

# Guide



Review: Cage is crazy good in 'Lieutenant.' D8



Menu at vegan Loving Hut is mostly Asian. D3

Jingle bell rock: A preview of holiday concerts. D7

Sophie Okonedo tackles another real-life role in 'Skin.' D9

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## SEC Championship weekend

# You can have a ball

By Jon Waterhouse  
For the AJC

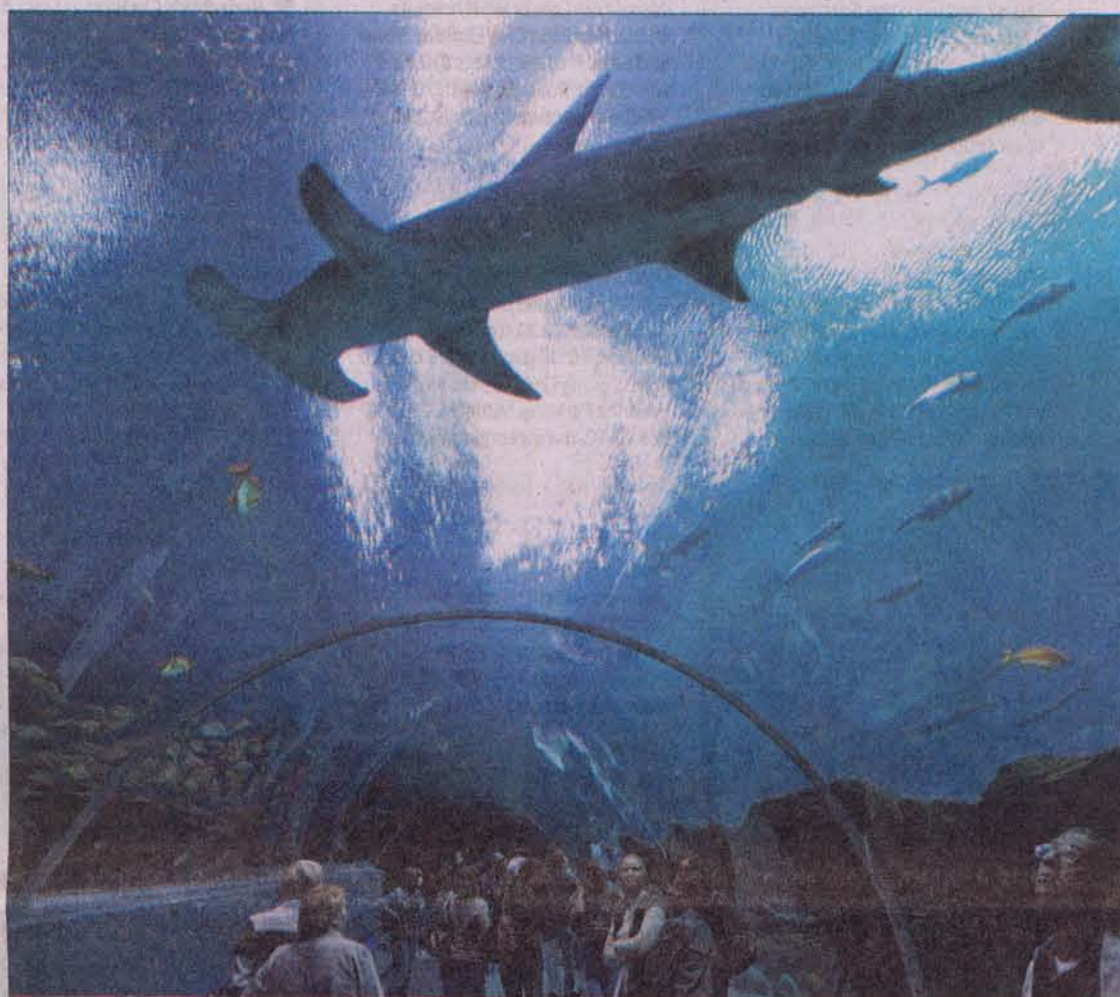
Out-of-town visitors will be invading Atlanta this weekend to watch the Florida Gators crunch helmets with the Alabama Crimson Tide. Good thing there's plenty to do when you're not watching football, and Atlanta's known for good grub.

But you can't just grab a cab with a hail Mary, and MARTA trains and buses don't go everywhere. And remember, bars shut their doors at 2:30 a.m. Here are a few destinations. Some are in the general vicinity of the Georgia Dome and others are just a few minutes away by car or MARTA.

## Imagine It, the Children's Museum of Atlanta

You've dragged the little ones to the big game, and they need to get their ya-yas out. This collection of six interactive and educational exhibits allows them to do just that. The current featured exhibit in the revolving Morph Gallery features children's book star Curious George. It all takes place in George's neighborhood with hands-on activities and a retrospective of the "Curious George" books. The other sections allow kids to climb a John Deere Tractor, operate a forklift, climb and crawl, do some faux fishing in a man-made stream, paint the walls, play with sand and more. Kick back and watch the in-house Imaginators put on 20-minute minisicals throughout the day.

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays-Fridays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays. \$12.50 ages 2 and older; free ages 1 and younger. 275 Centennial Olympic Park Drive N.W., Atlanta. 404-659-5437, [www.childrensmuseumatlanta.org](http://www.childrensmuseumatlanta.org).



Georgia Aquarium visitors in the acrylic tunnel in the Ocean Voyager exhibit watch a hammerhead shark swim by. The tunnel leads to the gigantic viewing window. Bob Andres [bandres@ajc.com](mailto:bandres@ajc.com)



Kathle Nario from Key Largo, Fla., takes a photo in the Coca-Cola Loft at the World of Coca-Cola. Brant Sanderlin 2007 photo

## World of Coca-Cola

Be it tailgating or arena concessions, ball games wouldn't be ball games without Coke. Since Atlanta is home to Coca-Cola, visitors splash into the experience by viewing the world's largest collection of Coke artifacts. Take a look at a real bottling line and grab a free 8-ounce bottle. The facility houses its own 4D movie theater complete with moving seats. Its Pop Culture Gallery features art by the likes of Howard Finster and others. Yet the most popular spot in the museum is arguably the Taste It! room, where guests can sample more than 60 different Coke products from across the globe. Special holiday treats include the opportunity to have your picture taken with a classic Coca-Cola Santa painting as the backdrop. It's just a short walk from the Dome adjacent to Centennial Olympic Park. You'll need about 90 minutes to make it through the attraction.

9 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 4-5; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 6. (Additional operating times vary. Call or check Web site for info.) \$15 adults; \$13 ages 65 and

## Georgia Aquarium

More than 8 million gallons of water help make it the world's largest aquarium, housing more animals than any other. Set aside 2 hours to 4 hours to explore.

The aquarium is split into four distinct sections.

Don't miss the massive whale sharks located in Ocean Voyager. That's where you'll find the second-largest viewing window in the world at 23 feet tall by 61 feet wide.

The Tropical Diver area is teeming with colorful eye candy such as clownfish, seahorses, jellyfish and more.

Take time to soak up the new penguin habitat in the atrium. "Deepo's Undersea 3D Wondershow" in the 4D Theater and the Planet Shark: Predator or Prey shark exhibition are extra attractions included in combo tickets.

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sundays-Fridays; 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays. (Call or check Web site for special hours.) \$26-\$35 adults; \$21.50-\$30.25 ages 65 and older; \$19.50-\$26 ages 3-12. 225 Baker

## Dining review

# Subtle dishes deliver a mouthful

Way with brussels sprouts signals other good things to come.

Bocado, 887 Howell Mill Road, Atlanta ★★★☆☆

By Meridith Ford Goldman  
[mford@ajc.com](mailto:mford@ajc.com)

Brussels sprouts have the unworthy reputation as one of the garden's most dreaded vegetables. From childhood, most of us have memories of cringing at the thought of this cruciferous vegetable's arrival on our plates.

As an adult, I enjoy seeking out brussels sprouts; whenever I see them on a menu, I order them. I consider the tiny mouthfuls the ultimate challenge when it comes to vegetables — cook them too long, and they turn to mush and taste like a medicine cabinet; not enough and they are acridly bitter and tough.

Boiling and steaming are common enough ways to bring them to submission, but roasting — ah, that is what I spied on chef Todd Ginsberg's menu at Bocado. There, offered between dishes of chicken thigh over fried polenta and mussels in red wine, were roasted brussels sprouts with thyme and parsley, a little lemon, some shards of Parmesan, salty capers and buttery croutons. Sliced in half, their surface was singed around the edges — just a bit — and perfectly tender, each bite a blissful little mouthful.

Almost everything on Bocado's menu will bring some type of similar reaction. Gins-

Review continued on D4

