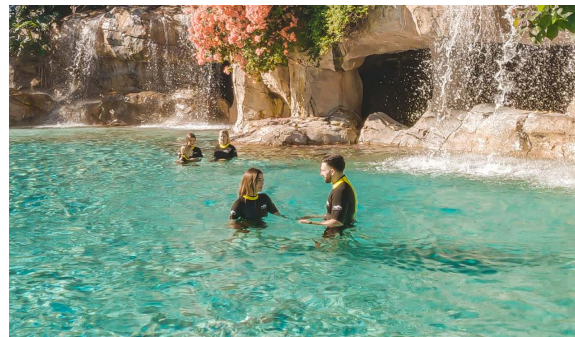




# SENSORY GUIDE

A RESOURCE FOR GUESTS WITH  
COGNITIVE DISABILITIES INCLUDING  
AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD)



DISCOVERY COVE®  
ORLANDO

# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE

## OVERVIEW

PAGE 4

Planning your trip to Discovery Cove Orlando.

## AMENITIES

PAGE 8

Discovery Cove has so many ways to make your day a success.

## ATTRACTIONS

PAGE 13

Discovery Cove is an all-inclusive day resort where you and your family can enjoy a one-of-a-kind opportunity to swim with dolphins, snorkel with thousands of tropical fish and rays, hand-feed exotic birds and unwind on pristine beaches.

# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE

## SENSORY LEVEL SUMMARY

1 = low sensory stimulation, 10 = high sensory stimulation\*

ATTRACTION	TOUCH	TASTE	SOUND	SMELL	SIGHT
Explorer's Aviary	5	0	7	2	4
Freshwater Oasis	4	1	2	2	4
The Grand Reef	7	1	2	2	7
Wind-Away River/Serenity Bay	4	1	2	1	3
Dolphin Lagoon	8	1	2	1	7
Shark Interaction / Shark Snorkel	8	1	2	1	7
SeaVenture	7	1	2	1	7



\*Rated by International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Services (IBCCES). © 2024 IBCCES. All rights reserved.



# OVERVIEW



# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE

## **A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF CREDENTIALING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION STANDARDS (IBCCES) FOR DEVELOPING THIS SENSORY GUIDE FOR DISCOVERY COVE ORLANDO.**

For almost 20 years, IBCCES has been the industry leader in autism training for licensed healthcare professionals and educators around the globe. IBCCES recognized that many families with children who have special needs have limited travel options, and in response, created training and certification programs specifically for the hospitality and travel industry. The assessors believe the information contained within this assessment report to be correct at the time of printing.

The assessors do not accept responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information herein. The report is based on matters which were observed or came to the attention of the assessors during the day of the assessment and should not be relied upon as an exhaustive record of all possible risks or hazards that may exist or potential improvements that can be made.



# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE



## OVERVIEW

At Discovery Cove Orlando, it is our goal to provide every family with an enjoyable and memorable visit, and we are proud to offer specialized services to guests with autism and other special needs.

Our team members generally receive applicable training in a variety of areas to help them address the needs of our guests with autism and other special needs, which may include:

- Sensory Awareness
- Motor Skills
- Autism Overview
- Program Development
- Social Skills
- Communication
- Environment
- Emotional Awareness



# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE

## DISCOVERY COVE ADDRESS

6000 DISCOVERY COVE WAY ORLANDO, FL.32821



### LEGEND



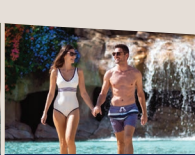
#### THE GRAND REEF

Explore a tropical playground with thousands of colorful fish and majestic rays



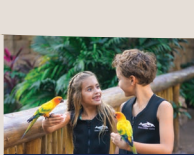
#### DOLPHIN LAGOON

Share a swim with a graceful bottlenose dolphin  
\*Available with Dolphin Swim Package



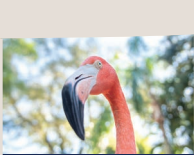
#### SERENITY BAY WIND-AWAY RIVER

Enjoy the serenity of this fabulous freshwater playground and ride the soothing currents of a tropical river as it winds past sandy beaches and cascading waterfalls



#### EXPLORER'S AVIARY

Be serenaded by hundreds of colorful birds as they soar above and around you



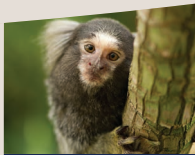
#### FLAMINGO POINT

Observe the captivating beauty of Caribbean Flamingos as you stroll through this serene habitat



#### ISLAND & REEF ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS

Meet endangered and exotic animals while learning about our conservation efforts



#### MONKEY ISLAND

Monkey Island located in Freshwater Oasis offers an up-close and personal look at our charismatic monkeys



#### OTTERS

Come face-to-face with playful otters while wading through water-filled trails

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE @DISCOVERYCOVE



DISCOVERYCOVE.COM

# AMENITIES





# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE



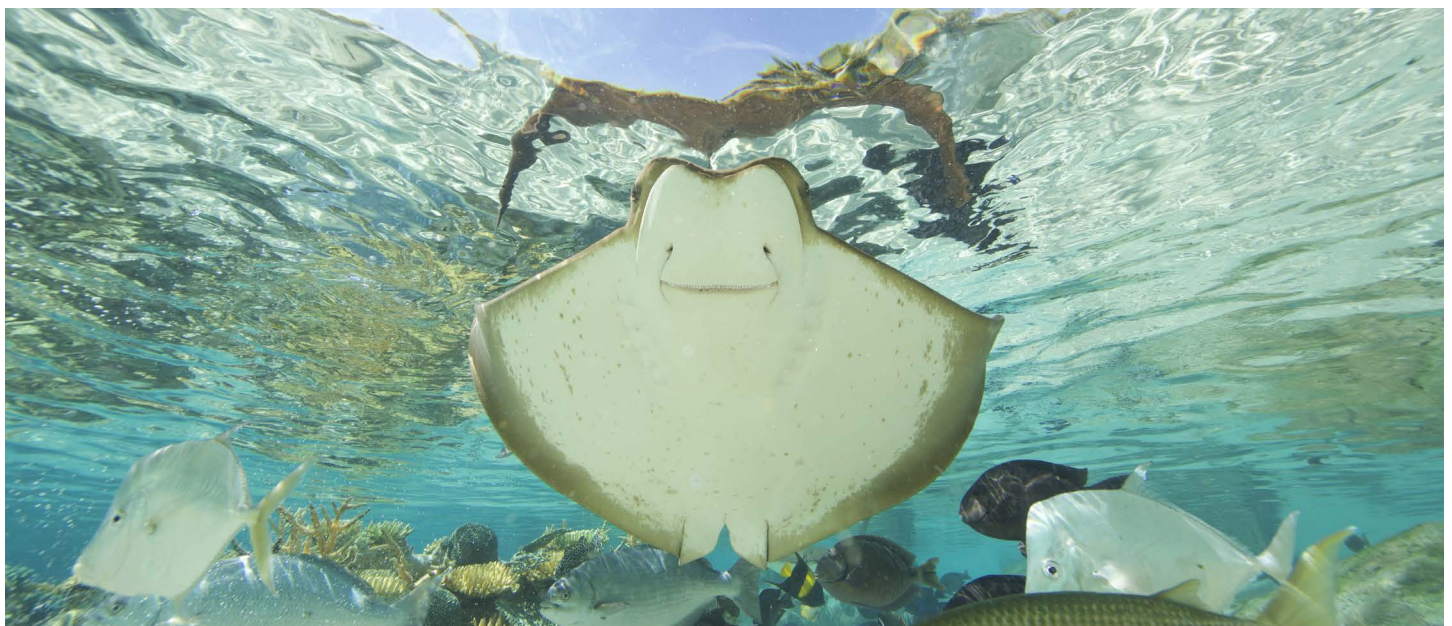
## GUEST SERVICES

Discovery Cove's guest services team is equipped to assist your family with the following services. You may locate a member of our team at the Guest Services desk.

- Park amenity information
- Upgraded experiences
- Lost & found inquiries
- Park sensory Information

## QUIET SPACE

Guests in need of some quiet time and relief from sensory stimulation can utilize our new Quiet Space located near our First Aid unit. This space is a low traffic and low noise area with seating for guests who need to take a break. Guests who would like to use the Quiet Space may do so on a first come first served basis.





# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE

## PARKING

A limited number of accessible parking spaces are available on a first come, first served basis in our main lot near the front entrance to the park.

Self-parking at Discovery Cove is complimentary, however parking admission at our sister parks is not included, unless your reservation includes the Ultimate package. In this case, parking at SeaWorld Orlando, Aquatica Orlando and Busch Gardens Tampa Bay is included with your Discovery Cove package.





# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE

## CABANA AND DAY BED RENTALS

Reserve your own private space, tucked within the lush landscaping and overlooking waterways, with a Discovery Cove cabana or a day bed.

Our cabana areas allow more private settings for families and guests who are looking for a break from sensory stimulation. Cabanas can be reserved online, by phone, or at Guest Services. Cabana rentals have a limited availability and require a reservation.

Included amenities:

A Cabana Host to re-stock snacks, drinks, towels and to keep the cabana clean during your visit

- Table, chairs and chaise lounges
- Private locker and fresh towels
- Unlimited snacks and drinks (including water and soft drinks)

For the most up to date availability and pricing, please visit [DiscoveryCove.com](https://DiscoveryCove.com)





# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE

## DINING

Breakfast is offered at Laguna Grill from 7:30am - 10:30am. Lunch is offered from 11:30-3:00pm. Guests looking for a quieter dining environment are encouraged to visit meal facilities outside of peak hours (11AM-1PM) or ahead of meal time. For guests who prefer to grab and go, Hibiscus Hideaway offers a variety of pizza options.

## ALLERGY FRIENDLY

Discovery Cove is committed to providing all guests with a safe and enjoyable dining experience. We're also happy to accommodate all dietary needs, serving up fresh seafood and vegetarian dishes while providing Allergy Friendly Recommendations. Upon arriving at Laguna Grill please proceed to the Exit and ask to speak with a Supervisor or Chef in order to discuss the severity of your allergens and determine a meal that will be safe for you.

## FOOD POLICY

Enjoy unlimited access to a fantastic selection of food and drinks all day long. When we say Discovery Cove food and drinks are all-inclusive, we mean exactly that. From breakfast to lunch, you'll find a selection of freshly-prepared, delicious and healthy options to enjoy. No food or beverages are allowed in. This includes alcohol and coolers.



# ATTRACTIONS



# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE



ATTRACTION NAME:

## EXPLORER'S AVIARY

ACTIVITY SUMMARY:

Watch as hundreds of colorful birds soar above and around you. Feel your heart soar as a feathered friend glides in to meet you and nibble fruit from your hand.

### SENSORY LEVEL & PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES:

1 = low sensory stimulation, 10 = high sensory stimulation\*

TOUCH	5	TASTE	0	SOUND	7	SMELL	2	SIGHT	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Option to hand feed/handle birds</li> <li>Birds roaming free, in close proximity to animals</li> <li>Open spaces with plants and various textures</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Applicable</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birds emitting loud sounds at unexpected times</li> <li>Rushing water</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slight smell of water and animals</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water features, plant life</li> <li>Animals roaming freely, flying and in pathways and other guests co-mingle</li> </ul>	



ATTRACTION NAME:

## FRESHWATER OASIS

ACTIVITY SUMMARY:

Designed with a rain forest canopy above and sparkling clear springs below, you and your family can relax, explore and find endless discoveries, including viewing monkeys and otters.

### SENSORY LEVEL & PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES:

1 = low sensory stimulation, 10 = high sensory stimulation\*

TOUCH	4	TASTE	1	SOUND	2	SMELL	2	SIGHT	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wading in water</li> <li>Use of snorkel gear/masks</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for swimmers to accidentally taste/swallow water</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for splashing and sounds of other swimmers</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slight smell of water and animals</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face to face potential encounters with otters behind glass</li> </ul>	



# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE



ATTRACTION NAME:

## THE GRAND REEF

ACTIVITY SUMMARY:

Families can seek discoveries along the water's edge or cross a bridge to see sharks swimming below. Play hide-and-seek with thousands of beautiful fish, from small colorful angelfish to velvety rays.

### SENSORY LEVEL & PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES:

1 = low sensory stimulation, 10 = high sensory stimulation\*

*All guests must wear provided complimentary life jackets while enjoying The Grand Reef.*

TOUCH	7	TASTE	1	SOUND	2	SMELL	2	SIGHT	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swimming</li> <li>Use of snorkel gear/masks</li> <li>Interaction with animals/fish and rays swim freely</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for swimmers to accidentally taste/swallow water</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for splashing and sounds of other swimmers</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slight smell of water and animals</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many species of fish and other sea life</li> <li>Face to face views of sharks</li> </ul>	



ATTRACTION NAME:

## WIND-AWAY RIVER AND SERENITY BAY

ACTIVITY SUMMARY:

Ride the soothing currents of a tropical river as it winds past sandy beaches, through a dense rain forest, beneath the rocky terrain of cascading waterfalls, and through an underwater cave.

### SENSORY LEVEL & PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES:

1 = low sensory stimulation, 10 = high sensory stimulation\*

TOUCH	4	TASTE	1	SOUND	2	SMELL	1	SIGHT	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swimming</li> <li>Waterfalls and caves along the path</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for swimmers to accidentally taste/swallow water</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for splashing and sounds of other swimmers</li> <li>Waterfall: sound of rushing water</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slight smell of water and animals</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changing scenery as you float through the park, including some views of animals</li> </ul>	

# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE



ATTRACTION NAME:

## DOLPHIN LAGOON

ACTIVITY SUMMARY:

Accompanied by an animal care specialist, small groups of guests wade into the water to meet and learn about dolphins. Then, enjoy an exciting dorsal fin tow back to shore.

*Children must be 6 years or older and at least 42 inches tall to swim with the dolphins. Those under 48 inches tall must wear a provided complimentary life jacket. Children ages 6 - 12 must be accompanied by a paying adult who is also participating in the dolphin swim experience.*

### SENSORY LEVEL & PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES:

1 = low sensory stimulation, 10 = high sensory stimulation\*

TOUCH	8	TASTE	1	SOUND	2	SMELL	1	SIGHT	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swimming</li> <li>Interaction with dolphins, including face and hand contact</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for swimmers to accidentally taste/ swallow water</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for splashing and sounds of other swimmers or the dolphins</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slight smell of water</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up close and personal interaction with dolphins</li> </ul>	



ATTRACTION NAME:

## SHARK INTERACTION & SNORKEL

ACTIVITY SUMMARY:

Your full experience includes a shallow water shark talk and training session with Discovery Cove's expert aquarists. You will also have the opportunity to swim freely alongside several species of sharks in the deeper part of their habitat.

### SENSORY LEVEL & PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES:

1 = low sensory stimulation, 10 = high sensory stimulation\*

TOUCH	8	TASTE	1	SOUND	2	SMELL	1	SIGHT	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swimming</li> <li>Interactions with sharks and other sea life</li> <li>Use of snorkel/mask</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for swimmers to accidentally taste/ swallow water</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for splashing and sounds of other swimmers or the sharks</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slight smell of water</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up close interaction with sharks and other sea life</li> </ul>	

# DISCOVERY COVE SENSORY GUIDE



ATTRACTION NAME:






## SEAVENTURE

ACTIVITY SUMMARY:

SeaVenture is a once-in-a-lifetime, undersea experience. Some say it's like walking on the moon-but surrounded by fish. The SeaVenture program is about 45 minutes long, including orientation and an approximate 20 minute trainer guided underwater walking tour with incredible views and animal interactions.

### SENSORY LEVEL & PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES:

1 = low sensory stimulation, 10 = high sensory stimulation\*

 TOUCH	7	 TASTE	1	 SOUND	2	 SMELL	1	 SIGHT	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Swimming underwater</li><li>Use of special helmet and breathing apparatus underwater</li><li>Potential interaction with freely swimming sea life</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Potential for swimmers to accidentally taste/ swallow water</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Potential for splashing and sounds of other swimmers</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Slight smell of water</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Potential interaction with sea life</li><li>Opportunity for deeper water views</li></ul>	