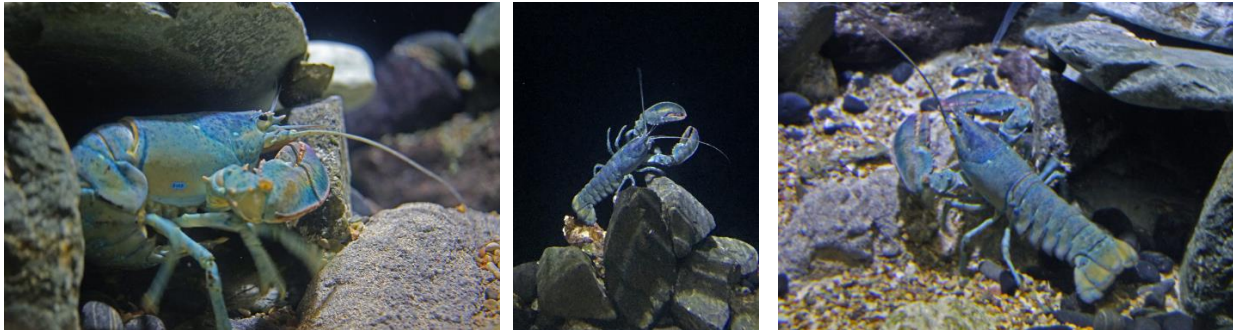


press release

S.E.A. Aquarium Welcomes Rare Blue Lobster for Tropical Seafest

Blue lobster is a one-in-two-million find; S.E.A. Aquarium is Asia's first aquarium to showcase rare species to pique visitor interest in the wonders of marine life



As part of S.E.A. Aquarium's Tropical Seafest, visitors can learn more about the blue lobster, a rare species which occurs about one in every two million. PHOTO CREDITS: RESORTS WORLD SENTOSA.

SINGAPORE, 7 July 2016 – S.E.A. Aquarium at Resorts World Sentosa is now home to a rare marine species that occurs about one in every two million – an American blue lobster, the newest addition to its collection of crustaceans which include lobsters and crabs.

Blue lobsters are so-coloured because of a genetic abnormality that causes them to produce excessive amounts of a certain protein, giving them a bright shade of blue. While many species have blue speckles near their joints, lobsters that appear completely blue, such as this, are a rare find.

The blue lobster was flown in from Mystic Aquarium in the United States as part of a collaborative effort with S.E.A. Aquarium to exhibit new and unique species for conservation awareness. It arrived last month as part of the oceanarium's Tropical Seafest that unveils new and rare fish species at three thematic habitats – Hawaii, California and the Caribbean – along with activities to inspire marine conservation.

Mr Jason Horkin, Senior Vice President of Attractions at Resorts World Sentosa said: "We are pleased to showcase new and rare species such as the blue lobster for Tropical Seafest to pique visitor interest in the colourful world of sea creatures. By bringing visitors up-close to these fascinating inhabitants, they get to discover intriguing facts on the animals and their habitats, and gain a deeper understanding of marine life. This is in line with our objectives of educating and inspiring everyone to do their part for marine conservation."

Elaborate measures were taken during the lobster's move from Mystic Aquarium to S.E.A. Aquarium. The cold water species was transported in a climate-controlled chest with temperatures kept at between 0 to 3 degrees Celsius throughout the 40-hour journey to Singapore. The chest was layered with moistened paper to provide cushioning as well as moisture to keep the lobster's gills damp and cool.

The lobster's cozy habitat – located near the Coral Garden in S.E.A. Aquarium – is designed to mimic its natural environment with a sandy bottom, cobbled areas and rocky crevices for hiding. Aquarists feed the lobster a variety of diet including molluscs, variety of cut fish and clams.

The American lobster, also known as the Atlantic lobster or true lobster, is found in Canada and the United States, including the New England region. Fishermen who chance upon blue lobsters believe they are symbols of good luck and prosperity, and usually do not consume them due to their rarity.

S.E.A. Aquarium's Tropical Seafest showcases 200 new specimens from more than 40 colourful species. These 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. From now till 4th September, visitors can take part in interactive games and an educational trail to discover more about the new underwater residents and what they can do to help protect the oceans.

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ABOUT S.E.A. AQUARIUM

Opened in 2012, S.E.A. Aquarium at Resorts World Sentosa is one of the world's largest oceanarium home to more than 100,000 marine animals from across 800 species. Featuring 56 habitats, S.E.A. Aquarium exhibits close to 80 threatened species including the manta ray, Clarion angelfish and a variety of beautiful corals that mimic a pristine aquatic environment. Through interactive programs, up-close animal encounters and immersive learning journeys, S.E.A. Aquarium aims to inspire visitors to protect the world's oceans.

S.E.A. Aquarium collaborates with local and regional partners in marine conservation projects and is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) and World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA).

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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Note to Editors

1. High resolution photos and video can be downloaded from <https://app.box.com/v/bluelobster>
2. All photos and video are to be attributed to **Resorts World Sentosa**



To ensure the blue lobster gradually acclimatizes to its new home, aquarists at S.E.A. Aquarium place the receptacle containing the blue lobster in its exhibit, and later adds water from the exhibit into the receptacle until it is well blended. The water conditions are monitored using hand held testing equipment.



The lobster is examined before being introduced into its new home in S.E.A. Aquarium.



Measuring 30 centimetres and weighing approximately 500 grams, the blue lobster can be seen in its cozy habitat that mimics its natural environment with a sandy bottom, cobbled areas and rocky crevices for hiding. The habitat is located near the Coral Garden in S.E.A. Aquarium.