

2008 Summer Calendar of Events

Please note: July – August, hours: everyday 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Our calendar includes all of the Immersion Tour dates and any special community wide events. Please call 410-576-3860 for more details.

Summer Highlights:

Celebrate July 4th on the Aquarium's Pier!

Shark Tag....You're It! Join the Aquarium for a day of shark tagging!

NEW MEDIA TOOL: Sign up now at aqua.org to receive regular updates on new programs, photo opportunities and animal news on a regular e-mail digest developed just for the media.

NEED IMAGES TO ACCOMPANY A STORY? THE IMAGES BELOW AND MANY OTHERS AVAILABLE IN OUR PHOTO VAULT. E-MAIL JBLOOMER@AQUA.ORG FOR HIGH-RES VERSIONS AND PERMISSIONS.



NEWEST ATTRACTION!

4D Immersion Theater

Planet Earth: Shallow Seas™ 4D Experience

January 7 through 2008

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily, shows run approximately 20 minutes in length

The Aquarium's new Immersion Theater will bring you closer to the sights, sounds and smells of the action. The theater is equipped with 4D capabilities, which combine the high-definition drama of 3D film with special sensory effects such as mist and wind. The stunning documentary *Planet Earth* has been recreated into a magical 15-minute 4D experience that descends beneath the surface of the ocean! Sense the pressure, feel the perils and smell the triumph as you celebrate Earth as never before in *Planet Earth: Shallow Seas™ 4-D Experience*.

GENERAL CALENDAR INFORMATION:

National Aquarium in Baltimore
501 E. Pratt St.

General Information 410-576-3800
Group Reservations 410-576-3833 TTY: 410-625-0720
Web Address: <http://www.aqua.org>

The National Aquarium in Baltimore has nearly 16,000 creatures from more than 600 species.

Current Exhibits/Attractions: Animal Planet Australia: Wild Extremes, New! 4-D Immersion Theater, Frogs! A Chorus of Colors, Play! The Dolphin Show, Immersion Tours.

ADMISSION PRICES:

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| Adults | \$21.95 |
| Seniors (60+) | \$20.95 |
| Children (3-11) | \$14.95 |
| 3 and under | FREE |

Admission includes *Animal Planet Australia: Wild Extremes* and *Frogs! A Chorus of Colors*. Admission does not include the *Dolphin Show* and the *4-D Immersion Theater*.

Now it's easier than ever to prepare and plan a visit to the National Aquarium in Baltimore! The new, **interactive trip planner** is the best way to get ready for your adventure. Visit aqua.org to plan your next trip.

For information about group prices and seasonal discounts call 410-576-3800 or visit aqua.org

HOURS:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| January, February | 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.* Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.* Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.* Saturday, Sunday |
| March-June, September, and October | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.* Saturday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.* Friday |
| July and August | 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.* Daily |
| November, December | 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.* Saturday-Thursday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.* Friday |
| Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day | Closed |

**** Last entry time. Building closes two hours after last entry time.***

Best times to visit: Before 11 a.m. and after 3 p.m. daily

LONGSTANDING EXHIBIT DETAILS:

NEW! 4-D IMMERSION THEATER *

The Aquarium's new Immersion Theater will bring you closer to the sights, sounds and smells of the action. The theater is equipped with 4D capabilities, which combine the high-definition drama of 3D film with special sensory effects such as mist and wind.

Current Film: The National Aquarium in Baltimore has taken the stunning documentary *Planet Earth* and recreated into a magical 15-minute 4D experience that descends beneath the surface of the ocean!

ANIMAL PLANET AUSTRALIA: WILD EXTREMES

Movement is everywhere: a rustle in the trees, a splash in the pool. A flash of color might reveal lizards skittering across the ground, flying foxes leaping in the trees, a crocodile gliding into a pond, or a flock of lorikeets feeding on nectar. This is Animal Planet Australia: Wild Extremes!

FROGS! A CHORUS OF COLORS

Our new frog exhibit features highly adaptive, visually stunning, operatically superior, high-jumping, lily pad-hopping, bog-swimming, and yes, aero-gliding amphibians. Take a closer look, and a good listen!

PLAY! THE DOLPHIN SHOW *

Watch the Atlantic Bottlenose dolphins frolic. For the full dolphin experience, be sure to purchase a separate ticket to Play! The Dolphin Show online or at the Ticket Center. Find show times and customize your visit with our new online trip planner!

WINGS IN THE WATER

Enjoy one of nation's most beautiful collection of stingrays in the Wings in the Water exhibit. Dozens of stingrays and many small sharks can be seen from the surface or through the underwater viewing windows of this 260,000-gallon pool, home to one of the largest ray collections in the country. Divers feed rays underwater and offer narrations above water daily.

HARRY & JEANETTE WEINBERG WATERFRONT PARK

The Weinberg Waterfront Park is a distinctive plaza that welcomes visitors to the Aquarium and Inner Harbor. It provides a relaxing and educational setting that explores Maryland's diverse ecosystems – from the ocean, coastal plains and Chesapeake Bay, through the Piedmont region and west to the Allegheny Mountains.

* Exhibit not included in general admission fee *

SUMMER IMMERSION TOURS

Dive beneath the surface with the Aquarium's exclusive Immersion Tours. Let our expert guides help you experience life at the Aquarium from an insider's perspective. You'll discover a world behind the glass that is fascinating and full of surprises. For more information or to purchase tickets for an Immersion Tour, contact our Central Reservations at 410-576-3833 or visit us at aqua.org.

The following lists dates and information for our summer tours:

Gallery Tour

Jul 3, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 31

Aug 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31

Sep 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28

8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Ages: 5 and up

This tour starts before the National Aquarium in Baltimore opens, providing an intimate atmosphere. Journey to *Animal Planet Australia: Wild Extremes*, the Amazon River Forest, Open Ocean shark exhibit and the Atlantic Coral Reef; help feed the 600 residents in the Atlantic Coral Reef; and deliver the River Forest's breakfast -- the famous bug drop! Encounter some creepy crawlies and reptiles during a touch session. For more information call 410-576-3833 or visit aqua.org.

Dolphin Encounter

Jul 3, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 17, 20, 21, 24, 27, 28, 31

Aug 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 14, 17, 18, 21, 24, 25, 28, 31

Sep 6, 7, 14, 20, 27, 28

12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Ages: 8 to adult

Get up close and personal with the Aquarium's Atlantic bottlenose dolphins! This hands-on, 2 ½ long encounter, begins with a fun-filled, interactive orientation session. Guests then enjoy an all-access pass and priority seating in *Play! The Dolphin Show*. After the show, they are escorted on deck where the real fun begins! It's playtime with the dolphins, and it's sure to be an unforgettable experience. Decksider observer tickets are also available for friends and family. Observer tickets include the orientation session, priority seating at *Play!* and an up-close view of the dolphin encounter for taking photos or video. For more information call 410-576-3833 or visit aqua.org.

Rain Forest Sleepover

Jul 11

Aug 8

Sep 12

5:30 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Ages: 8 and up

Meet the intriguing and often elusive residents of the Upland Tropical Rain Forest during your exclusive overnight adventure! The journey begins with an after-hours, guided visit to the rain forest to learn about the nocturnal behaviors of these amazing animals. Then, descend deep to the Atlantic Coral Reef for a private presentation on the nighttime behaviors of these watery residents. Throughout the evening explore behind-the-scenes areas, and learn exciting and interesting facts in our Rain Forest Discovery Lab. In the morning light, guests visit the rain forest to help feed the animals their breakfast at the famous "bug drop" feeding. For more information call 410-576-3833 or visit aqua.org.

Australia Wild Extremes Sleepover

Jul 25

Aug 29

Ages: 8 and up

Trek to Australia's Northern Territory in the Aquarium's new exhibit, *Animal Planet Australia: Wild Extremes*. Expert guides will lead you on an exclusive nocturnal prowling where you will discover amazing and exotic creatures not found anywhere else outside of Australia. Take part in hands-on activities in our Australia Discovery Lab and crafts station; learn about the world's most venomous creatures; create an Australian musical instrument and practice your Australian accent as you listen to stories of the people and animals that have made their home in the Northern Territory for over 40,000 years. For more information call 410-576-3833 or visit aqua.org.

Sharks Behind-the-Scenes

July 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27

Aug 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31

Sep 13, 21

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Ages: 8 and up

Get uncomfortably close to the National Aquarium in Baltimore's sharks! Explore behind-the-scenes shark areas with an expert guide and discover the truth about these incredible ocean predators. Dare to experience the shark catwalk, where sharks swim silently just inches beneath you. Discover how Aquarium staff care for the sharks and rays with a visit to the food-prep area. Tour includes a shark-themed souvenir. For more information call 410-576-3833 or visit aqua.org.

Sleepover with the Sharks

Aug 1, 15, 22

Sep 5, 19, 26

5:30 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Jul 6, 17, 20, 24

Aug 7, 10, 17, 21

4:00 p.m. to 9 a.m.

Ages: 8 and up

The ultimate shark lover's sleepover! Discover the truths surrounding these top ocean predators during this activity-filled overnight. With an expert guide, take a nocturnal prowling through the Aquarium's behind-the-scenes areas—including a visit to the food-prep area to learn how aquarists care for and feed the sharks and rays. Experience the shark catwalk, where sharks swim silently just inches beneath you. Continue the evening's excitement with hands-on activities in the Shark Discovery Lab and crafts station. Sleep in the underwater viewing area with the sharks close by. Breakfast included. For more information call 410-576-3833 or visit aqua.org.

Guest Diver Program

Jul 5, 19

Aug 2, 16

Sep 6, 20

Participants must be Certified Divers and at least 18 years old.

Experience the best diving in Maryland at the National Aquarium in Baltimore—two 30-minute dives in the Aquarium's most popular exhibits, the Atlantic Coral Reef, and Wings in the Water. Led by professional dive staff from Atlantic Edge Dive Center, participants will be taught the basics of Aquarium diving before taking the plunge into our world of rays, sharks, and over 50 species of fish. As you swim among these fascinating creatures, you will also learn the role divers can play in reef conservation and how to be a steward of our precious natural resources. For more information call 301-519-9283 or visit aqua.org.

Breakfast with the Dolphins: A Dolphin's Day

Sep 13

9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Ages: 3 to adult

After a continental breakfast, join the dolphins and marine mammal trainers for an up-close look at a dolphin's day. Learn how staff members perform medical check ups, how they train new behaviors, why playtime is important and how you can protect dolphins and their habitat. A trainer will be available for questions. Admission to the Aquarium is included. Cost: \$40.

SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENTS:

JULY

July 4th Pier Party

July 4

7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Ages: all ages

Celebrate Independence Day at the Aquarium with great music, children's activities, food, and fireworks. Enjoy an evening by the water with entertainment for the whole family, and the best seats in town for Baltimore City's annual spectacular fireworks show. Bring your picnic or purchase snacks at the party. The back of the pier opens at 7 p.m. Reservations are required for this annual sell-out event. Call today! For more information call 410-727-FISH.

Indian Head Wetland Restoration Project

July 11-13

Ages: All participants must be a minimum age of 18 and US Citizen

The National Aquarium in Baltimore, in partnership with Naval Support Facility Indian Head and the Charles County Master Gardeners, is currently recruiting volunteers to help create a riparian buffer along the Potomac River. For more information, please contact the Conservation Department by phone at 410-659-4274, or e-mail to conserve@aquaria.org

AUGUST

Shark Tag...You're It!

August 23, 24, 30, 31

Session A: 7 a.m. to Noon

Session B: 1 p.m. to Noon

Ages: 15 to adult

Cost: Members \$200, Non-members \$250

Join the Aquarium staff for a day of shark tagging off the coast of Ocean City, Maryland. Tagging sharks provides scientists with information on stock identity, migration and abundance, age and growth, mortality, and behavior. Captain Sampson's experience and reputation have made him a sought after lecturer, demonstrator, writer, and guide for shark tagging and other offshore fishing techniques. This is an exclusive, hands-on event – don't miss out on an exciting day on the water. For more information call 410-727-FISH.

SEPTEMBER

Fort McHenry Field Day

September 27

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Ages: 14 to adult

The Aquarium is deeply committed to extending the knowledge and resources gained through day-to-day operations toward the betterment of the natural environment. You can help us make a difference! Restore habitat for wildlife, remove debris, and maintain trails at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine in Baltimore. For more information, please contact the Conservation Department at 410-659-4274 or conserve@aqua.org.