



WELCOME



After-Hours Program Information Packet

Overnight Adventures:

African Sundowner: Adult 21+ Overnight Adventure

Questions? Call us at [513-559-7730](tel:513-559-7730) or email education@cincinnati-zoo.org.

To directly reach the Program Manager or Supervisor after 5:00pm the evening of your program, please call [513-236-0156](tel:513-236-0156).



Note: Many people choose to eat dinner in advance of the program. We will provide light bites charcuterie from Urban Stead Cheese during the social hour, and s'mores at the end of the night, but this may not be a substantial dinner to some folks. So take that into account for the evening!

Packet Information

Please forward and share this packet with anyone that is attending the overnight.

This packet includes information about:

- Page 2: Packing Checklist (What to bring) and program itinerary.
- Page 3-4: General Itinerary and information
- Page 5-6: Payment & Policies
- Page 7: Map to Gate 1: Education Center Parking Lot
- See any FAQs on [our website](#)

Packing Checklist:

Required Items:

- Closed-toed shoes that are comfy – we walk a lot! (boots, sneakers)
- No flip flops/sandals (this is a rule for our special behind-the-scenes moment)
- Weather appropriate clothing
- Sleeping bags/sheets/blankets
- Pillow
- Toothbrush, Toothpaste
- Refillable Water Bottle
- Other Clothes
- Change of clothes for next day
- Pajamas
- Sweater/light jacket
- Coat/raincoats, umbrella, ponchos – based on weather.

Other Personal Items:

- Please note: no showers available
- Deodorant
- Contacts/glasses & contact solution
- Brush/comb
- Face wash
- Washcloth
- Bug spray/Sunscreen
- Phone charger or charging pack.

Please Do Not Bring:

- Tobacco/E-Cigarettes, Alcohol, or Firearms

**The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden is not responsible for lost/stolen items*

Rough itinerary for the evening:

- Arrival: 5:45-6:00pm
 - Get checked in, collect your drink tickets, and take your sleeping items to you assigned tent (we will tell you all that when you arrive!)
- Social Hour: 6:00-7:00pm
 - Hang out, pull up a chair, and get to know our Twiga Tented Camp where you will be spending the night!
 - We will have a special visitor from the keeper team who will bring an Animal Ambassador friend. This animal varies depending on the keeper and who their favorite animal is. It's a surprise for us all!
 - Light Bite charcuterie will be provided from Urban Stead Cheese, so snack away!
 - Redeem your 2 drink tickets (wine, beer and soda).
 - Zoo Games and Self-Guided Trivia will be around, including our signature game "Who Killed My Goat?!"
- Zoo Tour: 7:00-9:00pm
 - You will break into groups and be paired with a Zoo Educator who will take you around the zoo to a few of our favorite spots. This includes going behind the scenes of our Hippo Barn!
- Animal Encounters: 9:00-9:45pm
 - When we get back to the Education Center, we will meet three animal ambassadors up close and personal in our classroom space.
- Campfire Time: 9:45-10:15pm
 - We will end the night around the fire where we will provide s'mores to roast.

**Note: You are welcome to bring an additional snack to eat during the campfire time if you'd like. We understand that some folks like to have a less sugary snack before bed! But we recommend keeping this minimal and easy to eat.*

Morning:

- Wake up, get ready, pack up your cars and enjoy the provided breakfast: 7am-8:30am
- Animal Visitor from our Zookeepers: 8:30-8:50am
- Giraffe Feeding from the Twiga Tents: 8:50-9am or until the giraffes are content. We are at their mercy!
- At 9am the program ends and you are welcome to enjoy the zoo free of charge, or get in your car and go home. The decision is yours!



ITINERARY



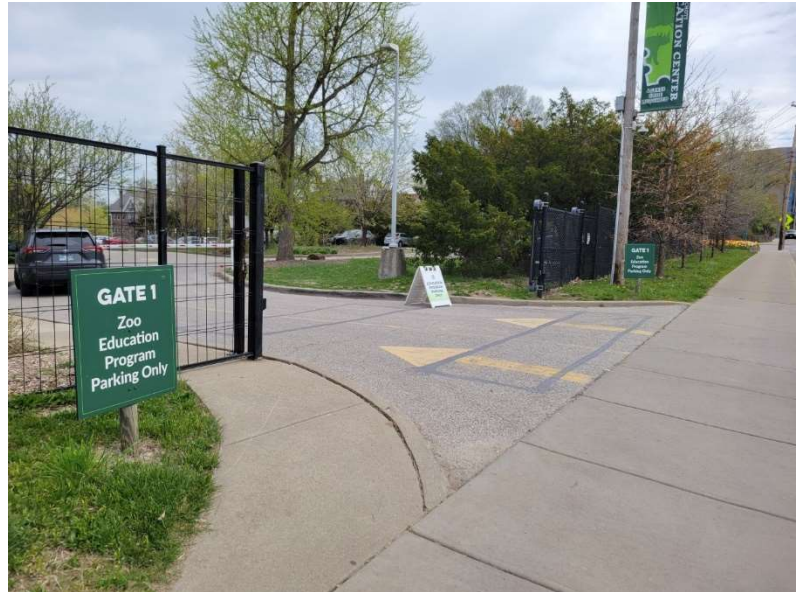
Arrival

You and your group may arrive to your program 15-minutes prior to program start. If you are running late, please contact us at the provided phone number ([513-236-0156](tel:513-236-0156)). We cannot accommodate late arrivals after 7:00pm.

You will park/enter the Zoo through **Gate 1: Zoo Education Program Parking Only**. This is a private lot separate from the main Zoo parking lot. It often has a sign that says, "Education Program Parking Only" on an A-frame sign. This lot located on the corner of Erkenbrecher Avenue and Dury Avenue. Please see the map at the end of this packet for directions to this lot.

When you pull in, you will see a big gate arm and a small black box on the left side of the driveway. Pull up to that black box. There will be a small sign hanging up with a gate code number to enter on the keypad. Enter that code, and press the pound sign, and park anywhere in the lot.

*Please note that the doors to the Education Center open at 5:45pm and they will remain locked until that time. So if you arrive early, please wait in your car until 5:45pm.



This is the black box that you will pull up to and push the button to call into the building.

Tours and Encounters

Once social hour is over, participants will be divided into smaller tour groups and paired with a Zoo Educator for the night. Be ready to ask questions, see some animals and enjoy the zoo after-hours!

During the program time, you will take night hikes, participate in fun, educational activities, get behind-the-scenes sneak peeks, and meet some of our animal ambassadors up close and personal!

Bedtime

After the night program has concluded, roughly around 10:15-10:30pm, you will get ready for bed, brush teeth, change, and get cozy thinking about your adventure. Please be respectful of others who are resting during this time, which includes the animals around you. You'll have a relaxing night in our safari tents on cozy safari bunk-bed cots.

Breakfast and Morning Activities

Wake up and get ready for the day! Bathrooms are provided to brush teeth and change. However, we do not have showers. During breakfast you can also purchase Overnight Adventures shirts, patches and other fun things using cash or a credit/debit card.

Enjoy a continental breakfast of muffins, assorted pastries, oatmeal, granola bars, fresh fruit, yogurt, and variety of bagels and English muffins along with juice and coffee.

After breakfast, enjoy a fun and informative morning animal visit from our Zookeepers before attempting to feed the giraffes from outside of our tents.

Program Ends

Your program ends at 9am the next morning and you are welcome to stay at the Zoo for the remainder of the day at no extra charge! You must coordinate with our Registration Team ahead of time on what your group's plans are, including having outside cars coming to pick up participants. If your group chooses to stay, all cars must move from the Education lot to daytime parking areas. The Supervisor of the evening will give you a parking pass for the day that will allow for free parking if you choose to stay and enjoy the zoo.

Leaving early

If anyone in your group needs to leave earlier than 9am, please let us know! We can coordinate the gates being opened to allow them to leave.



POLICIES



Reschedule and Cancellation Policy:

Programs happen rain or shine. No refunds given for programs cancelled by the participant within two weeks of the program. A refund will be granted if cancelled more than two weeks prior to your program date.

The Zoo reserves the right to cancel a program. Every effort will be made to contact registrants if this occurs. Refunds will be given in the event of Cincinnati Zoo cancellation.

If you can no longer attend a program, please contact our Education Registrars at [513-559-7730](tel:513-559-7730) or email education@cincinnati-zoo.org.

Behavior and Damages

The Zoo reserves the right to end a program and require participants to leave for unruly or dangerous behavior. Guests will be billed for damages to Zoo property.

Alcohol, Drugs and Firearms

Outside alcohol, drugs and firearms are not permitted on grounds at any time. This is a non-smoking facility; no one will be permitted to smoke/vape on Zoo grounds. If necessary, participants may make smoking arrangements with Zoo instructors during evening program hours only and at the Zoo instructors' discretion.

General Program Policies

Our experienced staff will explain and enforce rules during the program.

- Please respect the rocks, rails & roots! Always stay on the walkways in the Zoo, behind barriers, off fences and rocks, and out of plant areas.
- For the animals' well-being, please do not tap on the habitats' glass or throw things into habitats. Always respect the animals and their space, especially when they are getting their rest at night.
- Please respect Zoo facilities and leave each space as you found it.
- While the Zoo is closed, all guests (including adults) are permitted on Zoo grounds ONLY with an accompanying Zoo employee.
- Please set your cell phone to silent or vibrate and avoid using it unless there is an emergency. You can use your phones for pictures but are encouraged to experience the moment without viewing it through a screen.
- If anyone gets sick in the middle of the program, they will be asked to leave. This is best for everyone involved to maintain a great experience and keep everyone safe and healthy.
- Bicycles, skates, Heelys, hoverboards, skateboards, roller blades and scooters are not permitted on Zoo grounds. Guests must be kind to Zoo staff, no foul/hurtful/discriminatory language, and no violence against our staff or fellow guests, plants, and animals allowed. You may be asked to leave if anyone in your group breaks this rule.



RESPECT THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS.

Media Release Agreement

By participating in a Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden program, all participants grant the Zoo permission to use and publish photographs, video, or audio, written statements and/or verbal interviews from participants. The Zoo is allowed all rights, title, and interest in the finished work and may transfer or broadcast the same to any individual, business, TV, radio station, or print media.

The Zoo thanks you in advance for your cooperation and for helping make your overnight program a memorable and educational experience!



DIRECTIONS



Harold C Schott Education Center, 52 Erkenbrecher Ave. Cincinnati, OH, 45220



1. Enter the Education Center parking lot at Gate 1/Erkenbrecher Gate, between Vine St. and Dury Ave.
2. Stop at the keypad, which controls the gate arm. You may need to push the button to speak to someone.
3. A staff member will direct you to park your car and wait until 15 minutes prior to the start of your program to come inside. At that time, your group can gather your items and come into the building to start your night!

FROM I-75 NORTH:

Take I-75 North to the Mitchell Ave. Exit (Exit 6).
Turn right onto Mitchell Ave.
*Follow Mitchell Ave. to Vine St.
Turn right on Vine St. at the light. (Walgreens is on the right.)
Follow Vine St. for approximately 1.4 miles.
Turn left onto Erkenbrecher Ave. at the light.
Turn left into the Education Lot/Gate 1 (½ block down on left).

FROM I-75 SOUTH:

Take I-75 South to the Mitchell Ave. Exit (Exit 6).
Turn left onto Mitchell Ave.
Follow directions above from *.

FROM I-74:

Take I-74 East to I-75 North and follow directions for "From I-75 North".

FROM I-71 NORTH:

Take I-71 North to the Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Exit (Exit 3).
**Turn right onto Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. and follow for approximately 1.2 miles.
Turn right onto Vine St. and follow for approximately ¾ mile.
Turn right onto Erkenbrecher Avenue at the light.
Turn left into the Education Lot/Gate 1 (½ block down on left.)

FROM I-71 SOUTH:

Take I-71 South to the Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Exit (Exit 3B).
Follow directions above from **.