

## Shedd Aquarium



The John G. Shedd Aquarium is an indoor public aquarium which has been opened on May 30, 1930 and is located in Chicago, Illinois on the shore of Lake Michigan and it is the first inland aquarium to include a permanent saltwater fish collection.

John G. Shedd, a retail leader, has intended it to be a gift to the city of Chicago. Shedd was the second president of the company Marshall Field & Company, a department store which would grow to become a chain and has been acquired by Macy's in 2005. Marshall Field's as such does not exist anymore, though since it was integrated into the chain of Macy's as one of four flagship stores and renamed. Mr. Shedd died on October 22, 1926 at the age of 76 in Chicago and hence unfortunately did not live to see the aquarium he funded to be finished. Thus, his widow cut the ribbons on opening day and witnessed his plans become reality.

The aquarium cost \$3 million to build, which translates into \$46 million in 2019 considering inflation etc. Initially, it included 132 exhibit tanks with a total volume of 19,000,000 liters which made it the largest aquarium for some time. The Shedd Aquarium houses, approximately, 32,000 individual animals and about 1,500 species. This variety does not merely include fish, but marine mammals, birds, snakes, amphibians and insects as well.

Their main exhibits are: beluga whales, Australian lungfish, sea otters, pacific white-sided dolphins, Californian sea lions, American alligators as well as sharks (namely a guitarfish, a sawfish and a zebra shark).