

Philadelphia Zoo Itinerary

Winter Trip

PHILADELPHIA ZOO

3400 West Girard Avenue ■ Philadelphia, PA 19104-1196
philadelphiazoo.org

Welcome to the Philadelphia Zoo! This itinerary is meant to be a suggested route for you to follow while you are visiting the Zoo with your school group. It will highlight when there is a bathroom or food nearby so you can take advantage of any of our amenities and plan ahead for stops. Each itinerary begins at North Gate, the main entrance to the Zoo, and is designed to take about 3 hours to complete.

As soon as you enter the Zoo, you should pick up a map. It will help you navigate as well as give you information about the daily happenings at the Zoo.

→From North Gate, head through the turnstiles.

Bathroom stop: Immediately after the turnstiles, head to your right.

→Continue going straight, past the first building (we will come back to it later). Stay straight until you reach KidZooU, which will come up on your right.

Stop 1: KidZooU

Highlights: Enter the Farris Family Education Center to see tropical fish, butterflies, rats, insects, and many interactive exhibits. Stay outside to see pigeons and ducks, then head to our Barnyard, where students can pet goats and sheep and see chickens.

Bathroom stop: There are two bathrooms in KidZooU – one is outside, just behind the pigeon coop; the other is inside the Education Center in the hallway connecting both galleries.

→After leaving KidZooU (through the same way you entered), make a left to get to the entrance to the Reptiles and Amphibians House.

Stop 2: Reptiles and Amphibians House

Highlights: Galapagos tortoises, Nile crocodiles, American alligators, green anacondas, king cobras, poison dart frogs, alligator snapping turtles, green tree frogs. You may be able to catch an educator or keeper in here talking with guests about reptiles or amphibians. Check your Zoo map for this season's Keeper Talks.

→Exit the Reptiles and Amphibians House through the set of doors near the giant tortoises. Make a left and head straight down the path. When you see a statue of a lion appear on your right, make a left to head into PECO Primate Reserve.

Stop 3: PECO Primate Reserve

Highlights: Gorillas, orangutans, gibbons, aye-ayes, squirrel monkeys, ruffed lemurs. You may be able to catch an educator or keeper in here talking with guests about primates. Check your Zoo map for this season's Keeper talks.

→Exit PECO Primate Reserve through the back doors and turn right to meet back up with the Main Path.

Bathroom stop: On your way from PECO to the Main Path, you will find a bathroom on your left.

→Head to your left and across the path and make a right to enter Big Cat Falls.

Stop 4: Big Cat Falls

Highlights: Amur tigers, snow leopards, lions, pumas, jaguars, a 3-minute film about big cats in a heated room with benches.

→Exit Big Cat Falls after the Tiger habitat and make a right back onto the Main Path.

Food stop: Tiger Terrace will be on your left. This eatery is open year-round. While indoor seating is available, it can get crowded.

→Head straight on the Main Path until you see Bird Lake on your left. Turn left and follow the path that goes around the lake until you reach McNeil Avian Center.

Stop 5: McNeil Avian Center

Highlights: Rhinoceros hornbills, Micronesian kingfishers and Guam rails (which are extinct in the wild), a large rainforest room with many birds flying right around you.

Bathroom stop: There are bathrooms inside McNeil Avian Center.

→Exit McNeil Avian Center and make a right. Make a slight left at the fork, then turn right when you see a statue of bears climbing on a log. Continue turning right and heads towards a statue of a single bear in a small plaza.

Stop 6: Bear Country

Highlights: Our Asiatic black bear, Ben, often builds a nest and sleeps against the large glass window just beyond the single bear statue. To the right of the statue is our polar bear exhibit.

→Head down the steps or slope adjacent to the polar bear exhibit to end up back on the Main Path.

Bathroom stop: After turning left onto the Main Path, make a quick left at (yet another) bear statue and they are immediately to your left in the rock wall.

→Turn left and stay left at the fork to head up the hill. You will see a small white house on your left, and the Small Mammal House just beyond that.

Stop 7: Small Mammal House

Highlights: Vampire bats, sloths, meerkats, pygmy marmosets, a variety of small rodents, lorises, echidnas.

→Exit the Small Mammal house through the doors near the Nocturnal Wing and make a left on the Main Path. At the next intersection, make a right and you will see the Rare Animal Conservation Center appear ahead and to your left.

Stop 8: Rare Animal Conservation Center

Highlights: Naked mole rats, blue-eyed lemurs, titi monkeys (these monkeys twirl their tails together when resting), Rodrigues fruit bats, Colobus monkeys, giant elephant shrews, douc langurs (we are the only Zoo in North America to house this species).

→Exit the Rare Animal Conservation Center through the doors near the fruit bats and you will find yourselves back at the entrance to the Zoo. Take another bathroom break or stop by the ZooShop before meeting your bus on 34th St.