



# Wild Encounters

Thank you for booking a Wild Encounter at Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens! We are excited to bring you a little closer to some of our amazing animals. Please review the contents of this packet to help prepare you for your exciting experience at the Zoo.

If you have any questions, or to make or change your reservation, please contact:

[education@napleszoo.org](mailto:education@napleszoo.org) or call 239-262-5409 X 158

# General Information

## For all Wild Encounter tours:

- **African penguin tour available for a limited time! See them up close before April 15, 2018.**
- Encounters are limited to six (6) people. If your group is less than 6 people, remaining spots may be filled with another group. **The penguin encounter is limited to four (4) people.**
- Guests ages 15 and under must be accompanied by a guest over the age of 18. Guests ages 16 and up may participate in the encounters unaccompanied.
- To ensure the safety of our animals and guests while behind-the-scenes, all participants must follow all instructions of Zoo staff. Participants who are not following instructions will be asked to leave the program and will not receive a refund.
- Strollers/wagons are not allowed, and wheelchairs will have limited access in behind-the-scenes areas. You will be shown where to leave your stroller/wagon.
- Food and beverage will not be allowed on tours, except for water in sealed containers.
- Guests may bring cameras and there will be opportunities for photos. However, photos will not be allowed in all areas. Zoo staff will let you know when you may take photos and can assist with taking photos on your device.
- All animal interactions (feedings, trainings, admittance into behind the scenes areas, etc.) depend on the safety and comfort of the animals first, and are subject to change or removal from the tour schedule without notice.
- For their comfort and your safety, touching of the animals is never allowed.

## What to Wear

- Encounters will take place rain or shine, so please dress for the weather.
- Closed-toed shoes are required.
- Clothes may get dirty during your encounter.

## Reservations and check-in:

- Zoo admission is not included and will be required for non-members.
- Reservations may be made in advance at [www.napleszoo.org/wildencounters](http://www.napleszoo.org/wildencounters) or at the Zoo.
- Day-of reservations are available for the **penguin**, honey badger and anteater encounters.
- Florida panther check-in will take place at the gift shop.
- **Penguin**, honey badger and anteater check-in will take place in front of their exhibits.
- Due to the time-sensitive nature of these programs, tours will start on time and late parties will not be accepted.

## During your tour:

- Photos will not be allowed in all areas, but opportunities for photos will be available on all tours.
- For their comfort and your safety, touching of the animals is never allowed.
- For encounters that involve food for the animals (honey badger and anteater), latex-free gloves will be provided and required. While these animals do not have nuts in their diets, all animal diets are prepared in the presence of peanuts, tree nuts, and other possible allergens. Please notify Zoo staff about any allergies.

# Honey Badger

- Fridays at 10:030am
- No minimum age limit
- Meet at the honey badger exhibit near Lake Victoria



On this tour, you'll meet a team member who cares for three of the very few honey badgers in the United States. Then, you will help make enrichment (items that exercise their minds and bodies) for our badgers and watch them interact with, and probably destroy, your creations! Bring your camera, as unique photo opportunities will be available! Finally, learn how Naples Zoo supports conservation projects all over the world and how you can help too.

\*Reminder: Programs involving the Zoo's animal collection are subject to change or cancellation due to animal needs.

# Florida Panther

- Tuesdays at 9:00am
- Minimum age 5 years; ages 5-6 years must hold the hand of an adult in behind-the-scenes areas
- Meet at the gift shop immediately after admissions



On this tour, you'll meet a keeper who cares for one of the Zoo's most famous and beloved residents, Uno. Then, you will tour the state-of-the-art enclosure that, in addition to being Uno's home, is also a rehabilitation facility for orphaned or injured Florida panthers. You'll then get to see Uno up-close as he participates in a training session with a member of his animal care team and welcome him onto exhibit for the day. Bring your camera, as unique photo opportunities will be available! Finally, learn how Naples Zoo supports Florida panther conservation in the wild and how you can help too.

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# Giant Anteater

- Tuesdays at 10:30am
- Minimum age 5 years; ages 5-7 years must be accompanied and closely monitored by an adult while feeding
- Meet at the anteater exhibit across from Alligator Bay



On this tour, you'll meet an animal care team member who cares for our giant anteater, Dee Gee. Then, you'll learn about the unique diet and awesome eating adaptations of this animal, and even help to feed him a snack! Bring your camera, as unique photo opportunities will be available! Finally, learn how Naples Zoo supports giant anteater conservation in the wild and how you can help too.

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# African Penguin

**Available only until April 15, 2018!**

- Every day at 1:00pm
- Minimum age 12 years
- Meet at the penguin exhibit in Rainforest Grove, near the black bears



On this tour, you'll engage with our incredible winter visitors, the African penguins! You'll meet one of the animal care team members for our penguins, learn how they care for them, and see their "winter home" here in Naples. Then, you'll have the opportunity to feed some fish to one of the penguins! Finally, you'll find out how Naples Zoo is helping penguins in the wild and what you can do too! See their adorable faces up-close and make a connection that will last a lifetime.

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# Thank You!

Thanks to admission, memberships, donations, and your participation in Wild Encounters and other special events, Naples Zoo has been able to contribute over \$1 MILLION to conservation since 2012.

From protecting panthers and fighting invasive species right here in Florida, to tracking and studying anteaters in South America, to numerous other projects in our backyards and around the world, Naples Zoo is proud and excited to share our conservation successes with you.

With the passion and support of our guests, together we are protecting an amazing world for both animals and people. Thank you.