

SUMIDA AQUARIUM to Reopen on July 16, 2020 with Two New Areas and One of Japan's Largest Seven-meter-long, Open-top Jellyfish Tank

- New sensational tank Big Schale allowing direct observation of jellyfish -

TOKYO, Japan - June 15, 2020 - ORIX Real Estate Corporation ("ORIX Real Estate") announced that it has decided to reopen SUMIDA AQUARIUM—operated by the company—on July 16, 2020 after completion of the large-scale renovations currently being undertaken.



New sensational jellyfish tank Big Schale (conceptual image)

As part of the renovations, in addition to the installation of a new open-top, sensational tank Big Schale in the new Jellyfish Area, there will also be an Aqua Base where the aquarium keepers' work is shown to visitors. The new sensational tank Big Schale is a seven-meter-long open-top jellyfish tank of the largest scale in Japan*1. The kanji characters for jellyfish come from the characters meaning "moon floating in the sea," and this view can be experienced up close by observing approximately 500 moon jellyfish (Aurelia coerulea) bred at SUMIDA AQUARIUM from above the tank. The open-top tank becomes a magical space through the use of vivid lighting, and the glass-floored deck—which can be reached via a slope—allows a sense of immersion as if one is standing on the surface of the sea where jellyfish gather.

Aqua Base—the area where aquarium keepers' work is shown to visitors—comprises the Kitchen where food is prepared for aquatic life and the Lab where jellyfish aquarium facilities and breeding can be observed up close. This area allows understanding of aquatic life to be further deepened through communication with aquarium keepers.

In addition to jellyfish breeding and research, SUMIDA AQUARIUM has been communicating the charms of jellyfish using various means, including collaboration with artists, exhibits incorporating digital performances, and allowing visitors to experience aquarium keepers' work. Going forward, the aquarium will continue to pursue new methods of exhibition to provide opportunities for getting even closer to aquatic life.

^{*1} The jellyfish exhibit using an open-top tank seven meters long is of the largest scale in Japan, based on research by ORIX Real Estate.

■ Overview of Renovations

1. New sensational tank Big Schale

The new sensational tank Big Schale exhibits approximately 500 moon jellyfish. It is an open-top tank where the top of the tank is not covered. It allows jellyfish—including the amazing jelly-like texture and delicate body organs—to be directly seen up close as if observing jellyfish floating naturally in the sea. The walkway surrounding the tank forms a slope that leads up to a glass-floored deck that allows a magical experience as if standing on the surface of the sea where jellyfish are floating. Three new drum-shaped tanks will also be established along the walls of the area, and visitors will be able to enjoy comparing the different colors, patterns, and swimming styles of the three jellyfish species on display.



Three drum-shaped tanks established along the walls (conceptual image)

Following the renovations, the approximately 700 jellyfish from 14 different species on display within the aquarium will all have been bred at SUMIDA AQUARIUM.

2. Open space Aqua Base that deepens understanding of aquatic life

This area comprises two spaces: the Kitchen where food is prepared—previous carried out in the backyard—for penguins, spotted garden eels, large-tank fish and other aquatic life; and the Lab where jellyfish aquarium facilities and breeding are shown to visitors.

Through communicating with aquarium keepers and observing their work, this is a learning area that will stimulate the intellectual curiosity not only of children but also adults. At the new Lab, there will be breeding of many jellyfish species—including flame jellyfish (Rhopilema esculentum), cannonball jellyfish (Stomolophus meleagris), and black sea nettle (Chrysaora achlyos) on display for the first time—and there are plans to hold experiential programs related to jellyfish and other events in the future.



Communication with aquarium keepers (conceptual image)

List of species scheduled for display

Chrysaora pacifica, Chrysaora fuscescens, Aequorea coerulescens, Tima formosa, Sanderia malayensis, Leuckartiara sp., Mastigias papua, Catostylus mosaicus, Rhopilema esculentum, Stomolophus meleagris, Sarsia tubulosa, Chrysaora achlyos, Neoturris breviconis, Aurelia coerulea

* Species on display are subject to change.



Rhopilema esculentum



Chrysaora achlyos



Stomolophus meleagris

Facility overview

Name of Facility	SUMIDA AQUARIUM
Operating Company	ORIX Real Estate Corporation (Headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo; President: Toyonori Takahashi)
Contracted Operator	ORIX Aquarium Corporation (Headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo; President: Takaaki Nitanai)
Director	Yusuke Nakamura
Date of Opening	May 22, 2012
Location	5-6F, TOKYO SKYTREE TOWN Solamachi, 1-1-2 Oshiage, Sumida-ku, Tokyo
Official Site	https://www.sumida-aquarium.com/en/
Admission Fees (tax included)	Adults ¥2,050 High school students ¥1,500 Junior high school and elementary school students ¥1,000 Children (age 3 and over) ¥600
Access	A short walk from Tokyo Skytree Station on the Tobu Skytree Line A short walk from Oshiage "Skytree-mae" Station on the Tobu Skytree Line, Tokyo Metro Hanzomon Line, Keisei Oshiage Line, and Toei Asakusa Line

Contact Information:

ORIX Corporation
Corporate Planning Department

Tel: +81-3-3435-3121

About ORIX:

ORIX Corporation (TSE: 8591; NYSE: IX) is a financial services group which provides innovative products and services to its customers by constantly pursuing new businesses.

Established in 1964, from its start in the leasing business, ORIX has advanced into neighboring fields and at present has expanded into lending, investment, life insurance, banking, asset management, automobile related, real estate and environment and energy related businesses. Since entering Hong Kong in 1971, ORIX has spread its businesses globally by establishing locations in 37 countries and regions across the world.

Going forward, ORIX intends to utilize its strengths and expertise, which generate new value, to establish an independent ORIX business model that continues to evolve perpetually. In this way, ORIX will engage in business activities that instill vitality in its companies and workforce, and thereby contribute to society. For more details, please visit our website: https://www.orix.co.jp/grp/en/ (As of March 31, 2019)

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