



Technical Guide

SAFETY IN WATER LEISURE AREAS OF TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS



Guidelines for the development and management of water and recreational pools in TUI's tourist resorts.

Bonus: Recommendations for the management of operational protocols and lifeguard teams

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"Choosing a professional technical specialist partner to support our Safety Management programme is a key consideration for us at TUI and we support the work The Fun Lab do. The team at The Fun Lab have demonstrated their competence, professionalism, and global scalability. Our collaboration with The Fun Lab enables us to obtain the assurance we require, so we can deliver trusted products and services for our mutual guests."

Paul Austin
Head of Safety & Risk - TUI Group

Safety does not happen by accident.

Foreword

We appreciate your interest in our Blue Book, specifically aimed at all professionals involved in the development and management of recreational pools and water parks in tourist establishments, as well as anyone curious to learn more about this exciting industry.

The last decade has been a particularly positive period globally regarding investment and development of new water leisure facilities in the tourism sector, establishing itself as one of the main attractions and loyalty factors for family audiences within their tourism offerings.

One of the trends among users, especially families with children, in this post-pandemic period is the importance of the perception of safety in their tourism experience. It is crucial for companies to be aware of the significant responsibility that comes with anyone directly or indirectly responsible for water leisure areas, especially those focused on a young audience.

Therefore, with this technical guide, we aim to provide an analysis of the main global challenges associated with managing a water facility, regardless of the region it is located in.

Additionally, we offer recommendations based on our experience for the development and operation of these spaces, always from the perspective of safety and accident prevention.

Likewise, we address the key guidelines for the proper implementation of lifeguard protocols in such areas.

Javier Salvador and Santiago García
Founding partners of The Fun Lab

The Fun Lab



A current scenario with challenges in terms of safety and regulations

Analogous to the increasing growth of these new water leisure areas in tourist establishments worldwide, the unevenness in the demand for specialized technical knowledge across all areas by those responsible for Quality, Occupational Health and Safety, Engineering, and Architecture has also grown. These individuals are tasked with the development and management of these areas.

Simultaneously, the proliferation of these leisure spaces has piqued the interest in greater knowledge from other industry stakeholders such as tour operators, tourist destination managers, hotel investment funds, or tourism asset consultants, among others. Ultimately, they, along with manufacturers and technical firms, have contributed to creating a thriving industry around the world of water leisure. Along with this growth, the need to promote and ensure safe facilities for users has also increased.

Despite this, day-to-day operations reveal ongoing challenges that still need resolution. On the one hand, there is undeniable widespread confusion in some cases and countries regarding applicable regulations and standards for water leisure spaces and recreational pools.

Simultaneously, there are instances of tourism companies undertaking these projects and motivated by certain deficiencies in specific knowledge among their technical staff, they do not set an optimal level of exigence on their suppliers regarding regulations and safety documentation. This results in installations that fail to meet the minimum required standards.

Finally, there are situations where water leisure areas, which were initially correct, deteriorate and accumulate unresolved issues due to a lack of staff training, poor planning, or incorrect maintenance and care policies for installations such as water slides, kid pools, and splash areas without depth.

All of the above coexists with tourism companies that have already committed to implementing measures to achieve excellence and quality in their offerings, ensuring the safety of their recreational and aquatic facilities through inspection and certification. This has led to significant results in brand reputation, as well as user acquisition, satisfaction, and loyalty figures.

Why this technical guide

- Increased demand and concern around safety from stakeholders in the tourism sector, primarily tour operators, and users, especially families with children.
- Legal vacuum regarding the mandatory inspection and/or regulatory compliance in these areas depending on the region where the establishment is located, in contrast to regions where this circumstance is present.
- Possible lack of regulatory knowledge and the need for guidance in the conceptualization and management of the development of new projects.
- Understanding the intricacies behind already certified water leisure facilities, a primary factor in compliance in the face of potential accident claims.
- Providing tools for managers of tourist complexes to effectively demand from installers and suppliers.
- The need for proper management and maintenance of facilities to ensure maximum safety in their operation.



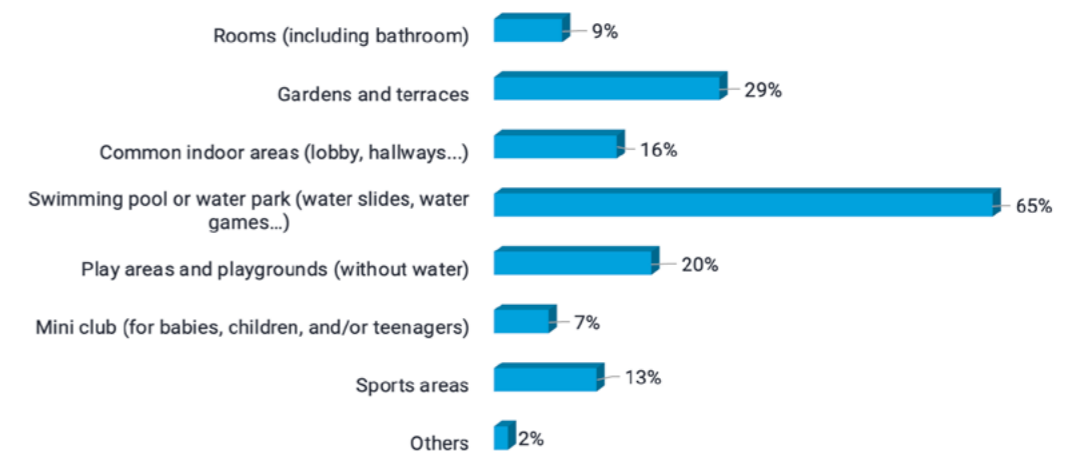
Safety as a critical factor for families

In June 2022, we conducted the I Study on the perception of safety among families with children in tourist accommodations. The objective was to discover the opinion of Spanish families regarding the safety in tourist establishments, aiming to assist the industry in improving its offerings, increasing user confidence, and promoting a better travel experience with children. [You can download the complete report here \(in Spanish\).](#)

We obtained four main conclusions:

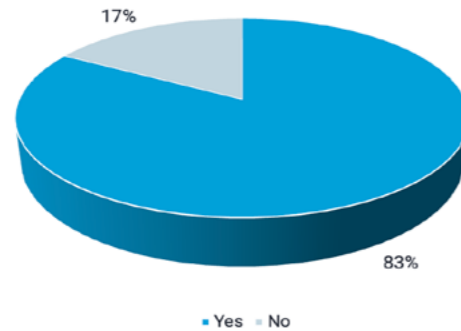
1. Recreation areas for children (46%) are identified by surveyed families as the main factor for creating a comfortable experience during a trip with children. However, at the same time, pool areas or water parks are, by far, perceived as the least secure areas for children in an accommodation (65%).

Which areas of a tourist accommodation do you perceive as less safe for children?



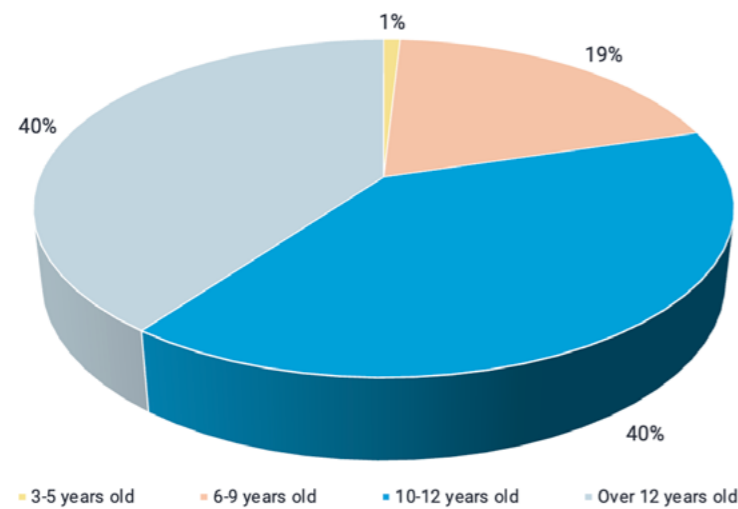
2. Families are willing to pay more for their stay in exchange for the implementation of additional security measures by the tourist accommodation (83%).

Would you be willing to pay more for your stay in exchange for the implementation of additional safety measures by the tourist accommodation for the benefit of guests?



3. The age at which parents would allow their children to move and/or play alone in different areas of the accommodation decreases significantly if enhanced security measures and/or surveillance personnel are present.

At what age would you allow your children to play or move around on their own in the common areas of the tourist accommodation?



4. Strengthening lifeguard personnel and providing areas for visual contact between parents and their children while they play are the two main measures to be considered by establishments to provide greater security to parents.

Existing solutions for designing a water park*

There are various options for integrating water leisure facilities into tourist establishments, as different solutions can be combined to configure a project, usually catering to the recreational demands of users with different age ranges.

Below, we list and explain the most common ones:

- 1** SPLASH, ZERO-DEPTH AQUATIC PLAY AREA
- 2** WATER SLIDES WITH OUTDOOR PLATFORM
- 3** WATER PLAYGROUND
- 4** WATER GAMES IN KID POOLS
- 5** WET BUBBLE
- 6** FLOATING WATER INFLATABLES (IN POOL OR BEACH)

*There are other water leisure solutions, such as wave pools, surf pools, lazy rivers, etc., which can be found in other types of thematic tourist establishments, but their presence in tourist accommodation complexes is exceptional.

1. SPLASH AREAS

Zero-depth aquatic play area. An ideal solution to cater to a diverse audience of children.

Key features:

- Higher safety compared to other solutions. No lifeguard presence needed due to minimal risk of drowning.
- The play area is fully accessible and inclusive.
- Addresses a wide age range of users (from toddlers to older children) by allowing segmentation of areas by age.
- Enables better control of equipment operation (on-demand activation), providing greater savings and efficiency.
- Optimal solution for transforming obsolete kid pools.
- The critical safety point lies in the slip resistance of the pavements and potential falls.



2. WATER SLIDES WITH EXTERNAL ACCESS PLATFORM

Slides with a dedicated access structure and exit platform for exclusive use.

Key features:

- Different technical design requirements based on their typology.
- Reception in the pool basin or runout.
- Specific lifeguard or monitor needs for certain types of slides and user supervision.
- User age range: usage is associated with height (e.g., minimum height of 1.20 meters for slides of a certain size).
- Need for safety signage and specific information (according to ISO standards).
- Rigorous control of user speeds and acceleration.



3. WATER PLAYGROUND

An accessible structure for users that incorporates slides and water games within. It is also referred to as a 'water structure'.

Key features:

- Can be installed in shallow areas or in splash basins with depth. For both options, their corresponding technical requirements must be adapted.
- In both cases, slides require a runout.
- Greater regulation and safety measures due to being an elevated play area.
- In the case of structures installed in pools with depth, it is crucial to maintain safety distances between the slide reception areas and the pool edges.
- In shallow areas or splash zones, the presence of a lifeguard is not necessary.



4. WATER GAMES IN SPLASH POOLS

Individual water play equipment installed inside the basin.

Key features:

- Functions similarly to a conventional kid pool.
- As it is intended for younger audiences, it is recommended to have a pool depth of no more than 30 centimeters.
- Same lifeguard requirements as a kid pool.
- Water games are generally of low height and pressure for a gentle play effect.
- Game materials should not negatively impact water quality (attention to rust).
- Uncontrolled water chemical levels can damage materials.



5. WET BUBBLE

Fixed inflatable water solution with a sliding game on reinforced vinyl.

Key features:

- Functions similarly to a conventional pool, with the addition of water and air propulsion sources for the game.
- It is recommended to adapt the pool design and/or limit usage times to groups of users with similar physical and psychomotor characteristics (aiming to avoid mixing adults or teenagers with toddlers or young children).
- High lifeguard attention requirement for controlling the sliding and falling area.
- Removable solution at the end of the season. It is recommended to remove it from the pool and store it for greater product durability.
- Key safety points to consider: pool depth, distance between the end of the sliding area and the perimeter of the basin, user capacity control within the dome, and prevention of collisions between users during sliding and exiting the landing area.
- Unlike floating inflatable water structures, due to its installation with anchors and a reinforced interior structure, it adheres to standard aquatic play regulations.



Image credits: Savia Proyectos.

6. FLOATING INFLATABLES

Mobile modular floating inflatable water solution.

Key features:

- An interesting option for establishments wishing to have a temporary aquatic leisure facility.
- Very high demand for lifeguard attention to control the play area and water entry, avoiding potential drownings, as there is considerable depth to prevent user collisions with the bottom and sides.
- It is recommended to limit usage shifts to groups of users with the same physical and psychomotor characteristics (aiming to avoid mixing adults or teenagers with young children).
- Critical safety point: a good anchoring system to the pool or sea floor (generally concrete slabs).
- Critical safety point II: need for secure and stable contact surfaces between modules, without leaving gaps or indentations.
- Critical safety point III: Velcro closures resistant to pressure and concealed from user contact.



Safety standards

As mentioned earlier, one of the main sources of confusion among professionals and industry stakeholders is understanding which standards apply to each type of recreational equipment, as well as in each country where the establishment is located.

Normative systems directly applicable to water leisure areas.

There are two normative systems that are practically predominant in the international industry, addressing safety requirements in the design, installation, and management of water leisure areas.

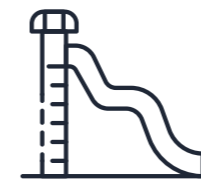
On the one hand, European EN standards developed by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN), which are highly relevant in all EU and EFTA countries, as well as in many non-EU countries such as the United Kingdom, Turkey, or Tunisia, among others.

On the other hand, American ASTM standards developed by the American Society for Testing and Materials, which, beyond the United States, Mexico, and Canada, have a greater influence in countries in the Caribbean and Latin America, as well as the Middle East.

However, it is worth noting that both normative systems are practically equivalent—almost identical—in terms of homogeneity in the number and content of standards addressing this area of study.

Safety standards equivalent and directly applicable to water leisure areas.

In all cases, normative compliance is the responsibility of the facility manager (who, as well, must transfer the requirement to the manufacturer/installer)..



WATER SLIDES AND EXTERNAL PLATFORMS

- EN 1069-1 + A1 - Water slides. Part 1: Safety requirements and test methods.
- EN 1069-2 - Water slides. Part 2: Instructions.
- ASTM F2376 - Standard Practice for Classification, Design, Manufacture, Construction, and Operation of Water Slide Systems.



SPLASH AREAS, WATER PLAY EQUIPMENT, AND WATER PLAY-GROUNDS

- EN 17232. Aquatic play equipment. Safety requirements, test methods, and operational requirements.
- ASTM F2461 - Standard Practice for Manufacture, Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of Aquatic Play Equipment.



WATER FLOATING INFLATABLES

- EN ISO 25649 (Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7). Floating leisure articles for use on water.
- * Note: Standard also recognized as valid by ASTM.

Main variations between the described EN and ASTM standards:

Most points in the standards of both regulatory systems share practically similar safety requirements (even in their nomenclature).

However, in broad terms, there are three major differences:


- Different units of measurement (metric system vs. US Customary System).

- The EN standard for water slides includes additional points and more detailed explanations of each requirement in terms of the use of graphics and tables to facilitate interpretation.
- The ASTM standard for aquatic play equipment is more comprehensive than its EN counterpart.
- Regarding the classification of types of water slides included in both standards, it can be observed that this varies from one standard to another: classification by numerical typology (EN) vs descriptive nomenclature (ASTM).

Safety Requirements for the Design and Manufacturing of Water Leisure Elements.

Although this is not a part that directly concerns the promoter or manager of a tourist resort since it is the direct responsibility of the manufacturers of water leisure equipment, it is important for the project managers overseeing the development of a new water leisure area, assigned by the tourism company, to demand from the supplier the corresponding product safety certificates for the product to be installed.



 A brief comparison between both types of regulations:

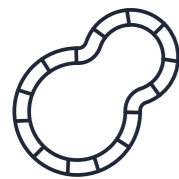
	SAFETY REGULATIONS OF THE AREA	PRODUCT CERTIFICATION REGULATIONS
Responsibility for compliance.	Promoter / Manager	Manufacturer / Supplier
On-site tests and trials of the water leisure area and the product's operation once installed.	✓ YES	✗ NO
Checks of water quality and electrical installations related to the play area.	✓ YES	✗ NO
Documentary review of the project (plans, certificates, technical data sheets, etc.).	✓ YES	✗ NO
Verification of safety requirements for the installed product (entrapments, falls, impact areas, etc.).	✓ YES	✗ NO
Visit to supplier installations and verification of the production process.	✗ NO (Must be provided obligatorily by the installer / manufacturer)	✓ YES
Verification of the design of the manufactured equipment.	✗ NO (Must be provided obligatorily by the installer / manufacturer)	✓ YES
Verification of safety requirements for each product reference once manufactured (entrapments, falls, impact areas, etc.).	✗ NO (Must be provided obligatorily by the installer / manufacturer)	✓ YES

Legislation and complementary safety regulations for recreational pools and water leisure areas.

From a legislative perspective, in all tourist resort pools, whether they have water leisure elements or not, the following specific regulatory requirements will be demanded regarding normative compliance, ranging from more to less stringency, for their design, construction, and management.

- *National, state, or local legislation related to safety in public pools, both in terms of hygienic-sanitary criteria and constructive aspects.*
- *Technical regulations and general construction codes at the national, state, or local level, and other protocols for construction safety (e.g., ASTM or ANSI regulations).*

Additionally, similar to the case of water leisure areas, there are safety regulations for the design, installation (equipment), and management of public pools in both the EN and ASTM regulatory systems:



- *EN 13451 (all parts): Safety and test methods for equipment used in pools.*
- *EN 15288: Public pools. Safety requirements for design and operation.*
- *ASTM F2707 - Standard Safety Performance Specification for Safe Design and Installation of Field Fabricated Suction-Limiting Vent Systems for Suction Entrapment Prevention in Swimming Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs, and Wading Pools.*
- *ASTM F2387 - Standard Specification for Manufactured Safety Vacuum Release Systems (SVRS) for Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs.*
- *ASTM F1346 - Standard Performance Specification for Safety Covers and Labeling Requirements for All Covers for Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs.*

Safety requirements for water leisure areas by tour operators.

Generally speaking, major international tour-operators working with vacation resorts adhere to reference regulations, even if they are not mandatory in the destination country.

To achieve this, many have developed their own protocols and checklists, which, in specific cases, may include additional management and safety requirements for water leisure areas.

“In this regard, The Fun Lab has participated as an expert in the safety of water parks and recreational pool areas in the latest review of the [ABTA's Tourism Accommodation: Health & Safety Technical Guide](#), in its 2023 edition.

This protocol has been based on the European regulations mentioned earlier.



Recommendations for safety before planning and developing a new project

The first step in any new water park project in a tourist establishment is the initial conceptualization of the spaces. At this point, various stakeholders in the company—sometimes supported by specialized external professionals—must consider the needs and desired focus of the project.

To achieve this, we make the following recommendations:

- Before commencing the conceptual phase, it is advisable to conduct an analysis of technical feasibility and permits to determine the capacity to obtain the necessary licenses (major or minor construction).
- Analyze and define the brand, marketing, and business objectives pursued with the new project. It is recommended to conduct a feasibility study to estimate how various investment scenarios (Capex) would impact revenue indicators.
- Thoroughly study the location of recreational areas to respect urban boundaries and avoid technical issues in the operation of equipment associated with vegetation waste.
- Age segmentation of recreational areas. The goal is to provide tailored experiences for children and group them by similar age ranges to prevent incidents.
- In the case of pool basins, consider creating recreational areas with minimal or no depth for the youngest users (1-4 years) to avoid the risk of possible drownings.
- Define boundaries for indoor aquatic spaces to keep child users in a safe area.
- Consider the inclusion of an efficient technological system for water treatment and quality, as well as for monitoring the operation of recreational equipment.
- Analyze and take into account the economic and human resources (Opex) required for the maintenance of each proposed water entertainment solution before making a final decision.

Safety recommendations after project execution and/or during the operation of the facility

Aspects to consider at the operational and pre-opening execution level of the facility.

We recommend that the promoter of the new facility request the following activities from the supplier before the inauguration of the new installation:

- Regulation of all water effects of recreational equipment.
- Parameterization of water chemical treatment.
- Specific training for maintenance and SSTT (Health and Safety at Work) teams of the establishment for a minimum of one day.
- Presence of a technical representative from the supplier on the opening day, as small incidents are common on the premiere day.

Aspects to consider at the documentary level before the opening of the facility.

As indicated in the applicable safety regulations, at the time of commissioning, it should be required that the supplier and/or installer provide the following documentation for the installed equipment and construction components:

- Complete address of the manufacturer/supplier and qualification of personnel.
- Design documents (blueprints) and safety-related documents (technical specifications).
- Certificates of manufacturing, materials, and components.
- Certificate of compliance with applicable equipment and safety regulations for recreational areas.
- Construction and service plans.
- Technical data and other important technical characteristics.
- Detailed operating and safety instructions.
- Inspection and maintenance instructions.
- Risk assessment, taking into account the type of play element.
- Define and notify appropriate signage before commissioning.



Aspects to consider during the management and maintenance of the aquatic facility, once operational.

The applicable safety regulations indicate that the following should be complied with and implemented:

- Maintenance operations as specified by the manufacturer/supplier, outlined in the instructions for each water play feature.
- The frequency of inspection tasks should be adjusted according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Recommendations regarding inspections should include all components that need to be checked, tested, adjusted, or replaced at specific intervals.
- Repair of damaged parts should be done with caution, as it could result in an alteration of the originally approved design.
- Equipment modifications should be agreed upon with the manufacturer and undergo a new inspection after completion.
- Maintenance, inspection, repair, and modification operations should be recorded in a logbook.
- Maintain an incident and accident control log for the facility, either on the equipment itself or in the designated play area.

Safety recommendations applied to lifeguarding

In terms of aquatic safety, within the field of lifeguarding and surveillance, we consider two approaches to address this area:

From a regulatory standpoint, guidelines regarding the qualification, placement, or required number of lifeguards and/or supervisors, among other points, can be found in some legislations and regulations for public swimming pools. Specific requirements are also outlined in the UNE-EN 1069 standard related to water slides.

For instance, as an example from the standards mentioned, aspects such as the need to have a lifeguard at the top of slides that are 3 meters or higher; having one lifeguard per level in the case of platforms with slides at different heights; or having multiple lifeguards –both at the top of the platform and at the landing zones– in case of inadequate visibility of the reception area after sliding.

From an operational perspective, the following guidelines are recommended to improve supervision and control the quality of lifeguard surveillance.

1. Dynamic or Rotational Work System.

The primary task of a lifeguard, in addition to prevention and rescue, is surveillance. This involves constant visual analysis in the aquatic environment. Continuous visual analysis can become monotonous and lead lifeguards to situations of drowsiness, sleepiness, or routine, potentially resulting in a suspension of vigilance and an unexpected incident.

To avoid this, facility managers or lifeguard department heads are recommended to implement work dynamics that prevent these behaviors.

This can be achieved by implementing a rotational system between different positions, allowing lifeguards to assume different zones of responsibility, thus changing the type of surveillance and the dynamics of their previous position.

For example, alternating positions between a children's pool and a deeper pool, where users and the type of interaction with each of them differ. This way, lifeguards will maintain a changing level of activity over time.

In facilities with only one surveillance position, where changing responsibility zones is not possible, it is recommended to implement work dynamics based on time or type of surveillance, defining the lifeguard's duties and actions more specifically during their shift. For example, establishing a route the lifeguard must follow, conducting dynamic surveillance during transit, and interspersing it with static surveillance at different stations where they must remain for a defined period.



2. Define Responsibility Zones Based on the 10–20 Rule.

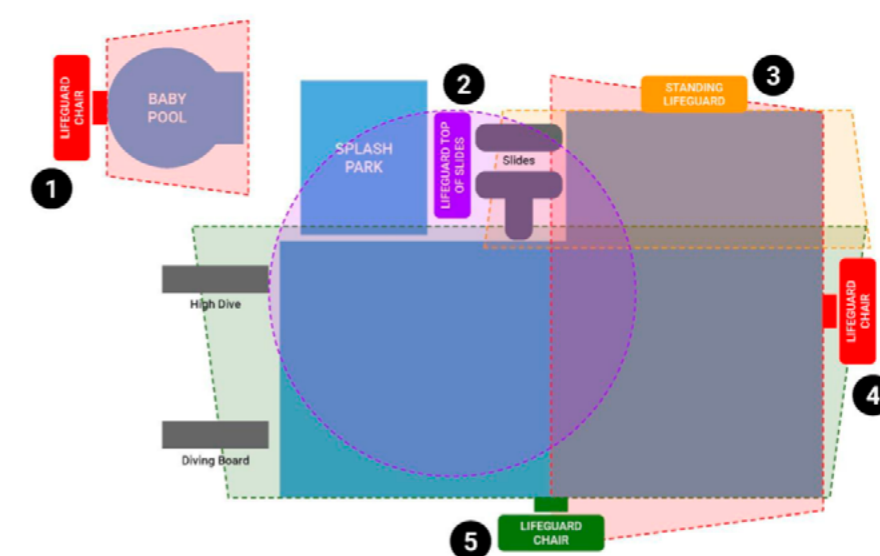
It is common to find facilities where a single lifeguard monitors a large surface area of water or others with irregular structures or theming that hinders the lifeguard's view, forcing them to move between points and suspending surveillance at the opposite end of the installation.

To prevent this and ensure continuous surveillance, it is important to analyze the structures and dimensions of the water surface from a surveillance perspective. This allows defining the number of lifeguards needed for a specific installation or the type of surveillance they must perform to guarantee the safety of all users.

In this context, the 10–20 rule is a useful tool. This rule determines the time for detection and reach of potential victims:

- 10 seconds to detect a victim: lifeguards should be able to complete a full scan of their zone of responsibility in 10 seconds. If, from the lifeguard's position, we observe that their zone cannot be surveyed in less than 10 seconds, the area should be redefined by establishing new limits and adding a lifeguard to cover the remaining area. This ensures that a person in need can be detected within a maximum of 10 seconds.
- 20 seconds to reach a victim: this is the maximum time a lifeguard should take to cover the distance from their position to the furthest point in their zone of responsibility. This ensures that, in the event of an unexpected incident, the lifeguard will make contact with the victim within a maximum of 20 seconds from the moment of detection.

Apart from helping define responsibility zones, this rule can serve as a tool to assess lifeguards in terms of surveillance and physical capabilities.



3. Surveillance of Medium Depth and Bottom.

In most cases, it is observed that lifeguards maintain good surveillance above the waterline but do not pay attention to the medium depth or bottom of the pools.

It is important to train lifeguards in the area of surveillance as a method of search rather than observation. It is proven that, through visual analysis based on observation, the human eye sees what happens but may not detect some variables important for surveillance. However, if surveillance is based on search, conducting sweeps covering an entire area, the detection of irregular events, dangerous objects, or other incidents significantly increases.

Therefore, it is recommended to convey to lifeguards the need to search and find, not just observe. To explain this, an analogy with auditory terms can be used, saying 'it's not the same to hear as to listen'.



4. Evaluation Methods.

To ensure the effective performance of the facility's lifeguards and verify that the established work dynamics are being adhered to, it is sufficient to conduct a visual analysis of the lifeguard's functions, communicate the results, and inform them of areas to strengthen and improve.

With the aim of confirming that the 10–20 rule is applied to in all areas of the facility, it is necessary to conduct tests using devices that allow us to assess the capabilities of our lifeguards. For example, we can use a highly buoyant ball (similar in size to a tennis ball) that we throw into a specific area of the pool while the lifeguard is performing their surveillance duties. In this way, we can assess the time it takes to detect the device and the time taken to reach it. For this to be possible, there must, of course, be an established evaluation protocol and a specific device known and easily recognizable by the lifeguard.

Finally, to assess surveillance of medium depth and the pool floor, a device that sinks instead of floats can be used. Similarly, the lifeguard should be able to detect it within 10 seconds and reach it within 20 seconds.



Inspection and certification.

Trust Assurance, responsibility, and regulatory compliance guarantee

Water leisure areas and recreational pools in tourist establishments have specific protocols to follow for the certification of safety. More precisely, alignment to European EN standards or American ASTM standards depends on the region in question.

While the industry has long been committed to standardization and the establishment of a mandatory protocol to ensure safety in these spaces, the reality is that there is currently a certain legislative gap where there is no obligation for the inspection of areas for their operation—except for a few countries that do require official inspection before the opening license. However, there are more countries where regulatory safety compliance is demanded, with potential legal repercussions in case of non-compliance, as well as issues regarding the coverage of Civil Liability Insurance by insurers or with tour operators themselves who demand compliance with international standards.

Nevertheless, from the perspective of seeking excellence and quality in the tourism sector, there should be a commitment to inspecting facilities as a guarantee of regulatory compliance. This is not only to comply with the law but with the genuine goal of creating safer spaces for children, preventing accidents, and reducing the serious consequences resulting from possible mishaps that can inevitably occur in such aquatic environments.

Important

The annual inspections and certifications carried out by entities accredited by ENAC in the area of water leisure facilities are legally valid in the event of accidents and liability insurance coverage.

It is essential that inspections of the facilities are always carried out under the correct area inspection standards.

Inspections by ENAC/ILAC accredited entities have international validity, *provided they adhere to the applicable regulations and the country where the inspection is conducted falls under the umbrella of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) for mutual recognition. This is the case for institutions such as the Mexican Accreditation Entity (EMA), Emirates International Accreditation Centre (EIAC), or Turkish Accreditation Agency (TÜRKAK). [Check the list of countries.](#)*

Benefits of the inspection and certification of water leisure areas

- ✔ Certificate from an inspection entity accredited by ENAC (ILAC) with legal validity in case of claims.
- ✔ Prevention of accidents and effective detection of incidents to be addressed.
- ✔ Assurance of safety and regulatory compliance by installers or providers of executed projects.
- ✔ Insurance coverage for accidents.
- ✔ Impact on user's perception of safety and enhanced reputation of the establishment among the family audience.
- ✔ Minimize the risk of responsibilities for the manager or property of the complex (compliance).
- ✔ Positive impact on tour operators, stakeholders, and tourist destination managers.



Safe Fun, Aquatic Leisure Certification

Quality and safety guarantee for the users



Safe Fun, Aquatic Leisure Certification, is an exclusive seal from The Fun Lab awarded to those companies that have certified their water recreation facilities in accordance with the aforementioned European and American standards.

This safety and quality seal is the ideal tool for the owners and management companies of these facilities to promote that they meet the required safety standards, ensuring that users have full confidence in the certified spaces.

Some companies already certified or in the process of certification with the Safe Fun seal:



Credits

Authors of the Blue Book

This document has been prepared by the partners and executives of The Fun Lab:



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General Manager at The Fun Lab

With academic background in Business, Marketing, and Communication, his professional career has focused on strategic planning and project management for leisure projects serving clients in the tourism sector, both nationally and internationally, as well as in the leisure and municipal sectors. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Tourism at the Complutense University of Madrid.



Santiago García Gimeno
Technical Director at The Fun Lab

An engineer by qualification, with a professional trajectory specialized in hydraulic systems. Specifically trained in Project Management Professional (PMP), his career has been centered on engineering and comprehensive project management for water leisure and pool projects at the national and international levels. He takes on the technical direction of the aquatic inspections area.



Jesús Montes Lantarón
Head of European Lifeguard Operations (Grupo Parques Reunidos)

A lifeguard and rescue technician with over 12 years of experience in water parks. He has served as a water safety auditor at the European level, responsible for strategy in the implementation of different lifeguard teams, design of surveillance zone coverage, implementation of new quality management processes, instructor, and coordinator of lifeguard teams in large facilities.

Credits

The organization: The Fun Lab

The Fun Lab is an internationally accredited inspection entity (ISO 17020) for the official certification of safety in water leisure facilities, as well as a consulting and engineering firm specialized in leisure and pool projects for the tourism and amusement industry. We are active members of the IAAPA association.



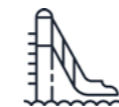
Additionally, we are members of the committee 'Water Slides and Water Play Equipment' (CEN/TC 136/WG 3) of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN), and the Committee F24 on Amusement Rides and Devices of ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials), both responsible for reviewing and updating standards focused on public pool and water leisure areas internationally.



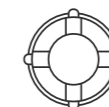
TUI safety partner

We are the technical advisory and safety auditing firm for TUI's International water parks and leisure facilities. TUI re-cognises and trusts our safety inspections and certifications.

Work areas:



Inspection and certification of areas with water slides according to EN 1069 (Part 1 and 2) and ASTM-2376, and of water parks and aquatic playgrounds according to EN 17232 and ASTM-F2461. [More info.](#)



Audit, certification, and consultancy in operational safety protocols and lifeguarding in aquatic leisure areas.



Comprehensive leisure project consultancy: business consulting and strategy; engineering services (drafting and validation of projects); hydraulic auditing. [More info.](#)



Development of the Blue Leaf standard (Leverage for Efficiency in Aquatic Facilities), related to the sustainability certification of outdoor areas and pools in tourist establishments and municipal pools. [More info.](#)



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