



Chomp. Chomp!

Circle the Zoo. Take it in small bites.

Here's a guide and map helping you to take the Zoo in smaller "bites" as Zoo Director Chuck Wikenhauser gives you his recommendations or comments about each area in the following list. Begin with the playful Humboldt penguins near the Zoo's entrance and end at the Flamingo Café for an ice cream treat!

1 TAYLOR FAMILY FOUNDATION HUMBOLDT PENGUIN EXHIBIT



The Zoo director says: "These are some of my favorite animals. They love to swim in the pool. They make the perfect ambassadors to welcome visitors to the Zoo."



✗ Great new viewing windows allow you to watch the playful penguins dive from the rocks into the water.

Zoo Director Chuck Wikenhauser greets his favorite birds (left), the Humboldt penguins.

2 PENZEYS SPICES CAROUSEL



The Zoo director says: "In addition to being educational, a zoo also needs to be a fun place to visit. Kids love carousels and can ride their favorite animal. Mine is the Indian-themed horse."



Seasonal hours: Runs during the summer season* (Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day) and also during weekends in the fall.

✗ See if you can find the Zoo Director's favorite horse on the carousel. It is cream-colored, it has an Indian face on the side, and it has a headdress with eagle feathers.

3 NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL FAMILY FARM



The Zoo director says: "This is a great way to introduce young children to live animals. They can see, touch, and smell many different animal friends from the farm."



Seasonal hours: The farm is busiest during the summer season* (Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day) and also during weekends in the fall.

Items with an asterisk (*) run only during the summer season. Items with two asterisks (**) run during summer season and some weekends in the fall. Items with no asterisks run year-round.

Don't miss:

- Visit the Stackner Animal Encounter, sit with friends in the bleachers, and watch some fascinating animal presentations.** Afterward, you can even touch some of the animals!
- See where milk comes from by visiting the dairy cows. This is the only working dairy farm in Milwaukee County. Milk goes to GG Golden Guernsey® Dairy. There is a cow-milking demonstration twice a day (and a video to watch at other times).
- Camel rides: From mid-April to mid-October, kids and adults can ride a camel for just \$4! The Zoo director says: "The camel rides are so much fun to watch. It's different than riding a horse and much more fun."*
- Fly on over to the farm's butterfly garden and learn what kind of plants will attract butterflies to your backyard.*
- Horse and pig and donkey barn. This barn also has two Scottish cows: Helga, the Scottish Highland cow, and Upstart, the belted Galloway cow.
- There are not one but TWO play areas: one for younger kids, ages 2 to 5, and one for older kids, ages 5 to 12.
- In summer the Farmer's Market food stand has lots of healthful food like fresh fruit cups, applesauce, and trail mixes.*
- In the summertime, pet some adorable baby goats in the petting zoo areas.*
- In summer, watch the Birds of Prey Show, sponsored by Forest County Potawatomi Foundation.* Be ready to duck down because sometimes the eagles and hawks will fly right over your head.

4 GIRAFFES: THE MILLERCOORS GIRAFFE EXPERIENCE



The Zoo director says: "For most visitors, feeding a giraffe is an experience of a lifetime."

Don't miss:

- Visit the indoor giraffe exhibit where you can really get close to the animals. In this area they are behind tall wires, rather than a typical glass enclosure.
- Feed giraffes from the 6-foot-high feeding platform in the giraffe's outdoor exhibit. Only 16 people a day can buy a ticket to feed the giraffes – and only from May 15 through Oct. 1, weather permitting. There will be two feeding times per day, 10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Go online to www.zoosociety.org/Visit/Giraffes.php for ticket prices.
- Be a giraffe! Put your face through the hole in the cardboard and take a funny picture of you as a long-necked giraffe.

5 FLORENCE MILA BORCHERT BIG CAT COUNTRY

The Zoo director says: "This building is great because you can get so close to the animals!"

Don't miss:

- Lions – There are two lions, Themba (male) and Sanura (the female)
- Cheetahs: These big cats have bright yellow coats with black spots
- Amur (Siberian) tiger – The tigers have a regal demeanor, but don't be fooled: They are still energetic teenagers. They like to stretch out in the plant beds and pull up flowers in their exhibit. Plus, watch for two cubs born in July 2009.
- Jaguar (from Belize) – Pat the cat has become quite the celebrity lately. He's been featured in lots of newspaper articles and even on TV!
- Snow leopards (Asia) – The snow leopards are located by the south entrance to Big Cat Country. Snow leopards have big thick tails, which they curl around themselves to help them keep warm!
- Hyanas: While they're not cats, hyenas share the same habitat in Africa as lions. And they share their Zoo home with the lions, too, but not at the same time. If the hyenas are in the indoor exhibit, the lions usually are out in the yard.
- Interactive displays:
 - Rock wall teaches kids about animal tracking
 - Display shows different animal patterns
 - Game lets kids listen to different animal sounds.
- You can enter this building from the north, next to the impala yard. You also can get to the big cats from the south by walking through the Pachyderm area. If you do this, check out Rose the tapir. She looks like a cross between a pig and a pony!



6 HIPPOS & ELEPHANTS

The Zoo director says: "You can't miss the biggest animals in the Zoo."

- ✗ Starting in September 2009, be sure to say hi to a new addition to the Zoo: Happy the Hippo! Happy, a 5,500-pound male, will be living with two females – Patti and Puddles – in the Zoo's newly expanded hippo exhibit, the Dohmen Family Foundation Hippo Home.
- ✗ Our African elephants are Ruth (the bigger one) and Brittany (the bossier one).

7 SKY SAFARI, SPONSORED BY KALAHARI WATERPARK RESORT, AND PONY RIDES



The Zoo director says: "I saw sky safaris at other zoos and thought it would be a great addition to ours!"

- ✗ Tickets are \$2.50 for kids and adults. Get on the sky safari near the camel yard and ride high in the sky over the Zoo in a loop to Wolf Woods and back. The sky ride runs daily from mid-April to mid-October (weather permitting).
- ✗ The nearby pony rides take place across from Lakeview Place restaurant. From mid-April to mid-October, kids and adults can ride a pony for just \$4!

8 BEARS



The Zoo director says: "Our bears are fun to watch. We have five kinds of bears here at the Zoo. Aurora and Borealis, the brown bears, are playful in summer but go into partial hibernation in winter. The polar bears, however, are outside all year long. Remember to check out the underwater window so you can see the polar bears playing in the water."

Don't miss:

- 8A **Himalayan (Asiatic) bear** – These bears don't hibernate and feed year-round.
- 8B **American black bear** – Black bears are native to North America and can be found throughout northern Wisconsin. They semi-hibernate in winter.
- 8C **Polar bear** – Zero and Snow Lilly, the female, love to play with their toys in the water. Take the stairs or the ramp near their exhibit and watch them through the underwater window!
- 8D **Alaskan brown bear** – The brown bears Aurora and Borealis were rescued as orphans from Alaska. They have a pool, a hammock and a sand pit in their exhibit and like to dig. They semi-hibernate in winter.
- 8E **Grizzly bear** – The grizzlies are often seen swinging on hammocks and climbing ladders that are attached to the wooden platforms in their exhibit. They semi-hibernate in winter.

9 SMALL MAMMALS BUILDING



The Zoo director says: "The Small Mammals Building houses a group of animals with a tremendous diversity in habitats and lifestyles."

Don't miss:

- a) There are two sides to this building. On the day side, the lights are bright for animals that are awake during the day. On the night side the lights are turned down low for nocturnal animals that are awake at night.
- b) In the day side, visit Buddy and Oscar, the frisky river otters. Their playful antics are always fun to watch.
- c) In the night side, check out the fruit bats hanging upside down from tree branches. They may look spooky, but they are actually really good for the environment because they spread the seeds of the fruit they eat. The vampire bats, meanwhile, drink vials of cattle blood.

10 AQUATIC & REPTILE CENTER



photo by Mike Nepper

The Zoo director says: "Live fish in aquariums can be mesmerizing and will hold the attention of small children. Kids can get so close to so many different exotic animals."

Don't miss:

- a) The Lake Wisconsin aquarium with lots of familiar fish like bass, carp, and perch.
- b) The adorable (but deadly) poison-dart frogs. These tiny frogs in a tiny exhibit are brightly colored and so cute! In the wild they are "poisonous" because their skin is full of a toxin, which protects them against predators.
- c) Amazon river exhibit is full of lots of pacu fish. They share their tank with a big turtle named Onassis who came to the Zoo more than 40 years ago and is the oldest animal in the Zoo, easily in her late 60s.
- d) Check out the amazing green tree python. The adults are bright green, but the babies are bright yellow and orange. Unexpectedly, the snake in this exhibit during summer 2009 turned bright blue (see photo)!

11 PRIMATES OF THE WORLD



The Zoo director says: "You've got to see Mahal the orangutan. He draws a crowd just playing."

Don't miss:

- a) Orangutans MJ and Mahal: Mahal was just 9 months old when he came to the Zoo. He lives with his surrogate mom, MJ, and loves playing.
- b) Baby Hutan, a siamang (ape): If you are lucky, you can see her stick her tongue out.
- c) Goeldi's monkeys – This family of monkeys is very lively. They are always jumping, running, climbing, and staying really busy. Sometimes it's exhausting just to watch them!

12 STEARNS FAMILY APES OF AFRICA



The Zoo director says: "Children find it very easy to associate with and mimic young great apes."

Don't miss:

- The gorillas. The Zoo has six gorillas, but usually only two at a time are on display indoors and another two outdoors (weather permitting). There is a display near the middle of the exhibit that shows each gorilla's picture and some information about them. See if you can tell who's who.
- Bonobos: The Zoo has six males and nine females (as of 2009). Learn about them in the book "Bonobos: Encounters in Empathy" by Jo Sandin, published by the Zoological Society and the Foundation for Wildlife Conservation, Inc. Then come to the Zoo to meet some of these endangered apes and watch their antics in the exhibit.

13 MACAQUE ISLAND

The Zoo director says: "This is one of the first exhibits built at the 'new' Zoo after it moved here from the original location in Washington Park. There was a Monkey Island at the Washington Park Zoo, too."

- ✗ These playful monkeys are outside year-round.
- ✗ They are Japanese macaques, but are also called snow monkeys (from Japan).
- ✗ It is interesting to watch as they groom each other.

14 MILLERCOORS OCEANS OF FUN SEAL/SEA LION SHOW

(mostly warm weather show but can go from spring through fall)

The Zoo director says: "The sea lions and seals seem to really enjoy performing. They seem to get energized by the reactions of visitors."

- ✗ These California sea lions and harbor seals are smart! They know a ton of tricks and love playing for a crowd.
- ✗ This is an interactive show. If you are lucky, you might get picked to assist one of the trainers!
- ✗ Shows run daily from mid-April through mid-October (weather permitting). For times, check online at oceansoffun.org.

15 HERB & NADA MAHLER FAMILY AVIARY



The Zoo director says: "The aviary is exciting because the birds are always so active. And you can see some of the most endangered birds in the world, such as the Guam kingfisher (see photo)."

Don't miss:

- The Guam kingfisher and Guam rail – These birds are extremely rare. They are extinct in the wild. Zoos like ours have helped keep this species alive. (See photo of zookeeper Bryan Kwiatkowski showing a Guam kingfisher chick to the Zoo director.)
- The penguins – Black-and-white birds are the Zoo director's favorite. This exhibit is home to 14 rockhopper penguins and 6 gentoo penguins. You can tell them apart because the rockhoppers have bright yellow spiky feathers on their heads and the gentoos have thin yellow beaks and a wide white patch on their heads that makes them look like they are wearing ear muffs.
- Wong Family Pheasantry – Right next door to the aviary is an outdoor enclosure that is home to Torch and Tiki, endangered whooping cranes.

16 ANIMAL HEALTH CENTER'S HOLZ FAMILY FOUNDATION LEARNING ZONE

The Zoo director says: "Our veterinarians do such amazing work to keep our animals healthy. We deliberately put in viewing windows looking into the treatment and surgery rooms so you can see what's going on."

Don't miss:

- Hear a heartbeat and guess which animal's it is.
- Figure out some medical mysteries.
- See a video about what veterinarians and other health-care consultants do.
- View a museum-quality diorama of a lynx being examined by doctors.
- Learn about the Species Survival Plan for endangered bonobos.

17 NATIONAL CITY ZOOMOBILE

- ✘ If your parents are tired, take them on a 25-minute tour of the Zoo in this open-air tram.
- ✘ Hours: runs daily April to mid-October (weather permitting).

18 NORTH SHORE BANK SAFARI TRAIN



The Zoo director says: "This is a great way to end a Zoo visit. Many parents use the opportunity to ride the train as a reward for good behaviors during their visit."

- ✘ The train is the most popular ride at the Zoo. It was the first attraction to open when the Zoo moved to these grounds, and it was running before the buildings were up.
- ✘ It features both steam and diesel locomotives.
- ✘ Tickets are available at the station for \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children.
- ✘ Hours: runs daily April to mid-October (weather permitting).

The Zoo director's tours were designed with help from editor Paula Brookmire, intern Brianne Schwantes and artist Roberta Weldon of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee.

Photos by Richard Brodzeller unless otherwise noted.

Circle Tour



- 1 PENGUINS
- 2 CAROUSEL
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- 5 CATS
- 6 HIPPOS, ELEPHANTS
- 7 GLIDER, PONY RIDE
- 8 A,B,C,D,E BEARS
- 9 SMALL MAMMALS
- 10 REPTILES, FISH, ETC.
- 11 PRIMATES
- 12 APES
- 13 MACAQUES
- 14 SEA LION SHOW
- 15 BIRDS
- 16 ANIMAL HEALTH ANNEX
- 17 ZOOMOBILE
- 18 TRAIN

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