

11

These pools go off the deep end

A wave of new swimming experiences focus on fun

Rooftop pools look great on Instagram, but those photogenic puddles can't compete with more playful escapes in the water. "People want a pool where they don't have to take themselves so seriously and can simply have a great time," says Laura Mitzner Paletz, vice president of the company behind the new Texas-shaped lazy river atop the Marriott Marquis Houston hotel.

Check out these other splashy attractions that'll make you feel like a kid again:



MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOUSTON Float around the entire Lone Star State in just 15 minutes flat at this new Texas-shaped lazy river. marriott.com



Omni Orlando Resort ChampionsGate

This property features Orlando's only wave pool at a hotel, making it easy to catch some waves without an ocean or a water park ticket. omnihotels.com



UNICO 20°87° Hotel Riviera Maya, Mexico

At this adults-only hotel, guests don't have to venture far for a dip. Several rooms feature access to a swim-up pool. unicohotelrivieramaya.com



Hilton Resort Aruba

There'll be no more soggy pages or ruined tablets with this newest poolside amenity: a lending library stocked with waterproof books. hilton.com



Krakatau Universal's Volcano Bay

Coast through a 200-foot-tall fake volcano on this gushing aqua coaster at Universal Orlando's new water theme park. universalorlando.com

12

Nightlife in the Rockies is wet and wild

You can run the rapids by moonlight on this mountain rafting excursion



"IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS, OUR clear moonlit nights are so bright that it creates vivid shadows, like you would expect from the sun," says Mark Hammer, a guide with The Adventure Company's full-moon rafting trip in Browns Canyon, just outside Breckenridge, Colorado. "This brightness allows for a unique level of visibility."

For the company's full-moon rafting excursions, which happen once a month during the summer,

everyone gears up for the two-hour sojourn down the Arkansas River with wetsuits, life jackets and helmets, which are fitted with glow sticks for added visibility—and also, says Hammer, because "it looks really cool!"

You can still enjoy the scenery after the sun goes down.

"Every ripple is illuminated, and the way that the moonlight reflects and shimmers on the canyon walls is magical."—JESSICA HAAS