



UC San Diego
SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Press Release

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Pier Walks are Back at Birch Aquarium

Birch Aquarium is re-launching tours of the Ellen Browning Scripps Pier, which is typically closed to the public.

La Jolla, CA (Sept. 10, 2021)—It’s been more than a year and a half since Birch Aquarium at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego has hosted any of its Outdoor Adventures, but that will change this fall when the aquarium hosts a series of Sunset Pier Walk beginning Friday, September 24.

Guests will join Birch Aquarium naturalists on an exclusive walking tour of the Ellen Browning Scripps Pier — which is normally closed to the public — and learn about research conducted at Scripps Oceanography through interactive experiences including a plankton investigation, squid dissection, and more!

“Sunset Pier Walks are a great opportunity for the San Diego community to learn more about the research done at Scripps Oceanography in a safe and engaging way,” said Cari Paulenich, Program Manager of Public Engagement. “We are excited to be able to share science and sunsets from the pier with guests after going so long without our wonderful Outdoor Adventures.”

Pier Walks will look a little different than they have in the past — as the tours are designed for small family or “pod” groups — in order to provide the safest experience possible for both staff and guests.

Pier Walks are priced per group of up to six people and are \$135 for members, and \$150 for the public. Guests must be ages 9+ and minors must be accompanied by a paid adult. Please note, face coverings are still required during Sunset Pier Walks for all guests, regardless of vaccination status.

Pier Walks run on select Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from Sept. 24 to Nov. 19. Additional dates will be added in the spring. To register your group for a Sunset Pier Walk visit Birch Aquarium's website. Further information — including parking and meeting location — will be provided after registration.

Birch Aquarium will be adding more Outdoor Adventures and other activities to the lineup in the coming months. Behind The Scenes Tours will re-launch in November and Tidepool Adventures will begin in December. Details will be added to the website as more information becomes available.

About Birch Aquarium at Scripps

Birch Aquarium at Scripps is the public exploration center for Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego. Perched on a bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean, Birch Aquarium features the groundbreaking work of Scripps Oceanography and UC San Diego scientists as well as conservation breeding programs, and interactive exhibits. Birch Aquarium's mission is to connect understanding to protecting our ocean planet, which the aquarium achieves by engaging, hands-on learning opportunities for nearly 500,000 guests as well as more than 50,000 pre-K-12 students each year. Birch Aquarium also offers a variety of [virtual events and activities](#). Visit aquarium.ucsd.edu for more information.

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