



Zoo Snooze Sleepover

Description

At a Zoo Snooze Sleepover, you can have a sleepover with your favorite animals at the zoo! Experience the zoo after dark with special after-hours experiences, games, animal encounters, and more. Zoo Snooze Sleepovers are a wild way to celebrate a special occasion, have a family reunion, or bond with your scout group!

When

Friday or Saturday nights, during the zoo's open season; 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. the following day. Outdoor sleepovers available May – September.

Includes

- Pizza dinner
- Two animal encounters
- Zoo sunset tour
- Continental breakfast
- Zookeeper Chat
- Participants receive free admission to the Zoo starting the day after the overnight

Requirements

- Minimum participant age: 6 years old
- Required adult/child ratio: 1 to 5
- Maximum number of participants: 40
- Minimum number of participants: 20

Pricing

Non-members: \$45 per participant

Members receive 10% off

Non-profit Groups: \$40 per participant

Topics

Nocturnal Animals: When the sun goes down, these animals are just waking up! Learn about creatures of the night as you explore the zoo after dark.

Rainforests: You don't have to travel to South America or Asia to see animals of the rainforest up close. Make your next tropical destination an overnight at Potawatomi Zoo!

Endangered Species: Potawatomi Zoo is home to many endangered and threatened species. Learn how the Zoo helps to protect and conserve these animals.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What time should we arrive at the Zoo?

A: Please arrive by 6:45 PM. Park in the Zoo's main lot and meet the sleepover instructor at the front gate. The group will be brought in at 7 PM, so please do not be late.

Q: What should I bring with me?

A: We suggest participants bring the following:

- Tent (these are NOT provided by the Zoo)
- Pajamas and a change of clothes for the following day
- Toiletries (tooth paste, deodorant, brush, etc.)
- Close-toed shoes
- Water bottle
- Blankets, pillow, & sleeping mat
- Flashlight (only for adults)
- Portable phone charger (limited access to electric outlets)
- Bug spray
- Earplugs are recommended for light sleepers
- Cart or wagon if you are hauling a lot of materials

*Please also bring a signed copy of the Sleepover waiver. We will have extra copies available at the Zoo, but it is easiest if everyone has a waiver prepared. Every participant will need to have a waiver signed by an adult (18 and over).

Do **NOT** bring:

- Air mattresses (unless it is quickly self-inflating)
- Alcohol
- Outside foodstuffs

Q: Is food provided? Can I bring my own food?

A: We provide a pizza dinner in the evening and a breakfast buffet in the morning. If you have any dietary restrictions, please let us know ahead of time. Generally, we do not allow individual



participants to bring their own food on Zoo grounds unless it is needed for medical reasons. If you are a private group and would like to bring additional foodstuffs, please contact the Education department.

Q: Where do we sleep?

A: Base camp will be in the Picnic Grove of the Zoo near the bison and alligator. Participants will be asked to set-up their tents here. Once the evening portion of the sleepover has commenced, participants are asked not to leave this area unless using the bathroom. The bathrooms nearest the alligator exhibit will be available. In this location of the Zoo, it is likely we will hear animal vocalizations throughout the night. It is also common to hear a passing train. If you are a light sleeper, we recommend ear plugs.

Q: Who stays overnight with us?

A: An education instructor(s) will be with the group the entire time and will sleep in their own tent. Additionally, security will be patrolling the Zoo and main parking lot.

Q: Can we walk around the Zoo on our own?

A: It is Potawatomi Zoo's policy that groups do not explore the Zoo outside of normal hours without an employed guide. Due to the safety of the sleepover participants and our animals, anyone found leaving the group to explore on their own will be asked to leave the sleepover immediately. Our security team will be patrolling the Zoo and parking lot regularly throughout the night.

Q: Can my child participate in a Zoo Snooze Sleepover without me?

A: Every child participant must have an adult accompanying them. Zoo Snooze Sleepovers are not a drop-off/pick-up program and Zoo staff is not responsible for childcare during the program. For private groups, we ask that there is an adult present for every 5 children if possible.

Q: Can I use my phone/camera during the sleepover?



A: Yes! Please feel free to take pictures during the program. If participants you do not know are in the picture, ask their permission first. The only time we ask people to refrain from taking pictures is on the flashlight tour. We also ask that on the flashlight tour, only adults hold flashlights. This way, we can minimize the amount of light being shined into animal's faces. Also, please feel free to make phone calls before bed time but be aware that access to an outlet for charging may be limited.

Additional Questions?

Contact the Education Department at: (574) 235-9070 or education@potawatomizoo.org