



Going to the Akron Zoo!



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At the Akron Zoo, you'll enter our Welcome Center through the big, wooden double doors. I'll wait in line with my group to buy my ticket.

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If needed, I can check out a sensory bag, free of charge, to use during my visit. I can pick up my bag in the office in the Welcome Center.

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If needed, I can request an Akron Zoo augmentative & alternative communication (AAC) board to help me communicate with others during my visit.

This is available at the Akron Zoo ticket counter.

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Once I have my ticket, I'll walk over to the doors into the zoo and hand my ticket to our ticket taker to scan.

Now it's time to go in!



When I purchase my tickets, I will get a map. I can pick my animals I want to see and follow the map to find them.

I can also view the map [online](https://www.kulturecity.org).

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If I get hungry, I can eat a meal or snack I bought from the Komodo Kingdom Café, open year-round!



In the summer, I can also buy a snack from Grasslands Café, Panda Treats food truck or one of the Dippin' Dots stands.

Some stands may be closed on certain days due to limited staffing.

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If I need a bathroom break, I will ask my group or family for permission. This way everyone knows where I am and I feel safe.





Some areas will be loud. I can always ask to go to a quiet area with my group.



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**I can also use headphones
if the noises are too loud.**



If I need a moment away from the crowd, I can always step into the Guest Comfort Station – located across from the penguins.



I can stop at the boma in Pride of Africa and feed the goats. They love getting crackers purchased from the zoo employee. In fact, they may even battle for who gets my crackers. I can break the cracker in pieces and hold it still for the goats.

The animal will take the cracker but not my fingers! If I don't want to feed or pet the animals, I can stay with my group and watch.



I can ride the Conservation Carousel for a fun ride, but I might need my headphones because this area can be loud.



I can ride the train in Pride of Africa, which will take me on a tour of the area. I might even get to see the lions and other animals from a different angle!



I can slide down the slide through the otter exhibit. The otters love to swim around the slide. I need to remember to go feet first and keep my feet down on the slide so I land at the bottom correctly.



I will walk on the designated paths and stay with my group. If I somehow get separated, I will find a zoo employee to help me.



The Akron Zoo employees all wear green uniforms and the volunteers wear blue. I can ask them questions about the zoo or the animals. I will wait my turn to ask my question.





Sometimes the animals are sleeping or it is too cold to come outside. I know that I can come see them again another time.



When it is time to leave the zoo, I will get my things and say goodbye to the animals and the Akron Zoo employees.



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