



Queens Zoo Birthday FAQs

What does the schedule of the party look like?

Each party offers two animal encounters, time for food/cake, and a guided exhibit visit determined by the theme picked. The party takes place in our indoor party room across from the sea lion exhibit. The schedule is quite flexible, and we can move activities around as needed. Farm-tastic Fun is a party aimed at our youngest zoo guests; it includes a guided trip to the farm to feed the farm animals. Amazing Zoo Race includes a binocular decorating craft to aid party guests on a scavenger hunt around the zoo. Zoo-Fari includes a guided trip out into the zoo during the party to visit some exhibits of your choosing with an educator.

How many guests can I invite to my party?

Our standard party package includes 25 guests, which includes everyone (children and adults, as well as the party family) over the age of 2. You can increase the guest count to 35 guests for an additional flat fee of \$100. **We cannot go over the maximum number of people included in your party package. If you exceed the capacity for your party package, you will be automatically charged the additional \$100 for up to 35 guests.** Please note that we cannot allow over 35 guests into the party room, as it is a safety and fire hazard.

Can I bring food for my party?

We do not provide food, drink, or paper goods. You are welcome to bring your own food and drink, but we do not allow chafing dishes or food that requires an open flame. We are an alcohol-free zoo. There are local pizza places that will deliver to the zoo. We suggest either Angelo's Pizzeria at (718) 335-8637 or 6055 or Corona Pizza at (718) 271-3736. For kosher or gluten-free pizza, we suggest Pizza Palace Cafe at (718) 997-7492. **FOR AM PARTIES**, you may be interested in having a bagel party since it is difficult to have pizza delivered earlier than 12:15 pm. Rego Bagel is a local store that caters party orders. For more information call them at 718-459-6265. For cake/dessert, we recommend handing out cupcakes or portable treats at the end of the party for guests to enjoy as they explore the Zoo!

Can we decorate the party room? What does the party room look like?

We will have four tables set up for guests and two tables for food/drink. The tables will be covered in black tablecloths, and we will provide crayons and coloring sheets. We also have a monitor that will display a "Happy Birthday" sign. We also have "Happy Birthday" banners that can be hung up for the party. You are welcome to bring additional decorations if you would like, but we recommend bringing eco-friendly options when possible. We do not allow balloons, confetti, or piñatas into the zoo as these are hazardous for the animals.

Where can my guests and I park?

For your convenience, the birthday family may park **1** car in our staff parking lot. Your birthday host will meet you at our back gate located on 111th street and 53rd Avenue, between the Terrace on the Park entrance & the public parking lot entrance that reads "Queens Zoo/53-51" (picture attached below). If you have any questions on how to reach the gate, please email the birthday coordinator at QZBirthdayParties@wcs.org. Guests may park in the free public parking lot at [111th St & 56th Ave](#). Other parking options include street parking, or parking on the Flushing Meadows-Corona Park [parking lot](#) located between the Queens Museum and the Queens Theatre.



When can I arrive on the day of the party?

Caregivers of the birthday child are allowed into the party space 30 minutes before the party and have 15 minutes following the party for clean-up.

What animals do you have? Can I choose which ones we will meet?

Our tractable animal collection includes a variety of mammals, birds, reptiles, and invertebrates. Each party meets two animals, and these vary based on each animal's unique care schedule. While we cannot guarantee specific animals, some fan-favorites are turtles, snakes, rabbits, guinea pigs and chinchillas.

What comes in the goody bags?

We provide goody bags for each child attendee! Our goody bags contain an assortment of zoo-themed items (e.g. pencils, stampers, and exclusive Queens Zoo tattoos). Each bag will have 4-5 small items. You're also welcome to add anything you like! The birthday child will also receive a birthday t-shirt.

What if I need to cancel or reschedule?

Due to staffing and animal requirements, all cancellations or rescheduling requests should be sent as soon as possible. There is no fee for rescheduling, and your party coordinator can work with you to find a new date/time that works with your schedule. *Available dates can be found on the birthday party section of the Queens Zoo website, or you can reach out to the party coordinator directly via phone (718.271.2172 ext.116) or email (qzbirthdayparties@wcs.org) for the most up to date availability.* In the event you are unable to reschedule and would prefer to cancel your party, you are entitled to a refund subject to a \$100 administration fee. Cancellations must be processed one business day before the party date.