

**Media:** For more information, contact SeaWorld Public Relations at (619) 226-3929.

**SEAWORLD SAN DIEGO**

**2015 FACT SHEET**

**OVERVIEW:** With more than 160 million visitors since its opening in 1964, SeaWorld® San Diego is one of the most popular marine parks in the world. The founding principles of education, entertainment, research and conservation make SeaWorld an ideal place to learn about, enjoy and gain an appreciation for some of the ocean’s most fascinating animals. SeaWorld San Diego is one of 11 parks operated by SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment®.

SeaWorld has a boatload of new reasons to visit the marine park in 2015, starting with a special Lunar New Year celebration in February, followed by Wild Days in March and a craft beer and food festival in May (see page two for more details).

**DESCRIPTION:** Spread across 190 acres on beautiful Mission Bay Park, SeaWorld is known for spectacular animal shows, interactive attractions, aquariums, rides, beautiful landscaping and education programs for all ages. And of course, Shamu®!

**LOCATION:** Off I-5 on SeaWorld Drive on Mission Bay, 10 minutes north of downtown San Diego, the San Diego International Airport and Amtrak’s downtown station.

**PARK HOURS:** Opening and closing times vary by season. Hours are extended during seasonal periods, such as summer and winter holidays. Call (800) 257-4268 or visit [***www.SeaWorldSanDiego.com***](http://www.SeaWorldSanDiego.com).

**ADMISSION:** $89, ages 10 and older; $83, ages 3–9; free, under 3. Discounts available for groups and AAA members. The Waves of Honor program provides complimentary admission for military and family members. Online registration is required; please visit [***www.WavesofHonor.com***](http://www.WavesofHonor.com). Military members may also visit their Information, Tickets & Tours offices for discounted park tickets. Annual Pass Memberships, the Fun Card and other ticket products make SeaWorld an even better value.Parking: $16 for cars; $21 for RVs, campers and Up-Close; $11 for motorcycles.

**INFORMATION:** For general park information: (800) 257-4268 or [***www.SeaWorldSanDiego.com***](http://www.SeaWorldSanDiego.com). For information about marine animals, visit [***www.SeaWorld.org***](http://www.SeaWorld.org).

**SERVICES:** Strollers, wheelchairs, lockers and pet kennels are available for rental. Diaper-changing, first aid, automated teller machines, taxi and bus parking information are all found on site. Charging station for electric vehicles available for park guests in parking lot; electronic device charging stations located in the park. SeaWorld provides special parking, restrooms, telephones and access to shows, attractions and meal facilities for guests with disabilities. Show scripts are available at Guest Services and at show stadiums. Access brochures available at Guest Relations. For TDD call (619) 226-3907. For information about services for guests with disabilities, visit [***www.SeaWorldSanDiego.com***](http://www.SeaWorldSanDiego.com).

***NEW AND EXCITING IN 2015!***

***FEBRUARY***—***Lunar New Year at SeaWorld:*** This all-new family-fun celebration marks the *Lunar New Year*, a tradition of wishing good fortune and happiness to family and friends. The park’s Lunar New Year Festival area\* (located just east of Explorer’s Reef™) will feature Asian-inspired culinary offerings and a stage featuring cultural performances, such as taiko drummers, lion dancers and fan dancers. Also, the Chinese Acrobats of Hebei will perform 25-minute acrobatic shows at Mission Bay Theater. Each guest coming through the gate during this celebration will receive a red envelope with a special gift inside. Event dates are Feb. 13–16, Feb. 21–22 and Feb. 28–March 1. \*Coca-Cola, the official refreshment beverages of SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment®, is the sponsor of the community stage at the Lunar New Year Festival area.

***MARCH***—***SeaWorld Wild Days:*** Guests can celebrate the natural world we share during SeaWorld Wild Days weekends in March, as they get up close with SeaWorld’s zoological team and learn firsthand the ways they can make a difference with their own everyday actions. During the March 7–8 weekend, animal conservationist and TV personality Jack Hanna and SeaWorld® and Busch Gardens® Animal Ambassador Julie Scardina will introduce amazing animals and share compelling stories about their conservation experiences; March 14–15 is “Sea Rescue” weekend, with SeaWorld team members from the popular ABC show sharing stories of their involvement in the rescue, rehabilitation and return to the wild of marine animals; March 21-22 and March 28-29 are Generation Nature™ (GenN), weekends, featuring high-energy, fun-filled shows packed with cool animal facts designed to inspire kids to become game changers for nature. All shows will be performed live in SeaWorld’s Mission Bay Theater.

***APRIL—SeaWorld’s Magic Weekends:*** All-new at the park’s Mission Bay Theater are SeaWorld’s Magic Weekends! Husband and wife illusionists Kalin and Jinger will bring classic Vegas-style magic to SeaWorld April 11–12; “America’s Got Talent” standout contestant Seth Grabel will present his rock ’n’ roll style of magic April 18–19; and a mystery guest will leave the audience spellbound April 25–26.

***MAY***—***SeaWorld’s Seven Seas Food Festival:*** Foodies and craft beer aficionados are going to love SeaWorld’s Seven Seas Food Festival, featuring craft beer from Stone Brewing Co. and other local breweries, plus international cuisine representing California fusion, the Caribbean, Europe, the Pacific Islands and more. Wine will also be served and local bands will perform throughout the day at Garden Plaza. Dates are May 2–3, May 9–10, May 16–17 and May 23–24.

***JULY/AUGUST—SeaWorld’s Summer Vibes presented by Coca-Cola***: Mission Bay Theater reverberates with vibrant, nationally recognized performers duringthis seven-week, high energy, family-fun lineup, Thursdays through Mondays, July 16–Aug. 30. Summer Vibes, which features a number of acts from acclaimed television competition shows such as The Filharmonic from NBC’s show “The Sing-off,” is included with park admission.

**RETURNING SEASONAL EVENTS FOR 2015**

During ***Summer Nights at SeaWorld***®, guests can enjoy Turtle Reef™, Manta® and all their other favorite SeaWorld attractions by day and then stay late to take infireworks and special nighttime animal shows, *Shamu’s Celebration: Light Up The Night* and *Sea Lions Tonite.* By day, *Cirque de la Mer®*, an acrobatic odyssey performed on and above Mission Bay, will be featured as well. Summer Nights take place weekends only May 23 through June 6, nightly June 13–Aug. 9, Aug. 15, 22 and 29; and Sept. 5–7.

During ***SeaWorld’s Halloween Spooktacular***®,kids can show up in costume and enjoy not-too-spooky entertainment such as a Halloween-themed sea lion and otter show, colorful costume characters and trick-or-treating among a sea-inspired atmosphere. Halloween Spooktacular takes place weekends Sept. 26–Nov. 1.

***SeaWorld’s Christmas Celebration***® is back with Shamu®, Santa and more,

Nov. 21, 2015–Jan. 3, 2016. Guests can grab a hot cocoa and experience the inspiring killer whale show *Shamu® Christmas Miracles*; the hilarious sea lion and otter show, *Clyde & Seamore's Christmas Special; Dolphin Island Christmas;* and *The Pets Rule Christmas*. Families can also enjoy the nightly lighting of the 40-foot animated tree and more, all under the glow of SeaWorld’s 320-foot Skytower Christmas Tree of Lights.

**SEAWORLD SHOWS**

[**One Ocean**](http://seaworldparks.com/en/seaworld-sandiego/Attractions/Shows/One-Ocean)

*One Ocean*® stars SeaWorld’s majestic killer whales as ambassadors of the sea, and the ocean as the center of our natural world. The show features spectacular whale behaviors including thrilling high-energy leaps and multiple whales performing simultaneously. Shamu® Stadium—with its three-story set, panoramic LED screens and hundreds of surround-sound speakers—features special effects that envelop guests in the show experience, including brilliantly colored lights, soaring fountains, stunning underwater imagery and an original, contemporary musical score with global rhythms.

[**Dolphin Days**](http://seaworldparks.com/en/seaworld-sandiego/attractions/shows/dolphin-days/?from=Top_Nav)

*Dolphin Days* combines high-energy animal behaviors with a close-up look at SeaWorld’s dolphins and pilot whales and the relationship they have with their trainers. This new show (debuting on Aug. 13, 2015) also includes audience participation, allowing guests to develop an even more personal connection with some of SeaWorld’s most amazing animal ambassadors.

[**Sea Lions LIVE**](http://seaworldparks.com/seaworld-sandiego/Attractions/Shows/Sea-Lions-LIVE)

*Sea Lions LIVE®*, SeaWorld’s sketch comedy show, stars the park’s prankster-loving pinnipeds Clyde® and Seamore® and the always-adorable O.P. Otter® who poke fun at popular TV shows with their own renditions, including “Dancing with the Pinnipeds” (a parody of “Dancing with the Stars”) and “SLSI” (“Sea Lion Scene Investigation”).

[**Pets Rule!**](http://seaworldparks.com/seaworld-sandiego/Attractions/Shows/Pets-Rule)

In thiszany show, clever canines, curious cats, beautiful birds and unpredictable pigs take charge and show humans who’s the boss. *Pets Rule!* ® is one of the largest shows in the country featuring primarily shelter-adopted animals. The stars of this show even have some exotic cast mates, including emus and kangaroos!

[**Cirque de la Mer**](http://seaworldparks.com/en/seaworld-sandiego/Attractions/Shows/Cirque-de-la-Mer)

A daytime summer show performed at Cirque Stadium on Mission Bay, *Cirque de la Mer*® features a variety of colorful “amphibians,” a combination of humans and sea creatures, who visit SeaWorld® and demonstrate their super-human abilities. *Cirque de la Mer* takes place in the daytime on select dates during Summer Nights at SeaWorld.

**ANIMAL ATTRACTIONS AND INTERACTIONS**

**Animal encounters** abound at SeaWorld®! Not only can guests interact with marine animals, such as touching a dolphin at Dolphin Point, feeding a bat ray at Manta® or having cleaner fish nibble at their hands at Explorer’s Reef™, they can also enjoy surprise encounters along the pathways with some of SeaWorld’s terrestrial and avian animal ambassadors. Trainers are on hand throughout the park to introduce guests to amazing animals, such as parrots, owls and otters, in a fun and surprising way. Plus, every day a flock of Caribbean flamingos parades the pathways much to the delight of guests making their way to shows and attractions.

[**Aquariums**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=430) at SeaWorld feature nearly 13,000 fishes and invertebrates representing more than 500 species found around the globe, from the Great Barrier Reef off Australia and the Amazon River of Brazil to the waters off the coast of Southern California. A new exhibit at Aquarium de la Mer features giant Pacific octopus, Caribbean octopus, two-spot octopus, cuttlefish and nautilus. Aquaria: World of Fishes showcases one of the largest schools of piranhas on exhibit, as well as prehistoric alligator gar, massive fruit-eating pacus, leopard sharks and thousands of colorful reef fish.

During the[**Beluga Interaction Program**](http://seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=811) at SeaWorld®, guests slip into wet suits and set foot in the 55-degree water to touch, feed and give training signals to beluga whales. Program fee is $215 plus park admission and includes wet suits, booties, lockers, changing facilities and showers. Participants must be at least 10 years old and 48 inches tall. Advance registration required.

[**Dine With Shamu**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=450) is more than just a dining experience — it’s exclusive, intimate and unforgettable. While enjoying a delicious buffet on Shamu’s private poolside patio, guests meet killer whale trainers and see Shamu® in a whole new light. The cost, not including tax, gratuity and park admission, is $40 for ages 10 and older ($20 for ages 3–9). Breakfast With Shamu also is offered on select days for $26 for ages 10 and older ($16 for ages 3–9). Advance registration required.

The [**Dolphin Encounter**](http://seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=811) at Dolphin Point is for guests who want a more personal experience with bottlenose dolphins without getting in the water. During this 10-minute, trainer-guided experience, guests are guaranteed to touch, feed and help train bottlenose dolphins, while also learning about their natural history, conservation and training. Cost is $60 plus park admission. Advance registration required.

The [**Dolphin Interaction Program**](http://seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=811) was created for guests looking for a more exclusive in-water interaction with these beautiful animals. After donning a wet suit and booties, participants take a dip in the dolphins’ habitat where they get to feed, touch and even cue the animals for trained behaviors. The program fee is $215 plus park admission and includes wet suit, lockers, changing facilities and showers. Participants must be at least 10 years old and 48 inches tall. Advance registration required.

At[**Dolphin Point**](http://seaworldparks.com/seaworld-sandiego/Attractions/Exhibits/Dolphin-Point), guests can interact with bottlenose dolphins throughout the day during trainer-led sessions called “dolphin connections.” During dolphin connections, trainers get in the water and play, swim and splash with the dolphins. Guests around the ledge of the pool can get in on the fun and become part of the action, while learning about these amazing marine mammals and SeaWorld's training techniques. Guests may even have the opportunity to rub down, feed, watch a medical checkup or give the dolphins training signals just like a SeaWorld® dolphin trainer. The daily experience is free with park admission and the schedule is listed on the park map.

With [**Explorer’s Reef**,](http://seaworldparks.com/en/seaworld-sandiego/attractions/exhibits/explorers-reef/?from=Top_Nav) SeaWorld® has reinvented the way guests approach and enter the park. Explorer’s Reef™ immediately transports guests into the world of the sea as they pass beneath an iconic and stunning wave structure and get immersed in a coral reef that gives them the feeling of walking on the bottom of the ocean. In this underwater oasis, they have their first chance to experience the beauty and wonder of incredible marine animals through up-close interactions with shark pups, rays, horseshoe crabs and cleaner fish in four state-of-the-art freshwater and saltwater touch pools. A beach-themed, concierge-style ticketing area provides a single location to purchase admission and sign up for tours, animal interactions and dining experiences.

[**Guided Tours**](http://seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=572) offer guests an exclusive behind-the-scenes view of SeaWorld® and the chance to learn fascinating facts about the animals that most people don’t know. Participants get up close and personal with amazing bottlenose dolphins, or interact with other incredible animals such as threatened or endangered sea turtles, penguins or sharks. Advance registration required.

[**Manta**](http://seaworldparks.com/seaworld-sandiego/Manta), SeaWorld’s mega-attraction, features a 100,000-gallon marine-life habitat with California bat rays that guests can touch and feed. Manta® also includes a double-launch roller coaster with a 54-foot drop and twists and turns that make riders feel like they’re soaring and diving like a giant manta ray.

[**Otter Outlook**](http://seaworldparks.com/seaworld-sandiego/Animals/Know-Our-Stars/California-Sea-Otters) features a display of California sea otters taken in by SeaWorld through the Sea Otter Research and Conservation program at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. At specified times each day, keepers treat guests to an otter presentation during which they educate guests about the species and demonstrate enrichment activities for the otters*.* The California sea otter is listed as a threatened species by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Threats include oil spills, entanglement in fishing nets and diseases.

The [**Penguin Encounter**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=435) features more than 350 penguins representing five Antarctic and sub-Antarctic species (gentoo, Adélie, macaroni, king and emperor). Guests get a close-up look at these delightful animals as they swim and waddle in the 25-degree, snow-filled habitat. SeaWorld® San Diego has one of the world’s only successful emperor penguin breeding colonies outside the Antarctic, with 21 successful hatchings since 1980. The Penguin Encounter® is also home to nearly 90 puffins and murres, and to warm-weather Magellanic penguins, native to South America, who live in a habitat outside the Encounter.

[**Shamu’s Underwater Viewing**](http://seaworldparks.com/seaworld-sandiego/Attractions/Exhibits/Shamu-Close-Up) offers unparalleled views of Shamu® and friends as they swim, play and socialize. With a specially-designed observation area and a panoramic underwater viewing gallery, the opportunities for close-up observation of these magnificent marine mammals are unsurpassed.

[**Shark Encounter**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=431) takes SeaWorld® guests under water with sharks and tropical fish. The 280,000-gallon attraction features a 57-foot acrylic tube running the length of the sharks’ habitat. Sand tiger, bonnethead, blacktip and whitetip reef sharks are among the species living in this popular attraction.

[**Turtle Reef**](http://www.seaworldsandiego.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=1003)featuresa 280,000-gallon, coral reef-themed aquarium with dozens of threatened green sea turtles ranging in age from 6 to more than 50 years old. Turtle Reef™also features thousands of tropical fish; an interactive game called Race for the Beach; a touch-screen map, Turtlelink, where guests can learn about sea turtle tracking and SeaWorld’s rescue efforts; and a ride called Riptide Rescue.

[**Wild Arctic**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=432) features a journey to a realistic Arctic research station in the frozen North aboard a simulated jet helicopter, followed by encounters with beluga whales, polar bears, seals and walruses.

**RIDES**

[**Bayside Skyride**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=398) **and** [**Skytower**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=399)aretwo landmark SeaWorld® rides. The Bayside Skyride offers a scenic ride above the bay; the Skytower takes passengers high above SeaWorld for a panoramic view of Mission Bay, the Pacific Ocean, downtown San Diego and beyond.

[**Journey to Atlantis**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=395) is a wet and wild water coaster experience on eight-passenger Greek fishing boats, featuring a 60-foot plunge. The six-minute adventure tells the tale of Atlantis through a simulated flood, projected lights, fog and water cannons.

[**Manta**](http://seaworldparks.com/seaworld-sandiego/Manta) is SeaWorld’s mega-attraction, featuring a double-launch roller coaster with a 54-foot drop and twists and turns that make riders feel like they’re soaring and diving like a giant manta ray. Manta® also includes a 100,000-gallon marine-life habitat with California bat rays that guests can touch and feed.

[**Riptide Rescue**](http://seaworldparks.com/en/seaworld-sandiego/Attractions/Rides/Riptide-Rescue), an exciting ride that spins passengers in boats on a rescue mission of their own, is part of SeaWorld’s Turtle Reef™, which features a coral reef-themed aquarium with more than 40 threatened sea turtles; thousands of tropical fish; a game called Race for the Beach; and a touch-screen map.

[**Sesame Street Bay of Play**](http://seaworldparks.com/en/seaworld-sandiego/Attractions/Exhibits/Sesame-Street-Bay-of-Play) ridesinclude [**Abby’s Sea Star Spin**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=402),a 36-passenger teacup-type ride that turns ’round and ’round as it twirls; [**Elmo’s Flying Fish**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=400), which gently soars up and down on a journey through an imaginary ocean; and [**Oscar’s Rocking Eel**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=401), a ride that spins and slides from side to side.

[**Shipwreck Rapids**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=396) takes passengers on an adventure through raging rapids, roaring waterfalls, past sunbathing sea turtles and a near collision with a ship’s propeller. At journey’s end, castaways can relax and satisfy their appetites at Shipwreck Reef Café®.

[**Wild Arctic**](http://www.seaworld.com/sitepage.aspx?PageID=432) takes guests on a journey to the frozen North where getting there is half the fun. Visitors board a simulated jet helicopter for an exhilarating ride with bumps, jumps and thrills (non-motion also available). Disembarking guests find a realistic Arctic research station that brings them face to face with beluga whales, polar bears, seals and walruses.

**OTHER ATTRACTIONS**

[**Sesame Street Bay of Play**](http://seaworldparks.com/en/seaworld-sandiego/Attractions/Exhibits/Sesame-Street-Bay-of-Play)

This whimsical, 2-acre play area features three family-friendly rides (Abby’s Sea Star Spin, Elmo’s Flying Fish and Oscar’s Rocking Eel), Sesame Street® character meet-and-greets, photo opportunities, impromptu Sesame Street character performances and interactive play elements, including net crawls, climbing tunnels, punching bags and more.

**CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION**

[**Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute**](http://www.hswri.org/) is a public, non-profit organization dedicated to providing “sea life solutions” to conflicts that arise between human activity and the marine world.  The Institute recently celebrated its 50th anniversary and continues to focus on rare, endangered and threatened species and habitats, replenishing depleted fishery resources, conserving marine animals and advancing science literacy. Access to SeaWorld's extensive marine zoological collection and superb facilities are unique assets that provide the Institute with unparalleled opportunities to advance its public-trust mission “*to return to the sea some measure of the benefits derived from it*.” For more information, visit [***www.hswri.org***](http://www.hswri.org).

Through the [**SeaWorld** **Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation Program**](http://seaworldparks.com/seaworld-sandiego/Animals/Animal-Rescue), SeaWorld’s animal

care specialists have rescued, treated, rehabilitated and returned thousands of animals that

were ill, injured or stranded. On average, 65 to 70 percent of the animals rescued annually

are rehabilitated and returned to the wild. In 2014, SeaWorld’s Rescue Team cared for

257 ill, injured and stranded marine mammals including 221 California sea lions, 14

northern elephant seals, 12 harbor seals, four common dolphins, three blue whales, two

Guadalupe fur seals and one northern fur seal. The park also rescued and cared for 275

birds, one turtle and one shark. The park’s goal is to return rescued, nursed-to-health

animals to the wild for a second lease on life. Park guests can learn more about SeaWorld’s

rescue program by visiting the Rescue Plaza near Shamu Stadium, where two video screens

play footage of marine mammals, seabirds and turtles that were given a second chance at

life. They can also tune in to “Sea Rescue” Saturdays on ABC.

The[**SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund**](http://www.swbg-conservationfund.org/) is a registered, non-profit foundation that has granted $11 million in support of projects around the world. In addition to direct support of environmental, research and conservation projects, SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment® provides financial support and human resources to the Fund. It also provides an outlet for visitors to the parks, as well as the general public, to help protect wildlife. The Fund commits 100 percent of donations to on-the-ground wildlife conservation.

[**SeaWorld Camps**](http://www.swbg-adventurecamps.com/adventure-camps/swc/index.htm) offer the experience of a lifetime, with activities ranging from touching and feeding marine animals, to kayaking and snorkeling on Mission Bay. Resident Camp, for grades five through 12, is a five-night adventure where campers discover firsthand how to care for SeaWorld’s animals. During Day Camp, preschoolers through ninth graders learn about the park’s animals, create crafts and play games. One-night Sleepovers and multiple-night Group Camps are available throughout the year. For more information, visit [***www.SeaWorldSanDiego.com***](http://www.SeaWorldSanDiego.com) or call (800) 257-4268.

**SeaWorld’s Oiled Wildlife Care Center** is an example of a successful private and public partnership dedicated to environmental stewardship. This facility employs lessons learned from past oil spills and improvements in wildlife rescue, care and rehabilitation. When not being used for oil spill response, the 8,000-square-foot complex houses ill or injured animals being cared for in SeaWorld’s Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation Program.

**—SeaWorld—**

Updated: July 2015