

## MEDIA INFORMATION

### **When the Gladiators are finding their way to the "Colosseo": Europa-Park starts into the new season**

**On April 3<sup>rd</sup> Europa-Park, Germany's biggest theme park with 3,6 million visitors last year, will start a new season: no other tourist destination in Germany offers as much fun and entertainment for the whole family. In eleven European themed areas visitors can discover the architectural diversity of Europe, race down from dizzy heights on high-speed roller coasters, watch international shows with fascinating acrobatics and dance performances, dive into the world of our "Magic Cinema 4D" or take the little guests on numerous childrens' attractions to make sure that they have an unforgettable day. New this year are the gladiators, who are coming to Europa-Park: in the Gladiator-Show, fascinating stunts will thrill the visitors. In June, the largest Italian hotel outside of Italy - the "Colosseo" - will open its doors. And of course, also this year Europa-Park will offer numerous special events and TV productions throughout the year with its different seasons.**

On an area of 68 hectares, visitors can experience the architecture, vegetation and cultures of many European countries. Embedded into the different themed areas, the popular theme park offers over 100 attractions and fascinating shows. A Shakespeare Theatre, a Gladiator-Show in the Spanish Arena, a gorgeous Ice-Show and many entertaining kids' shows - approximately 150 international artists perform great shows with dance, artistry and magic on numerous stages the whole year round. Go on a trip to the "Pirates in Batavia" or shoot down towards the ground in Europe's biggest roller coaster - the "Silver Star" - with a speed of 130 km/h, then dare an adventurous trip with the "Fjord Rafting" through Scandinavia, take a trip to the stars with "Eurosat" or ride leisurely in a boat - anything is possible at Europa-Park!

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New this year: the gladiators are entering Europa-Park. The ground trembles and 2000 visitors are thrilled, when watching spectacular stunts in the arena. Highlight: In June, the largest Italian hotel outside of Italy -

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the "Colosseo? - will open its doors. It is designed in Roman-Italian style and amazes the guests with a southern flair amidst the impressive scenery of the Ancient Rome.

After an adventurous day, the Spanish 4-star hotels "El Andaluz? and "Castillo Alcazar? offer overnight stays in a beautiful atmosphere. In June 2004, the new 4-star adventure hotel "Colosseo? will be opened. Apart from two restaurants and a themed bar, it also offers a Roman bath with original fresco painting and a thermal well.

Those who prefer staying overnight in a more adventurous atmosphere, can sleep in one of the 26 tents in the Tipi Village and feel as if being in the Wild West, while sitting near a big campfire. Camping fans can use Europa-Park's large caravan site.

In 2004, Europa-Park is once again the setting for numerous special events. Apart from the European themed festivals, such as the "Spanish Feria?, a "European Week? or the "Italian Summer Festival?, many big events such as the SWR3 Elch-Party will take place. In addition, various themed activities such as the Science Days will be organized.

Also this year, Europa-Park will stick to it's motto: the year of fantastic weeks offers the visitors very special adventures during the different seasons: for example the nice and eerie Halloween-Weeks or the magical Winter Weeks.

*Europa-Park is open daily from April 3<sup>rd</sup> until November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004 from 9 am to 6 pm, longer opening hours the during peak season. Winter 2004/2005 from November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2004 until January 9<sup>th</sup> (except December 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>), 2005. For hotel reservations, please call +49 (0) 1805 - 86 86 20.*

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