

# Discovery adventures await at Sci-Port

Traveling to the 74<sup>th</sup> National Square Dance Convention® in Shreveport, LA, next June with children or grandchildren? They're a great reason to visit the Sci-Port Discovery Center with its 92,000 square feet of hands-on demonstrations and exhibits. Even the adults should find plenty of brain-teasing activities to keep them engaged as well.

Inside the complex with its modern exterior, one is transported from the Red River and old town Shreveport exhibits to deep space. The lower level includes the main lobby and visitor services, the Goodman Laser Digital IMAX Dome Theatre entrance, Makerspace, Gallery of Intrigue, Demonstration Theater, Sawyer Space Dome Planetarium, GamePort (a rotating exhibit), and café. The upper level houses the Franks Foundation Solarium, Health Zone Activity Area, Exhibition Hall, Power of Play Children's Museum, and CenterPoint Energy Event and Birthday Space. Here is an overview of the facilities located within Sci-Port Discovery Center:



Find the clues in the Riverboat replica to escape the Gallery of Intrigue. Participants can choose from three adventures.

back to the 1830s. One can “escape” the Gallery of Intrigue by using clues found throughout the displays and completing puzzles. Participants can choose their adventure: The Robbery, The Journal of John James Audubon, or The Great Raft. An adventure normally takes about 45 minutes to complete.

•The Power of Play Children's Gallery features constructive play to help children and adults discover the world around them and is a kid-sized version of Shreveport-Bossier City created for ages infant-8 years of age. Activity areas include a barn, duck pond, garden, house, pet vet center, library, tree house, water table, department store, medical center, dentist office, and more. It's a great place to keep younger children entertained.

•The Demonstration Theater takes you back to a young Isaac Newton in this hands-on exhibition area. Children and adults can test the three laws of motion by using every-day items found in the discovery center. For the curious, those three laws of motion are: inertia, force, action and reaction. There are also three daily shows conducted by the museum staff.

•The Sawyer Space Dome Planetarium features daily scheduled activities covering such topics as Secrets of the Sun, Wonders of the Universe, and One World, One Sky. The exhibit featuring our Sun and planets to-scale is eye catching and one can also enjoy the Space Walk tube that provides a perspective of what an astronaut might see in space.

•Experience the groundbreaking projection show in the Goodman Laser Digital IMAX Dome Theatre with its stunning three-story screen and heart-pounding audio. It's the only IMAX



The Space Walk tube gives one a glimpse into deep space.



Dome Theatre in Louisiana. Shows vary, so check the Discovery Center's website for the latest schedule, but typical 45-minute shows include Train Time, Wings Over Water, Deep Sky, Superpower Dogs, Asteroid Hunters and Hurricane on the Bayou.



GamePort takes a look into the inner workings of favorite games and includes a virtual reality center.

•Sci-Port Discovery Center does have rotating exhibits that may be seasonal or a traveling exhibit. During our explorations we found GamePort, which is an interactive gaming playground and included a virtual and augmented reality station. There is typically an extra fee for these activities and prices may vary.

The Sci-Port Discovery Center is located at 820 Clyde Fant Parkway, approximately 0.8 miles from the Shreveport Convention Center. It's a 3-minute car ride or 15-18 minute walk. The center is located just past Bally's Casino & Hotel and the Shreveport

Aquarium, across from RiverView Park, which, by the way, is a good place to take a leisurely walk along the riverfront. Parking is free and available on the lot located between the railroad bridge and J. Bennett Johnston Waterway Regional Visitor Center and the Lake Street parking lot behind the building and accessible from Clyde Fant Parkway.

The discovery center is open Wednesday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. The center is closed Monday-Tuesday. General admission is \$15 per person and includes entry to the Power of Play Children's Museum, Sawyer Space Dome Planetarium and permanent exhibit areas. There is an extra fee for the Gallery of Intrigue, IMAX® Theatre, GamePort or other special exhibits. Discounts are offered for seniors age 65+, the military, and groups of 10 or more. Sci-Port produces a weekly visitor guide that is available to view or download at <https://sci-port.org/visitor-info/#hours>. Look for "Weekly Visitor Guide" and click on the PDF link to see the upcoming week's events. Do note, children 15 years and under must be accompanied by an adult.

No outside food and drink is allowed, but there is a café inside the museum. The menu includes pizza, hot dogs, nachos, chips, cookies, popcorn, candy, coffee, hot chocolate, juice, bottled water and fountain drinks.

*For the latest news and events for the*  
**74th National Square Dance Convention®**  
*make sure to join our Facebook group*

Connect with our 1,850+ followers on Facebook!

It's easy, go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/NKtXCNEUKtx59SmB/>

or scan the QR Code to join today!

