



Behind the Scenes Tours

- Take the Aquarium experience one step further by going on a Behind-the-Scenes tour. The tours serve as a truly unique way to provide a different perspective on life in an aquarium.
- Behind the Scenes tours show guests what it takes to keep Aquarium animals and plants healthy while visiting areas like the top of the Great Ocean Tank and the Food Prep area. Observe filtration and life support systems, explore quarantine areas and get “up close and personal” with several Aquarium creatures.

What Tours Include:

- Visit the top of the Great Ocean Tank, which boasts 385,000 gallons of salt water and more than 700 animals, including Caretta, a 250 pound loggerhead sea turtle, and 4 species of sharks!
- The quarantine and holding tanks are areas where new, sick, or young animals are held before they enter their exhibits. Take this behind the scenes look at Aquarium animals not ready for the exhibits.
- Observe the filtration and life support systems throughout the Aquarium that help keep the animals alive and healthy.
- Tour the Food Prep area, where restaurant quality food is prepared for more than 6,000 animals.
- Visit the Water Quality Lab, where water samples are collected and tested for pH level, ammonia and nitrogen levels. Each week, more than 115 tanks are monitored in the Water Quality Lab, only forty of which are visible to the general public.
- Tour the backup area of the Carolina Seas Tank, the second largest tank in the Aquarium. This exhibit represents reef habitats found offshore in South Carolina and holds over 15,000 gallons of saltwater.

Behind the Scenes Tours of the Sea Turtle Hospital

- The Behind-the-Scenes tour of Sea Turtle Hospital offers visitors the unique opportunity to get up close to rescued sea turtles at South Carolina's only Sea Turtle Hospital. The Hospital is the only facility in North and South Carolina to offer year round tours.
- The South Carolina Aquarium's Sea Turtle Rescue Program works to rehabilitate injured sea turtles rescued from along the South Carolina coast. To date, over 54 sea turtles have been released back into the wild.
- The Behind the Scenes Tour of the Sea Turtle Hospital offers an exclusive look at threatened and endangered sea turtles recovering from injuries and illnesses. Visitors can meet some of the Hospital's current patients, speak with sea turtle experts, and discover firsthand the extraordinary care that is provided to sick and injured sea turtles.

How to Book a Tour

- To book a tour or for more information, call (843) 579-8600 or toll free (800) 722-6455.