



“Planet NAUSICAA”
INNOVATIONS 2008



In 2008 NAUSICAA, the National Sea Centre in Boulogne-sur-Mer, will be creating “Planet NAUSICAA”, an interactive multimedia approach to information and education about the sea and sustainable development. This unique tool combines a spectacular interactive tour in the first part of its entirely renovated initial exhibition (opening scheduled for 26 April 2008) of “The World Ocean”, a window onto the world with an interactive platform, “La Mer en Direct”, book and movie creation and the possibility of enjoying this world in continuous playback on www.nausicaa.fr.

the World Ocean

In 2008, NAUSICAA will be offering its visitors a brand new voyage to the centre of the Oceans. New aquariums, new species... The National Sea Centre will be inviting its visitors to discover numerous marine ecosystems in a totally renewed decor. Starting from the beach, immersion in the “Grand Bleu” is gradual: dry sand and the cry of seabirds gradually give way to the obscurity of the marine world and the mysterious song of the whale. The descent leads the visitor to the centre of the Ocean World, where an imposing cylinder presents a form of plankton life which is the basis of many marine food chains: jellyfish. Whilst observing their graceful ballet, visitors will learn about the richness, the diversity but also the importance of plankton, the origin of life on our Planet. By the circulation of information and topical news in its exhibitions, NAUSICAA hopes that visitors will become conscious of the fragility of marine ecosystems and that each and every one will commit themselves to act in their daily life to preserve them. The programme starts for the visitor with **Voyages in Northern Seas**, during which they discover the seas of North-western Europe. In these waters, where conditions are difficult, live cod, Atlantic wolffish, which enable to meet the demand for fish of a large part of Northern Europe population and that we have to manage a sustainable way. A “beach-side aquarium” will help the public to understand how species in the English Channel-North Sea live under daily tides. As well as a fishing area, the Seas of Northern Europe are areas with various activities (oil prospecting, goods and passengers transport, pleasure boating...) and of capital importance for the whole Europe.

Then come **Stopovers in the Mediterranean**. Moving through Mediterranean seascapes, the visitor discovers groupers, moray eels, barracudas and many other animal and vegetable species characteristic of this sea which are often endangered by mass tourism and human activities.

After walking through these new spaces, the visitor finds him/herself once more at the centre of the Ocean World and is then invited to move towards a kelp forest through which big marine mammals regularly swim (whales, seals...). Surrounded by giant fronds of seaweed, the visitor can see the leopard sharks and dogfish which swim unceasingly in and around the reef.

“La Mer en Direct”

In order to take the public to the four corners of the earth, NAUSICAA has been equipped with a new tool: **“La Mer en Direct” platform!** Situated right at the heart of the exhibition, this television stage with its 180-seat capacity will not only enable games and events to be programmed daily but also live TV programmes and reports to be shown. This will complete a visit to the Centre and the discovery of the world's seas by means of games in a convivial atmosphere. This area is nothing less than a trip into the heart of the maritime world and will be animated by a network of correspondents from the world over. With this new items, NAUSICAA hopes its visitors will discover how numerous marine ecosystems function so that they will understand the Oceans, appreciate them and act to preserve their resources.

Books, films, etc. to go even further

The “Planet NAUSICAA” system implemented in 2008 also includes co-production with the leading professionals of a series of television documentaries about the ocean and sustainable development and DVD releases along with joint publication of books and educational documents for enthusiasts and the general public.

www.nausicaa.fr

Web users can find NAUSICAA at www.nausicaa.fr. The brand new site will help them prepare their visit, see or enjoy again the best excerpts from “La Mer en Direct”, develop their experience and dialogue with other enthusiasts. Web users can also make use of a host of information about everything relating to the sea and sustainable development, educational resources, games, archives, forums, etc.

For more information,
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