



# WELCOME



## After Hours Program Information Packet

### Family Overnight Adventures

Questions? Call us at [513-559-7730](tel:513-559-7730) or email [education@cincinnati-zoo.org](mailto: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: General Itinerary
- Page 4: Payment and Cancellation Policies
- Page 5: General Guidelines & Policies. Including Chaperone information and rules.
- Page 6: Map to Gate 1: Education Center Parking Lot
- See any FAQs on our website at [www.cincinnati-zoo.org/oa-guides/](http://www.cincinnati-zoo.org/oa-guides/)

# Packing Checklist:

## Required Items for ALL overnight programs

- Closed-toed shoes (boots, sneakers)
- No flip flops/sandals (this is a rule for our special behind-the-scenes moment)
- Weather appropriate clothing, including coats/raincoats, umbrella, poncho
- Sleeping bags/sheets/blankets
- Pillow
- Toothbrush, Toothpaste
- Refillable Water Bottle
- Other Clothes
- Change of clothes for next day
- Pajamas
- Sweater/light jacket

## 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. Outlets are located in each sleeping space.

## Snacks

- Sleep with the Manatees, Adventures in Adaptations, African Predator Prowl and Overnight Safaris. There will be a set snack time during the night.
- Twiga Tented Safari programs include a s'mores roast at the end of the night. Let us know if you need any allergy-friendly items so we can have them in advance.

Please note that food cannot be delivered to the Zoo. All items must be brought in with you.

## Please Do Not Bring:

- Tobacco/E-Cigarettes, Alcohol, or Firearms

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



# ITINERARY



## General Itinerary

### Arrival 6:45–7:00pm

- Arrive and park at Education’s private lot at Gate 1, Erkenbrecher Ave ([map link](#))
- If the gate arm is down and a staff member is not outside, please use the callbox at the gate arm to call for assistance. Before 6:30pm we are working hard to get the night together for your program and may not be able to answer. Please be patient with us and we will be there as soon as possible to welcome your group!
- Get checked in, get your groups assignment, and bring in overnight items (we will tell you all that when you arrive!)
- If you are running late, please contact us at (513)-236-0156. We cannot accommodate late arrivals after 7:30pm.

### Program 7:00–10:30pm

- 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 10:30pm–7:00am

- Get ready for bed, get sleeping area ready, drift off to sleep. Bathrooms are available in all sleeping locations. Showers are not available.
- Please be respectful of others who are resting, which includes the animals around you.

### Wake-Up and Breakfast 7:00–8:00am

- Get ready for the day, pack up personal items, and enjoy breakfast.
- Breakfast includes variety of cereal, granola bars, fruit, juice, and coffee.
- During breakfast participants can purchase shirts, patches and other fun souvenirs using cash or a credit/debit card.

### Animal Program 8:00–9:00am

- Enjoy a fun and informative morning activity with our Animal Care Staff.

### Explore the Zoo 9:00am–close

- Once the program has ended, you are welcome to explore the Zoo as you wish. Admission to the Zoo is included in your program fee.
- Those who choose to stay at the Zoo will need to move vehicles from the Education lot to another of our main lots. A supervisor will hand out parking passes to those moving vehicles.



# POLICIES



## Late Arrivals & Early Departures

Participants should arrive 15-minutes prior to program start time. If you are running late, please contact us at (513)-236-0156. We cannot accommodate arrivals after 7:30pm.

There are two options for participants that need to leave the program early. Participants must be accompanied by a staff member at all times

- Morning of program
  - African Predator Prowl, Adventures in Adaptations, Twiga Tented Safari: depart after 7:00am.
  - Sleep with the Manatees: depart after 7:45am.
    - The Manatee Building is located about a 10-minute hike away from the car parking lot and participants must be accompanied by staff while in the Zoo.
- Evening of Program
  - Depart at end of evening program at approximately 10:30pm.

## Supervision/Chaperone Information

Adults do have a job for the evening! Our Educators are responsible for leading the group to the fun locations we will be visiting throughout the evening, but the adults are there to help keep everyone together and monitor the behavior of their participants. 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!. If any adults have 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](mailto:education@cincinnati-zoo.org).

## Rescheduling and Cancellation Policy

### Rescheduling Policy

- If you need to reschedule, you may reschedule up to two weeks prior to your program date. Your program fee will be applied to your new date.
- We cannot reschedule participants within two weeks of the program start date.

### Cancellation Policy:

- Cancellations must be made at least two weeks in advance to receive a refund.
- If you choose to cancel your program within two weeks of the program date, no refund or credit can 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](mailto:education@cincinnati-zoo.org) as soon as possible.

## 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 adults who are attentive and ready to help with behavior issues throughout the evening is wonderful.

## 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.

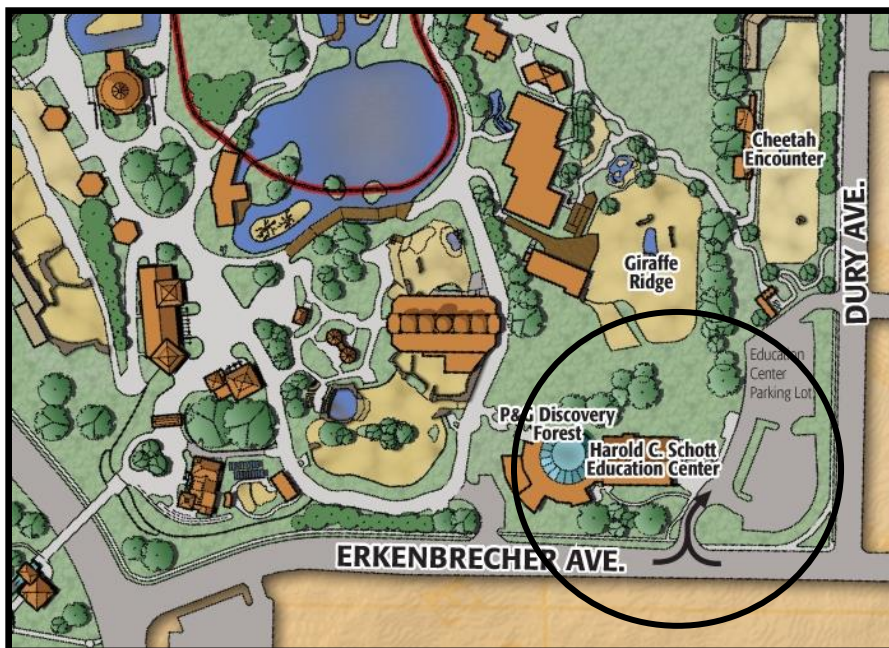
The Zoo thanks you in advance for your cooperation and for helping make your overnight program a memorable and educational experience!



# 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 \*Mitchell Ave.

## **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 \*\*.