

BLANK PARK ZOO

Weddings & Events

# Wedding Packet



Photo by Katie McDonald Photography



# TABLE OF *Contents*

<b>CONGRATULATIONS.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>WEDDING DETAILS.....</b>	<b>2</b>
Wedding Packages	
Available by Request	
Additional Details	
<b>CEREMONY &amp; RECEPTION PACKAGES</b>	
Ceremony and Reception .....	<b>3</b>
Ceremony Only .....	<b>4</b>
Reception Only .....	<b>5</b>
<b>WEDDING FAQs .....</b>	<b>6-7</b>
<b>BLANK PARK ZOO MAP .....</b>	<b>8</b>



# Congratulations AND THANK YOU!

On behalf of Blank Park Zoo we would like to thank you for your interest in hosting your wedding with us. We guarantee a unique and exciting experience for you and your guests at Iowa's Wildest Adventure. Choose from a variety of indoor and outdoor facilities, or rent the entire Zoo exclusively for your guests. Whether it be your ceremony, reception, or entire celebration, the Zoo offers many ways to make the event a truly memorable experience.



# Wedding

## DETAILS



Photo by Cherry Chiles Photography

### INCLUDED IN ALL WEDDING PACKAGES

- Setup and tear down of tables, chairs and linens
- Use of Zoo for pictures
- Wedding arch and platform in the Pavilion
- Speaker system for iPod or CD
- Coat racks
- Complimentary parking
- Experienced event staff throughout the event

### AVAILABLE BY REQUEST

- Use of our bridal suite and grooms suite
- Ceremony rehearsal
- AV equipment
- Access to site prior to rental time for decoration, and a rain backup space.

### RENTAL TIMES

Ceremony – 4 hours

Reception – 7 hours

Full weddings – 10 hours

*Hours are flexible depending on time of events.*

### ADDITIONAL DETAILS

- Zoo members receive a 10% discount on the rental space.
- 20% discount on a rental for a rehearsal dinner.\*

*\* Upon availability, contact event coordinator for pricing.*



# Ceremony & Reception

## PACKAGES | 10 HOUR CONTRACT

### SMALL PREMIUM PACKAGE | \$5,000

**\* This package is only available between the months of April - October**

Use of up to three unique venue locations, excluding the Zooplex, for a ceremony, cocktail hour, and reception for up to 160 guests. Use of outdoor AND indoor exhibits exclusively for your guests at no additional cost.

### SMALL DELUXE PACKAGE | \$3,500

**\*This package is available year round, with animal availability dependent on time of year**

Use of up to three unique venue locations, excluding the Zooplex, for a ceremony, cocktail hour, and reception for up to 160 guests. Use of indoor exhibits exclusively for your guests at no additional cost.\*

Additional cost for select exhibits:

Africa – \$250/hour

Australia and Kids Kingdom – \$250/hour

### ZOOPLEX PREMIUM PACKAGE | \$6,000

**\* This package is only available between the months of April - October**

Use of up to two unique venue locations for a ceremony, cocktail hour, and reception in the Zooplex. Use of outdoor AND indoor exhibits exclusively for your guests at no additional cost.

### ZOOPLEX DELUXE PACKAGE | \$4,500

**\*This package is available year round, with animal availability dependent on time of year**

Use of up to two unique venue locations for a ceremony, cocktail hour, and reception in the Zooplex.

Additional cost for select exhibits:

Africa – \$250/hour, Australia and Kids Kingdom – \$250/hour and/or Indoor – \$250/hour



Photo by El Photography



Photo by M & M Photography



Photo by Chelsea Kyaw Photo

10% off for Zoo members.

*\*Animals will be off exhibit 30 minutes before sunset. Contact coordinator for sundown times. Indoor exhibits may remain open until 8:00pm.*

*The security charge is \$35 per hour/per guard. One security guard will be required for each 250 guests.*

**P: 515-974-2506 E: SALES@BLANKPARKZOO.COM | 7401 SW 9TH STREET, DES MOINES, IOWA 50315 | WWW.BLANKPARKZOO.COM**

# Ceremony Only

## LOCATIONS | 4 HOUR CONTRACT

### PAVILION | \$1,200

The covered, outdoor space is a beautiful location for up to 200 guests for ceremony. 120-150 for reception.



### DISCOVERY CENTER | \$1,000

The indoor space overlooking the rainforest accommodates up to 120 guests banquet style or up to 200 guests ceremony style.



### AFRICAN PAVILION | \$500

A great space for a quaint wedding or intimate cocktail hour of 40 guests or less.



### AQUARIUM | \$700

A truly unique wedding location for under 40 guests.



10% off for Zoo members.

\*Animals will be off exhibit 30 minutes before sunset.



# Reception Only

## PACKAGES | 7 HOUR CONTRACT

### SMALL PREMIUM RECEPTION | \$4,500

**\* This package is only available between the months of April - October**

Dinner and dancing in the location of your choice excluding the Zooplex. Use of outdoor and indoor exhibits exclusively for your guests at no additional cost.\*

### SMALL DELUXE RECEPTION | \$3,000

**\*This package is available year round, with animal availability dependent on time of year**

Dinner and dancing in the location of your choice, excluding the Zooplex. Use of indoor exhibits open exclusively for your guests at no additional cost.\*

Additional cost for select exhibits:

Africa – \$250/hour

Australia and Kids Kingdom – \$250/hour

### ZOOPLEX PREMIUM RECEPTION | \$5,500

**\* This package is only available between the months of April - October**

Dinner and dancing in the Zooplex. Use of outdoor and indoor exhibits exclusively for your guests at no additional cost.\*

### ZOOPLEX DELUXE RECEPTION | \$4,000

**\*This package is available year round, with animal availability dependent on time of year**

Dinner and dancing in the Zooplex.

Additional cost for select exhibits:

Africa – \$250/hour

Australia and Kids Kingdom – \$250/hour and/or Indoor – \$250/hour

## COCKTAIL HOUR

**\* Included in both Premium and Deluxe packages**

Location options include, but are not limited to, the aquarium, sea lion deck, African pavilion, and lobby.

A dance floor may be rented for an additional cost

15' x 15' dance floor – \$600      18' x 18' dance floor – \$800

Color options for the dance floors will be: oak, black, or white.



Photo by Rush Street Photography



Photo by Cherry Chiles Photography

10% off for Zoo members.

\*Animals will be off exhibit 30 minutes before sunset. Contact coordinator for sundown times.

\*Indoor exhibits may remain open until 8:00pm.

The security charge is \$35 per hour/per guard. One security guard will be required for each 250 guests.

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# Wedding

## F A Q S

### **Is set-up time included?**

Yes, the facilities are available during the times listed in the contract for set up and tear down of the event. If the event lasts longer than the stated time extra fees will apply.

### **Is admission included in my event charge?**

As long as your ceremony and reception begin after the Zoo has closed to the public, then there will be no additional admission fees for your guests. If your guests would like to tour the Zoo during normal business hours, then they will pay a reduced rate for admission and entrance to all exhibits.

### **How long are your wedding rental timeslots?**

Ceremony only events are a 4 hour contract. Reception only events are a 7 hour contract. Ceremony and reception events are a 10 hour contract. If your event requires additional hours or time frame adjustments, please let your event coordinator know.

### **Are extra hours available for events?**

Yes. Additional hours are available upon request and availability. Additional costs apply.

### **Do all rentals include tables and chairs?**

Yes, your rental includes set up of tables and chairs.

### **Can I bring my own linens? Or do you or the caterer provide them?**

Our preferred caterer provides either black or white linens at no charge to you. If you would like different colors or sizes, you are welcome to work through an outside vendor.

### **Is there a deposit required to reserve a room?**

A non-refundable deposit (half of the rental fee) is required at the signing of the contract.

### **What happens if we have to cancel our event?**

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

### **Can we reschedule our event?**

Please contact our rental event coordinators to help you reschedule.

### **Can we decorate the room for our event?**

Yes, with approval from your event coordinator. A licensed florist or wholesaler must provide the floral arrangements. Flowers and plants may not be brought in from home gardens or farmers markets. Balloons, confetti, glitter, straws, swizzle sticks, silly string, fireworks, plastic stirrers, rice, birdseed, or bubbles are not allowed on zoo grounds. We also do not permit the use of nails, hooks, tacks, Command Hooks, or screws on the walls of the indoor facility; we do not permit the use of nails, tacks, or staples to be used anywhere within the outdoor facilities.

### **Do I need to bring my own audio visual equipment?**

Blank Park Zoo offers various audio/visual equipment for your use. Please discuss further details with your event coordinator.

### **Can we have a band or DJ?**

Yes, you may have music at your event. For the safety of the animals, your event coordinator will control music levels. We do not allow fog or bubble machines, strobe, laser, or cop lights in the exhibits to provide the additional safety for our animals.

### **Can I have a rehearsal the day before my wedding?**

Please discuss rehearsal time with your event coordinator. Rehearsals are set for 1 hour and depend on the calendar of events for the week. The Zoo also features rooms for your rehearsal dinner. For an additional fee your event coordinator will be happy to discuss a personalized opportunity.

### **Are there bridal and groom suites?**

We have two "multi-purpose" rooms, which serve as a bridal and/or groom suite. Let your event coordinator know if you would like to include the bridal and/or groom suite in your contract at no extra cost.



# Wedding

## FAQs

CONTINUED

### **Are my guests allowed to smoke on the grounds?**

For the health and safety of our animals, we do not allow smoking anywhere on our property. The zoo is privately owned and prohibits smoking, vaping, chewing, or any consumption of tobacco products and all illegal drugs on zoo grounds as determined by state law.

### **What is your rain policy?**

If your event is due to take place outside we offer our indoor facility for 25% of the specified rental space in case of an unwanted weather emergency. The offer is optional and dependent on space availability.

### **Is there a security charge?**

Blank Park Zoo requires the use of a security guard at any event dispensing alcoholic beverages or any event using the grounds outside normal business hours. The security charge is \$35 per hour/per guard. One security guard will be required for each 250 guests.

### **Can I view the animals if my wedding is during the winter months?**

Indoor Rhino, Giraffe, Aldabra Tortoises, Penguins, and the Discovery Center Exhibits are available in the winter months when the remainder of the zoo's animal enclosures cannot be available due to weather conditions. The additional rental fee for each exhibit is as follows: Rhino \$250 per hr., Giraffe \$250 per hr., Rhino & Giraffe rented together for a discount of \$350 per hr., Aldabra Tortoises and Penguins for \$250 per hr. (these animals are found in the same indoor facility.) and Discovery Center exhibits for \$250 per hr.

### **Can we bring our own alcohol or baked goods?**

No. All alcoholic beverages consumed on the premises must be provided by our exclusive caterer in accordance with the Iowa Liquor and Beer Control Act. Baked goods must be purchased through a certified bakery.

### **Will the animals be out for my entire event?**

Animals go in 30 minutes before sunset, so depending on your event timeline and the time of year, the animals may or may not be out for the entire duration of your event. Contact your event coordinator for more information. Indoor and outdoor exhibits are included in the premium package. Select animal exhibits may be added to the Deluxe Wedding Package for an additional fee. Please inquire with Event Coordinator for further information.

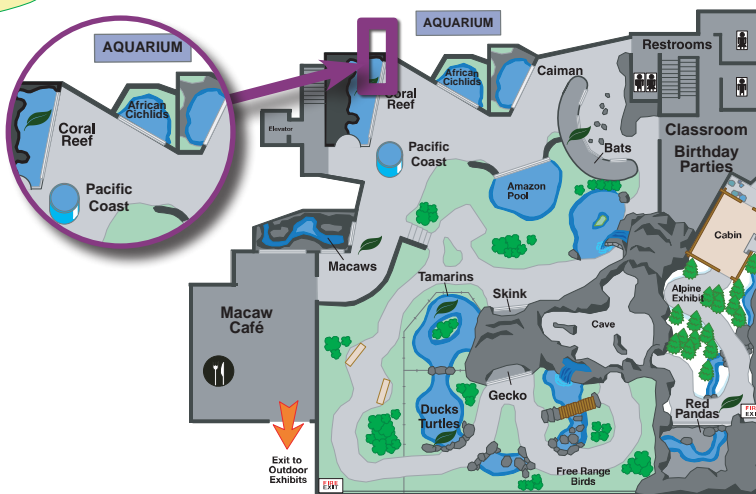
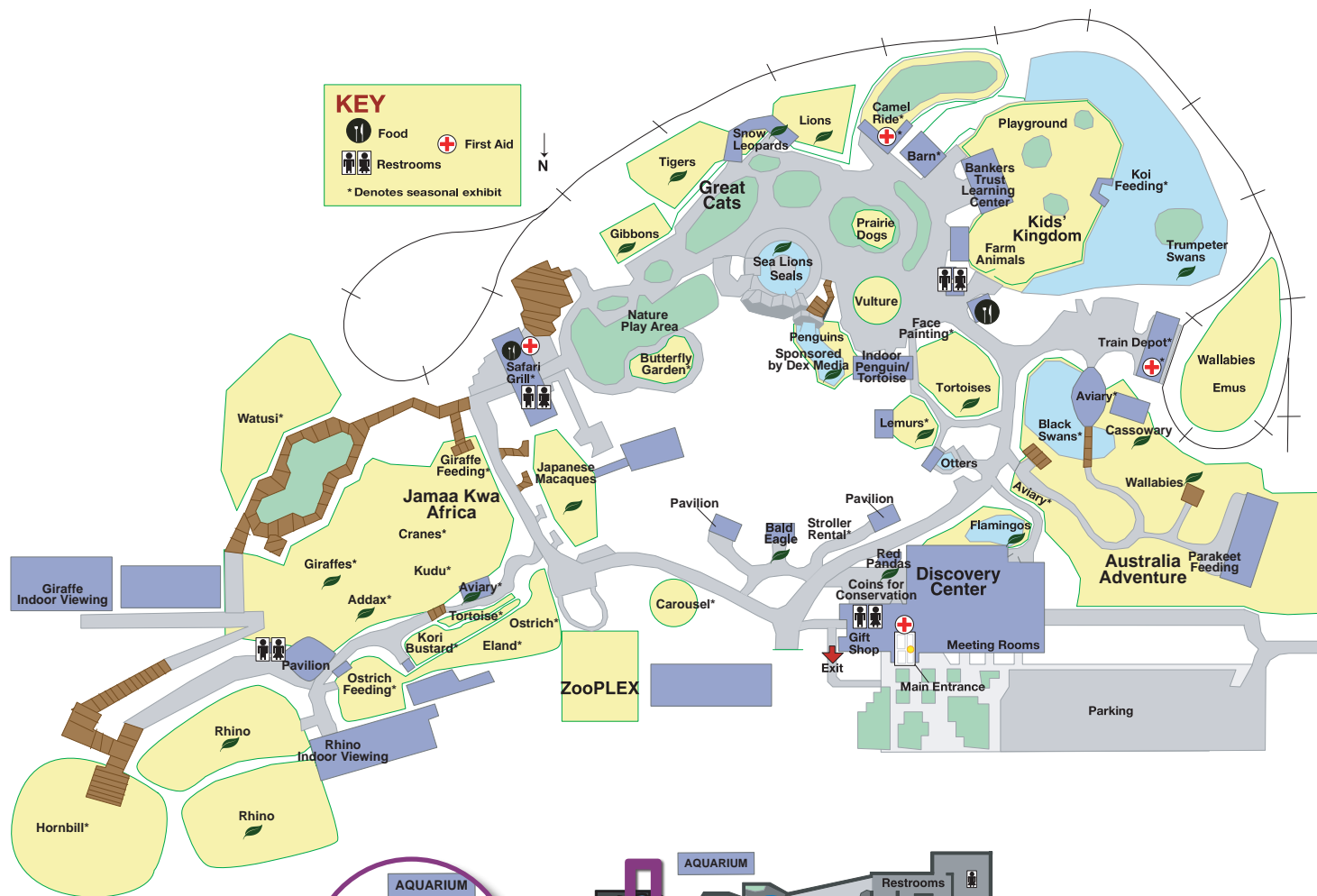
*Indoor exhibits are open until 8:00pm year round upon request.*



*Photo by El Photography*

# Blank Park Zoo

## MAP







For more information  
on wedding packages  
call 515.974.2506 or email  
[sales@blankparkzoo.org](mailto:sales@blankparkzoo.org)