

Book Your Visit

1. Plan Your Day

- **Educational programs.** Except where noted, programs:
 - Run 45 minutes.
 - Require a 7:1 student-to-chaperone ratio.
 - Have a maximum capacity of 28 students & up to 6 chaperones. (Additional adults or adults with young children will be asked to wait outside the classroom.)
 - Cost \$110 in addition to Aquarium admission.
 - Must be booked four weeks in advance.

Although the Aquarium opens at 10 a.m., most programs are offered hourly beginning at 9 a.m. However, if you are traveling from outside Fairfield County, you should plan for later program times.

Groups of more than 28 students may reserve different programs at the same time or the same program at different hours.

- **Transportation.** Most schools utilize buses to get to the Aquarium. However, because the Aquarium is within walking distance of the South Norwalk train station, an increasing number of schools are riding MetroNorth Railroad, which makes the field trip even more exciting and environmentally friendly, as well as less expensive. For details on the MetroNorth option, see page 10 [or click here](#).
- **Arrival Time.** Your group should arrive at the Aquarium 30 minutes before the start of your first scheduled event (program, IMAX movie, etc.). Please factor for rush-hour traffic.
- **Lunch Options.** Eat at the adjacent Oyster Shell Park or:
 - Store and eat your bag lunches in Oyster Hall (reservation required). Lunch times are assigned in 20-minute blocks on a first-come, first-served basis when you make a reservation. (Maximum 150 people per 20 minutes.)
 - Purchase lunches in the 160-seat Cascade Cafe cafeteria on the second floor. (Upon arrival, please let Cafe staff know if more than 10 in

Group Admission (for groups of 10 students or more with advance reservations)	Students	Chaperones (1:7 ratio)	Extra Adults
Aquarium Admission	\$7.75	Free	\$9.25
Aquarium + IMAX	\$12	\$5.50	\$14
Aquarium + ride-film (p. 24)	\$12.25	\$4.50	\$13.75
Aquarium + IMAX + ride-film	\$15.50	\$9	\$17.50
IMAX Only	\$5.50	\$5.50	\$7

Aquarium admission is \$2.50 higher during "Spotlight" weeks. (This \$2.50 fee applies to Norwalk students as well.)

Aquarium admission includes the "African Penguins" and "African Underwater Safari" special exhibits.

Except where noted, the cost of a classroom program conducted at the Aquarium is \$110.

Financial Assistance

See page 8 [or click here](#) for a Financial Aid application, for possible help with some of the costs of an Aquarium visit and/or program.

- your group will be buying lunch.)
 - Order in advance prepackaged box lunches to eat in the cafeteria. Lunch order forms are available upon request, by calling (203) 852-0700, ext. 2217, or by e-mail at maritimecatering@culinartinc.com.
- **Exploring the Aquarium.** Allow at least an hour to explore all of the marine exhibits. Seal feedings are at 11:45 a.m. and 1:45 & 3:45 p.m. daily.
- **The Gift Shop** has an expanded science department, broad book selections and interactive audio/video stations. 10% teacher discount on resource materials.

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2. The Details

- **Cost of Admissions, Movies & Programs:** See group admission & IMAX movie prices on page 5 [or click here](#). Except where noted, the cost of each program at the Aquarium is \$110 with discounts for the same program in successive hours in the same room. Field programs and study cruises do not require Aquarium admission. Traveling Teacher programs are \$165 + additional travel fees. All programs must be prepaid at the time of reservation.
- **Chaperones.** The Maritime Aquarium requires that one adult (21 years or older) accompany every seven children in your group. Chaperones must remain with students to supervise them throughout the visit, including during programs. Chaperones are admitted free to the Aquarium & programs and pay just \$5.50 for an IMAX movie. Additional chaperones above the 7:1 ratio are charged as extra adults (see pricing chart on page 5 [or click here](#)).

3. Contact Us

You'll find a group reservation form on our web site at www.maritimeaquarium.org.

- **When to Call.** All programs must be reserved and prepaid at least four weeks in advance. Reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Call (203) 852-0700, ext. 2206, between 9:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday or e-mail at reservations@maritimeaquarium.org.
- **Information Needed:**
 - Name and phone number of teacher or group leader coming on the day of your group's visit.
 - Name, address & two phone numbers of your school or organization.
 - The grade level(s) of the group.
 - The numbers of students, chaperones and extra adults.
 - First, 2nd and 3rd choices for the date of your visit.

- Times you expect to arrive and depart.
- The program(s) you want and the time(s) you prefer.
- The IMAX movie you want to see and the time.
- Your preferred 20-minute Oyster Hall lunch period.
- E-mail address & evening phone number.
- Payment method. Have a P.O. or credit card number handy. All programs must be prepaid at the time of reservation.

4. After Your Call

- **Within One Week** you will receive a confirmation packet containing your confirmation letter, a bus map, entrance procedures and your admission wristbands that must be worn by everyone during your visit. If you have not received written confirmation of your reservation within five working days, call (203) 852-0700, ext. 2206.

5. Day of Your Visit

- **Distribute the admission wristbands before you leave your school** and make sure everyone arrives wearing their wristband. Additional wristbands may be purchased upon arrival. Bring any extra wristbands with you; otherwise you will be charged for unused wristbands.
- **Bringing or purchasing lunches.** If your group will be eating in the Cascade Cafe, please notify the cafe staff upon arrival. Lunch is not included with Aquarium admission.
- **You will be greeted by a member of the Visitor Services staff** to expedite your check-in.
- **Bus parking ...** after student dropoff at the Aquarium, is in Veterans Park, a city park just across the Norwalk River from the Aquarium. Please note that from May - October, the City of Norwalk charges a \$5 bus parking fee. This fee will be included in your confirmation letter.

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6. Payments

Payment may be made with a single check, purchase order, Visa, MasterCard, American Express or cash (large bills, please).

- Aquarium and/or IMAX visits: Payment is due upon arrival. Advance reservations are required to receive group rates.
- If you are reserving any program from this brochure, full payment or purchase order for the program is due at the time of reservation. (Aquarium admission remains due upon arrival.)
- Box lunches must be prepaid. Contact the Aquarium's food service operator, CulinArt, at (203) 852-0700, ext. 2217.

Cancellation Policy

If you must cancel a prepaid Aquarium/IMAX visit, refunds are available. However, all IMAX cancellations (prepaid or not) must be made at least two business days before your visit. IMAX cancellations made within 24 hours of your visit and "no shows" are billed for the price of the tickets.

If you have reserved an educational program and must cancel, please notify the Reservations department at least four weeks in advance, or your payment will be forfeited.

If you arrive late for a program, the program may be abbreviated or cancelled without refund.

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Weather Cancellations

If your school is closed or delayed because of the weather, please call (203) 852-0700, ext. 2206 (ext. 1101 after hours) as soon as possible. Please leave a phone number so we can follow up! Refunds are issued if your school or the Aquarium is closed or has a delayed opening because of bad weather.

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Financial Aid Application

Our enrichment assistance program is a needs-based subsidy granted to facilitate participants in Maritime Aquarium programming and admission. Awards are granted on a first-come-first-served basis and applications are processed in the order they are received.

Applications must be received four weeks prior to visit to qualify.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Today's Date _____ Group Name _____

Address _____ Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Grade Level _____ Contact Name _____

Primary Phone # _____ Alternate # _____

E-mail Address _____ Fax # _____

What do you want to do at The Maritime Aquarium? Aquarium Only ____ IMAX Only ____ Both ____

Do you wish to purchase a program from this book? _____

Name of Program Conducted at Aquarium: _____

Name of Traveling Teacher Program: _____

Proposed Date of Visit/Travel: _____

Already made a reservation? Yes ____ No ____ Reservation # _____

Total # students in group _____ Chaperones (7:1 ratio) _____

If you are a school, how many of the above students participate in the free/reduced lunch program? _____

If you are an organization, please attach a letter from your director stating your students' needs. For example: what % qualify for free or reduced lunch, or how many receive assistance from your organization.

The goal of our assistance program is to enable as many people as possible to experience what The Maritime Aquarium has to offer. We cannot, unfortunately, wholly subsidize your visit.

What is the maximum amount you and your students can contribute toward admission and/or program costs per student? _____

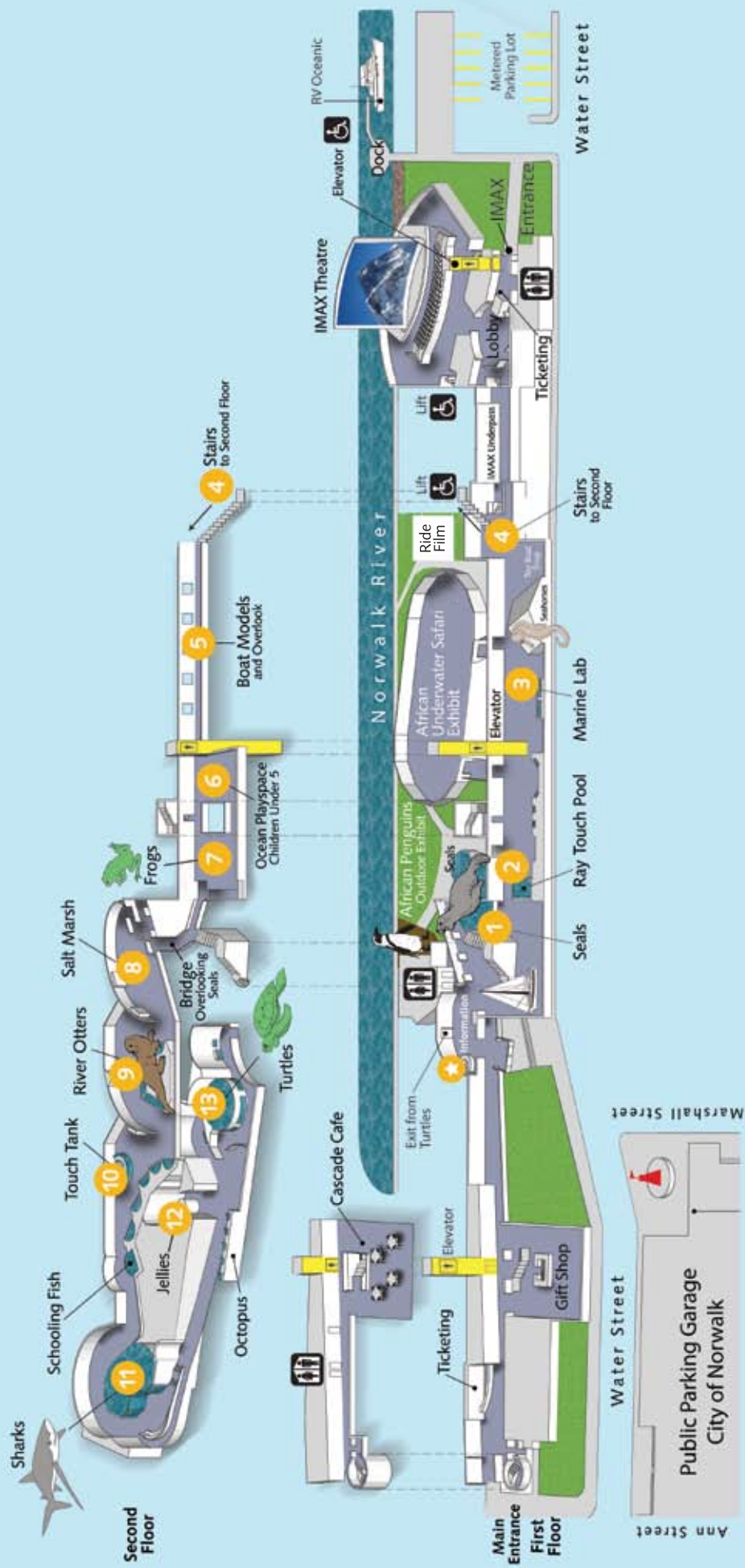
Teacher's Signature _____ Date _____

Principal's or Executive Director's Signature (required) _____ Date _____

**Please photocopy, fill out and mail to: Financial Assistance: Education,
The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, 10 N. Water St., Norwalk, CT 06854.
Or fax to (203) 852-8892**

Applications must be received four weeks prior to visit to qualify.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.



Welcome to the Maritime Aquarium!
 Follow the numbers on the map
 for the best route to discover Long
 Island Sound and its inhabitants.

- 1 Seal Pool in Falconer Hall
- 2 Ray Touch Pool, Form & Function Exhibit, Exit to Outdoor Exhibits
- 3 Marine Lab, Ride Film & Special Exhibits
- 4 Stairs Up to Second Floor, Toy Boat Shop, Stairs Down to IMAX Theater
- 5 Boat Models, Overlook
- 6 Ocean Playspace for children under 5
- 7 Frogs! Exhibit
- 8 Salt Marsh Exhibit
- 9 River Otters Exhibit
- 10 Touch Tank
- 11 Sharks, Open Ocean
- 12 Jellies Exhibit
- 13 Sea Turtles Exhibit