Fall Guide 2026



Detroit Zoo

Produced by LittleGuide

Fall Guide 2026



Make Your Fall a Little Wilder at the Detroit Zoo!

The weather is getting cooler, meaning exciting events, fewer crowds, and colder-weather-loving animals are spending more time outdoors. Visit for your chance to see animals like polar bears, tigers and more enjoying the crisp fall air.

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Discover a WILD New Side of Fall



Fall brings a whole new kind of adventure to the Detroit Zoo! With crisp autumn air, colorful scenery and plenty of animals to discover, it's one of the best times of year to explore. Meet some of the Zoo's newest arrivals, visit longtime favorites and enjoy a leisurely stroll through the habitats.

With school back in session and lighter weekday crowds, fall is the perfect season to slow down, explore and enjoy a WILD day at the Zoo!



New *Zoo Boo* Hours!
Zoo Boo now starts at 3 p.m., with Halloween festivities continuing until 8:30 p.m.!

Zoo Boo

Where Halloween gets
a little WILD!



More Zoo. More Boo. More Halloween Magic!

Zoo Boo is getting even BIGGER this year! Enjoy an expanded day-to-dusk experience filled with trick-or-treating, entertainment, character meet-and-greets and plenty of Halloween magic for the whole family.



Get ready for a wildly fun Halloween tradition!

Zoo Boo returns to the Detroit Zoo this October with an expanded day-to-dusk experience filled with incredible entertainment, character meet-and-greets, treat stations and just the right amount of spooky fun for the whole family. Costumes are encouraged, so dress up your little ghosts and goblins for an unforgettable adventure!

More Zoo, More Boo!

New for 2026, *Zoo Boo* kicks off an hour earlier at 3 p.m., giving families more time to enjoy the *Zoo Boo* experience they've come to know and love, explore their favorite animals, discover the NEW Fred and Barbara Erb Discovery Trails and enjoy special fall-themed animal enrichments before even more Halloween magic takes over at dusk.

As the sun sets, the Zoo transforms into a glowing Halloween wonderland! Wander through illuminated décor, visit allergen-friendly treat stations, meet beloved characters and enjoy incredible entertainment, including the *Zoo Boo* Revue, strolling performers and festive photo opportunities.

Even MORE magic awaits in 2026!

Dance on the NEW LED light-up dance floor, listen to stories from a talking pumpkin and discover interactive activities and Halloween surprises around every corner.

Whether it's your first *Zoo Boo* or a favorite family tradition, grab your costumes, gather your little monsters and make some boo-tiful memories together!



Plan Your *Zoo Boo* Adventure

Dates
Oct. 3-4, 9-11, 16-18 & 23-25

Times
3 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Tickets
Start at $21 online
Members save 10%

Animals

Meet new animals + visit your Zoo favorites this fall!



Rolo & Pica, Bush Dogs

Double the cuteness! Young bush dogs Rolo and Pica are growing up healthy and thriving alongside mom Dulce, dad Churro and big sister Mirabel. Visit the NEW Erb Discovery Trails to see this adorable family and watch the little ones explore their surroundings!



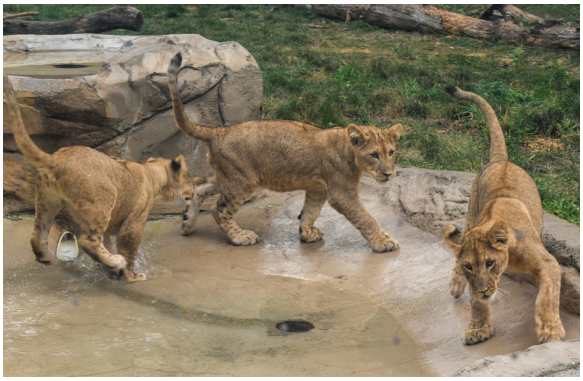
Baby Gorilla Usala

Meet one of the Detroit Zoo's newest little stars! Born in July, baby gorilla Usala is growing strong and healthy, and her big sister Motema is already showing plenty of curiosity about the newest member of the family. Stop by to catch a glimpse of this adorable little one and her growing bond with her sister!



Prairie Dogs

Peek-a-boo! After spending some time settling into their new home, the prairie dogs are beginning to poke their heads out of their burrows. Keep your eyes peeled as these curious little animals pop up to explore their new surroundings inside Erb Discovery Trails!



Lion Cubs:
Mosi, Fahari & Aziza

The three lion cubs at the Detroit Zoo are growing up FAST! Mosi, Fahari and Aziza will celebrate their FIRST birthday this November. Stop by the lion habitat to see these young lions as they approach this exciting milestone — and don't forget to wish them a happy birthday!



Burrowing Owls

The burrowing owls are getting comfortable in their new home and can be seen outside their burrows! Unlike many owls that nest in trees, these fascinating little birds make their homes underground. See if you can spot one during your next visit to Erb Discovery Trails!

Attractions

Ride, unlock + explore with the carousel, Zoo Keys & Wild Explorer VR!



Zoo Keys

Turn the key on nostalgia! Presented by Fifth Third, Zoo Keys bring a beloved Detroit Zoo tradition to life. Discover special stations throughout the Zoo, turn your key and unlock delightful animal-themed poems along the way. It's a fun, interactive experience that parents and grandparents can share with a whole new generation of Zoo explorers!



Treetop Crossing

Climb, slide and explore high above Erb Discovery Trails! This NEW adventure structure features elevated platforms, a net tunnel, climbers and four slides — plus incredible views along the way. Best of all, it's included with Zoo admission!



Carousel

Round and round we go! A longtime family favorite, the Detroit Zoo's carousel adds an extra dose of magic to any visit. Climb aboard, pick your favorite animal and enjoy a whimsical ride that's sure to bring smiles to little ones and grown-ups alike. No matter the season, it's a Zoo tradition worth making time for!

$3 per rider



Wild Explorer VR

Ready for a wild adventure? Step into Wild Explorer VR and experience wildlife like never before! Choose from three completely immersive films that transport you into incredible animal adventures while sharing an important message about wildlife conservation. It's an exciting way to explore the natural world without ever leaving the Zoo!

- **$8 general admission**
- **$7 for Detroit Zoo members**
- **Guests choose from three immersive VR experiences**

Food & Drink

Sip into fall with spirited drinks, cider, donuts + spooky treats!



Scar-o-cel Bar: Frights & Flights

Make a festive pit stop at the Scar-o-cel Bar! Sip on seasonal favorites from Griffin Claw Brewing Company, including Screaming Pumpkin Ale and Rye-toberfest or enjoy a Boo-Berry Lemonade or Fall Fizz served in a glowing LED ghost cup. Complete your visit with a sweet campfire s'mores treat!



Spookeasy Bar: Spirited Sips

Step into the Spookeasy for a little Halloween fun! Adults can enjoy festive cocktails like the Black Salt Margarita, Purple Potion and Apple Old Fashioned, while the Boo-Berry Lemonade and Fall Fizz come served in glowing LED ghost cups. Add some Monster Munch Snack Mix for the perfect spooky snack!



Coffee Corner: Fall Sips & Sweet Treats

Fall flavors have arrived at Coffee Corner!

Fall flavors have arrived at Coffee Corner! Cozy up with a Pumpkin Spice Latte or Cinnamon Raisin Chai Latte, or try something refreshingly different with a Boo-nilla Orange Cream Cooler or Caramel Apple Frappe. Pair your favorite drink with a slice of Glazed Pumpkin Bread for the perfect seasonal treat!

NOTE: All four seasonal food and drink experiences are available daily throughout October, including during *Zoo Boo*.



Blake's Market: A Taste of Fall

Bring the cider mill experience to the Zoo! Blake's Market is serving up all your fall favorites, from warm or chilled apple cider and freshly made donuts to caramel apples, apple hand pies and frozen apple cider. For an extra festive touch, grab a glowing jack-o'-lantern bucket to add a little Halloween magic to your visit!

Events

Celebrate spooky season with *Zoo Boo + Spooky Spirits*!



Halloween Fun at the Zoo

Celebrate spooky season at the Detroit Zoo! Bring the family for the beloved ***Zoo Boo***, or make it a grown-ups' night out at ***Spooky Spirits***, featuring craft drinks, live music and after-hours fun.



Spooky Spirits

Friday, Oct. 2
6:30-10 p.m.
(VIP entry begins at 6 p.m.)

General Admission $55; VIP $95; Designated Driver $35; VIP Designated Driver $75. Members save 10%. Parking is $8 per vehicle; free for members.

Ages: 21+ only

Calling all grown-up ghosts and goblins! *Spooky Spirits*, presented by KeyBank, transforms the Detroit Zoo into an adults-only Halloween celebration featuring more than 100 craft drink tastings, live music, illuminated displays and a spirited costume contest. Enjoy festive cocktails, craft beer, wine, complimentary carousel rides and a night of Halloween fun with friends!

Zoo Boo

Oct. 3-4, 9-11, 16-18 & 23-25, 3-8:30 p.m.

$21-$25 online; $27 at the gate. Members save 10%. Tickets required for ages 2 and older. Parking is $8 per vehicle; free for members.

Get ready for a wildly fun Halloween tradition! *Zoo Boo* returns with an expanded day-to-dusk experience featuring special fall-themed animal enrichments, treat stations, character meet-and-greets, incredible entertainment and illuminated Halloween décor. With allergen-friendly treat stations and plenty of merry-not-scary surprises, it's a spooktacular adventure for the whole family!





Wild Lights

Millions of Lights. One WILD Holiday Tradition.

Experience the Zoo aglow with millions of lights, 500+ dazzling displays and festive holiday fun! Presented by Michigan First Credit Union.

2026-27 Dates:
Nov. 21, 22, 27-29;
Dec. 4-6, 10-23, 26-31;
Jan. 2-3

Sensory-Friendly Mornings

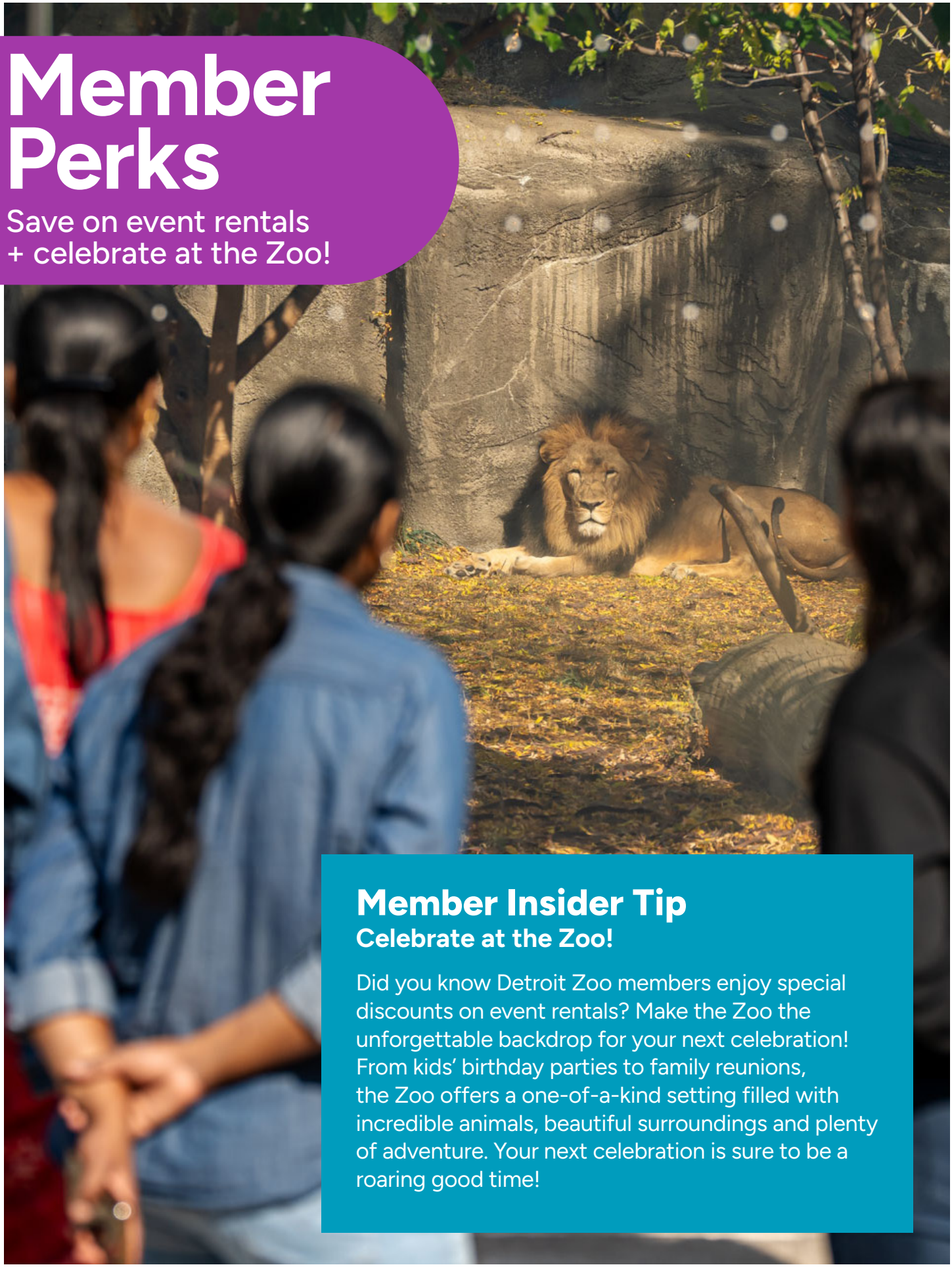
A Quieter Way to Experience the Zoo.

Enjoy a more sensory-friendly Zoo experience with adjusted lights, sounds and added accommodations.

2026 Dates:
Oct. 12, Nov. 9 & Dec. 14
10 a.m.-noon

Member Perks

Save on event rentals
+ celebrate at the Zoo!



Member Insider Tip

Celebrate at the Zoo!

Did you know Detroit Zoo members enjoy special discounts on event rentals? Make the Zoo the unforgettable backdrop for your next celebration! From kids' birthday parties to family reunions, the Zoo offers a one-of-a-kind setting filled with incredible animals, beautiful surroundings and plenty of adventure. Your next celebration is sure to be a roaring good time!



Become a Member

A Detroit Zoo membership gives you unlimited visits, free parking and special discounts on tickets and events. Even better — it can pay for itself in just two visits!

All residents of Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties enjoy $10 off the membership of their choice.

Supporter $300.00
Includes 2 named adults, up to 4 children, and 2 guests.

Family $149.00
Includes 2 named adults and up to 4 children.

Single Guardian $140.00
Includes 1 named adult and up to 4 children.

Individual Plus $131.00
Includes 1 named adult and 1 unnamed adult.

Dual $131.00
Includes 2 named adults.

Individual $95.00
Includes 1 named adult.

Unlimited Admission
Enjoy unlimited daytime admission all year long

Free Parking Always
Park for free – even during special events

NEW!
10% Off Ticketed Events
Exclusive 10% discount on ticketed special events, including *Zoo Boo* and *Wild Lights**

Exclusive Discounts on Programs, Experiences and Merch
Save on Zoo experiences, merchandise, education programs and more

Free Admission to Select Events*
Including *Greenfest*, *Bunnyville*, the *Wild Summer Nights Concert Series*, *Sensory-Friendly Hours* and more

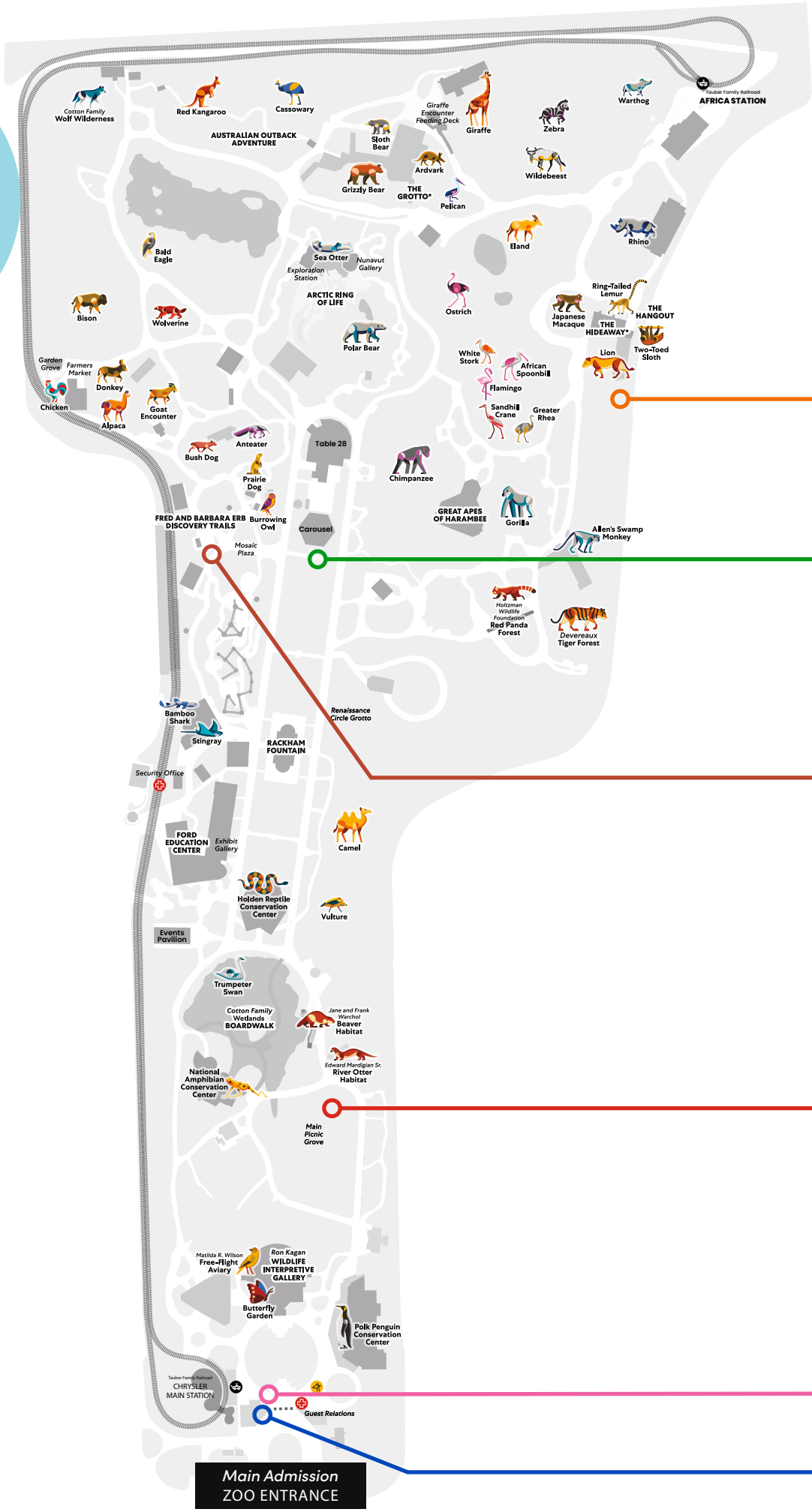
Reciprocal Admission Benefits
Receive discounted admission at participating zoos and aquariums nationwide

*Excludes *Run Wild* and *Sunset at the Zoo* fundraising events

Zoo Map

Make the most of your day at the Zoo with this easy adventure route.

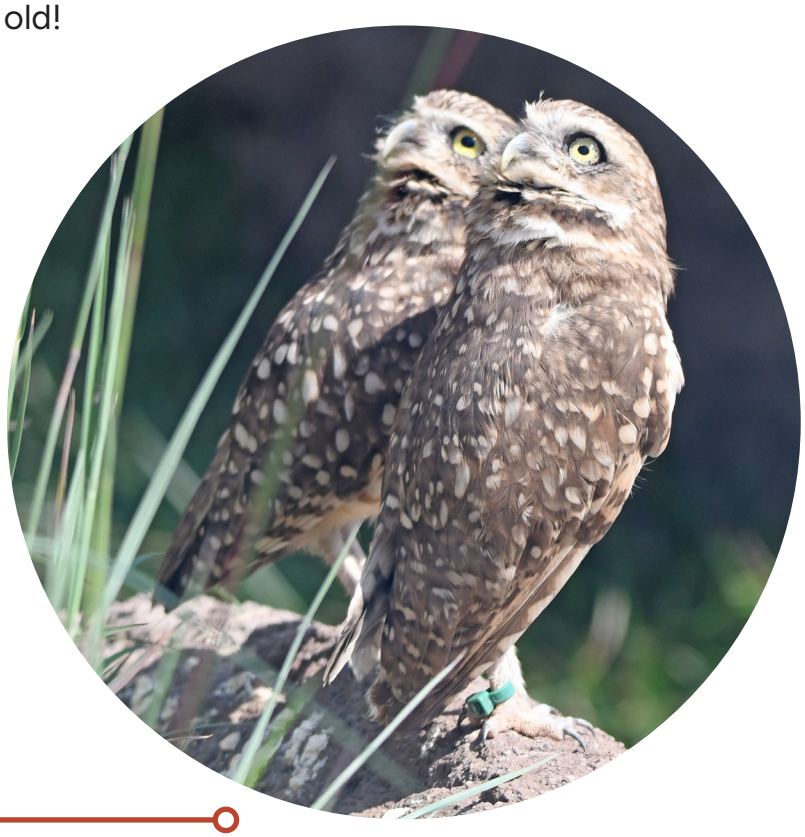
Scan for a digital map or click here





Lions Cubs

See how much these little lions have grown as they turn a year old!





Carousel

Visit the longtime family favorite!

Erb Discovery Trails

Meet new favorites, from bush dogs to prairie dogs and burrowing owls!

Blake's Market

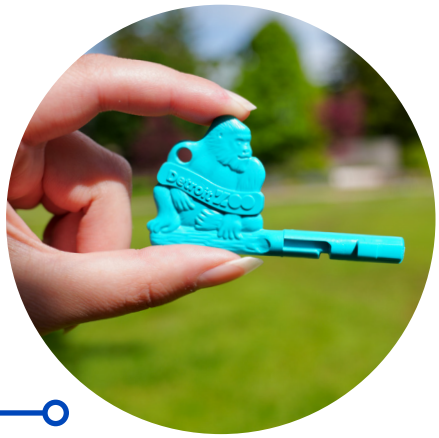
Savor fall favorites, including cider and donuts!





Coffee Corner

Get your pumpkin spice fix, the wild way!



Detroit Zoo Shop

Find the perfect souvenir and grab a Zoo Key to unlock more fun!