

Program Handbook 2019

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Greetings!

Thank you for booking your sleepover adventure with us! We're excited for you to join us and Sleep Under the Sea!

As you prepare for your adventure, please make sure you take time to review all program and participant information contained in this guidebook.

First things first! Please distribute the link below, along with your **Group Name**, to all participants or legal guardians of participants. A Group Name is something you select for your group such as, "The Hernandez Family," "Girl Scout Troop 1000," or "Brooks Elementary Grade 4." The waiver form will ask for your **Group Name**. Ensure everyone in your group is using the same group name so we can confirm that all of your waivers are accounted for one week before your sleepover.

https://www.smartwaiver.com/w/5b3cc6f335e49/web/

ALL PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING ADULTS, MUST HAVE COMPLETED THE ONLINE PARTICIPANT HEALTH HISTORY FORMS BY ONE WEEK PRIOR TO EVENT.

If you have any questions about your sleepover or about any of the information in this guidebook, we invite you to contact us at 404-581-4249 or send an email to sleepovers@georgiaaquarium.org.

Sleepover Introduction

After everyone has gone home, and the Aquarium has closed its doors for the night, we invite you to join us for an exciting night of exploration! Georgia Aquarium offers sleepovers for families, groups of all ages, schools, and adults.

As our guests, you will have the opportunity to sleep in front of one of our magnificent exhibits in galleries such as:

- Ocean Voyager built by The Home Depot
- Tropical Diver Gallery
- Cold Water Quest Gallery
- Southern Company River Scout
- AT&T Dolphin Coast Viewing Window

Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee sleeping locations. Assignments are made after all guests have checked in, and based upon the group make-up, size, and needs. Additionally, partial or entire galleries may be unavailable due to other activities and/or animal care taking place.

After reading through this guidebook, if you have any questions, please contact the Georgia Aquarium Sleepover team at sleepovers@georgiaaquarium.org or by calling 404-581-4249.

What does my sleepover include? Below is an example of your experience with Sleep Under the Sea. This sleepover adventure includes:

- Georgia Aquarium admission with a 6:30pm entry time
- Next-day entry into the 4D FUNBelievable Theater (movies vary by season)*
- Next-day entry into SunTrust Pier 225: Under the Boardwalk, featuring our California sea lions*
- Next-day entry into AT&T Dolphin Celebration in the AT&T Dolphin Tales Theater*
- Guided Activities
- Gallery and Backstage Tours
- Evening Snacks and Hot Breakfast**
- Sleeping Mat

*These presentations do not take place during your scheduled sleepover adventure, but rather afterward. Presentation times may vary, and all seating is first come, first served and may be limited. There are reserved seating options for our Dolphin Celebration Presentations. For more information, contact your booking agent.

**Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepovers also include two VIP tickets for adult beverages and two VIP tickets for small plates/tapas during the Sips Under the Sea portion of the sleepover.

Educational Objectives

Georgia Aquarium is committed to providing an exceptional experience filled with fun, memories and awe-inspiring moments. Through the course of your sleepover adventure, we wish for our guests to also be empowered to create a positive change in our world, and help preserve the waters of the world. To better assist with this experience, your sleepover adventure aligns itself with the following objectives:

- Identify ways to protect the environment from litter and trash.
- Identify several features of the world's oceans and how human life benefits from the oceans.
- Understand biodiversity and why it's important.
- Learn about the interplay and variety of life found in coral reef habitats.
- Learn what steps we can all take to protect aquatic life.

Sleepover Themes

Group and Family Overnight

Get ready to explore the Aquarium through a variety of special activities, tours, and more! Designed for families with children ages seven (7) and older, this program focuses on our aquatic animals and habitats including sharks and whales, and what we can do to help preserve these natural treasures. Exact programming will be adjusted based on the ages of the participants.

Girl and Cub Scout Overnight

An evening of learning for the active Girl Scout or Cub Scout, ages seven (7) and older, exploring the wonders of water and its inhabitants! This program explores our major exhibits and discusses conservation issues to help scouts learn how to leave the Earth a better place than they found it. Scouts earning aquatic and conservation related patches will get a head start on these in preparation for completing the work at home. Reminder: There will be male staff members working during all scout sleepovers, but males will not be permitted to sleep in Girl Scout sleeping areas.

Boy Scout Oceanography Merit Badge Overnight

During this overnight, Boy Scouts can complete *most* requirements needed to earn their Oceanography Merit Badge. Programming is focused on specific requirements in the scout workbook and providing a deeper understanding of the world's oceans through the use of specific guided activities and tours. At the conclusion of the overnight, scouts will need to complete their essay requirement and submit to their leaders for final completion of requirements.

Sips Under the Sea Evenings

For guests over 21 years of age. Your evening will begin with the VIP experience at Sip Under the Sea, our adult evening programming at Georgia Aquarium. This evening features live entertainment, food and adult beverages. At the conclusion of Sips Under the Sea, your sleepover adventure begins where you'll explore the mysteries of the aquarium while learning about adult aquarium content.

Traditional Adult Overnights

For guests over 21 years of age. This traditional sleepover is based upon similar framework as our Family Overnight program. Adult overnights focus on our aquatic living collection, including backstage tours in an adult content format.

Corporate/Teambuilding/Meeting Overnights

For adult groups, this overnight is a combination of a more traditional adult overnight along with some incorporated teambuilding exercises and/or meeting time with your group. This overnight is ideal for groups such as churches and Greek letter organizations, as well as those groups wanting some time to build relationships and team camaraderie.

Private Overnights

Available select nights only; please call for availability. This option is designed for guests who want the entire aquarium to themselves! This sleepover parallels the group and family overnight, with the tours and activities tailored to fit your group. You'll be the only ones sleeping at the aquarium during your overnight. Private overnights require a booking of at least 40 guests; guests must be aged seven (7) and older.

Safety and Security

Your safety is our top priority. In the unlikely event of an emergency, all guests will be asked to pay close attention to instructions provided by uniformed Georgia Aquarium staff members. Sleepover staff members, security, and EMTs are trained to respond with proper protocol, keeping our guests and animals as safe as possible, in the event of an emergency.

To ensure the safety of our guests and animals, the following protocols are in place for our Sleep Under the Sea nights:

- All guests will pass through security screening at the main entrance, before entering the building.
 - o All guest bags will be screened for prohibited items.
 - All guests will walk through metal detection devices or be wand screened by security staff.
- Guests attending sleepovers, who are under the age of 18, must have an accompanying adult over the age of 21.
- Georgia Aquarium has 24-hour on site security.
- There are security officers and an EMT onsite during all of our sleepovers.
- For logistical and security reasons, there is an 8:00 PM cutoff time for late arrivals.
- Guests desiring to depart during the evening will not be able to return. We cannot offer a price reduction those guests needing to leave early.
- Smoking is strictly prohibited inside the aquarium. This includes all forms of electronic and vapor cigarettes.
- Guests are not permitted to exit and re-enter the building once the program has begun.
- For safety, lighting in sleeping areas will be reduced but not be completely turned off.
- Alcoholic beverages are not permitted during any sleepover, with the exception of the Sips Under the Sea sleepovers, and may only be consumed if served by Georgia Aquarium restaurant staff. Outside Alcohol is not permitted inside Georgia Aquarium under any circumstances.
- During any sleepovers, intoxicated and/or disruptive guests may be asked to leave.
- During any sleepover, a guest who is behaving inappropriately or violating any safety protocol, may be asked to leave.

Please note, the following items are NOT permitted inside Georgia Aquarium:

- Weapons, including but not limited to guns and knives
- Outside alcoholic beverages
- Matches/Lighters
- · Chewing gum
- Fishing poles

To our law enforcement officers: Please be advised, unless you are currently on duty and dressed in the uniform required by your position, you may not bring weapons inside the facility. If you are an officer who is required to carry a gun on your person at all times, you <u>MUST</u> notify security before entering the building.

It is highly unlikely, but from time to time, inclement weather or other emergencies may delay or even cancel a sleepover. If this is the case, and your overnight adventure is impacted, someone from the Georgia Aquarium team will contact your party with further instructions.

If there is an emergency and you need to contact someone attending the sleepover, please call our 24-hour security dispatch office 404-581-4242.

Packing for Your Sleepover Adventure

The secret is to pack light. We provide a sleeping mat, but you might want to consider bringing:

- sleeping bags
- blankets
- pillows
- sweater or hoodie
- PJ's
- toothbrush and other small toiletries
- battery powered phone charger

This will all make your stay much more comfortable.

Twin sized Inflatable beds are allowed, as long as they do not require electricity to inflate.

While charging stations are available, these stations are not in close proximity to sleeping areas. Leaving your personal electronic device unattended is at your own risk. Furthermore, electrical outlets are very limited and not available in all sleeping areas. If there are concerns with electronic devices and charging, please consider bringing a battery-operated charger. If you are in need of an electrical outlet because of special needs such as a CPAP machine, please let us know. We'll do our best to make sure you're near an outlet.

Sleeping can be a little hard for some, while away from home. We suggest you bring eye masks and ear plugs if you're sensitive to light or sounds. We do keep emergency and pathway lighting on in our galleries, therefore it will not get completely dark.

Also, when it comes to our living collection and our facility, we care for them 24 hours a day, meaning some work happens while we sleep. Occasionally, and despite our best efforts, you may hear a door slam, or equipment working and moving. Do not be alarmed, it's simply our overnight crews hard at work.

Guest Arrival and Check-In

Directions

Georgia Aquarium's physical address is: 225 Baker Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30313

If you're using a navigation system and intending to park in the Aquarium deck, you'll want to use: 357 Luckie Street, NW, Atlanta Georgia 30313

Please park in the aquarium parking deck. Parking is \$12 per vehicle on the day of your visit. We recommend prepurchasing parking, which comes at a discounted price and can be done at the time of booking, or added to your already existing order. For the safety of your vehicle and belongings, please make sure to leave all valuables out of sight!

At times, there are independent parking vendors that try to direct you into their parking lots. Instead, look for the aquarium parking deck adjacent to our facility. This deck is monitored by security overnight and will be the safest and most convenient option for your vehicle. The parking deck is located on the corner of Luckie St. & Ivan Allen. It is seven stories tall and is easily recognizable by the large pictures of aquatic life on its exterior.

Buses and other large vehicles should be prepared to park in the Georgia World Congress Center Marshalling Yard after dropping off Guests. Parking at the Marshalling Yard is available for a cost of \$30 per vehicle and must be purchased in advance. Please visit the following link, <u>GWCC Bus Parking Passes</u> to purchase your bus passes and use the code <u>GABUS</u>. Bus Drivers...Don't worry, the Marshalling Yard is only a couple of blocks away from us! We will send you directions if needed.

Please notify us prior to your sleepover if you plan to arrive in a bus or other large vehicle. This will allow us to plan for your vehicle's arrival, and provide instruction/directions on where to drop off and pick up your group(s).

Traffic in Atlanta can be very unpredictable; please plan accordingly. Georgia Aquarium is near many concert, sports, and entertainment venues hosting events on a regular basis. We will do our best to let you know of any traffic concerns so you can plan your travels and arrive on time.

Luggage

When you arrive, you'll want to bring all of your sleepover items with you. We'll store your luggage, pillows, blankets, and plush animals inside the building so you don't have to retrieve them when the evening program concludes. In the morning, during breakfast, you'll be able to return items to your vehicles.

Check-In

After parking in the deck, take the East elevators (closest to the city skyline) to the W level. Take the covered walkway to the aquarium plaza. When you arrive at the plaza, look for sleepover signs directing you to our main check-in location. You will also see sleepover staff members waiting to greet you. **All guests will proceed through security screening.** Please be advised that weapons (including but not limited to guns and knives), lighters, gum, and other items considered dangerous to guests and our living collections are prohibited.

Orientation

Our traditional programs begin promptly at 7pm in the 4D FUNBelievable Theater (Atrium, Second Level). For Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepovers, orientation begins at 10:00pm. During orientation, you'll meet our talented staff and volunteers and learn all about your program. Make sure you arrive with plenty of time to be here for the meeting. It's information you won't want to miss!

Snack & Breakfast

Traditional Sleepovers - Family, Groups, Schools, Scouts, Traditional Adult, Team Building/Corporate

Your sleepover includes an evening snack and breakfast. We suggest your group consider having dinner before you arrive to your sleepover adventure.

- **Evening snack includes:** Individual snack pack options such as a variety of crackers, chips, pretzels, granola bars, fruit snacks, gluten-free snacks, and bottled water.
- Breakfast includes: Eggs, turkey sausage, tater tots, biscuits, jelly, fresh fruit, juice, and for the adults, coffee.

Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepovers

In addition to the snack and breakfast of our Traditional Sleepovers, our guests participating in the Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepover receive the Sips VIP package, with two adult drink tickets and two small plates/tapas tickets. Adult beverage and tapas offerings vary by event.

Specific offerings may vary slightly, depending on availability of options.

Specialized meals are not available during our sleepover. If you or someone in your group has an allergy or aversion to the meals provided on your program, you may bring your own food. We recommend you bring a lunch-box sized cooler, or disposable containers. Please, keep in mind refrigeration is not available.

If you have a reusable water bottle that closes, we suggest bringing that with you in place of using a disposable water bottle. It is not a requirement, but we do recommend it whenever possible. We have a number of filtered water stations located throughout the building. These stations track how much water flows through them. This means, as your water bottle fills you can see just how much plastic waste you have helped prevent!

While many of our prepared and packaged foods do not contain nuts, our foods are still prepared in a kitchen where nuts are present.

Sleepover Schedule

Traditional Sleepovers - Family, Groups, Schools, Scouts, Traditional Adult, Team Building/Corporate Evening

06:30pm - Check-In & Registration

07:00pm-07:30pm - Welcome Orientation

07:30pm-9:30pm - Behind the Scenes Tours / Activities

09:30pm-9:45pm - Evening Snacks

9:45pm-10:00pm - Night Time Orientation

*schedule is subject to change

Lights out is at 11:00pm (midnight for adult/teambuilding/corporate sleepovers). Guests are expected to stay in assigned sleeping locations after 11:00pm. For safety, there will be a security officer posted in our atrium space throughout the night. Should you need assistance, please inform our security officer who will contact your Sleepover Captain.

Morning

06:00am-07:30am – Wake-Up, Pack, and Breakfast 07:30am-10:00am – Behind the Scenes Tours / Activities 10:00am – Program Concludes*

Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepovers

Evening

06:00pm – Check-In & Registration 06:00pm-10:00pm – Sips Under the Sea 10:00pm-10:30pm – Sleepover Welcome & Luggage Retrieval 10:30pm-11:00pm – Bedtime

Lights out is at 11:00pm (midnight for adult/teambuilding/corporate sleepovers). Guests are expected to stay in assigned sleeping locations after 11:00pm. For safety, there will be a security officer posted in our atrium space throughout the night. Should you need assistance, please inform our security officer who will contact your Sleepover Captain.

Morning

06:00am-07:30am - Wake-Up, Pack and Breakfast 07:30am-10:00am - Behind the Scenes Tours / Activities 10:00am - Program Concludes*

*At the conclusion of the program, guests are invited to enjoy the Aquarium on their own and attend a movie in the 4D FUNBelievable Theater, SunTrust Pier 225: Under the Boardwalk, and AT&T Dolphin Celebration in the AT&T Dolphin Tales Theater. Presentation times may vary and seating is on a first come first serve basis. Seating may be limited. It is recommended guests show up at least 10 minutes, before 4D movie experiences, 30 minutes before Under the Boardwalk, and 45 minutes before Celebration.

Frequently Asked Questions

What time and where should we arrive?

Sleep Under the Sea check-in begins at 6:30pm and concludes at 7:00pm. Participants are required to check in at the main entrance of Georgia Aquarium.

Traffic in Atlanta can be very unpredictable, so please plan accordingly. Georgia Aquarium is near many concert, sports, and entertainment venues hosting events on a regular basis. We will do our best to let you know of any traffic concerns so you can plan your travels and arrive on time.

Where should I park?

Please park in the aquarium parking deck. Parking is \$12 per vehicle on the day of your visit. We recommend prepurchasing parking, which comes at a discounted price, and can be done at the time of booking, or added to your already existing order. For the safety of your vehicle and belongings, please make sure to leave all valuables out of sight!

At times, there are independent parking vendors that try to direct you into their parking lots. Instead, look for the aquarium parking deck adjacent to our facility. This deck is monitored by security overnight and will be the safest and most convenient option for your vehicle. The parking deck is located on the corner of Luckie St. & Ivan Allen. It is seven stories tall and is easily recognizable by the large pictures of aquatic life on its exterior.

Where can our bus or other large vehicle park?

Buses and other large vehicles should be prepared to park in the Georgia World Congress Center Marshalling Yard after dropping off Guests. Parking at the Marshalling Yard is available for a cost of \$30 per vehicle and must be purchased in advance. Please visit the following link, <u>GWCC Bus Parking Passes</u> to purchase your bus passes and use the code <u>GABUS</u>. Bus Drivers...Don't worry, the Marshalling Yard is only a couple of blocks away from us! We'll make sure we send you directions if needed!

What's the Aquarium's address?

Georgia Aquarium's physical address is: 225 Baker Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30313

If you're using a navigation system to guide you to the Aquarium deck, you'll want to use: 357 Luckie Street, NW, Atlanta Georgia 30313

Can our group arrive early?

In some cases we are able to accommodate an early arrival with advanced notice and approval by the sleepover team. This is determined on a case by case basis. Please keep in mind, that in the event we are able to accommodate your early arrival, we may or may not be able to store your luggage until check-in time at 6:30pm. You are, however, welcome to enjoy the aquarium and all presentations until your check in time. At 6:00pm we would ask that you return to your vehicle to retrieve your items for the 6:30pm

When can we attend the sea lion and dolphin presentations?

Both the sea lion and dolphin presentations are included with your sleepover admission ticket. Guests are welcome to enjoy those presentations once the program has concluded (next day). Please keep in mind all presentations are first come first serve and can reach capacity. Times will vary from day to day.

Reserved seating is available for our Dolphin Celebration Presentations. To purchase tickets for reserved seating, contact your booking agent.

Frequently Asked Questions

When can we attend the 4D Theater Experience?

The 4D Theater Experience is included with your sleepover admission ticket. Guests are welcome to enjoy the 4D movies once the program has concluded (next day). Please keep in mind all movies are first come first serve and can reach capacity. Times will vary from day to day.

What's discussed during orientation?

During orientation, we will go over the program schedule, groups, introduce our staff, and cover safety protocols.

What's for evening snacks and breakfast?

Evening Snack: Individual snack pack options will include a variety of crackers, chips, pretzels, fruit snacks, and bottled water. **Breakfast:** Eggs, Turkey Sausage, Tater Tots, Biscuits, Jelly, Fresh Fruit, Juice, Coffee.

What is the vegetarian option?

For both evening snacks and breakfast, vegetarian options are available.

I have other dietary restrictions. What do I do?

Specialized meals are not available during our sleepover. If you, or someone in your group, has an allergy or aversion to the meals provided, you may bring your own food. We recommend you bring a lunch-box sized cooler, or disposable containers. Please keep in mind, refrigeration is not available. Also, while many of our prepared and packaged foods do not contain nuts, our foods are still prepared in a kitchen where nuts are present.

What should I bring?

We provide a sleeping mat, but you might want to consider bringing: sleeping bags, blankets, pillows, sweater or hoodie, PJ's, toothbrush and other small toiletries, and a battery powered phone charger.

Can I request a sleeping area?

We cannot guarantee sleeping locations. Assignments are made after all guests have checked in, and are based upon the group make-up, size, and needs. Additionally, partial or entire galleries may be unavailable due to other activities and/or animal care taking place.

What kind of activities take place during sleepovers?

All sleepovers consist of gallery and backstage tours. Additionally, we coordinate age and grade level appropriate educational games and activities for everyone, including our adult chaperones.

Are there behind the scenes tours?

Yes! All sleepover programs consist of both gallery and behind the scenes, or backstage, tours.

What time does the sleepover program end?

Our program concludes no later than 10:00am. Guests are invited to stay and enjoy the Aquarium, presentations, and attractions for the entire operating day.

Can I leave the program and come back?

For safety and security reasons, guests leaving during the sleepover program, cannot be admitted back into the building.

Can I leave to smoke?

Smoking is not permitted inside Georgia Aquarium. This includes electronic cigarettes and vapor devices. Please keep in mind, guests are not permitted to smoke within 25 feet of the building. Because of safety and security reasons, once the program begins, guests leaving during the sleepover program, cannot be admitted back into the building.

Booking Details

When making your sleepover reservation, full payment is required for groups with fewer than 10 guests, regardless of sleepover type.

For groups with 10 or more guests, a \$100 deposit will be due at time of booking.

Please make the final payment four weeks prior to program date to avoid your reservation being canceled. We are unable to give refunds for no-shows or for leaving early.

Once your reservation is made, please contact your booking agent to make any changes to your reservation.

All Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepovers must be booked as a package including VIP admission to Sips Under the Sea and your sleepover adventure. Tickets for just the adult sleepover portion are not for sale separately from the Sips Under the Sea ticket.

Sips Under the Sea Adult Sleepover packages can be booked by calling the call center or by booking online at www.georgiaaquarium.org/sleepovers.

If you're looking for looking for an adult sleepover not combined with Sips Under the Sea, we have those too! Please check our calendar for dates.

Program nights frequently sell out. Please, make reservations at least two weeks prior to any program date. Dates requested inside of two weeks may not be available for booking. Additionally, guests find it very helpful to have alternate dates just in case the first option is unavailable.

To make changes to your reservation, please call Georgia Aquarium at 404-581-4000.

Adult & Minor Participant Forms

Dear Sleepover Guests,

We thank you for participating in our Sleep Under the Sea program at Georgia Aquarium.

At Georgia Aquarium, your safety is our top priority. Please note that during your sleepover, a member of the Piedmont Hospital EMT staff and a security officer will be present. These individuals will provide assistance should the need arise. In the unlikely event of an emergency, these individuals are trained to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Please note, Georgia Aquarium team members, including the on-duty EMT and security officer, are only trained and permitted to give immediate and very basic first aid. Any medical concerns larger than basic needs will be given the option to be transported to the nearest medical facility by ambulance or be taken, on their own, by a chaperone from their group. Additionally, Georgia Aquarium team members, including the on-duty EMT and security officer, are not allowed to store or administer **any kind** of medication, whatsoever. Those participants needing to take prescription medication during their visit, should work with their chaperones to ensure delivery of such medication to the participant. Refrigeration for medication is not available. It is suggested you bring a small cooler if needed.

As a condition of participation, and for your safety and wellbeing, we require **each guest** to have completed an online Health History and Release form. Each minor, under the age of 18, should have their own online form filled out by their parent/guardian. You can access our electronic waiver by copying and pasting the link below into your web browser:

Please be advised that guests will not be able to participate in the program until a fully completed form has been submitted.

https://www.smartwaiver.com/w/5b3cc6f335e49/web/

<u>Trip Coordinator(s)</u>: Please distribute the link above, along with your **Group Name**, to all participants or legal guardians of participants. A Group Name is something you select for your group such as, "The Hernandez Family," "Girl Scout Troop 1000," or "Brooks Elementary Grade 4." The waiver form will ask for your **Group Name**. Ensure everyone in your group is using the same group name so we can confirm that all of your waivers are accounted for one week before your sleepover.

ALL PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING ADULTS, MUST HAVE COMPLETED THE ONLINE PARTICIPANT HEALTH HISTORY FORMS BY ONE WEEK PRIOR TO EVENT.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 404-581-4249 or at sleepovers@georgiaaquarium.org.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you soon!