



## Committed to Accessibility

As divisions of the non-profit organization, Sea Research Foundation, the mission of Mystic Aquarium, Institute for Exploration and Immersion Presents is “to inspire people to care for and protect our ocean planet through education, research and exploration.” We realize that one of our greatest challenges is the creation of a campus where everyone can participate equally in the discovery of life beneath the waters of our ocean planet. It is the intention of Sea Research Foundation to pursue relationships with an ever expanding array of new guests and old friends. We welcome every guest and strive to make our exhibits, programs and services accessible.

### For more information:

Please contact us by phone at 860.572.5955 or by email at [guests@mysticaquarium.org](mailto:guests@mysticaquarium.org)

## ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE



MYSTIC AQUARIUM



INSTITUTE FOR EXPLORATION

Welcome!



### Accessibility

- Aquarium and all exhibits are accessible by wheelchair (including *XD Motion Theater*). Public floors can be reached by elevator or ramps.
- Special needs parking available for vehicles displaying disability tags. Speak to any Guest Services staff if you require help accessing your own special needs equipment.
- Guest drop-off and pick-up is available at main entrance. Entry doorways remain open.
- Fully accessible fire exit ramps are also in place.
- Professional companion caretakers admitted free (one per guest). Notify Admissions staff.
- Service animals welcomed. Notify Admissions staff upon arrival.
- Penguins Café, outside food service areas and drinking fountains are wheelchair accessible.
- Restroom locations are accessible to those with mobility impairments or in wheelchairs:
  - NOTE: two unisex companion care restrooms are located beside Penguins Café.
  - No restroom facilities in the Marine Theater.



Large Print

### Information

- Access guides and maps are available at [mysticaquarium.org](http://mysticaquarium.org) (ADA compliant), our Admissions windows, and our Information Booth.



### Staff Available

- You will find Staff Available in most areas of our campus to assist guests with any questions, directions or any other need.



### Medical/Emergency Assistance

- In the eventuality of a medical emergency, contact any staff member who will notify the proper personnel.



### Sign Language Services

- All sign language services require prior registration. To arrange for an interpreter, call 860.572.5955 ext.520 at least two weeks prior to your preferred visit date.



## Touchable Exhibits

- Discovery Lab in Sunlit Seas has touchable aquatic marine animals.
- Ray Touch Pool featuring cownose rays.
- Special exhibits often have touch stations as well.
- Penguin or Beluga Encounters may be available for those with special needs. Call Reservations at 860.572.5955 ext.520 for additional details.



## Open Captioning

- Available for selected video presentations throughout the Challenge of the Deep exhibit hall including:
  - *Thunder Bay: Tragedies in the Mist*
  - *Lost City*



Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration thanks Dominion for their generosity in making many of our video presentations captioned for all our guests to enjoy.



Wheelchairs and electric scooters for guests with special needs are available on a first-come, first-served

basis at no charge. To inquire about availability, speak to a Guest Services Representative as you enter the campus. Wheelchairs may not be removed from the Aquarium campus.

## Educational Programs

Whether at the Aquarium, at your facility as part of our Traveling Teacher program, or through videoconferencing, programs can be tailored to provide a fun and educational experience for guests with disabilities. These specially designed opportunities are available by prearrangement for individuals or groups with certain physical disabilities, as well as those with other unique perspectives.

**NOTE:** All programs require pre-registration. To learn more, visit the website [mysticaquarium.org](http://mysticaquarium.org) or contact our Reservations office at 860.572.5955 ext.520 at least two weeks prior to your preferred date.



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|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. INDOOR EXHIBITS       |  |  |  |  | 5. ARCTIC COAST              |  |  |
| 2. MARINE THEATER        |  |  |  |  | 6. PRIBILOF ISLANDS          |  |  |
| 3. CHALLENGE OF THE DEEP |  |  |  |  | 7. PENGUIN DISCOVERY ZONE    |  |  |
| 4. RAY TOUCH POOL        |  |  |  |  | 8. PETERSON PENGUIN EXHIBIT  |  |  |
|                          |  |  |  |  | 9. MARINE MAMMAL OBSERVATORY |  |  |