

Overnight Adventures: Frequently Asked Questions

Who can attend?

Overnight Adventures are designed for ages 6 and up. We welcome scout troops, birthday parties, school groups, and other groups. Programs are also available for teen and adult groups.

How many people can attend?

Adventure capacity is 60 persons. We are unable to accommodate larger groups due to fire safety regulations. Please consider booking two programs if your group has more than 60. For Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida events, we recommend that you book your entire group together. All privately booked programs have a minimum of 15 children.

What if my group is below the required minimum of 15 children?

The minimum cost to hold an overnight program is \$600.00 if you have less than the 15 child minimum.

What should I bring?

- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Bug spray
- Camera
- Change of clothes
- Personal toiletries (toothbrush, hairbrush, etc.)
- Flashlight (red lights preferred)

You may also choose to bring an air mattress, cot, or sleeping pad. However, please remember that space is limited. Single-sizes are preferred, but consider sharing with your child if you have a larger size so that we may accommodate everyone comfortably.

What should I *not* bring?

Please do not bring anything you cannot carry. We also discourage portable electronics.

What should I wear?

Dress comfortably for walking. Close-toed shoes are recommended. Dress appropriately for the weather as outdoor activities are planned.

Where will we sleep?

Groups will sleep in either the Pioneer House in the Florida section of the Zoo or the Peggy S. Brown Special Events Pavilion. Sleeping location may depend on group size, availability, and weather. Both sleeping areas have electricity and outlets available to be shared by guests. Sleeping areas may not be completely screened in. **Sleeping areas may not have air-conditioning.** Shower facilities are *not* available.

What do we eat?

Pizza will be provided in the evening program. Breakfast may include choices such as cereal, oatmeal, fruit, coffee, and juice. Participants with food allergies are encouraged to bring food that is safe for them.

What will we do?

Program activities may include: up-close animal encounters, night tours of the Zoo, scavenger hunts, crafts, games, and other themed activities.

How long does the program last?

Your instructor will meet you at 6:30 PM. Please be on time as the Zoo is closed and there will not be admission staff on duty to allow entry to late-comers. Once the program has begun, **you will not be able to exit and/or reenter the Zoo** unless there is an emergency.

Who will be at the Zoo throughout the night?

A member of our education team will stay with your group in the assigned sleeping area throughout the night. We may also have members of our carefully screened volunteer program spending the night. Our staff and volunteers may be male or female, so please call us at 561-533-0887 ext. 229 if your group or organization has special rules regarding co-ed sleeping arrangements. Security guards are on duty throughout the night.

What if it is raining?

Overnight adventures happen rain or shine. Your overnight will only be cancelled in cases of severe or hazardous weather. Your group will be contacted by 4:00 PM on the night of your overnight only if the impending weather is expected to be severe.

Can I bring my own birthday decorations, cake, etc.?

For the safety of our animals, balloons are not permitted inside the zoo, but you may bring other decorations for your party. Any treat bags or other gift bags should be distributed upon exiting the Zoo in the morning. Please contact us at 561-533-0887 ext. 229 to discuss these policies in detail.

Can I request special programming to earn a specific Girl Scout or Boy Scout badge?

Yes, we can create custom programs for your group! Please give us at least 4 weeks' notice, and be prepared to provide badge requirements.

Do overnight programs meet any educational standards?

Our "Creatures of the Night" program meets several educational standards at the K-2nd grade levels. "Zoo Clues" meets several standards for 3rd-5th grade students. These standards are available at: <http://www.palmbeachzoo.org/class-overnights>.

Please contact us at education@palmbeachzoo.org with any other questions.