



Audubon Nature Institute  
*Celebrating the Wonders of Nature*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Audubon Wins Top Spots for Best Aquarium and Zoo**

(New Orleans, La.) - The votes are in, and Audubon Aquarium of the Americas and Audubon Zoo are winners of the USA TODAY 10Best Readers' Choice travel award contest.

The Aquarium ranked 3rd and the Zoo ranked 9th among 20 nominees, all accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), that were hand-picked by a panel of travel experts.

"What an honor bestowed on our Aquarium and Zoo," said Audubon President and CEO Ron Forman. "Visiting zoos and aquariums nurtures an appreciation for the magnificent animal diversity of our planet, and we are grateful to our community members and visitors who voted to include us in the top 10 in the country."

The full list of winners is available at <https://www.10best.com/awards/travel/best-aquarium-2019/> and <https://www.10best.com/awards/travel/best-zoo-2019/>.

### **What makes a Zoo and Aquarium "America's Favorite?" USA Today says:**

"Short of heading out into the world's wild places, nothing beats a visit to the zoo to foster an appreciation for the striking animal diversity of our planet. We asked a panel of travel experts to nominate their favorite North American AZA-accredited zoos – facilities that excel in the fields of animal care and enrichment, while also facilitating meaningful interactions between animals and human visitors"

"Aquariums put us face to fin with aquatic life from the world's oceans, lakes and waterways in a fun and educational setting. The best aquariums also play a vital role in animal conservation by taking part in rescue efforts and advocating for the environmental health of our oceans."

Every other week the [10Best Readers' Choice Award contest](#) launches a new list of twenty (20) businesses in certain designated categories on its website. Commencing on the date each list is posted, readers can vote for their favorite nominated business. Voting continues for 28 days from date of initial publication for each new list of businesses. At the end of the 28 day voting period, the nominated businesses that have received the most eligible votes are designated as the Readers' Choice for their respective categories and awarded a badge of recognition as the 10Best Readers' Choice.

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