

Welcome to Iowa's Wildest Adventure!

Our goal is to make your event at the Blank Park Zoo an unforgettable experience for you and your guests. The zoo offers a variety of indoor and outdoor spaces for all types of events. From a grand gala for up to 450 guests to business meetings and conferences for smaller groups and breakout sessions for 50-150 guests. The Blank Park Zoo has it all.

We have designed our packages for you to create your event in your way with a variety of ala carte options. Including the ability to add animal viewing/education, carousel and train rides, and other customizations as part of your package should you wish. The Zoo also offers options for private after-hours rentals where you and your guests have exclusivity to our exhibits.

We encourage you to use your imagination and consult with our event supervisors to design an event that is uniquely yours.

Amenities Included

- ✓ Complimentary Free Parking
- ✓ Guests receive \$10 admission (50% discount from Zoo admission rate of \$20 per person)
- ✓ On-site Event Supervisor and Uniformed Security Guard
- ✓ Tables and chairs – including setup and tear down
- ✓ Choice of two exclusive caterers (*Baratta's Catering or HyVee Army Post Road*)
- ✓ Zoo Members receive 10% off the entire rental cost.
- ✓ Qualified charities (501c3) receive 15% discount.

Booking Details

Corporate rentals are based on four-hour increments. All day rentals are eight-hours.

Each additional hour is \$150 per hour.

Rental time includes setup and clean up time.

Only one rental event scheduled per venue per day.

Galas, events, meetings, activities can be hosted year-round.

Contract and 50% payment of contracted amount is required at time of booking.

Final payment for the contracted amount is due 15 days prior to event date.

Additional Fees (if applicable)

WIFI, A/V packages, and speaker systems: \$150

Zoo access for set up/décor prior to or after event: \$50 per hour

Additional event rental time: \$150 per hour (*based on availability*).

Holiday weekend charges apply:

New Year's Eve, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas week

Events at Blank Park Zoo are customizable. Add zoo tickets, animal ambassador visits, train and/or carousel rides, animal feedings, and more to your events. Please note some customizations are weather dependent.

For more information on rental packages email sales@blankparkzoo.org or call 515.974.2533.

VENUES

Holmes Foster Event Center (*Indoor Space*)

Our recently constructed Holmes Foster Events Center is our largest indoor space and is an ideal venue for your special event, company outing, or gala. It can accommodate up to 450 guests (Banquet rounds) or 600 cocktail style. Our event center is a large blank canvas space that guests can easily transform to fit the style of your event. The Holmes Foster Event Center includes everything you need including free parking, tables/chairs, and the latest in audio/visual equipment. Additionally, it has an outdoor patio that is ideal for cocktail hour or casual affairs.

Holmes Foster Events Center Rates:

Weekday Rentals

Four Hour M-Th Daytime Rental	\$1000.00
All Day M-Th Rental (8 hours)	\$1500.00
After Hours M-Th Rental (4 hours)	\$2500.00

Weekend Rentals (Fri-Sun)

All Day Rental (8am to 4pm)	\$3500.00
After Hours Fri-Sun Rental (6 hours)	\$5000.00

Discovery Center (*Indoor Space*)

This indoor space overlooks the Discovery Center's free-roaming bird aviary and botanical gardens. It can be utilized for a variety of meeting types. The Discovery Center is made up of smaller breakout rooms — Tamarin, Palm and Waterfall. It is perfect for smaller meetings and gatherings plus larger conferences and banquets. It accommodates up to 200 theater style or 120 banquet style. Indoor animal exhibits within the Discovery Center can be accessed all year long.

Discovery Center Rates:

WATERFALL or PALM ROOM	PRICE	WATERFALL EXPANDED ROOM	PRICE
<i>(15-40 Guests at Banquet Rounds)</i>		<i>(60-90 Guests at Banquet Rounds)</i>	
Four Hour Daytime Rental	\$500	Four Hour Daytime Rental	\$700
All Day Rental (8 hours)	\$750	All Day Rental (8 hours)	\$1000
After Hours M-Th	\$750	After Hours M-Th	\$1000
After Hours Fri-Sun	\$1000	After Hours Fri-Sun	\$1500
PALM EXPANDED ROOM	PRICE	DISCOVERY CENTER	PRICE
<i>(40-60 Guests at Banquet Rounds)</i>		<i>(70-120 Guests at Banquet Rounds)</i>	
Four Hour Daytime Rental	\$550	Four Hour Daytime Rental	\$750
All Day Rental (8 hours)	\$750	All Day Rental (8 hours)	\$1000
After Hours M-Th	\$750	After Hours M-Th	\$1000
After Hours Fri-Sun	\$1000	After Hours Fri-Sun	\$1500

See customizations on Page 4 for add-on options.

Large Pavilion

This covered outdoor space is a beautiful location conveniently situated near the Zoo's entrance and the Bald Eagle exhibit. It is a perfect location for a variety of event types. The large pavilion seats 200-300 guests theater style or up to 150 banquet style.

Weekday Rentals

Four Hour M-Th Daytime Rental	\$700
All Day M-Th Rental (8 hours)	\$1000
After Hours Monday to Thursday	\$1000

Weekend Rentals (Fri-Sun)

All Day Rental (8am to 4pm)	\$1000
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Africa Pavilion/ Exhibits

Overlooking Iowa's version of the African savanna's iconic animals, this outdoor covered pavilion offers sweeping views of the Jamma Kwa Africa exhibits of giraffe and addax. The Africa Pavilion seats up to 60 guests theater or 40 at round tables. This is an amazing area for cocktail hours or smaller more intimate events, including baby showers and private dinners.

Weekday Rentals

Four Hour M-Th Daytime Rental	\$550
All Day M-Th Rental (8 hours)	\$750
After Hours Monday to Thursday	\$750

Weekend Rentals (Fri-Sun)

All Day Rental (8am to 4pm)	\$750
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Joseph's Stage

Immersed in the center of the zoo with views of the lions, tigers, and sea lion. This partially covered area accommodates up to 200-250 guests for a reception, celebration, or cocktail hour. It can also be utilized for music and presentations. Pricing is based on zoo usage for a customized contract.

AFTER HOURS EVENTS

Zoo Animal Exhibits

Viewing of outdoor and indoor animal exhibits exclusively for your guests for up to three hours. Events after the Zoo has closed to the public includes admission fees for your first 400 guests. Additional guests are \$6 each. This package is only available between the months of April – October.

Full Zoo Rental Rates:

Corporate and Private Events **\$6000.00**

If you would like to add an event venue to your event, please select a space below.

Holmes Foster Event Center (Indoor)	\$2500.00
Discovery Center (Indoor)	\$1500.00
Large Pavilion	\$1500.00
Africa or Small Pavilion	\$1000.00

Partial Zoo Rental - Choose Individual Exhibits for up to three hours: **Hourly Rate**

Center of the Zoo Exhibits (Big Cats, Sea Lions, Tortoise)	\$400.00
Jamaa Kwa Africa Exhibits (Giraffe, Rhinos, Addax)	\$400.00
Australia and Kids Kingdom	\$400.00
Indoor Exhibits (Bird Aviary, Aquarium)	\$400.00

Animals will be off exhibit 30 minutes before sunset. Contact event supervisor for sundown times.

Indoor exhibits may remain open until 8:00 p.m.

Qualified charitable organizations (501c3) receive a 10% discount

CUSTOMIZATIONS

➤ **Ambassador Animals**

- Allow guests to interact with two unique animals. Ambassador animals may include: small mammals, reptiles, birds, insects, amphibians, etc. (Subject to availability)
- Craft and enrichment workshops available upon request. \$65 for 30 min. during public hours

➤ **Unlimited Train and Carousel Rides (June – August)**

- \$250 per hour for either Train or Carousel for up to 4 hours.
Train and carousel are weather dependent.
Please note carousel is suitable for guests who are 150 lbs. or less.

➤ **Animal Feeding Bundles**

- \$250 for one hour of Giraffe or Goat feeding. (Subject to availability)

➤ **Adopt an Animal**

Become the proud parent of one of 20 Blank Park Zoo animals by participating in the Adopt an Animal program. Details @ <https://www.blankparkzoo.com/support-the-zoo/adopt-an-animal>

Contact sales@blankparkzoo.org or call 515.974.2533 for more details on party customizations and enhancements.

Rental FAQs

How long are your rental timeslots?

Rental timeslots for events are typically four hours for half day or eight hours for an all-day rental. If your event requires additional hours or time frame adjustments, please contact us at 515-974-2533

Is zoo admission included in my rental fee?

No, zoo admission is not included. However, guests receive reduced admission to the zoo of \$10/person (50% off) and entrance to all exhibits. Guests can pay on their own fee or we can arrange for pre-paid wristband admission.

My event is after hours, is animal viewing included in my event?

Zoo animal exhibits packages are available for an additional charge. See add-on elements on page X. All animals go in 30 minutes before sunset. They are available for up to 3 hours from April to October. Please contact the Private Events Supervisor for further information.

Do all rentals include tables and chairs?

Yes, all rentals include setup/tear down of tables and chairs. Table layout and chair quantity is due 10 days in advance of your event date. Black or white linens are included when using Baratta's as your caterer.

Can we decorate the room for our event?

Yes, we encourage you to add linens, LED candles, centerpieces, florals, etc. in our indoor spaces to personalize your event. We do have restrictions on fog machines, glitter, confetti, as well as adhering décor to walls and doorways. Contact us for specific décor questions.

What is your catering policy?

We have two exclusive caterers from which to choose: Baratta's and Army Post Hy-Vee. We encourage you to contact them regarding your specific menu ideas. Baratta's (Michelle Dodds) 515-710-0516 / HyVee (James McCaffrey) 515-285-6394

What is your alcohol policy?

Baratta's Catering is the licensed entity for all alcohol served at the zoo. They have several packages available. Contact Michelle Dodds at 515-710-0516.

Can we have a band or DJ?

Yes, you may have a band or music at your event. In outdoor areas that have animal exhibits, music levels cannot exceed 90 decibels nor can strobe, laser, or cop lights be allowed for animal safety. These restrictions do not apply for indoor areas (Holmes Event Center or Discovery Center).

Can I view the animals if my event is during the winter months?

Yes, indoor viewing of rhino, giraffe, tortoises, penguins, and the Discovery Center exhibits are available in the winter months (November thru March) when the remainder of the zoo's animal enclosures are not available due to weather conditions.

Is there a security charge?

Yes, we require an on-site security guard at all after hours events. The security charge is \$35 per hour/per guard. One security guard will be required for each 250 guests. Payment to be made 15 days in advance of event.

What happens if we have to cancel our event?

Should you cancel the event more than 6 months prior to the scheduled event date, a refund of 50% of the paid rental will be given. Should you cancel the event less than six months prior to the scheduled event, no rental refund can be given.

Are extra hours available for events?

Yes. Additional hours are available upon request and availability. The rate is \$150 per hour and must be scheduled 15 days in advance of the event.

Is guest event setup and clean up time included?

Yes, the facilities are available during the times listed in the contract for event setup and cleanup of the event as well as vendor load in/out. If the clean-up/load out lasts longer than the contracted end time a fee of \$75 per hour will apply.

What is the tobacco use, smoking, vaping policy?

The Zoo prohibits smoking, vaping, chewing, or any consumption of tobacco products and all illegal drugs on Zoo grounds in accordance with state law and for the health and safety of our animals.

What is your rain policy?

If your event is due to take place outside, we offer our indoor facilities for 25% off of the specified rental rate in case of an unwanted weather emergency. Please note, this offer is contingent on space availability.