

Our Mission

A living centre for education and science, committed to providing compelling guest experiences and inspiring passion to protect wildlife and habitats.

Our Vision

Canada's national leader in saving wildlife to ensure the rich diversity of nature for future generations.

Opening Date

The Toronto Zoo first opened its doors on Thursday, August 15, 1974 and since then has been a leader in saving and protecting species and their habitats both locally and globally.

Toronto Zoo Endangered Species Reserve Fund

This fundraising program was established for the purpose of funding research and education initiatives that aid in the conservation of endangered species. Money collected from the wishing wells on site, coin boxes at points of sale and direct contributions from companies, schools, and individuals greatly contribute to the Fund.



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Staff

- 110 retirees, 279 permanent, 11 temporary, approximately 355 non-permanent

Volunteers

The Zoo has over 400 Volunteers that fulfill an educational role, engaging visitors at various locations around the site. This roster is comprised of 240 Year-Round Volunteers, 73 Zoo Ambassadors (students), 65 Summer Information Volunteers, and 55 Panda Ambassador Volunteers. In 2016, Volunteers donated 33,025 hours of their time to the Zoo, contacting an estimated 883,990 people.

Attendance

- Approximately 1.3 million visitors attend the Zoo annually.

Area and Layout

- 284 hectares (710 acres) divided into seven zoogeographic regions: Indo-Malaya, Africa, Americas (North & South America), Eurasia Wilds, the Tundra Trek, Australasia and Canadian Domain.

Animals

- Collection: Over 5,000 animals representing 450 species (including invertebrates and fish). This includes 2013 to March 18, 2018 breeding loan of two giant pandas Er Shun, Da Mao and cubs Jia Panpan and Jia Yueyue.

Feeding the Animals

Professional Nutritionists design, order, prepare and deliver over 430 different “menus” (including giant pandas Da Mao, Er Shun, Jia Panpan and Jia Yueyue). Besides dietary work they do scientific research on the nutrition and physiology of polar bears and amphibians, and on the suitability of browse (i.e. branches with leaves) as a dietary item for many other species. All research is done to support conservation of species in the wild.

Zoo Habitats

One of the objectives of the Toronto Zoo is maintaining native environments. The Zoo has over 250 animal habitats which include but are not limited to, the award winning Giant Panda Experience, Tundra Trek, Great Barrier Reef, African Rainforest Pavilion, Endangered African Penguin Exhibit and Eurasia Wilds.

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