

SeaWorld Run for the Fund
Oct 1 2011
Jacque Roach

I had the privilege of being part of the inaugural SeaWorld Run for the Fund in 2010 and would recommend this upcoming event to anyone (Oct 1, 2011). Participants varied from those of all abilities and ages, young and beyond :-). The time of year the event takes place is perfect for a 10K and just plain fun for those wanting to run the 5K. The entry fee includes the run, free parking and access to SeaWorld for the remainder of the day. Just after the run, a light snack breakfast awaited and it was delightful with honeycrisp apples and huge homemade-like sugar cookies, water, juice. I rate this as delightful because I am an apple and homemade cookie princess ;-). Massages were also available. A variety of animal trainers, with the animals beside them, were present to answer questions. It was an awesome time to get an upclose encounter. Awards ceremonies were held in the Shamu Theatre just prior to the special Shamu performance.

The race begins near the front of the park and approximately the first 1/4 of the run is alongside the parking area, out and back and then around to the east side of the park. There are a couple of animal encounters (good ones!) as the race takes you back westward through the park and along SeaWorld Drive. Then it's back into the park, more animal encounters, a crossing point where the 5k'ers are traveling, and then onward to the finish line in front of Shamu Theatre. All in all, it was really fun. The weather was pleasant enough to enjoy some time in the park afterwards including some shows and catching some thrills on the Great White and the really, really big roller coaster. Good times!
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