



YOUR VISIT TO THE HIGHLAND WILDLIFE PARK

The Highland Wildlife Park is a great day out for any visitor, but for young people it offers a marvellous educational opportunity, which helps to meet the demands of the Curriculum for Excellence and bring their lessons alive. We want to become an extension of your classroom and a valuable learning resource.



THIS INFORMATION SHEET aims to let you know what can be available for your visit to the Highland Wildlife Park so that you can prepare yourself and your class for the day ahead and get as much out of the visit as possible. Trips and visits away from school are expensive, but if planned carefully, a visit to the Park can provide a basis for a wide range of activities across all aspects of learning. Linking your visit to activities at school, before and afterwards, will really strengthen the learning experience for your class and will make the most of the time and money spent during your visit to Highland Wildlife Park.

PRIOR TO YOUR VISIT; Teachers can visit the Park free of charge to help with lesson planning and to make sure you know the layout and facilities available at the Park and carry out your own risk assessment. A general risk assessment is available on line at <http://www.highlandwildlifepark.org>. Please contact the education officer on **01540 651981** to arrange your free visit.

If you require any help or more information prior to your visit also contact the education officer on hwpeducation@rzss.org.uk.

Remember that a visit to the Highland Wildlife Park can offer a great learning platform for many different subjects and topics such as English, Art, Biology and Current affairs—be flexible and imaginative in your approach to your visit and how you use it to develop the key capabilities for your class.

EDUCATION VISITS: DESIGN YOUR DAY

Contact our Education Officers to design your day for your group (for all ages and group sizes). Create with us your blend of:

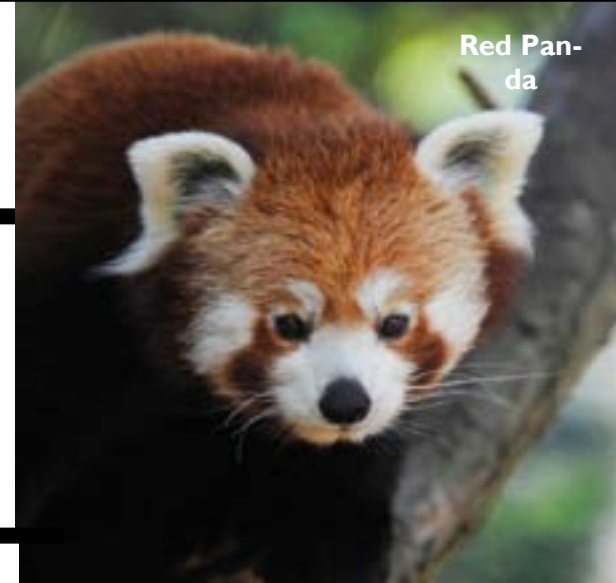
GUIDED BUS TOUR See the Mountain and Tundra animals in the drive-through. (Guides are available by prior booking in suitable vehicles)

SELF EXPLORATION OF THE PARK Walk around the park spotting the Mountain and Tundra animals from around the world as well as our rarer Scottish wildlife set within the Cairngorm National Park.

CLASSROOM SESSION Within our Education Centre, we can focus on the animals / topics of your choice e.g. Skins and Skulls / Animals at Risk sessions / Wildcat and tigers / Evolution etc

TOPICS WHICH ARE AVAILABLE

- What are peoples perception of predators?
- What is the point of zoos?
- Zoos and conservation
- Animals at risk
- Evolution
- Animal observation and enrichment
- Polar bear evolution and adaptation
- Re-introduction
- Wildlife crime
- Enclosure design
- Animal adaptations



Red Panda



Bactrian Camel





LENGTH OF VISIT; all groups should, if possible, allow at least 3–4 hours (not including lunch) in the Park with flexible starting times. The time with a guide will vary.

DURING YOUR VISIT; your class will have the chance to see many animals from cold climates (Mountain and Tundra). During the tour of the drive through you will have the opportunity to handle and look at many bio-facts, as we discuss the role of zoos in modern society. There will be the chance to ask questions as well as lots of interesting facts, stories and explanations from our education officers.

WHAT TO WEAR; the students should be prepared for all weathers (this is the Highlands). Sensible footwear is highly recommended. The Park is open all year round. If there are any closures we will notify you as soon as possible.

AROUND THE PARK

Supervision and behaviour: it is the Society's policy that all children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. All school groups must be supervised at all times during the visit. We will ask schools to leave if their behaviour threatens the welfare of the animals or the enjoyment of other visitors.

All rubbish and litter should be placed in the bins provided.

When walking and looking at the animals in the Park, the students should have time and patience as the animals may be hidden within their enclosures.

Please note that animals may be moved around the zoo. Updates are available on the day.

FACILITIES; A 40 seater Discovery Room with audio-visual equipment and touch tables. There are 2 undercover seating areas for eating packed lunches, if the weather is unsuitable for eating at the picnic benches. The cafe has a selection of light snacks and drinks available to buy, and can be organised for group events. There are daily feeds of the animals throughout the Park. Details are available on the day.



**Highland Wildlife Park,
Kingussie,
Inverness-Shire. PH21 1NL,
01540 651981 or hwpeducation@rzs.org.uk**

Not seen all the animals?

Don't forget that you can go around the Main Reserve as many times as you want!



- VIEWPOINT
- MAIN RESERVE
- WALK-ROUND AREA
- NOT SUITABLE FOR WHEELCHAIRS
- CATTLE GRID



During your visit...

- 1 Please do not feed the animals, climb on walls or cross barriers
- 2 Please do not bang on windows at exhibits
- 3 Please note that the Main Reserve will close half an hour before the Park closes
- 4 Please note that the Wild Wood will close 15mins before the Park closes
- 5 Please note that the management cannot accept responsibility for any damage to vehicles arising whilst in the Main Reserve or the car park.

PLEASE NOTE:

The Park is constantly evolving and the location of animals may be subject to change.

Walk-round area

- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Snow Monkey | 14. Capybara | 26. European Beaver |
| 2. Japanese Serow | 15. Red Squirrel (W&S) | 27. Pinnacled's Porcupine |
| 3. European Beaver | 16. Polar Bear | 28. Red Deer |
| 4. Arctic Fox | 17. European Wolf | 29. European Elk |
| 5. Sticky Owl | 18. Malaya | 30. Barbican Deer |
| 6. Red Panda | 19. Amur Tiger | 31. European Otter |
| 7. Goral | 20. Bechstein's Cheetah | 32. Fallow Deer |
| 8. ibex | 21. Kangaroo | 33. Muntjac |
| 9. Vervet | 22. Yak | 34. Wombat |
| 10. Lynx | 23. European Forest Hare | 35. Otter |
| 11. Scottish Wildcat | 24. Morris's Squirrel | 36. White-Lipped Deer |
| 12. Eagle Owl | 25. Himalayan Tahr | 37. Great Grey Owl |