

Educational Awareness: Exploring Odysseo Oceanarium

Odysseo's motto, "Learn, Love, Protect," encapsulates their commitment to environmental preservation. The oceanarium offers a learning and immersive experience that promotes a deep appreciation for marine life.

Guardians of the Ocean

The ocean, which covers over 70% of Earth's surface, is the lifeblood of our planet and home to a vast array of species. Mauritius' *Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)*, at 1,127 times the size of its land area, reflects the critical need for marine conservation.

At Odysseo Oceanarium, the commitment is clear: to Learn, Love & Protect this invaluable resource and its biodiversity.

Why Protect Our Oceans?

Our oceans are vital for sustaining life on Earth, providing oxygen, regulating climate, and supporting diverse ecosystems. Odysseo champions this cause through initiatives like:

- *The Exploi Project* (Expédition Plastique Océan Indien) to combat plastic pollution
- Coral and seagrass regeneration projects
- Conservation efforts for endangered species such as sea turtles and seahorses

A Learning Experience for All Ages

Education knows no age limit at Odysseo. With interactive games and informative guides, visitors of all ages—from kids to seniors—can discover new and meaningful insights.

For a more in-depth experience, visitors can book comprehensive guided tours at just a small supplement to increase their knowledge of marine biology, the conservation efforts and the intricate ecosystems at Odysseo.

Eco-Friendly Guidelines

To support conservation efforts, Odysseo enforces a strict ban on single-use plastics, such as bottles and bags, and prohibits flash photography to maintain the tranquility of sensitive species.

Good to Know:

- The lifecycle of waste materials like plastic bottles, cloth, diapers, and cigarette butts poses a significant threat to marine ecosystems. These materials decompose over hundreds of years, leaving microplastics that pervade the environment, underscoring the critical need to reduce plastic usage.
- The Republic of Mauritius encompasses a surface territory of 2040 km², including several islands like Rodrigues, Agalega, Saint Brandon Archipelago, and Chagos Archipelago.
- To educate visitors about pressing environmental issues, the Coral Reef exhibit features replicas that illustrate the impact of pollution on coral ecosystems.
- Temperature-controlled environments in exhibits ensure the survival of delicate species, like coral reefs, mimicking their natural habitats.

A visit to Odysseo isn't just about marvelling at the wonders of the ocean, but about being part of the change for a better, more sustainable world. Let's learn, love and protect together!

Protip: If you ever need a small break or quick bite, there's an outdoor food area with a kid's playground, accessible exclusively to visitors of the oceanarium.