



CLEARWATER MARINE AQUARIUM™

Rescued Sea Turtle Themed Hotel Rooms to be Unveiled

Wyndham Grand Clearwater Beach Partners with Clearwater Marine Aquarium to offer Rescued Sea Turtle Themed Guest Rooms

Clearwater, FL (Feb. 18, 2019) – Clearwater Beach visitors can now stay in a rescued sea turtle themed room thanks to newly designed hotel rooms at the Wyndham Grand Clearwater Beach. Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) and the Wyndham Grand Clearwater Beach are unveiling three unique guest rooms featuring rescued sea turtles at CMA, including Mavis featured in the movie *Dolphin Tale 2*. These rooms are in addition to the 9 popular Winter the dolphin themed rooms currently at the hotel. All 12 themed rooms are perfect for families excited by marine life and inspired by the rescued animals at CMA.

A portion of the proceeds when booking a CMA themed room type will be donated back to the aquarium to support the care of rescued marine life. CMA aims to protect the sea turtle population along Pinellas County beaches by monitoring sea turtle nests, and rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing sick and injured sea turtles. In 2018, CMA monitored over 180 sea turtle nests that made it possible for over 13,000 hatchlings to make their way back to the ocean. The CMA team also rescued, rehabilitated and released 182 sea turtles, including 109 baby sea turtles.

“Based on the turtle conservation work CMA is conducting along our Clearwater Beaches, we are pleased to add turtle themed rooms to support their amazing work,” said David Yamada, Wyndham Grand Clearwater Beach General Manager. “The rooms also build on the success of the Winter themed rooms we introduced in 2017.”

An unveiling and reception will be held on Wed., Feb. 20, 2019 at 12 p.m. at the Wyndham Grand Clearwater Beach in celebration of the new sea turtle themed rooms. The CMA team will be educating guests on their sea turtle conservation work and how people can help protect these vulnerable species.

Media are invited to attend the unveiling event and tour the rescued sea turtle and Winter the dolphin themed rooms. Contact Julia Anderson for more information: janderson@cmaquarium.org or 727.686.3499.

Media Information:

- When: Wed., Feb. 20, 2019 | 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m., room unveiling at 12 p.m. **Media advised to arrive at 11:45 a.m.**
- Where: Wyndham Grand Clearwater Beach, 100 Coronado Drive, 33767
- What: Tour of the rooms, refreshments, giveaways, CMA mascot and green screen photo keepsake, valet available

About Clearwater Marine Aquarium:

Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit working marine rescue center dedicated to inspiring the human spirit through leadership in education, research, rescue, rehabilitation and release. CMA is home to rescued dolphins, sea turtles, river otters, stingrays, nurse sharks and more. Winter the dolphin's story of survival, after an injury that caused her to lose her tail, has impacted millions of people around the world. Major motion picture *Dolphin Tale* (2011) features Winter's story and its sequel *Dolphin Tale 2* (2014) features the incredible story of Hope, a young resident dolphin of CMA. Through Clearwater Marine Aquarium Research Institute, CMA conducts important global research focused on protecting manatees, right whales and sea turtles. The mission and potential to change people's lives differentiates Clearwater Marine Aquarium from any other aquarium in the world.

WE BELIEVE in preserving our environment while inspiring the human spirit through leadership in the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of marine life, environmental education, research and conservation.

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