



DISCOVERY PLACE SCIENCE



Event Rental Guide 2026



FOR INFORMATION
OR TO BOOK YOUR EVENT

Events@discoveryplace.org

704.372.6261

Event Rental Guide 2026

Rental Space	Daytime	Evening	Standing	Seated	Space
Level 1**	n/a	\$4,000	300+	250+	24,000
Level 2	n/a	\$5,000	1000	400	38,000
Level 3	n/a	\$3,000	200+	60+	7,300
Full Museum	n/a	\$12,000	1,800	730+	67,000
Tryon Lounge (4-hour/full day)	\$1,600/\$1,900	\$2,100	200+	150+	2,594
Tryon Suite (4-hour/full day)	\$2,500/\$2,800	\$3,000	300+	200+	6,628
Windows on Tryon (4-hour/full day)	\$1,000/\$1,300	n/a	55+	30+	1,500
Sun Terrace (4-hour/full day)	\$750/\$1,000	n/a	100+	60+	1,500
Discovery Theatre (4-hour/full day)	\$1,500/\$2,000	\$2,250	n/a	200	2,860
Education Studio-Spark (4-hour/full day)	\$1,200/\$1,500	\$2,000	75+	50+	1,900

*Maximum capacity may be impacted by set-up (tables, equipment) and special exhibitions

**Level 1 Rental available with Discovery Theatre for \$4500



Charlotte IMAX Dome Theatre rentals are based on availability.
Cost varies. Please contact us for more information.

Evening Rental Fees Include

- Standard AV equipment
- Seated tables, high-top tables, chairs
- Set-up and breakdown of Museum equipment
- Event Coordinator to help with planning a successful event

Discovery Place Science

Discovery Place Science offers a host of versatile rental spaces that cater to a wide range of events. From corporate retreats, holiday parties and meetings to social gatherings like happy hours, networking events, theater events, and weddings, Discovery Place creates memorable experiences for all occasions. Whether you're interested in recreating our award-winning event, Science on the Rocks, or you just want a unique venue to host a professional event or celebrate a personal milestone, our creative and intelligent approach ensures that your guests will have a fantastic time.

Unique Experiences

Part of what makes Discovery Place Science events so special is the option to enhance your experience with dynamic demonstrations and engaging activities such as scavenger hunts, exclusive live science shows, animal encounters, special exhibitions and IMAX® and planetarium shows. Our Events team can help you craft a unique event that will not only meet your specific needs but will also wow your guests.



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Full Museum

(Capacity: 1800)



Full museum rental includes all three levels of the Museum and access to standard exhibits. A full museum rental is the top choice in Charlotte for large company parties and conference events.

**The Charlotte IMAX® Dome Theatre and Discovery Theatre are not included in the rental. Some special exhibitions require additional ticket purchase.*

Level 1

(Capacity: 300+)

Ideal for cocktail receptions, seated dinners or more intimate events, this space showcases our award-winning World Alive exhibit featuring our aquarium and living rainforest. It also houses some of the Museum's most interesting collections items. Add a touch tank experience or an animal encounter to make for an unforgettable experience.

**Discovery Theatre access is additional cost*

Level 2

(Capacity: 1000+)

Our most interactive location in the Museum and home to our most sought-after exhibit, Cool Stuff, Level 2 is a popular space for after-hours events. Guests can lay on the bed of nails, journey through the human body in Being Me or build the tallest block tower and their own secret fort in Project Build. Add a live science show, a liquid nitrogen wine slushy demonstration or an animal encounter.

Level 3

(Capacity: 200+)

An imaginative and innovative space, Level 3 features the Museum's design lab Thinker Space and accompanying Think It Up exhibit. This space is perfect for a sip-and-create event, a creative cocktail party or a group gathering. Take your evening up a notch by adding one of our curated design activities in Thinker Space.

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Tryon Suite / Windows on Tryon / Tryon Lounge

(Capacity: 300+)

Arguably one of the best event locations in the city, our Tryon Suite features two separate bright and open spaces, Windows on Tryon and Tryon Lounge. Windows on Tryon is a great space for meetings, company retreats or workshops. Tryon Lounge is a multiuse versatile space perfect for anything from meetings to cocktail receptions or even seated dinners. The spaces can be rented individually or together to create a larger event space or breakout spaces. Tryon Suite is also home to a rotation of visually stunning art exhibits throughout the year.

Discovery Theatre

(Capacity: 200 seated)



Photo Credit: Samantha Laffoon Photography

This is a perfect space for presentations, speakers and discussion panels. Discovery Theatre offers exceptional audio/visual capabilities in a comfortable state-of-the-art environment. Take advantage of the large screen by showing your own pre-approved film.



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Charlotte IMAX Dome Theatre

(Capacity: 280 seated)



With its unique and giant screen, the Charlotte IMAX® Theatre offers an unparalleled experience. Not just for movies, our IMAX® Theatre offers state-of-the-art technology for presentations, unique performances or speaking events. Add a movie from our library to your event or dazzle your guests with a view of the stars with a planetarium experience. Charlotte IMAX Dome Theatre rentals are based on availability. Cost varies. Please contact us for more information.

*Rental includes the theatre space for seating and basic AV. Additional fees apply for movie showings.



Discovery Place Education Studio

Spark

(Capacity: 75+)

A brand new facility on Discovery Place Science's Uptown campus, the Education Studio has state-of-the-art meeting spaces perfect for brainstorming, break-out sessions or group discussions. Spark is a large open space with two adjoining break-out spaces. The main area comfortably seats 30 at round tables of 5. The space is equipped with white boards and a flat screen smart board for PowerPoint presentations or films. Break-out spaces are adjacent to Spark on both sides with a capacity of 18 seated (per each space).



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Policies and Procedures



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Rates

Rental rates include event space, applicable staffing, event coordinator, building/security manager, janitorial services, set-up and break down of Discovery Place equipment and standard AV equipment. Seated tables, high-top cocktail tables and chairs are included (limitations apply).

Reservations

Requests to reserve space are accepted up to one year in advance of the event date. Only two holds per client are permitted. A client's requested date will be held for 10 business days, by the end of which Discovery Place requires a signed contract and deposit. If a signed contract and deposit have not been received within 10 business days, the date will be released. If a definite request from a potential client is received for a date on hold prior to the expiration of the 10-day period, Discovery Place will contact the client with the hold to make a final decision, sign a contract and make a deposit within three business days.

Exclusions

The facility rental fees do not include the following services: add-on options, additional staff, on-site AV technician, food or beverage service, linens, additional security or special limited engagement exhibition admission. All of the services will be itemized in the client's contract as necessary. Daytime rentals do not include Museum admission or complimentary parking. Discounted admission and parking are available for daytime events.

Exhibits

Discovery Place strives for 100% exhibit operation. Occasionally, some exhibits undergo maintenance or removal from the Museum. Special limited engagement exhibitions, permanent exhibits and IMAX films are subject to change. No discounts or refunds will be made for these changes.

Banners

Banners are not permitted to be hung within Discovery Place. Event signage must be displayed on an easel or pop-up/free-standing banner system. Decorations, pins, nails, staples or tapes of any kind on the walls or floors, birdseed, confetti and pyrotechnics are not permitted. Helium balloons are not permitted unless secured to an arrangement. The client is responsible for removing all decorations immediately following the event.

Equipment

Discovery Place staff does not take responsibility for delivering, storing, moving, setting up or taking down any equipment that does not belong to the Museum. Any delivery to the Museum must be arranged in advance with the Event Coordinator.

Media/Filming

The Event Coordinator must be informed if the client plans to invite media or a film crew to the event. The client will be contacted by the Director of Communications to discuss procedures. If the Event Coordinator is not informed of media or filming intentions at least 48 hours prior to the event, the media/film crew will not be permitted on the Museum's property.

Film Screenings

Only IMAX® films currently being shown or films held in the Museum film library may be shown in the Charlotte IMAX® Dome Theatre or Discovery Theatre unless pre-approved.

Smoking

All Discovery Place facilities are smoke-free, tobacco-free and vape-free. These regulations are in effect for all interior and exterior parts of the property.



Alcohol Packages

Discovery Place holds all ABC permits for the museum property and is the exclusive supplier of alcoholic beverages for all events. No outside alcohol is permitted and all alcohol must be purchased through Discovery Place. Donated alcohol is not permitted.

If outside alcohol is brought into the museum, Discovery Place reserves the right to confiscate it and fees may apply.

Prices are based on current in-stock brands and are subject to change depending on availability without notification.

Prices do not include applicable sales tax of 8.25%.

Prices do not include bartenders, glassware, soft drinks, water, any mixers. Bar services will need to be secured via your caterer.

Beverage Minimums

Fridays	\$2,000
Saturdays	\$3,500
Sundays	\$1,000

Open Full Bar

(Beer, Hard Seltzer, Wine, Liquor)

House Per Person	Premium Per Person	Duration
\$15	\$18	1hr
\$22	\$25	2hrs
\$26	\$30	3hrs
\$30	\$35	4hrs
\$32	\$38	4.5hrs
\$34	\$40	5hrs



Consumption Bar*

House Per Drink	Premium Per Drink	Type
\$8	\$9	Liquor
\$7	\$8	Wine
\$6	\$7	Beer/Hard Seltzer
House Per Bottle Premium Per Bottle		
\$26	\$30	Wine
\$28	\$33	Sparkling Wine

*Available for Events of 100 Guests or less

Open Beer, Hard Seltzer & Wine

House Per Person	Premium Per Person	Duration
\$13	\$15	1hr
\$17	\$19	2hrs
\$22	\$25	3hrs
\$25	\$28	4hrs
\$26	\$29.50	4.5hrs
\$28	\$31	5hrs

Sparkling Upgrade



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Additional Charges may apply for pre-poured (champagne toasts etc.) or wine service at dinner.

Non-alcoholic beers available upon request, based on availability, price will vary.