



WELCOME



After Hours Program Information Packet

Overnight Adventures

Family Overnight Adventure

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

To reach a coordinator after 5:00pm the evening of your program, please call [513-236-0156](tel:513-236-0156).

*Note, please make sure all participants eat dinner before the start of the program.



Packet Information

Please forward and share this packet with any adult that is attending the overnight. Chaperones, teachers, parents, guardians can all benefit from this information.

This packet includes information about:

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

Packing Checklist:

Air Mattresses and cots are allowed. If you have any questions about items you would like to bring, please email us at education@cincinnati-zoo.org. We will happily give you guidance!

Required Items:

- Closed-toed shoes that are comfy! We do a LOT of walking! (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

Snacks:

- You are responsible for bringing a snack. There will be a set snack time during the night.

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*



ITINERARY



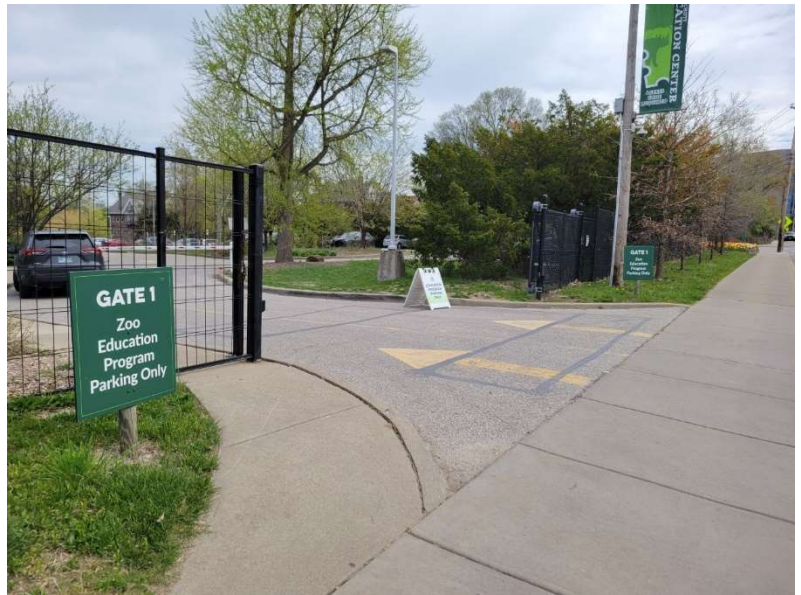
Arrival

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). We cannot accommodate late arrivals after 7:30pm.

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 6:45pm and they will remain locked until that time. So if you arrive early, please wait in your car until 6:45pm.



Tours and Encounters

Participants will be paired with other families for touring the zoo, and also paired with a Zoo Instructor for the night. We typically have group sizes between 12-16 people.

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!

There will be a designated time for snacks in the evening. Snack is not provided so please coordinate bringing snacks for your family. This is usually best to have something that is already prepared or put together. Unfortunately, we cannot use any food delivery systems to order food for the evening.

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.

Each family will be assigned one of our cozy Education Classrooms overlooking our rainforest to sleep. You are welcome to bring air mattresses, cots, or any creature comforts from home to make your family as comfortable as possible.

*Adults, we encourage your help with keeping your kids quiet and mindful during this time. It really helps us ensure we can continue these amazing overnights by keeping the animals safe and happy!

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. After breakfast, enjoy a fun and informative morning activity from our Zookeepers.

Breakfast is included in your program and consists of a variety of cereals, granola bars, pop tarts, fresh fruit, yogurt, juice, and coffee for the adults.

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/bussing coming to pick up participants. If your family 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.



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.

Supervision/Chaperone Information:

The Zoo requires at least one adult for every 7 children attending any Zoo Program. Children younger than 5 years old are not permitted to attend overnight programs and may be asked to be picked up for the evening if they accidentally attend. Parents/Teachers/Chaperones/Guardians are responsible for the safety and behavior of the children at all times.

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 with help from you and the chaperones!

- 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 **.