

press release

S.E.A. Aquarium Set to Make Waves on World Oceans Day

S.E.A. Aquarium joins global movement in raising awareness on protecting oceans with first-ever freediving demonstrations, Asia's first World Oceans Day photo gallery and a chance for visitors to contribute plastic bottle caps to create one of Singapore's largest art murals



Making waves for a cause: As part of the global celebration for World Oceans Day, S.E.A. Aquarium will bring together, for the first time, a team comprising freediving record holders as they dive into the aquarium without any breathing apparatus. Similar to aquatic mammals, the divers have to periodically resurface to breathe. By putting themselves in their shoes, it brings home the message that pollutants such as nets and plastic bags will entangle marine animals, making it difficult for them to breathe or eat. PHOTO CREDITS: RESORTS WORLD SENTOSA.

SINGAPORE, 7 June 2016 – In celebration of World Oceans Day, S.E.A. Aquarium at Resorts World Sentosa will launch a 10-day conservation-themed festival to inspire visitors to protect the world's oceans. Visitors to the aquarium can catch a team comprising freediving record holders from Singapore and Malaysia as they plunge into seemingly impossible depths with a single breath of air, view stunning images at Asia's first World Oceans Day photo gallery, and pledge their commitment to conservation by contributing to one of Singapore's largest art murals made up of thousands of plastic bottle caps.

Held from 17 to 26 June 2016, the activities aim to educate visitors on the threats facing the oceans and the importance of protecting them. World Oceans Day is a United Nations-recognised day of celebration and action for the ocean held annually on 8 June. This year's theme "Healthy Oceans, Healthy Planet" brings people around the world together to raise awareness on the threats facing the oceans such as climate change, overfishing and pollution.

Jason Horkin, Senior Vice President of Attractions at Resorts World Sentosa said: "We are celebrating World Oceans Day at the S.E.A. Aquarium with a series of educational and interactive programmes to share the important message that everyone can play their part to protect our oceans and conserve its inhabitants. Oceans are the largest ecosystems on Earth but the threat of pollution is affecting millions of

species. Small actions like not disposing trash into the oceans have a big, direct impact in saving marine life from the danger of ingesting plastic or entangling in debris. We hope visitors to the S.E.A. Aquarium during the 10-day festival will leave inspired to do more to sustain our oceans – for present and future generations.”

Singapore’s First Freediving Demonstration By Record Holders

For the first time, S.E.A. Aquarium will bring together a team comprising freediving record holders from Apnea Association of Singapore and Malaysia as they freedive in the aquarium’s iconic and largest habitat – the Open Ocean Habitat. Free diving is a physically challenging activity that involves going deep underwater without any breathing apparatus. Divers will enter the 12m-deep exhibit, holding their breath for several minutes while swimming gracefully amongst 40,000 marine animals from 120 species.

Similar to aquatic mammals, the divers have to periodically resurface to breathe. By putting themselves in their shoes, it brings home the message that pollutants such as nets and plastic bags will entangle marine animals, making it difficult for them to breathe or eat. Through a live commentary on the divers’ demonstrations, S.E.A. Aquarium hopes to educate visitors on the importance of keeping the oceans free from pollution to ensure the survival of marine life. Visitors can catch the freediving demonstrations at 12.00pm, 12.30pm, 1.30pm and 2.00pm on the weekends of 17 to 26 June at the Open Ocean Habitat.

Asia’s First World Oceans Day Photo Gallery

S.E.A. Aquarium will also host Asia’s first World Oceans Day photo gallery that will showcase winning images from a worldwide photo competition supported by the United Nations. Through compelling narratives accompanying these stunning images, visitors will appreciate the beauty and significance of the oceans to mankind.

Conservation Pledge Walls

Visitors can pledge their commitment to conservation at a gigantic photo pledge wall by taking a picture with their family and friends, or contribute to one of Singapore’s largest art murals made up of tens of thousands of plastic bottle caps. Illustrating how small actions can create large impact for the environment, visitors have the opportunity to place their bottle caps on the mural themselves and be part of the collective effort.

New Fishy Residents at Tropical SEAFest

S.E.A. Aquarium recently introduced new fishy residents at three thematic habitats – Hawaii, California and the Caribbean – as part of a Tropical SEAFest. Over 200 specimens from more than 40 species are featured in these new permanent exhibits. Some of the new species include the bright orange Garibaldi and California sheephead fish in an underwater Southern Californian kelp forest, and the threatened Rooster Hogfish, named for its pig-like snout and large protrusible mouth.

Other activities include a series of engaging talks from aquarists, interactive games and an educational trail for kids to discover more about the new underwater residents and what they can do to help protect the oceans.

ABOUT RESORTS WORLD SENTOSA

Resorts World Sentosa (RWS), Asia's ultimate destination resort, is located on Singapore's resort island of Sentosa. Spanning 49 hectares, RWS is home to key attractions including the region's first-and-only Universal Studios theme park, S.E.A. Aquarium (one of the world's largest aquariums), Adventure Cove Waterpark and Dolphin Island. Other attractions include a Maritime Experiential Museum, an award-winning destination spa, a casino, six unique hotels, the Resorts World Convention Centre, celebrity chef restaurants, and specialty retail outlets. The resort also offers world-class entertainment, from original resident productions to concerts and public shows such as the Crane Dance and the Lake of Dreams. RWS has been named "Best Integrated Resort" since 2011 for five consecutive years at the TTG Travel Awards which recognises the best of Asia-Pacific's travel industry.

RWS is wholly owned by Genting Singapore, a company of the Genting Group. For more information, please visit www.rwsentosa.com.

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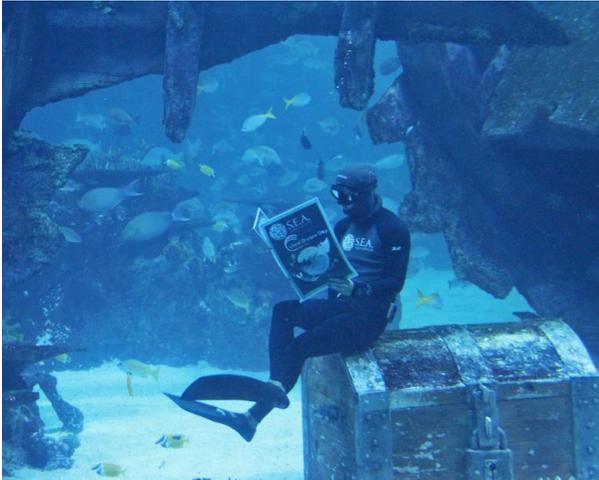
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Note to Editors

1. Please use the following photo captions for visuals.
2. High resolution photos can be downloaded from <https://app.box.com/v/WorldOceansDay>
3. All photos are to be attributed to **Resorts World Sentosa**.



A freediver reading a magazine underwater as part of a 10-day conservation-themed festival organised by S.E.A. Aquarium to inspire visitors to protect the world's oceans. In celebration of World Oceans Day, the aquarium will bring together, for the first time, a team comprising freediving record holders as they dive into the aquarium without any breathing apparatus.



A group of freedivers descending at the Shipwreck Habitat at S.E.A. Aquarium as part of a series of activities organised in celebration of World Oceans Day. Similar to aquatic mammals, the divers have to periodically resurface to breathe. By putting themselves in their shoes, S.E.A. Aquarium hopes to bring home the message that pollutants such as nets and plastic bags will entangle marine animals, making it difficult for them to breathe or eat.



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