



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tennessee Aquarium at a Glance

The Chattanooga skyline features six magnificent glass peaks that top the Tennessee Aquarium's River Journey and Ocean Journey buildings. River Journey is the original Aquarium building and features stunning freshwater creatures and habitats from the Southeast and from around the world. Visitors can explore two living forests under glass and get face to face with feisty otters, giant catfish, prehistoric sturgeon, colorful frogs, and American alligators.

Ocean Journey takes visitors beneath the waves where 10-foot sharks and graceful stingrays glide through amazing coral formations. Guests also meet playful penguins, cuttlefish, squid, crabs and jellyfish. An indoor rainforest showcases the fluttering jewels of nature - butterflies.

Aquarium visitors can extend their "mountains to the sea" adventure by cruising on the Tennessee River aboard the River Gorge Explorer. This 70 passenger high-speed boat takes passengers on a thrilling two-hour excursion from the Chattanooga Pier into the Tennessee River Gorge. Each tour into this protected habitat is led by an Aquarium naturalist who will point out wildlife and historic points of interest along the way.

Building Sizes

River Journey	Ocean Journey
130,000 square feet	60,000 square feet
The height of a 12-story building	The height of a 10-story building
Holds a total of 400,000 gallons of water	Holds a total of 700,000 gallons of water

Building Costs

River Journey	Ocean Journey
\$45 million from individuals, corporations, foundations and other organizations.	\$30 million - Funded by a \$10 million Aquarium bond issue and \$20 million raised through combined efforts with the 21st Century Waterfront fundraising campaign.

Architects and Exhibit Designers:

River Journey	Ocean Journey
Cambridge Seven Associates, Inc., Cambridge, MA Peter Chermayeff, Principal in Charge Peter Chermayeff, Architect of Record	Chermayeff, Sollogub and Poole Inc., Boston, MA Peter Chermayeff, Design Principal Peter Sollogub, Principal in Charge Bobby C Poole, Architect of Record

Grand opening

River Journey – May 1, 1992

Ocean Journey – April 29, 2005

Location: Chattanooga, Tennessee — The Tennessee Aquarium is located in Ross's Landing Park and Plaza on the banks of the Tennessee River in downtown Chattanooga.

Owner: Private, non-profit corporation

Operator: Tennessee Aquarium Corporation

President: Charles L. Arant

Attendance: Since opening, the Aquarium has drawn, on average, a million visitors each year.

Exhibit Areas

River Journey —

Appalachian Cove Forest

Tennessee River Gallery

Discovery Hall

Mississippi Delta

Rivers of the World

Seahorses

Ranger Rick's Backyard Safari

Ocean Journey –

Tropical Cove (Forest Pool, Macaw Glade)

Stingray Bay

Butterfly Garden

Penguins' Rock

Secret Reef

Boneless Beauties

Jellies: Living Art

Undersea Cavern

Specimens: The Tennessee Aquarium showcases a richly diverse collection of thousands of living specimens throughout both buildings. Beautiful examples of both fresh and saltwater fish – including big, toothy sharks and seahorses, free-flying native songbirds, captivating cold-climate penguins, tropical Hyacinth macaws, playful river otters, 70 species of turtles, snakes, alligators, crocodiles, frogs, toads, salamanders, newts and amazing invertebrates encompassing jellyfish, crabs, octopus, nautilus, cuttlefish and crayfish.

Educational Facilities: Hands-on and interactive exhibits, 200-seat auditorium, fully equipped classroom, wet lab, two computer labs, high-definition distance learning studio and an outreach van.

Other properties: Tennessee Aquarium IMAX 3D® Theater and Environmental Learning Lab

Construction: Turner Universal, Nashville, Tenn.

River Gorge Explorer: Custom designed in New Zealand by Nic de Waal of Teknicraft Designs, Ltd, and manufactured by All American Marine, Inc., Bellingham, Washington.

Engineering

River Journey

John L. Altieri Consulting, Norwalk, Conn.
Weidlinger Associates, New York

Ocean Journey

March Adams and Associates, Inc.,
Chattanooga, Tenn.

Exhibit Designers/Fabricators

River Journey

Lyons/Zaremba, Inc., Boston, Mass.
The Larson Company, Tucson, Ariz.

Ocean Journey

Adirondack Scenic, New York

Economic impact:

- The Tennessee Aquarium is credited with igniting the “Renaissance on the River,” and the revitalization of downtown Chattanooga. No single project has played a greater role in revitalizing downtown.
- With more than \$2 billion in new investment in the downtown area since 1990, Chattanooga is fast becoming a model for all that a mid-sized downtown can be.
- Tourism is a \$750 million industry in Chattanooga and Hamilton County.
- Tourism and hospitality account for 7,800 Chattanooga and Hamilton County jobs with an annual payroll of more than \$150 million.
- Downtown employment rose 38 percent from 1992 to 2002 – (58 percent of that increase took place between 1997 and 2002.)

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The Tennessee Aquarium inspires wonder, appreciation and protection of water and all life that it sustains. Admission is \$24.95 per adult and \$14.95 per child, ages 3-12. Each ticket purchased helps support Aquarium conservation programs. The IMAX® 3D Theater is next door to the Aquarium. Ticket prices are \$8.50 per adult and \$6.00 per child. Aquarium/IMAX combo tickets are \$29.95 for adults and \$19.95 for children. Excursions aboard the new River Gorge Explorer depart daily into “Tennessee’s Grand Canyon.” Cruise tickets are \$29.00 per adult and \$21.50 per child (3-12). Advance tickets may be purchased online at www.tnaqua.org or by phone at 1-800-262-0695. The Aquarium, located on the banks of the Tennessee River in Chattanooga, is a non-profit organization. Open every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas, the Aquarium and IMAX are accessible to people with disabilities.

ONLINE press kits & downloadable images: <http://www.tnaqua.org/News/Newsroom.aspx>