



WELCOME



After Hours Program Information Packet

Overnight Adventures

Sleep with the Manatees, African Predator Prowl, Twiga Tented Safari, 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: Payment and Cancellation Policies
- Page 6: General Guidelines & Policies. Including Chaperone information and rules.
- Page 7: Map to Gate 1: Education Center Parking Lot
- See any FAQs on [our website](#)

Packing Checklist:

Required Items:

- Closed-toed shoes (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. *Twiga Tented Safari* programs include a light snack at the end of 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*

Sleep with the Manatees program participants are required to walk their items down to the Manatee Springs Building. This is about a 10-minute hike from where you park your cars.

Wagons or carts are highly encouraged!



ITINERARY



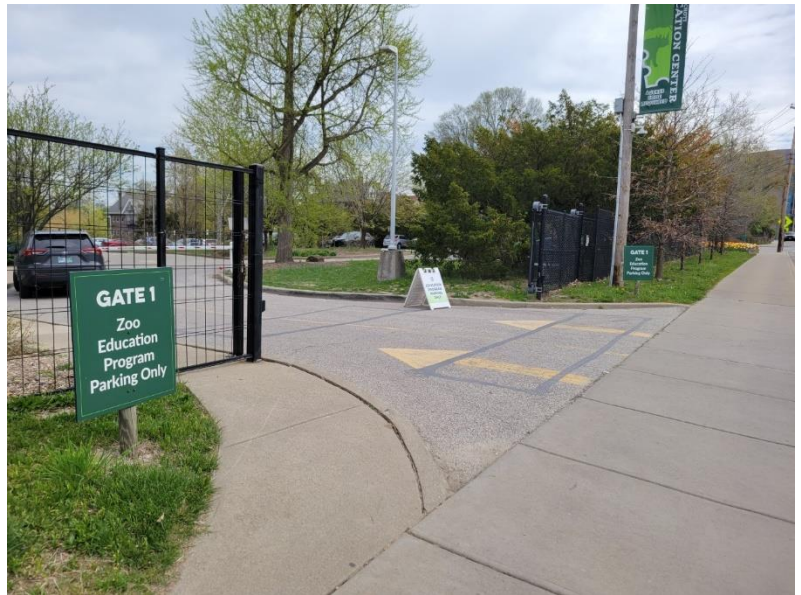
Arrival

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 7:30pm.

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 and press the button to call in to the building. Someone will talk with you through this box, or come out to meet you and give you more instructions for the night.

*Please note that if you arrive before 6:30pm, someone may not be at the gate yet to let you into the lot. Before 6:30pm we are working hard to get the night together for your program! So if no one answers the gate call when you push the button, please be patient with us and we will be there as soon as possible to welcome your group!



Tours and Encounters

Participants will be divided into smaller tour groups and paired with a Zoo Instructor for the night. If you are a School or Group, please have your groups divided prior to program time. Typically dividing your group by 15 will tell you how many groups you may need for the night. If you are attending a Family/Adult program, your registered group may be grouped with other groups upon arrival.

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 group. *Twiga Tented Safari* programs include a light snack at the end of the night.

Bedtime

After the night program has concluded, roughly around 10:30-10:45pm, 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.

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

For Sleep with the Manatees: You'll doze off at our Manatee Springs building with the manatees swimming around you.

For African Predator Prowl and Family Overnights: You'll curl up in our private education classrooms overlooking our rainforest.

For Twiga Tented Safari programs: 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. After breakfast, enjoy a fun and informative morning activity from our Zookeepers.

For Sleep with the Manatees, African Predator Prowl and Family Overnight programs: A complimentary breakfast of cereals, granola bars, fruit, juice, and coffee will be provided.

For Twiga Tented Safari programs: Enjoy a continental breakfast of assorted pastries, fresh fruit, yogurt, and bagels along with juice and coffee.

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 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 notes

If anyone in your group needs to leave earlier than 9am:

For Sleep with the Manatees, no one in your group will be able to leave the Zoo earlier than 7:45am in the morning. The Manatee Building is located inside of the zoo (about a 10-minute hike away from where you park your car) and we won't have any staff available to escort group members across the Zoo until 7:45am when we walk back to the Education Center for breakfast.

African Predator Prowl, Twiga Tented Safari, and Family Overnight programs: no one in your group will be able to leave the Zoo earlier than 7am.

We recommend that if anyone needs to leave earlier than the times listed above, plan to leave the night before at the end of the program around 10:30pm.



POLICIES



For School & Group Programs:

Payment Policy

- A 25% non-refundable deposit is required during booking based on your best, highest number of participants for your booking. This deposit is due no later than two weeks after you have booked your program date. This deposit will be applied to your total program fee.
- Finalized participant numbers (including chaperones and teachers) and the rest of your program fee is due no later than two weeks prior to your program date.
 - You will only be able to *decrease* your participant number after booking as we schedule the appropriate number of instructors based on your group size.
 - Minimum payment for African Predator Prowl and Sleep with the Manatees is for 15 participants. Minimum payment for Twiga Tented Safari is 1 tent.
- Accepted payments include check, credit/debit card, or purchase order. If you are paying with a PO, we require a copy of the actual PO; numbers only will not be accepted.
- Please call our Education Registrars at [513-559-7730](tel:513-559-7730) to finalize details and provide the rest of your program fee.
- Checks can be made out to: Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden. Please put your order number in the memo line of your payment.
 - Mail: Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, ATTN: Education Department, After Hours Programs, 3400 Vine Street, Cincinnati Ohio 45220

Reschedule and Cancellation Policy

Reschedule Policy:

- If you need to reschedule, your group may reschedule up to two weeks prior to your program date. Your non-refundable deposit will be applied to your new date.
- If your group reschedules within the two-week time period, you will be subject to an additional \$150 rescheduling fee.

Cancellation Policy:

- If you choose to cancel your program without rescheduling, no credit or refund can be given.
- The Zoo reserves the right to cancel a program. Under the event that the Zoo must cancel a program for any reason, a refund will be given.

If you need to reschedule or cancel, please contact our Education Registrars at [513-559-7730](tel:513-559-7730) or email education@cincinnati-zoo.org as soon as possible.

For Family Overnight Programs:

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. Having chaperones who are attentive and ready to help with behavior issues throughout the evening is wonderful. We absolutely appreciate the chaperones!

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 are responsible for the safety and behavior of the children at all times.

Parents/Teachers/Chaperones do have a job for the evening! Our Educator Tour Guides are responsible for leading the group to the fun locations we will be visiting throughout the evening, but the chaperones are there to help keep everyone together and monitor the behavior of the group. Being at the zoo after hours is a privilege and it takes an army to ensure we are on our best behavior (and seeing all the cool things!). Thanks in advance for your help during your program! If any chaperones have any questions about what they may be responsible for throughout the evening, call us at [513-559-7730](tel:513-559-7730) or email education@cincinnati-zoo.org.

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.

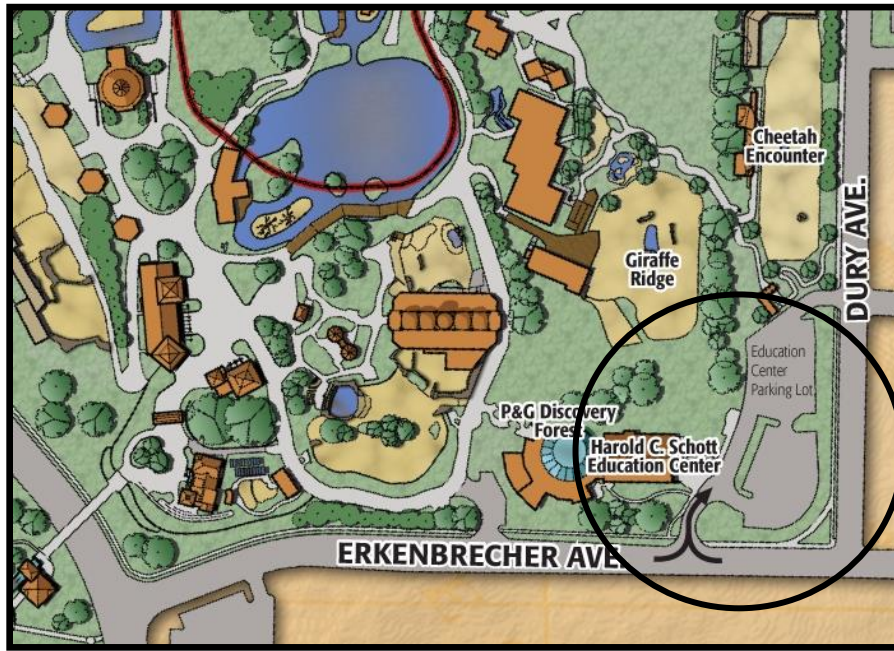
The Zoo thanks you in advance for your cooperation and for helping make your overnight program a memorable and educational experience!



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 ¼ 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 **.