COVID-19 Safety Policies

Our priority is to protect the health of Mote staff, volunteers, interns, and visitors against COVID-19 by drawing upon protocols from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Florida Department of Health (DOH) and hospitals, along with an infusion of Mote science and common sense. Please read below and email us at educate@mote.org should you have any questions.

Safety Requirements for Admission - All Aquarium Visitors

After extensive preparation to enhance health-safety measures, Mote Aquarium is open to the public as of June 5, 2020! We know it’s been challenging to live the garden eel lifestyle—staying in our “burrows.” We hope that visiting our spotless, spacious and supportive Aquarium provides a welcome break and energizes you to continue taking great care of yourself and each other.

Mote Aquarium staff and all guests over the age of 5 will be required to wear a CDC-recommended face covering. Disposable masks will be provided to those who don’t have them already.

While visiting, we ask that you maintain at least 6 feet of distance between yourself and other visitors that are not a part of your group. Signs located throughout the Aquarium and Marine Mammal Center will help remind you!

Mote Digital Aquarium Map - Plan your visit ahead of time or use on your smartphone during your visit.

Visit mote.org/covid19 for the latest health and safety details and Mote's response to COVID-19.
HAVE GOOD, CLEAN FUN AT MOTE AQUARIUM

Heed the CDC while you "see-d-sea" at Mote!  
mote.org/reopening  cdc.gov/covid19

Stay home if you’re sick.

Go "touchless."
Guests must purchase tickets online in advance.
We’re keeping doors open and touch exhibits closed to protect you.

Wear your mask.
Required for guests over age 5.
Forgot yours? We’re happy to provide one!

Avoid gathering in groups larger than 10.
Stay at least 6 feet apart from those who aren’t in your party.

Wash and sanitize your hands.
We have stations throughout the Aquarium to help you!
INFORMATION FOR PRIVATE GUIDED TOURS - Choose Your Adventure

- Guests must be from one household unit, with a maximum of 8 guests per group
- Guests over 5 years old will be required to wear masks at all times while in Mote buildings and while interacting with Mote staff (indoors or outside)
- Your group will meet Mote staff at the Whale Fountain in front of the Aquarium promptly at 8:30 on the morning of your tour; if other small groups are also waiting for a separate program, please maintain at least 6 feet of distance between members of the groups while you wait
- Guests may purchase discounted admission after their program at the ticket counter for the next available entry time

INFORMATION FOR GUIDED GROUP TOURS - School and Camp Groups
Masks are required for all visitors over the age 5 and must be worn at all times while inside any of the Mote buildings and at any point that you or your group are in contact with Mote staff or volunteers. If a participant in your group has a disability that prevents them from wearing a mask, you MUST email us at educate@mote.org prior to making your reservation, to request a reasonable modification and we can discuss your options.

- All visiting groups are required to stay together and maintain a 6-foot distance from other guests.
- We are closely monitoring numbers, time of entry, and moving groups through in a safe manner, so you MUST make a reservation before bringing your group to visit. You will NOT be allowed admission if you show up with a group without making prior reservations.
- Reservation times for arrival and departure must be adhered to. Please allow extra time to be sure your group arrives as close to your reservation time as possible. If you arrive more than 30 minutes outside of your reservation window, we may not be able to accommodate your group.

Your Visit
- Upon arrival you will be met in front of the aquarium by an Education staff member and Mote volunteer. They will provide you and your students/campers with Aquarium information and help break you into smaller groups of up to 10 students.
- Each small group will need to be accompanied by 1 adult from your group and 1 Mote Volunteer. Groups will then rotate around the aquarium/exhibits in a safe and educational manner.

*Above policies are subject to change. Upon your arrival, our staff will alert you of any changes.*