MAKE IT YOURS
Design a Custom Event at
Roger Williams Park Zoo
INcredible changes are coming!

Excitedly, Roger Williams Park Zoo recently released its master plan, a 20-year strategic initiative that outlines expansion, growth, and increased conservation efforts for our Zoo. These additions will create new opportunities for our community to build a lifelong love of conservation.

Along the way, construction work may cause closures for some Zoo areas. We’re happy to report that many beloved exhibit areas (including Africa, Marco Polo Trail, Alex and Ani Farmyard, and the North American exhibits) are all scheduled to remain unaffected and open for your enjoyment. Plenty of exploration during a day at the Zoo!

Though construction can be unpredictable, Roger Williams Park Zoo will do its best to update guests on the process. Please feel free to ask a team member if you have any questions about this transition. All the while, you can count on the same standard of excellence Roger Williams Park Zoo has delivered to families for generations. Whether you choose a daytime outing or evening extravaganza, we are proud to serve our community and look forward to designing an outstanding event experience with you.

Elevate your event with zoo exclusives, like:

- Zip rides
- Animal experience
- Train rides
- and more!

Please ask for a contract today to see pricing and availability, as it varies between daytime and evening offerings.
Daytime outings take place during our normal hours of operation and provide guests with a room or venue to gather, eat, and mingle. This is a wildly popular option for organizations hosting company picnics and private family functions.

To book a daytime outing, hosts select a venue, purchase admission for their guests, and add on any desired catering. Other custom add-ons are available and a venue deposit is required.

**Marco Polo Venetian Plaza**

The Marco Polo Plaza is a beautiful, airy, outdoor location, tented for your convenience. Adorned with paintings of ancient Venice, this venue is a desirable place for outings, baby showers, and bridal showers.

Capacity: 80 guests  
All day rental: $750, 4 hour rental: $350, 90 minute rental: $150

**Event Tent**

Shaded from sun or showers, the Event Tent is the most popular event space for company outings and large group functions. This 30’ x 60’ event tent is located on the menagerie patio, steps away from the gift shop and many of our most popular exhibits. Best of all, it is equipped with electricity and AV access.

Capacity: 80 people  
All day rental: $700, 4 hour rental: $300, 90 minute rental: $100

**Planning a large event?**

Pair our Marco Polo and Event Tent venues together to accommodate up to 160 guests.

Ask a Group Sales associate for more information!

**Education Center**

Think outside the box with your next function or company meeting. Enjoy a sky-lit meeting space whose round interior can be converted into three separate rooms. This space is steps away from many of our most popular exhibits and fully equipped with electricity and AV access.

Capacity: 100 guests  
All day rental: $1,000, 4 hour rental: $500, 90 minute rental: $200

**Guests receive all-day access with these special discounted rates!**

- Adults: $15.95  
- Children (ages 2-12): $9.95  
- Seniors (ages 62+): $13.95  
- Toddlers age 1 and under visit free, but please include their attendance with your reservation.
Backyard Bash!
Let a child’s curiosity take over as you celebrate open-ended play and exploration with this special, private birthday event! You and your guests will have exclusive access to Hasbro’s Our Big Backyard, CVS Health Treehouse, and Beyond the Fence play zones after the Zoo is closed to the public. Bring your favorite treats from home, or arrange to have delicious food served at your party by our catering team (additional fees apply).

- $695 for up to 50 guests (includes both children and adults)

- Available May - August from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Dates are limited – come celebrate today!

- Does it look like showers are in the forecast? Pull out your rain boots – this party takes place rain or shine! Come splash through puddles, build with mud, and dance in the rain.

Please note: During this premium event, only Hasbro’s Our Big Backyard will be open to visitors; access to the Zoo’s animal exhibits is not available. The Zoo does reserve the right to cancel or reschedule any event based on current and/or forecasted weather conditions, including extreme weather or lightning. The indoor facility can accommodate up to 35 guests.

Explore and Soar Private Celebration
Adventure awaits you in the zoo’s new Explore and Soar area! Enjoy unlimited train rides on the zoo’s all-ages train and children ages 3-12 also enjoy unlimited access to the outdoor bounce. Bring your favorite treats from home, or arrange to have delicious food served at your party by our catering team (additional fees apply). Perfect for birthdays, family reunions, and company outings!

- $695 for up to 50 guests (includes both children and adults).

- Available May - August from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Dates are limited – come celebrate today!

- Ready to take it to the next level? Add on unlimited zip rides for $600 and/or access to the Beyond the Fence play area for $150.

Please note: During this premium event, only the Explore and Soar area will be open to visitors. Access to the Zoo’s animal exhibits is not available. For safety reasons, some features are weather-dependent and for this reason, the zoo does reserve the right to cancel or reschedule any event based on current and/or forecasted weather conditions, including extreme weather or lightning. The party features tented seating for 50. Some rides have rider restrictions. Please ask a Group Sales team member for full information on this offering.
EXCLUSIVE AFTER-HOURS EVENTS

For those seeking a little more privacy and exclusivity, the Zoo offers special evening events that allow your group to privately enjoy the zoo after-hours. Admission, security, and free parking are included in your event – plus the beauty of the animals on exhibit in your designated area.

Perfect for employee recognition events or those wanting to reward guests, donors, and sponsors with an unforgettable night! Please note that the Wetlands Trail is unavailable after 5 pm.

**Lower Zoo**

Spanning from the main entrance to our Serengeti deck area, Lower Zoo rentals allow guests to explore our African animal exhibits and even get playful in Hasbro’s Our Big Backyard. Convenient and exotic, this reservation is perfect for both cocktails and informal gatherings.

*Please note: this area is uncovered, though we do allow clients to install custom tents. Rain locations appointed to the Event Tent in Upper Zoo.*

Capacity: 350 seated guests in Jambo Junction; 2,000 standing
Rental fee: $3,000

**Upper Zoo**

Enjoy an expansive array of animal exhibits when you book the Upper Zoo. Relax in gathering areas like Marco Polo’s Venetian Plaza, Wilderness Plaza, or the Event Tent before adventuring out into the many nearby exhibits! Enjoy access to the Marco Polo Trail, North American exhibits, and Alex & Ani Farmyard.

Capacity: 2,000
Rental fee: $4,000

**Entire Zoo**

Capturing the best of both worlds, an Entire Zoo rental allows you to fully explore all that Roger Williams Park Zoo has to offer! Explore the various regions of both Upper Zoo and Lower Zoo throughout the evening. With plenty of gathering spaces to choose from, this serves as our most popular option and a versatile opportunity for both informal company events and fancier engagements.

Capacity: 5,000 guests.
Rental fee: $5,000
Do I need to purchase admission tickets?
Complimentary admission is included with evening rentals, but all daytime events require hosts to purchase admission for every guest. Special discounted rates are available. Please submit your final headcount (and payment) seven days before the event. Please note that in keeping with our eco-friendly mission, RWPZ now uses a paperless ticketing software and groups will not receive physical tickets. Zoo staff will distribute wristbands to event attendees upon arrival.

Is alcohol allowed at my event?
Our caterers are more than happy to discuss our alcohol policy with you.

What if someone in my party has a food allergy?
Our caterers can work with you to design a menu that works for your guests, including modifications and substitutions. Please let us know how we can help!

What if it rains or there is an unfavorable forecast?
Roger Williams Park Zoo is proudly open rain or shine all year long. For your benefit, all venues are covered so you need not worry about scheduling a rain date. RWPZ does reserve the right to cancel and/or reschedule an event due to current or forecasted weather conditions, but this is extremely rare.

What is your entertainment policy?
All entertainment booked for on-grounds events must be approved by the Group Sales Department at time of booking. This includes DJs, bands, magicians, clowns, costumed characters and more. RWPZ reserves the right to refuse or limit certain entertainment. We similarly reserve the right to limit the volume of any amplified sound for animal welfare purposes.

How can I prepare for any set-up or deliveries for my event?
Deliveries and pickups must be made on the day of the event, unless other arrangements have been confirmed with RWPZ. Zoo personnel may not accept or sign for deliveries or pickups. Approved deliveries must be directed to the security staff at Gate 3, located beside the Elmwood Avenue Park entrance at the traffic light. Please notify the Group Sales Department immediately of any drop-off deliveries or pickups or required vendor access (advanced approval is required).

Are there any other important details I should know about?
Special additions, such as catering or animal encounters, may require additional deposits. Please ask for full policy information. For the safety of our animals and visitors, the following items are not allowed on Zoo grounds: balls, skateboards, rollerblades, balloons, straws, Frisbees, drones and styrofoam products. With the exception of certified service dogs, pets or outside animals of any kind are strictly prohibited from Zoo grounds. RWPZ is proudly a smoke-free facility. Additional offerings and full organization/event policies can be found on the Evening Event contract.

Can I hire my own caterer?
Roger Williams Park Zoo proudly partners with our on-site concessionaire, Service System Associates (SSA), to deliver a high-quality event experience. With their vast selection and excellent service, we are confident they can serve your event well. For this reason, any event using an outside caterer/food service will be subject to additional fees. Please ask a team member for full policy information or to order catered fare today!

If you’re ready to lock in your zoo adventure, contact the Group Sales Department today. Both a signed contract and a deposit payment are required to lock in your reservation. Dates book quickly – contact us today! (401) 467-0150 or GSales@rwpzoo.org
Zoo Hours

Roger Williams Park Zoo is open 7 days a week from April - August from 9am - 4pm. From September - March, the Zoo is open Thursdays through Mondays from 10am - 4pm.

The Zoo is closed Thanksgiving Day, and on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We close at 2pm (last admission at noon) on the last Saturdays of June and August in order to prepare for our annual evening fundraisers, Zoobilee and Brew at the Zoo.

Parking

The Zoo has multiple complimentary parking lots available to our visitors. Spots are available on a first-come, first-served basis. On busy days, the lots can fill quickly so attendees should always allot extra time for traffic and parking.

Directions

GPS users: Enter “1000 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI 02907.” Once inside the park, please follow signs for the Zoo.

From I-95 South: Take exit 17 and turn left onto Elmwood Avenue. In ¼ mile, turn right into the “jug handle” at the traffic light to enter Roger Williams Park. Follow directions to the Zoo entrance.

From I-95 North: Take exit 16. Bear right on the ramp, then turn left onto Elmwood Avenue. In about ¼ mile, enter the gate of Roger Williams Park and follow signs to the Zoo entrance.

From I-195 West: Merge onto I-95 South. Take exit 17, Elmwood Avenue. Then turn left at light. Park entrance is 1/2 block on the left. Follow the signs to the Zoo entrance.

Public Transportation: RIPTA Bus Route #6 stops at the RWP Zoo admission area.

GENERAL ZOO INFORMATION

For the safety of our animals and visitors, the following items may not be brought onto Zoo grounds: balls, skateboards, rollerblades, balloons, straws, Frisbees, drones and Styrofoam products.

With the exception of certified service dogs, pets or outside animals of any kind are strictly prohibited from Zoo grounds.

The Zoo is a smoke free facility and smoking/vaping is not permitted anywhere on Zoo grounds.