

AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC'S ONGOING EXHIBITS AND ACTIVITIES

Guests will step into a world of discovery and exploration at the Aquarium of the Pacific. Representing nearly 500 species with more than 12,000 inhabitants of our planet's largest ocean, the Aquarium of the Pacific is a destination for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the animals and habitats of the ocean and to explore environmental issues and how we can make a difference. The Aquarium takes visitors on a journey through the three main regions of the vast Pacific Ocean: the temperate waters of Southern California and Baja; the icy Northern Pacific off the coasts of Alaska, Russia, and Japan; and the warm Tropical Pacific, featuring the colorful coral reefs of Palau. Sea lions, sea otters, and sea turtles are among the animals found in these expansive galleries, and an animal-touch Discovery Lab is located in the Northern Pacific gallery featuring tidepool animals. Guests will also encounter the Aquarium's interactive Shark Lagoon, the Molina Animal Care Center, the Ocean Science Center, and much more. In its Honda Pacific Visions Theater, the Aquarium offers educational films and its First Wednesdays series featuring guest speakers who specialize in ocean and environmental topics. The Aquarium's education department offers a diverse array of programs online, on site, and in the community. The Aquarium of the Pacific is a nonprofit organization with a mission to instill a sense of wonder, respect, and stewardship for the Pacific Ocean, its inhabitants, and ecosystems. The Aquarium is dedicated to conserving and building natural capital (nature and nature's services) by building the interactions between and among people.

Babies! (through April 30, 2023)—You can experience the heartwarming joy of baby animals like fuzzy sea otters, tiny cuttlefish that change color, miniature sea jellies, and little sharks through the *Babies!* exhibition at the Aquarium of the Pacific. Visitors can watch the antics of rescued young sea otters in the Aquarium's Northern Pacific Gallery. Then they can explore over a dozen exhibits featuring more young animals in the *Babies!* exhibition inside Pacific Visions on the second floor. These little ones can be found in exhibits showcasing important ocean habitats that function as nurseries for baby animals, including mangroves, coral reefs, and seagrass beds. The exhibit also features a young desert tortoise and a jelly lab, where you can see how the Aquarium grows baby sea jellies and see them in the various stages of their life cycle. Through the exhibition, you can also find out about the threatened and endangered animals in California that the Aquarium is helping, including mountain yellow-legged frogs, white abalone, giant sea bass, sea otters, and sea turtles. Many of these species are threatened by the impacts of climate change, overfishing, habitat loss, and other environmental issues. Through rescue, rehabilitation, breeding, and release programs, the Aquarium is working to help these species. The *Babies!* exhibition also features Spanish signage and video captioning.

Coral Reefs: Nature's Underwater Cities—Explore the beauty and diversity of coral reefs and their animal inhabitants. A green sea turtle, flashlight fish that glow, and clownfish are among the animal species that are highlighted. Through the exhibition, people can learn about coral reefs, the threats they face, and what each person can do to help save them.

Ocean Science Center—Journey around the globe to explore the atmosphere, ocean, and continents with an immersive exhibit that uses films to connect guests to global phenomena. Visitors may have the chance to join an educator inside the gallery to make observations, ask questions, and hear stories about our dynamic planet. The Ocean Science Center uses state-of-the-art technology from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Animal Interactions—There are many exhibits where visitors can touch ocean animals, including the Ray Touchpool on the California Terrace, Shark Lagoon touch pools, and the Coastal Corner Touch Lab featuring tide pool animals in the Northern Pacific Gallery. At the Moon Jelly Touch Lab on the Harbor Terrace, guests can purchase a cup of brine shrimp to feed the jellies while using two fingers to gently touch them.

Shark Lagoon—Shark Lagoon at the Aquarium of the Pacific features the nation’s first full-scale interactive shark touch exhibit. Guests will discover dozens of sharks and rays and get to gently touch bamboo sharks. They can also view large animals like the zebra shark and reticulate whipray in the main habitat. Through this exhibit, the Aquarium hopes people of all ages will appreciate sharks’ beauty and diversity while learning about their importance in the ocean.

Daily Films—The Aquarium offers daily educational short films in its Honda Pacific Visions Theater and the Ocean Theater. Guests should refer to their Aquarium Explorer app on the day of their visit to take advantage of these daily films, which are included with admission.

Daily Harbor Cruises—You can tour the Long Beach/Los Angeles Harbors with Harbor Breeze Cruises for a 45-minute narrated cruise around one of the most active ports in the world. See the downtown shoreline, ocean vistas, ships from around the world, and even sea lions. Guests may purchase a combo ticket on the day of their visit, which includes Aquarium admission and the boat cruise. For more information, call (562) 590-3100 or visit aquariumofpacific.org/visit/prices_hours

Daily Whale Watch—The public is invited to embark on a nature adventure through the Aquarium of the Pacific’s educational Whale Watch. Whales, dolphins, seals, and birds all make incredible journeys, ranging from a few hundred to many thousands of miles along this coast. Adventurers will explore the nearby seas aboard Harbor Breeze Cruises to seek out such travelers as gray whales, blue whales, fin whales, bottlenose dolphins, sea lions, and a host of migratory birds. The two- to three-hour ocean adventure includes an educational presentation by an Aquarium marine naturalist. Admission to the Aquarium of the Pacific is included in the Whale Watch price. In addition to their whale cruise, guests can visit over 12,000 other Pacific animals and learn more about whales through the *Whales: Voices in the Sea* kiosk exhibit as they explore the Aquarium. For more information, please call (562) 590-3100 or visit aquariumofpacific.org/education/programs/category/boat_programs

Shark and Ray Animal Encounter—This one-hour program offers guests the opportunity to learn about the care of the Aquarium’s animals—firsthand. Participants will spend time with animal biologists and meet several animals in an up-close setting. During the Shark and Ray Animal Encounter, guests meet a shark biologist to help to feed the smaller sharks and rays in Shark Lagoon. Animal Encounters are offered by reservation only. Age and group size restrictions apply. For more information, please visit aquariumofpacific.org/education/programs/category/animal_encounters or call (562) 590-3100.

Education Programs—The Aquarium of the Pacific offers a variety of education programs for learners of all ages, including both in-person and virtual experiences. School field trips with add-on education programs are back. Children’s programs, like summer and winter day camp, give opportunities to explore critters and habitats at the Aquarium. Adult learners can engage in ocean topics and conservation through lectures and teacher professional learning opportunities. The Aquarium on Wheels program travels to schools and community events, bringing educational programs and tidepool animals to explore. With the use of interactive tools and media, remote learners can connect with virtual field trips and other streamed content. For information, please visit aquariumofpacific.org/education or call (562) 590-3100.

Annual Events—The Aquarium of the Pacific features a variety of events throughout the year, including cultural festivals, First Wednesdays guest speaker series, holiday events, monthly wetlands restoration, art exhibitions, and more. For upcoming public events, please visit aquariumofpacific.org/events or call (562) 590-3100.

General Information

Location: Aquarium of the Pacific, 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802

Hours: The Aquarium is open 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily, except on December 25. Extended hours during the summer, select weekends, and holiday periods.

Admission: General Admission—\$36.95 adult (12+), \$33.95 senior (62+), \$26.95 child (3-11), and free for children under age 3 and Aquarium members.

For admission/tour combo prices, visit aquariumofpacific.org or call (562) 590-3100.

Membership: Guests can purchase a family membership to enjoy unlimited free admission for one year and discounts on food and gifts at the Aquarium and other benefits. The Aquarium offers various membership levels, including individual and senior rates. For more information on membership levels and benefits, visit aquariumofpacific.org/give/membership/ or call (562) 590-3100.

Public Info: (562) 590-3100 or aquariumofpacific.org / Spanish: aquariumofpacific.org/espanol or (562) 590-3100

*Prices and dates subject to change. Please visit the Aquarium's website for updates.