



2017 Hatchling Release Program

Online reservations for Hatchling Release Programs available Monday, June 5, 2017 for Members, Monday, June 12, 2017 for Non-members.

What is a Hatchling Release?

An exciting and unique program about sea turtles beginning in Gumbo Limbo's classroom, followed by a trip to the beach to watch Gumbo Limbo Staff release baby sea turtles into the ocean!

Is there an age limit for Hatchling Releases?

Hatchling Releases are for all ages. Minors under the age of 18 must attend with an adult.

When do Hatchling Releases take place?

Hatchling Releases are scheduled during the height of the sea turtle hatchling season in southeast Florida. We offer walks on **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday night from July 17 through September 7 (no program on Sept 4).** Hatchling Releases are from 8:00 pm–9:30 pm from July 17-August 10, and 7:30 pm–9:00 pm from August 14-September 7.

What do I have to do to attend a Hatchling Release?

Reservations are required; purchase online reservations in advance. Continue reading to learn how. Please bring your email confirmation with you the night of your program.

Do Friends of Gumbo Limbo Members get a discount or other privileges?

Yes, Friends of Gumbo Limbo Members receive a discount on a specific number of reservations, and are eligible to participate in Members-Only Reservations. Members will receive a unique access code for the Members-Only Reservations.

ONLINE RESERVATIONS

Reservations can be purchased online through Brown Paper Tickets via www.gumbolimbo.org/turtle. Alternatively, you may call Brown Paper Tickets to make reservations at 1-800-838-3006

There is a limit of 30 reservations per evening, and one reservation is required per person. A paid reservation is required for anyone over 12 months of age. **We sell out for each evening**, and cannot add additional spaces. Please bring your email confirmation with you the night of your program.

MEMBERS-ONLY RESERVATIONS will begin online on **Monday, June 5, 2017 at 9:00 am.**

Members will be provided a unique access code, and Memberships will be verified. The following Membership privilege applies:

- For Individual Memberships, 2 reservations may be purchased in advance and/or at \$10 each
- For Family Memberships, 6 reservations may be purchased in advance and/or at \$10 each.
- For Donor/Contributor Memberships, 10 reservations may be purchased in advance and/or at \$10 each.

Members wishing to purchase additional reservations may do so at full price using [General Reservations](#). **Space is limited, and Membership does not guarantee you reservations.**

GENERAL RESERVATIONS will begin online on **Monday, June 12, 2017 at 9:00 am.** There is a limit of 6 reservations per purchase, and the reservations are \$17 each.

HATCHLING RELEASE FAQS

Where do we go on the night of our reservation?

On the evening of the program, park in Gumbo Limbo's parking lot and follow the "Program" signs to the classroom. Please bring your email confirmation. Check-in will begin 15 minutes before the start of the program, and the presentation will begin promptly. After the presentation is complete, we will caravan to the beach for the release. You will need your own transportation.

What if it rains?

Bring a raincoat! Sea turtles will scurry to the ocean in the rain, so our program will go on. If there is lightning, we will not go to the beach, but we will not make that decision until that evening as afternoon storms often clear by the evening.

Will we see a nest hatch?

Unfortunately no, as we cannot predict exactly when a sea turtle nest will hatch. The hatchlings we will release during the program are recently hatched, and excavated by trained personnel.

Will we get to touch a sea turtle?

This is a hands-off program. Per our Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Marine Turtle Permit, only the individuals listed on our permit are allowed to touch the sea turtles.

Can I take pictures or use my phone at the beach?

Cameras without a flash may be used. Video cameras without lights produce good results especially if they have infrared "nightshot" ability. Cell phone use is not permitted on the beach; the light from your phone will disturb turtles. Flashlights and other lights are not allowed on the beach.

Anything else I should know?

It is recommended that you wear medium or dark colored clothes. Sneakers or sturdy sandals are best for walking in the sand. You may want to use bug spray to protect yourself against mosquitoes.

Something came up and I can't make it. What can I do?

There is a strict refund window. Greater than 72 hours prior to the event start time, refunds will be allowed via the Brown Paper Tickets support line at 1-800-838-3006 or via e-mail at Support@brownpapertickets.com. Within this 72 hour window, refunds **will not** be issued. If you would like to give your reservation to a friend you may do so, but please provide their name to us prior to 4:00 pm the day of your reservation; please call 561-544-8605. The Nature Center closes at 4:00 pm daily, and messages left after 4:00 pm will not be received until the following morning. There are no refunds or rescheduling for missed Hatchling Releases.

***Gumbo Limbo Nature Center · 1801 N Ocean Blvd. Boca Raton, FL 33432
561-544-8605 · www.gumbolimbo.org***