



INSIGHTS ON PLANNING YOUR NEXT BIRMINGHAM ZOO VISIT

DAILY ACTIVITIES NOT TO MISS

Learn more about the amazing animals at your zoo with the daily activities scheduled from March 23, 2024 to early fall. *

- 9:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. – Red Diamond Express Train
- 9:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. – Full Moon Bar-B-Que Adventure Tower
- 9:30 a.m. – Goat or Sheep Walk in Alabama Wilds
- 10:00 a.m. – Reptile Keeper Chat
- 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. – Lorikeet Feedings
- 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – Contact Yard at Alabama Wilds
- 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. – Giraffe Feedings (Saturday/Sunday)
- 11:00 a.m. – Elephant Keeper Chat
- 11:15 a.m. – Ambassador Animal Chat – Alabama Wilds
- Noon – 3:00 p.m. – Giraffe Feedings (weekdays)
- 1:00 p.m. – Alligator Keeper Chats (Fridays, starting June 1)
- 1:30 p.m. – Lion Keeper Chat
- 2:00 p.m. – Primate/South America Keeper Chat
- 2:15 p.m. – Ambassador Animals – Alabama Wilds

*All activities are subject to change due to weather, staffing, facilities, and animal welfare needs. The Splash Pads in the Children's Zoo area will be open when the weather is warmer between April and September and is also subject to weather.

WHEN ARE ANIMALS MOST ACTIVE?

Who might you see today? The animals you see today at the zoo depend on the season, the time of day, current temperature, and several other factors. To help make your visit most enjoyable,

the zookeepers throughout your Birmingham Zoo have suggested the best times to see animals in their area. These recommendations are organized by time, day, and location.

Early Morning

- **Alabama Wilds** – Otters
- **Birds** – Most birds are most active in the early morning.
- **Predators** – Black-Footed Cats, Fennec Fox, Pallas' Cats, Prevost's Squirrel, and Sand Cat
- **Primates/South America** - Giant Otters and Orangutans
- **Trails of Africa** – Red-Flanked Duiker

Mid-Morning

- **Predators** - Lion
- **Primates/South America** – De Brazza's Monkeys, Gibbons, Howler Monkeys, Jaguar, Lemurs, Spider Monkeys, and Squirrel Monkeys

Early Afternoon

- **Alabama Wilds** – Otters
- **Predators** - Lion
- **Primates/South America** - De Brazza's Monkeys, Giant Anteater, Howler Monkeys, Jaguar, Lemurs, Spider Monkeys, and Squirrel Monkeys

Late Afternoon

- **Birds** – Birds are active in the late afternoon and roost one hour before sunset.
- **Predators** – Black-footed cats, Fennec Fox, Pallas' Cats, Prevost's Squirrel, and Sand Cat
- **Primates/South America** - Giant Anteater, Giant Otters, and Orangutans
- **Trails of Africa** – Red-Flanked Duiker

Anytime

- **Alabama Wilds** – Chickens, Cranes, and Golden Eagles. Barn animals are visible all day but come before 2:00 p.m. if you want to pet them. Bears are active throughout the day depending on their feedings. Don't see them? Look up since they may be playing in the trees.
- **Birds** – Flamingos are visible all day but are less active in the heat.
- **Predators** – Coyotes and Red Pandas
- **Primates/South America** - Cape Porcupines, Cotton Top Tamarins, Golden Weaver, and Lionfish
- **Reptiles** – Most are visible all day. Alligators may be less active on cold days.
- **Trails of Africa** – Elephants, Giraffes, Ostrich, and Zebras

7 TIPS ON VISITING FROM THE BIRMINGHAM ZOO STAFF

1. **Mindset** – “Changing your mindset from ‘I hope I see this animal active today’ to ‘I wonder what exciting thing I’ll see today?’”. In modern zoos, we want our animals to have as much choice as possible. However, that does mean that not every animal will be engaging for guests on every visit. However, I think the variety is what makes it exciting (What will I see today?). It’s about changing the mindset from expecting a certain experience (at least from the animal behavior standpoint) to being open to a new experience each visit.” Scott K. – Predators
2. **Restrooms** – “Know where the bathrooms are located. Traditional and family restrooms are along the right side of the plaza, in the children’s zoo, in the Alabama Wilds barn, and at Wild Burger near the elephants.” Bill L. – Marketing
3. **First Things First** – “Do the thing you want to do most first. Want to feed the Giraffes? Do it first! Things change and fluctuate. Do the thing you want the most first.” Katelyn M. – Education
4. **Animals in the Rain** – “The elephants like to play in the warm rain. They get into the pools or mud wallows and really have a good time. Be sure to pack your jackets or umbrellas and if you feel the rain drops start to fall, head up to the elephant yard and you might get to see some of the fun!” Shay H. - Elephants
5. **Animal Chats** – “Check the website for updates on animal chat times and locations. It’s always amazing to hear from people who work directly with our beautiful animals.” They are also in this issue of Animal Tracks. Makis H. – Education
6. **For the Birds** – “Look to the trees. In the spring, your Birmingham Zoo is the nesting ground for many native species. Some of our more notable spring guests are the Great Blue Herons, who return each year to nest in the trees by the Lorikeet Aviary entrance. Also, visit lorikeets early! While the lorikeets have high metabolisms, and can eat liters of lorikeet nectar every day, your best bet for lots of interaction is to visit earlier in the day. Of course, that also means that if you don’t want to be covered in lorikeets, an afternoon visit may be more your speed!” Meredith H. – Birds
7. **Walk Around Twice** – “When I visit other zoos, I often like to walk around the zoo twice. Many animals that weren’t active on my first pass through the zoo will be active on my second (and vice versa). I can have two wildly different experiences walking through the same zoo twice. Visitors will see something or experience something they didn’t the first time. Even spending more time at a particular animal habitat can be a benefit to a zoo experience.” Scott K. - Predators

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SOCIAL MEDIA

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THE BIRMINGHAM ZOO MISSION *Inspiring Passion to Conserve the Natural World.*