

Public attractions and theme parks



Team building with Chiquito at Drayton Manor

Mexican *rave*



CASE STUDY

Signe Langkjaer
Chiquito Restaurant Bar & Mexican Grill

Staff from Chiquito Restaurant Bar & Mexican Grill spiced-up their annual residential conference at Drayton Manor Theme Park and Hotel.

The Staffordshire theme park hosted 145 delegates from the Tex-Mex chain for a morning of education followed by team building activities, before a barbecue dinner and an awards ceremony.

Company messages were shared in the 500-capacity Tower Suite, before the team headed out into the park grounds for its 'Let's Knock 'em Out' team building challenge – a series of fun team events designed to encourage participants to work together to complete challenges.

Allan Norbury explores how a theme park or public attraction can add spice to your event...

A Mexican big pan and barbecue dinner featuring locally-sourced produce followed in the park's bandstand area before free drinks and entertainment were served up in the Tower Suite for the awards ceremony.

Signe Langkjaer, brand administrator at Chiquito, said: "This was an excellent event. Everything ran very smoothly and all our needs were met. I can't think of anything that could have been improved upon, apart from the weather, but that's really out of Drayton Manor's hands! The food was great, the pig roast and barbecue in particular were fantastic and we asked for them to be brought back out later in the night. On the whole it's rare to see such genuine hospitality and we thoroughly enjoyed the day."

Updates

- **Legoland Windsor Resort** has opened 10 new 'Heartlake City'-themed hotel rooms
- **Alton Towers Resort** has opened its Enchanted Forest Tree Top Quest high ropes course for team building events. The course takes between 60-80 minutes and costs £20pp for the high ropes option, £16 for low ropes
- **Merlin Events** has opened the Riverside Rooms, on London's South Bank. The function rooms range from 43 sqm to 110 sqm –with a maximum capacity of 250
- **KidZania London**, a 7,000 sqm educational lifelike city for children at Westfield, London, is now available for events for up to 1,200 guests through Lime Venue Portfolio
- **Chessington World of Adventures Resort** in Surrey has relaunched its Business Gone Wild Conference Offer for up to 300 delegates.

My favourite...



Ellie McNulty
Team Spirit

Alton Towers Resort

From an event organiser's perspective, the resort provides incredibly practical event spaces with great access, good ceiling heights and great rigging points. The added bonus with Alton Towers is once the serious business messages have been communicated, your delegates can enjoy private access to the park's rides!



Katrina Rannard
BI Worldwide

Shakespeare's Globe

Combining heritage with modern facilities, Shakespeare's Globe is perfect for dining and entertaining delegates in the heart of London. The private room at the top of the Globe overlooks the Thames and really does set the scene for a celebratory event. Reading modern day versions of Shakespeare's most famous and humorous plays, actors can entertain guests throughout the evening.



Sam Robson
The Appointment Group

Royal Yacht Britannia, Edinburgh

The beautiful former floating royal palace offers up as a great space for informal meetings and networking events. The upper deck is a contemporary space with floor to ceiling glass windows and spectacular views. It is perfect for a combined product launch and dinner. It's not a versatile space but a unique concept for business meetings.



Charlie Hepburn
Vivid Event Group

Thorpe Park

A water-based theme park, Thorpe Park is a great alternative to clinical corporate environments as fun, excitement and speed are the order of the day. With amazing rides, infrastructure and the capacity for large numbers, the venue offers a refreshingly different option. We have held company conferences and employee parties here and found that it allows our clients the opportunity to shed their inhibitions and revive their inner child.