

**SeaWorld San Diego  
SLEEPOVER PROGRAM**



**2009 Group Leader  
Handbook for Private Sleepovers**

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## **Introduction**

The SeaWorld Sleepover Program is a one-night indoor camping experience for you and your group. All participants sleep on the floor in an animal exhibit (except those that have reserved to sleep in our Adventure Camp Dormitory). The Sleepover Program includes activities, dinner, breakfast and admission the day after your sleepover. This program is a fully supervised event as our counselors will be with you from 5:45 p.m. to park opening the day after your sleepover.

Whether it's learning about the differences between fish and dolphins or what a pinniped is, our staff prides itself on delivering an educational experience in a fun learning environment. All information and activities are presented to your group based on the grade level of the children attending the sleepover. The information and activities provided by the SeaWorld Sleepover staff members support the national and state standards for science education. During your stay we will keep you quite busy with activities, so be prepared to go to bed late. Our park is our classroom, so please be prepared to walk quite bit as we take you to different areas to learn about the animals and participate in the activities.

We provide you dinner the evening you arrive and breakfast the next day. We do take a break from the evening's activities to have a snack. Please see the "Meals" section to review what we offer for the Sleepover Program.

## **Administration of the Program**

The Sleepover Program at SeaWorld is under the direction and supervision of the SeaWorld San Diego Education and Conservation Department.

All SeaWorld Sleepover Facilitators and Counselors are members of the SeaWorld Education and Conservation Department. All staff members must pass a drug test and criminal background check before working with the Sleepover Program. Once hired, their training includes behavior management, marine animal natural history, and educational SeaWorld-themed crafts, games, and songs. In addition, Sleepover staff members receive extensive training regarding camper health and safety.

## **What are the Group Leader's responsibilities?**

The person who made the reservation is the main contact and who we consider to be the Group Leader. We are not allowed to give out any information regarding your sleepover to anyone but you. This includes, but is not limited to confirmation number, date, sleeping area, names on the roster, adjustment to the number of people or total cost of the sleepover. This is to ensure the safety and privacy of all attendees. We may give out general information that would cover any of our sleepovers to someone inquiring, but for information regarding your sleepover we will refer them to you.

Please do not give out your Confirmation Number to anyone. This is what we consider to be a password and therefore verifies that the person we are speaking with is the Group Leader. By giving your confirmation number out to someone else, you are authorizing them to make changes to your sleepover such as changing the date, venue, people attending, etc. SeaWorld will not be held liable if this situation occurs.

Please make sure that the deposit, final payment, roster, and all Health History and Releases packets for your group are mailed to us by the due dates. If we do not receive these items by their due dates it could result in the cancellation of your sleepover.

If you are not able to continue as the main contact please call us at (800) 257-4268 extension 45 to give us the new contact's name and information. We may also ask you to fax a letter stating this to (619) 226-3634.

## **What is a *Private Sleepover*?**

Groups that have at least 25 or more participants are considered a Private Sleepover. This means that we will not mix your group in with another group during the educational activities or in the sleeping venues.

The only time during the sleepover that all groups attending will be together is during meal times. Our staff members that are with your group are only focused on your needs and the needs of your group.

### **What is the minimum age that can attend a *Private Sleepover*?**

Anyone who is age 4 and older can attend a Private Sleepover. Due to age specific activities and safety of all participants, no one under the age of four will be admitted to the Sleepover Program.

### **Sample Sleepover Schedule**

5:45 p.m. ....arrival and check-in  
6:30 – 9:45p.m. ....hot dinner and educational activities  
10:30 p.m. – midnight\* .....bedtime  
6:30 a.m. – park open .....wake up, pack, and eat hot breakfast  
Park opens .....Play all day at SeaWorld

\*This schedule is an example. Times vary according to park hours and activities. Please note that depending on park events, bedtime may be as late as midnight.

### **Animal Sleeping Venues**

The SeaWorld Sleepover Program provides a once in a lifetime experience sleeping next to the underwater viewing area of colorful fish, beautiful beluga whales, awesome sharks, and more. All sleepover participants sleep on the floor, so we do suggest bringing a foam camping pad to sleep on, which can be found at any sporting goods store.

The following animal sleeping venues are available all year long except where noted. The maximum capacities are listed with each venue. Unfortunately, we are not able to go over the maximum capacity for the venues due to fire code restrictions. If your group size does not fit in the venue you have chosen, we may need to look at either adding on a venue, moving your group to a larger venue, if possible or moving your group to a different date.

**Manatee Rescue** – This sleeping venue can sleep a maximum of 65 participants, which includes both children and adults. You will be sleeping next to the underwater viewing area of the Florida manatees. Please visit <http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/animal-bytes/index.htm> to learn more about these endangered animals.

**Shark Encounter** – This sleeping venue can sleep a maximum of 32 participants, which includes both children and adults. Twelve to sixteen children can sleep in the Shark Tunnel, dependent on the size of the children, while the rest of party sleeps in front of a large aquarium wall. Both groups will be able to view the different sharks in the Shark Encounter. Please visit <http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/animal-bytes/index.htm> to learn more about these animals.

**World of the Sea Aquarium** (available January through May and September through December) – This sleeping venue can sleep a maximum of 65 participants, which includes both children and adults. There are large aquarium walls filled with different and colorful fish on all four sides of you. Please visit <http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/animal-bytes/index.htm> to learn more about bony fishes.

**Penguin Encounter** (available January through March and October through December) – This sleeping venue can sleep a maximum of 50 participants, which includes both children and adults. Our Penguin Encounter houses six different cold weather penguins. Please visit <http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/animal-bytes/index.htm> to learn more about both cold and warm weather penguins.

**Wild Arctic** – This sleeping venue can sleep a maximum of 40 participants, which includes both children and adults. You will sleep next to the underwater viewing of the beluga whales. Please visit <http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/animal-bytes/index.htm> to learn more about these arctic whales.

**Journey To Atlantis** – This sleeping venue can sleep a maximum of 27 participants, which includes both children and adults. You will sleep in front of the underwater viewing of the Commerson's dolphins. These little black and white dolphins are one of our most active residents here at SeaWorld San Diego. Please visit <http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/animal-bytes/index.htm> to learn more about these animals.

## **Adventure Camp Dormitory Sleeping Venue**

We know everyone loves animals, but if sleeping on the floor is not for your group we do offer an alternative, our Adventure Camp Dormitories. Your group will sleep on bunk beds, so you will still need to bring your sleeping bag and pillow. This option is available January through May and September through December. One venue equals two rooms and each room holds 18 people; if your group exceeds 36 people, you may need to purchase additional dormitory venues.

## **Deposit**

At the time you make your reservation you will receive a two week courtesy hold to send in your deposit. A \$300 non-refundable deposit is required per venue you are staying in. If deposit is not received by your due date then the reservation is canceled and the date is open to the next guest. Due to the increased popularity of the Sleepover Program we are unable to hold reservations past two weeks without a deposit.

Please note: If you have reserved multiple venues and are not able to fill each venue to a minimum of 26 people and you decide to cancel, the deposit for that venue is non-refundable and is not applied to the final total.

## **Final Payment**

Final payment is due six weeks before your Sleepover; your invoice will have a due date, please make sure that your payment is here by that date to avoid cancellation of your Sleepover.

The invoice you receive will have the number of estimated participants that you have given us at the time of reservation. If you notice that the number of your participants is exceeding the estimated participant number please call a Sleepover reservationist as soon as possible to check availability for that day. Although the sleeping venues have maximum capacities, your group may be limited to the number of people you have estimated as the SeaWorld Adventure Camp Program takes into consideration all camp attendees for the day in various camp programs and cannot exceed the day's capacity.

## **Accepted Forms of Payment**

**Check:** SeaWorld Sleepover Program can only accept checks if all information is pre-printed. Please make sure that your check is pre-printed (by the bank) with name, address, check number and account number. Any checks that are not pre-printed will be returned to the Group Leader with a request to make payment either with another check or by credit card.

**Credit Card:** SeaWorld accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover. We require the card holder's name, account number, expiration date and the card's ID number. The person who's name is on the credit card must be the person who is calling in to pay.

**\*\*The SeaWorld Sleepover Program does not accept Purchase Orders.**

## **Adding Additional Participants after Final Payment is received**

Additions are on a first come basis and are limited to the number of spots open for the day. Please see Final Payment with regards to increasing participant numbers.

## **Cancellation Policy**

### Group Cancellation

**Deposit:** \$300 per venue is non-refundable.

If final payment was sent in early, but written notice of cancellation for the group is received prior to 6 weeks before session, then 100% of the Sleepover fee (less deposit) will be refunded.

If cancellation for the group occurs between 4-6 weeks prior to session, then 50% of remaining fee is refunded (less deposit) OR the group may rebook to an open session within same calendar year, with a \$25 per person change fee.

If cancellation for the group occurs less than 4 weeks preceding the Sleepover, then the reservation is forfeited and no cash will be reimbursed. However, the group may reschedule to an open date within same calendar year with a \$25 per person change fee.

### Individual Participant Cancellation

Of the total payment, \$25 per person is non-refundable.

If written notice of cancellation for individual participants is received prior to 6 weeks before session, then 100% of Sleepover payment (less the \$25 per person fee) will be refunded.

If cancellation for individual participants occurs between 4-6 weeks prior to session, then 50% of Sleepover payment (less the \$25 per person fee) will be refunded.

If cancellation for individual participants occurs less than 4 weeks preceding the session, then the spot is lost and no cash will be reimbursed.

All cancellation requests must be in written form and faxed to (619) 226-3634. Once you have faxed your cancellation, please call (800) 257-4268 extension 45 to make sure that your fax was received by the SeaWorld Sleepover Reservation Staff.

## **Meals**

### Dinner (available all year)

Relax and enjoy our kid-friendly dinner at our Shipwreck Jungle. You'll be amazed to find such a great and fulfilling meal. We have pasta, marinara sauce with meatballs and without meatballs, side salad, breadsticks, hot dogs, cookies, chips, assorted Pepsi products, milk, water, and coffee (for adults only).

### Hot Breakfast (available all year)

Start your morning off with a delicious hot breakfast at our Hospitality Center. You can choose from three different plate options. There's no need to order ahead of time there will be plenty for your group.

Option #1: bacon, home fries, scrambled eggs, fruit and a muffin\*

Option #2: sausage, home fries, scrambled eggs, fruit and a muffin\*

Option #3: fruit, yogurt and a muffin\*

Your choice of drinks: apple juice, orange juice, milk, and coffee for adults.

\*Choice between banana nut or blueberry muffins

### Breakfast with Shamu (Limited availability)

Start your day off at SeaWorld at Breakfast with Shamu. Enjoy a buffet-style breakfast next to killer whales as they interact with the trainers. The following foods are offered: French toast, scrambled eggs, machaca, bacon, sausage, potatoes, fresh fruit, orange juice, apple juice, hot chocolate, assorted Pepsi products, iced tea, hot tea, milk and coffee for adults.

Breakfast with Shamu starts at 10 a.m. and lasts for about 45 minutes. Our counselors will walk you over to Breakfast with Shamu, help you get seated and stay with you for the entire event, so if you have any questions about the animals or the park just ask.

The Sleepover Package with Breakfast with Shamu has limited availability, not all guests are able to sign up for this package. If you have guests that would like to have Breakfast with Shamu they can sign up online or at the SeaWorld Reservation Desk. Their reservation is separate from the Sleepover Program reservation and therefore may not be seated with you. Breakfast with Shamu is a very popular event here at SeaWorld San Diego and sells out quite fast. All reservations are sold on a first come, first serve basis.

*\*Although we do try to keep your group together, we do fill tables to capacity; therefore, you may be seated at tables with other sleepover participants from another group.*

### Evening Snack

Do you get a little hungry after dinner? So do we, that's why we like to take a short break from the activities to have an evening snack. Our snacks do vary each evening, but may include granola bars, fruit roll ups, chips, pretzels, water or apple juice.

### **Luggage**

Please be prepared to store your luggage in your vehicles the day after your sleepover. Groups that are attending when SeaWorld opens at 10 a.m. will be escorted out to their vehicles between 8 and 8:15 a.m. Groups that are attending when SeaWorld opens at 9 a.m. will be escorted out to their vehicles between 7 and 7:15 a.m.

If your group arrived by train, plane, or bus and you are not able to store your luggage in your vehicle, SeaWorld can store your luggage up to 2 p.m. You must make arrangements no later than 2 weeks before your sleepover as storage space is limited.

### **Emergency Communication**

If chaperones must be contacted during the Sleepover due to an emergency, they can be reached through SeaWorld Security's emergency line, (619) 226-3800. This number is for emergencies only.

### **Health Services & Safety**

SeaWorld's professional team of nurses, emergency medical technicians and security staff are on duty 24 hours a day.

### **Lost and Found**

Any items found in the sleeping venues after the sleepover will be taken to our Lost and Found department located at the front of the park. If you have returned home and realize that you are missing your belongings please contact SeaWorld Lost and Found at (619) 226-3683.

### **Next-Day Discount for Family Members**

Do you have any family members that would like to enjoy SeaWorld with you the next day? Well, we have a savings for them. They will receive a 20% discount on the current general admission price\*. The day after your sleepover they will need to go to the Will Call and Travel Voucher Window and give your name (the main contact) and the area that your group is sleeping in. It's that easy! For current general admission prices please call (800) 257-4268.

Remember to prearrange a meeting place as we will not have contact with you after you are released in the morning when the park opens. A good meeting spot is at the Entrance Plaza; that way you will see your family members as they enter the park. Or, if you have just finished eating at Breakfast with Shamu have your guests meet you at Shamu Close Up. It's located right by Breakfast with Shamu and best of all, they can watch the killer whales while they wait for you.

\*This discount is not valid on Fun Cards, Passports, already purchased tickets, or used in conjunction with another discount. Tickets must be purchased on the day the group is attending SeaWorld for the day in the park and cannot be used to purchase tickets ahead of time.

## **Code of Conduct**

SeaWorld Sleepover staff strictly adheres to the Code of Conduct. Please review the Code of Conduct with your group prior to arrival.

- Due to the nature of the SeaWorld San Diego Adventure Camp program, all participants are expected to act in a responsible, safe and courteous manner at all times.
- Shirt and Shoes are required at all times before bedtime.
- All guests are provided a camp T-shirt and are required to wear it during the Sleepover Program. This allows our counselors and SeaWorld staff to safely maintain visible contact with their group members.
- Sleepover guests must walk (no running) at all times while in the park.
- SeaWorld Security or camp staff may search all bags, purses, backpacks, etc. prior to entry.
- Sleepovers are a fully supervised event. Adults and children are required to stay with their group at all times. Under no circumstances are adults and/or children allowed to leave their group without staff supervision. Campers are not permitted to leave at the conclusion of the Sleepover event without a signature of a parent or leader.
- Kid friendly dinner and breakfast are included in the Sleepover package. No outside food, snacks, or beverages can be brought into the park during a Sleepover event. If you have a food allergy, please contact your Sleepover Reservationist at (800) 257-4268 extension 45 at least 30 days prior to your Sleepover.
- SeaWorld San Diego Adventure Camp reserves the right to dismiss a participant at the expense of the parent/guardian. In such a case, Sleepover Program deposits and fees are non-transferable and non-refundable. Examples of behaviors that will result in a guest being immediately asked to leave the Sleepover include, but are not limited to, consumption or possession of alcohol, tobacco products or illegal narcotics, possession of a weapon (real or look-alike), destruction of property, refusal to participate in the program components, or disruptive behavior which threatens the health, safety, and enjoyment of other campers or staff. Any damage to property must be repaired or replaced at the expense of the participant causing the damage.

## **Confirmation Packet**

Two months before your Sleepover we will mail your confirmation packet to you. There will be information and forms that you will need to distribute to your group attendees and return to us six weeks before your sleepover. Please use the checklist below to make sure that you have received everything in your confirmation packet.

The majority of our forms can be found at [www.seaworld.org](http://www.seaworld.org). If you are unable to locate it on the website please contact the Sleepover Reservation Staff at (800) 257-4268 extension 45 and we can either direct you to the correct page or mail it to you. Please, only download forms if you run out of forms that were sent to you by SeaWorld. Do not download forms before you receive your confirmation packet as forms are updated on a consistent basis and you will be required to fill out the most recent updated forms.

### **Checklist:**

- Leader Confirmation Sheet
- Invoice with remaining amount due along with due date
- Cancellation Policy
- Roster
- Evaluation
- Education Gate Map for groups sleeping in the animal venues
- Photo Flyer
- Parent/Chaperone Letter and Packing List for all participants
- Health History and Releases Packet for all participants

### **Forms to Sign and Return**

All participants in the SeaWorld Sleepover Program must sign and return a completed Health History and Releases packet; this includes both children and adults. All packets must be turned in no later than six weeks before your sleepover date along with your roster and final payment. Anyone who does not have a completed Health History and Releases packet on file with the SeaWorld Sleepover Staff will not be admitted to the Sleepover Program.

Before mailing your packets to the SeaWorld Sleepover Staff, please double check everyone's packet to make sure they are completed. Some of the most common missed items are:

1. Emergency Contact for both children and adults. This should be someone who is not attending the Sleepover. For children, this should not be the person that is already listed on the Custodial Parent/Guardian line.
2. There are two areas on the *Release of Liability, Voluntary Assumption of Risk Indemnification and Waiver of Claim* that do need to be initialed.

These are legal documents and cannot be altered in any way, for example but not limited to, crossing out words or adding verbiage.

### **Check-In**

Check-in time for all sleepover groups is 5:45 p.m. Be sure to have your gear with you as you will not be able to leave the park to go to your cars once the Sleepover Program begins. Our Facilitators for the evening will help the group leader check-in; please make sure you have brought any and all paperwork that still needs to be turned in. While our Facilitator is helping you, our counselors will be greeting your group, answering any questions they might have, and distributing our bright green Sleepover t-shirts. You don't need to give us your sizes ahead of time as our staff will bring plenty of them from adult small to XXX-large. We do not have youth sizes for small children as you will be putting your t-shirt on over your clothes.

Before putting your gear away, please make sure you have everything that you will need for the evening, such as a jacket, sweatshirt, camera, etc. as you will not have access to your gear until bedtime.

For participants staying at one of our animal venues our staff members will meet you at the Education Gate located outside on the east side of the park next to our Journey To Atlantis ride.

For participants staying at our Adventure Camp Dormitory our staff members will meet you at the front of the Adventure Camp Dormitory located on the west side of the park just left of the Parking Tolls.

## **Check List: Before the Sleepover**

### **Two months before Sleepover Date**

- Received Confirmation Packet
- Distributed a Parent/Chaperone Letter and Health History and Releases Packet to each participant

### **Six weeks before your Sleepover**

- Collect Health History and Releases Packet from all participants
- Send final payment, roster, and packets to SeaWorld by due date listed on your invoice

### **Three weeks before your Sleepover**

- Mail any forms that were mailed back to you to be completed to SeaWorld Sleepovers. It's best to send these in as soon as you receive them back from your participants.
- Don't forget to make arrangements for your group's photo in front of your sleeping venue. This is a great keepsake keeps the memory alive and it's only \$13.50 per photo!

### **Two weeks before your Sleepover**

- Last chance to make your arrangements for your group's photo. Payment will be required at the time you call us by credit card.
- Submit any last minute substitution's packets and updated roster.

### **Day before your Sleepover**

- Make sure you prearrange a meeting place with family members that will not be attending your sleepover, but will be meeting you in the park the next day.
- Make sure everyone in your group knows how to get to SeaWorld. Our address is 500 SeaWorld Drive, San Diego CA 92109

### **Day of Your Sleepover – It's finally here!**

- Make sure everyone has everything before you leave home. You don't want to arrive to SeaWorld and realize someone forgot their belongings.
- Make sure your group leaves early enough to be here by 5:45 p.m. Please take into account the traffic coming down from Los Angeles and Orange Counties on the 5 Freeway and Riverside County on the 15 Freeway. Not to mention San Diego can get a little congested, too.
- Make sure each driver has our Facilitator's number in case delays occur. The Facilitator's number is (619) 666-5476.
- Check-in at 5:45 p.m. Make sure you have any last minute changes ready for your Sleepover Facilitator; updated roster and/or Health History and Releases packets.
- Everyone should have their belongings for the sleepover with them and ready to enter and have a fun time.
- Relax. You've done your part for the Sleepover, now our staff is in charge of the evening.

## **Sample Sleepover Activities**

### Mark the Shark

Using Shark Model, campers will be introduced to shark anatomy, adaptations, senses, and camouflage. Environmental status and conservation issues will also be discussed.

### Pinniped Dress-Up

Using Seal and Sea Lion dress-ups, campers will be introduced to Pinniped anatomy, adaptations and camouflage. Basic mammal characteristics and environmental status will be discussed as well.

### Super Manatee

Campers will be introduced to Mammal characteristics, Manatee adaptations, and environmental challenges. Using manatee outlines, campers will be asked to create "super" adaptations as safety buffers. Discussion of endangered status.

### Blubberlicious

Campers will discover how dolphins and other whales keep warm and will be introduced to the "Scientific Method" as they participate in an experiment. Conservation issues involving dolphins and whales will also be covered.

## **Adventure Camps support the following National Science Education Standards Kindergarten thru 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

### Life Sciences Standards:

Characteristics of organisms; Life cycles of organisms; Organisms and environments

### Personal and Social Perspectives Standards:

Types of resources; Changes in the environments; Science and technology in local challenges

### History and Nature of Science Standards:

Science as a human endeavor

### Science as Inquiry:

Abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry; Understanding about scientific inquiry

### Unifying Concepts and Processes:

Systems, order, and organization; Evolution and equilibrium; Evidence, models, and explanation; Change, constancy, and measurement

## **4<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> Grades**

### Life Sciences Standards:

Structure and function of living systems; Populations and ecosystems; Reproduction and heredity;

Diversity and adaptations of organisms; Regulation and behavior

### Personal and Social Perspectives Standards:

Population, resources, and environments; Science and technology in society

### History and Nature of Science Standards:

Science as a human endeavor; History of science; Nature of science

### Science as Inquiry:

Abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry; Understanding about scientific inquiry

### Unifying Concepts and Processes:

Systems, order, and organization; Evolution and equilibrium; Evidence, models, and explanation; Form and function; Change, constancy, and measurement

*\*For more detailed activities please call (800) 25-SHAMU ext. 45 or visit our web site at [www.seaworld.org](http://www.seaworld.org).*



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[www.swbg-adventurecamps.com](http://www.swbg-adventurecamps.com)