed into the iconic Paris theatre of the same name.

The Eurosat dark coaster, which is located in the futuristic sphere in the France-themed area of the park, will be renamed the Eurosat - CanCan coaster, and will undergo a

refurbishment, including a tech update and extensive theming work, before opening this year.

The new roller coaster will take visitors back in time to 19th century Paris. It will offer an improved rider experience, due to new cabling and a new track measuring 900 m (2952 ft) and have a very similar layout to the original, to commemorate the ride's inventor, Franz Mack.



French artist Paul Coudamy created two pieces for the exhibit

### Art of Caviar immersive exhibition at Zürich Airport

Luxury Swiss skincare brand La Prairie has launched an immersive exhibition, The Art of Caviar, to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of its iconic Skin Caviar collection.

The travelling exhibition is designed to take visitors on an immersive journey into the 'indulgent, rarefied, mysterious world of caviar.' The Zürich edition of the

exhibition is being held at Zürich Airport. It will be the first time that The Art of Caviar has been held in a retail/travel environment, and will provide travellers with a unique immersive experience.

La Prairie enlisted artist Paul Coudamy and creative studio Bonjour Interactive to create five installation pieces exploring caviar.



**WWT** Wetlands for life

# Director of Operations

**Location: WWT HQ, WWT Slimbridge Wetland centre, UK****Salary: £78,000 P.A**

As part of the Trust's Management Board and reporting into the COO the Director of Operations will provide strategic leadership to develop and deliver the full potential of WWT's UK Wetland Centres and other sites in providing amazing experiences and engagement for a range of visitors, conservation management of some of the UK's most outstanding wetland sites, and ensuring financial viability.

With a professional, dynamic and developing team in place and a solid strategy and foundation of business plans and frameworks to build on, the main priority of this role will be leading teams in implementing new ideas and initiatives. This is a challenging role demanding expertise in leadership of multi-site and multi-disciplinary teams of staff and volunteers, business planning and budget management.

The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) is a conservation charity that protects wetlands for wildlife and people. We conserve, restore and create wetlands, are pioneers in saving wetland wildlife, and inspire everyone to value what healthy wetlands can achieve for people and nature. Our ten UK sites provide exceptional access to nationally or internationally important wetland reserves, most combined with wider visitor experiences including living collections of wetland birds and animals, boat and vehicle safaris, pond dipping, natural play spaces, art galleries and trails, cafes, shops and a wide variety of programmed seasonal events and activities. Our sites attract over one million visitors every year, including day visitors and members.

If you wish to find out more about our inspiring work please visit our website [www.wwt.org.uk](http://www.wwt.org.uk). If you wish to speak to someone in more detail about this role please contact Sheila Wilcox, Head of People on 01453 891211.

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**Job location:** Manchester, UK

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● **Casino Manager**

Landers Recruitment

Salary: £30,000

Job location: Manchester,  
United Kingdom

● **Director of Operations**

WWT

Salary: £78,000 p.a.

Job location: Slimbridge, Gloucestershire,  
United Kingdom

● **Head of Product  
Excellence**

Legoland

Salary: Competitive

Job location: Winter Haven, FL,  
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● **Customer Insights and  
Analytics Manager**

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Salary: Competitive

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● **General Manager**

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Salary: Competitive

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● **Duty Manager**

Madame Tussauds

Salary: Competitive

Job location: Washington, DC,  
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● **Facilities Technician**

Madame Tussauds

Salary: Competitive

Job location: San Francisco, CA,  
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● **Marketing Manager**

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Salary: Competitive

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● **Health and Safety  
Manager**

Legoland

Salary: Competitive

Job location: Carlsbad, CA,  
United States

● **Casino Manager**

Landers Recruitment

Salary: £30,000

Job location: Manchester,  
United Kingdom

● **Water Park  
Admissions Team Lead**

Legoland

Salary: Competitive

Job location: Carlsbad, CA,  
United States

● **Water Park Supervisor**

Legoland

Salary: Competitive

Job location: Winter Haven, Florida,  
United States

For more details on the above jobs visit [www.am2.jobs](http://www.am2.jobs)

## US\$88m Epic Waters waterpark with retractable roof opens in Texas

A major new waterpark in Grand Prairie, Texas, opened its doors to the public on 12 January. The US\$88m (€72.5m, £64.6m) project features a retractable roof to offer year-round use.

Called Epic Waters, the new waterpark has been designed by Wisconsin-based architecture and engineering firm Ramaker and Associates, with attractions supplied by WhiteWater West.

The retractable polycarbonate roof by Open Aire is a record-breaker, making Epic Waters the largest indoor waterpark under a single custom-curved retractable roof in the US. Its purpose is to save energy on hot days with reduced



The indoor/outdoor attraction features 11 waterslides

air conditioning, while simultaneously making the waterpark useable when the weather gets colder through the winter months.

Covering 80,000sq ft (7,400sq m), the indoor/

outdoor attraction features 11 waterslides, including the first-ever Boomerango and Constrictor combination waterslide, the tallest AquaLoop slide of its kind.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=7u3k2\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=7u3k2_A)

## 'Hybrid attraction', Guardian Art Center, opens its doors in Beijing

German architect Ole Scheeren has completed the much-anticipated Guardian Art Center on the doorstep of Beijing's historic Forbidden City.

The building is a hybrid cultural institution, featuring museum galleries, conservation facilities, restaurants and a hotel.

It also claims to have the world's first custom-built auction house.

Light enters the building through several thousand circular perforations in the stone volumes, creating an abstracted landscape based on the famous 14th-century Chinese painting 'Dwelling in the Fuchun Mountains'.

Inside, a 1,700sq m (18,300sq ft) column-free



The hybrid attraction features a museum and galleries

exhibition space dominates the heart of the structure. It has been designed for maximum flexibility, with movable partitions and ceiling systems allowing for different configurations for exhibitions and auctions.

A series of smaller rooms surround this space to accommodate other aspects of the auction house, with the conservation and restoration facilities situated in the basement.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=q9c3g\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=q9c3g_A)

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### The Aquarium & Zoo Facilities Association (AZFA)

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