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This Weekend: How to Spend a Day at Moscow's VDNKh

By The Moscow Times

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Sky Town

VDNKh Park has cast off its old-fashioned, honky-tonk past and become a ⊠modern version of what it once was: a fairground with activities for ⊠literally the whole family, with plenty of exhibitions, lectures, and ⊠classes — care to dance? — for older folks, to dozens of activities for ⊠kids: playgrounds, quests, classes, go-carts, animals of the land and ⊠sea, robots, movies, and much more. When you want a break, sit and enjoy⊠ the park's three magnificent fountains or stroll among the flower beds.⊠

SkyTown

Safe, thrilling fun

Always fancied yourself as the next Spiderman? Head down to VDNKh's Sky ⊠Town. Although busy on the weekends and little pricey (1100 rubles for ⊠an adult for 3 hours), the rope park

offers a unique experience to ⊠thrill-seeking Muscovites. With three levels of difficulty, there are ⊠plenty of obstacles to traverse from 15 to 40 feet above ground. For ⊠those with a phobia of heights there is an open air cafe which provides ⊠the perfect spot from which to heckle your daredevil friends.

Near Pavilion 27

City Farm

Pet a goat, be happy

A mini-park within the park, Gorodskaya ferma (City Farm) was designed ⊠by the renowned architectural firm WOWHAUS as an educational space for ⊠children and their parents. There is a vegetable patch for the ⊠green-fingered and several petting zoos with small animals just itching ⊠to be stroked, fawned over and instagrammed. Vending machines with ⊠carrots and biscuits up your chances of making a furry friend. A ⊠playground and a small pond with benches and deck chairs as well as a ⊠small cafe serving sandwiches and refreshments are available when you've⊠ had your overdose of cute.

zooferma.vdnh.ru

Near pavilion 47⊠

Bike Rental

Beat the heat

Bikes are available to rent from the Bosco stand just to the left of the main entrance. Choose from tandem bikes, bikes for children, extra-speedy bikes and more — all in an array of bright and summery colors. Each bike requires a deposit of 3000 rubles and most bikes cost 350 rubles per hour, with discounts on weekdays. No registration is required. Once you've handed over this substantial sum (cash only, we're afraid) the enormous park is your oyster. Get lost down shaded forest paths, stop for an ice-cream if the sun gets too much, admire the pretty pavilion buildings or take a break by one of the park's many fountains. For a change of pace, you can also rent roller-blades, skateboards, and scooters.⊠

localway.ru/moscow/poi/bosco_electra_302504⊠

Panoramic Cinema

360 degree films

Way back in 1959 film makers came up with the idea of shooting a film in the round: attaching six cameras together in a circle and synchronizing the filming process. Over the next few decades they shot almost 20 films, most of which are either lost or need restoration. But a few from the 1960s-1980s — mostly cool, retro travelogues shot around the Volga, Caucasus and Moscow — can be seen on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. There are five screenings a day, each about 20 minutes long, costing 150 rubles. You sit in the center as the film plays out on the circular walls around you. Eat your heart out, 360 App.

vdnh.ru/events/razvlecheniya/-krugovaya-kinopanorama

Building 541

Craft Park

Put on your creative hat

Park Remyosel (Craft Park) is a new space at VDNKh devoted to creativity. Its territory includes City Farm, Fisherman's Village, Ceramic Workshop by Dymov and most importantly, Dom Remyosel (Craft House), located in Pavilion 47. Craft House has several workshops, including a cheese-making school, where you can learn how to make Georgian suluguni or feta cheese for 4000 rubles, a flower workshop, a glass making studio and a coffee laboratory.

remesla.vdnh.ru

Pavilion 47

Space Shuttle Buran

Cosmonaut culture

Among the many other wonders of Soviet engineering in VDNKh, make sure you set aside an hour or so to learn about the Soviet space shuttle Buran. Take a tour through the interactive museum which includes a full-scale model of the shuttle and catch a short documentary film about its construction and launch. If you're lucky, get chosen to fly a simulation of its famous redirected landing. All for just 500 rubles.

Between pavilions 19 and 20

The Green Theater

Something for everyone

Enjoy a show in the open air this summer at the Green Theater. Reopened in 2014 after extensive renovation work, it is now counted among Moscow's most dazzling concert venues. Whether you're interested in ballet, jazz, or rock and roll, there's sure to be something for you over the summer season. Ticket prices range from 300 to 5,000 rubles depending on the popularity of the show, but there are usually free shows on Sundays.

zeleny-teatr.vdnh.ru

Between pavilions no.21 and no.22

Mosquarium

Aquatic wonders

If you have kids or love sea creatures, don't miss the Mosquarium — ⊠Russia's largest and

newest aquarium complex. You can see more than ⊠8,000 types of water-living creatures in 80 tanks that go up, over, ⊠under and around you as you walk around. There are hands-on areas and ⊠enough scary sharks to keep everyone thrilled. The aquarium is also home⊠ to walruses, dolphins and orcas. Tickets start from 800 rubles for ⊠entry and 1,500 for a show.

moskvarium.ru

Pavilion no.23

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