



SPRING 2015

newsprints

NEW to the
**African
Savanna**



toronto
ZOO



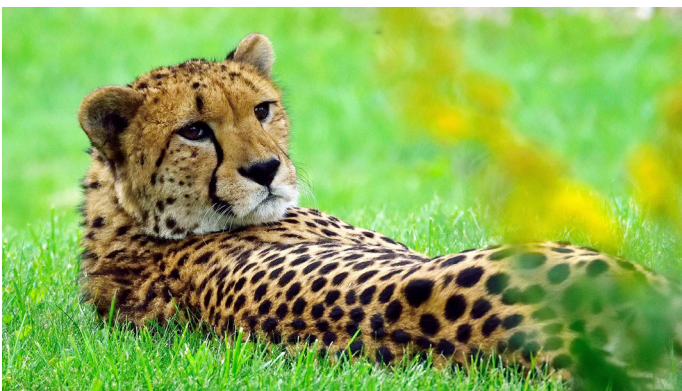
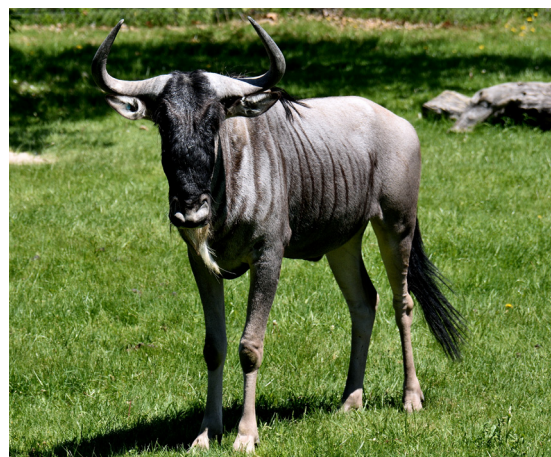
new at the Zoo

Ankole-watusi cattle new to African Savanna!

Meet our Ankole-Watusi, a type of domestic cattle originating from the Sahara region in Africa. These cattle are a very social species and “glum” together in tight groups. Spotting them isn’t difficult, as their horns can measure over 2.4 metres in length! These horns are not only a defense mechanism but they actually keep them cool. With a honey-combed interior of blood vessels that act as radiators, their horns cool the blood as it circulates through, which allows them to tolerate extreme temperatures. Be sure to watch for them in our former giraffe exhibit in the African Savanna!

Our “gnu” blue wildebeest!

Abercrombie, Benedict, and Charleston are three of the newest residents in the Zoo’s African Savanna, visible on the walk to the Canadian Domain. These three brothers are the first blue wildebeest (also known as white-bearded gnus) that we have ever housed at the Zoo. This species is known for their spectacular migration across the Serengeti and for kicking up their heels in excitement. These antelope seem just as excited to be here as we are to have them!

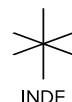


New to Africa cheetah run!

Did you know that cheetahs can accelerate to speeds of up to 100 km/hr in just three seconds? At the Zoo, our cheetahs have the luxury of eating balanced meals that don’t run away, and while this ensures proper nutrition for our cheetahs, it doesn’t fill their appetite for running. NEW this summer, watch as we train our cheetahs for our newly developed cheetah lure run in their exhibit. Be sure to stop by for the 1:00 pm Cheetah Keeper Talk to hear about their training progress!

New National Geographic Augmented Reality!

National Geographic presents Air, Land and Sea, an INDE Appshaker experience. Centered around a dynamic, ever-changing watering hole, the experience allows you to meet a diverse range of animals from Africa to the Arctic as they graze, drink, and interact with the environment around them. This experience is making its worldwide debut at the Toronto Zoo this summer. Paired with stunning photography from National Geographic, visitors will not only be able to interact with these animals, they will have a opportunity to learn more about these critical species and their environments.





Character Meet-and-Greets

What better way to celebrate the opening of Splash Island for the season with a visit from SpongeBob SquarePants himself! On June 27th and 28th we will have Character Meet-and-Greets at our Courtyard Stage. Plus, don't forget to stop by and have a photo taken with your favourite Character every Saturday during the summer!

Kid-tastic Character Saturdays™

June 20-21 • Father's Day with Spider-Man

June 27-28 • SpongeBob SquarePants

July 4 • Captain America

July 11 • My Little Pony, Doh-Doh

July 18 • Angelina Ballerina

July 25 • Bob the Builder

August 1 • Olivia the Piglet

August 8 • Thomas the Tank Engine

August 15 • My Little Pony, Doh-Doh

August 22 • Mike the Knight

August 29 • SpongeBob SquarePants

September 5, 6, 7 • Thomas Trackmaster Engines

Visit event listing for details!

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Pan Am Torch Relay stopping at the Zoo!

Join us on July 5th, 2015 as we welcome the Pan Am Games Torch Relay making a stop here at the Toronto Zoo!

The Toronto 2015 Pan Am Games Torch Relay will be a 41-day journey that will share the Pan Am spirit in more than 130 communities. The torch relay will start in Canada on May 30, 2015 and will make its final stop on July 10, 2015 at the Opening Ceremony of the Toronto 2015 Pan Am Games.

Be sure to stay-tuned to find out who our special torch-bearer will be.



Enrichment Extravaganza!

Every Saturday at 1:30 pm

Join us every Saturday for our "Enrichment Extravaganza" at 1:30 pm. A different animal each month throughout the year will receive a special enrichment surprise, plus our keepers will be on hand to answer your questions about each of these incredible species. **Click here for full calendar**

Did you know that many of our animals receive enrichment daily? Sometimes several times a day! Animal Enrichment is very important here at the Toronto Zoo. When you visit and notice barrels, toys and other devices within animal exhibits, those objects serve as animal enrichment to encourage natural behaviours in our Zoo residents.

BRAVING THE SERENGETI



Experiencing Africa without leaving Toronto!

Africa is home to the largest diversity of megafauna in the world. These animals are majestic and impressive, living in some of the most beautiful and diverse habitats on the planet. The beauty of these environments is so appealing that millions of people from all over the world travel to Africa to witness the beauty first hand. One of the favoured destinations in Africa is the Serengeti plains where the great herds of zebra, giraffe, and antelope roam while lions and cheetahs prowl. Visitors to this rugged landscape enjoy guided treks into the wilderness to observe the wildlife and take the opportunity to lay under the stars at night at their camp far from the bustle of civilization. All return from their voyage with the experience of a lifetime, an experience that for many may be out of reach - but that doesn't have to be the case.

Since 1998, the Toronto Zoo has offered the experience of the Serengeti Bush Camp, an overnight adventure that takes place in the African Savanna section of the Zoo. This camp affords families and groups the opportunity to get as close to the feeling of being on the Serengeti Plains of Africa as possible. From its small beginnings the camp has grown to 13 tents and six Guides capable of hosting up to 60 campers per night. Bush Camp continues to allow campers to observe and discover many of the famous creatures found in the savanna including giraffe, zebra, antelope, lions, and cheetahs, some of which the campers receive the unique opportunity to go behind-the-scenes where they meet wildlife keepers who care for these impressive animals. The experience does not end there!

Campers are able to experience what it might feel like to spend the night among the animals at a camp situated in the very heart of the Africa Savanna section of the Zoo. So close that the roar of the lions can be heard from your tent. The time spent at the Camp is not without adventure as the Guides take campers out into the Savanna in the dark of night to explore before returning to camp to gather around the fire for an evening snack and story. Thousands of campers have experienced Serengeti Bush Camp and what it would be like to be on the great Serengeti Plains of Africa.

If Africa is a dream that seems too far away, join us at the Toronto Zoo's Serengeti Bush Camp for a unique safari experience as close as possible without leaving the city.

Go WILD at Zoo Camp!

Join us for the wildest time in Toronto. Connect with nature at Zoo Camp this summer, a great opportunity to explore wildlife from around the world. A variety of themes are offered unique to the Zoo setting including baby animals, careers, adaptations, and more! Adventures include indoor/outdoor activities, behind-the-scenes opportunities, games, crafts, and rewarding FUN!



To register for summer programs visit online [here](#) or email us at programs@torontozoo.ca

SUMMER EVENTS AT THE ZOO

Mark your calendars as we have some GRRREAT events planned this season! Check out torontozoo.com for full list of upcoming events and details!

JUNE 6 & 7 Cheetah Awareness Weekend

JUNE 21 International Giraffe Day

JUNE 20 & 21 Father's Day with Spider-Man

JUNE 27 Saving Wildlife Day

JULY 1 Canada Day - Pinata's for Pandas

JULY 26 Tiger Awareness Day

AUGUST 22 & 23 Orangutan Awareness Weekend



*Events subject to change without notice



ADOPT AN ANIMAL TODAY!

With over 5,000 animals at the Zoo, you can choose your favourite to "adopt" or give as a terrific gift package to family or friends. Proceeds from this program go towards conservation efforts in place for endangered and at-risk species under our care.

To Adopt an Animal today

Call 416-392-9114 or visit torontozoo.com/supportthezoo or stop by our Membership Office on your next visit.



HOST YOUR NEXT WILD EVENT AT THE ZOO

Whether it's a corporate picnic, exclusive after hours event, family gathering or birthday party, plan an event that your guests won't forget!

• Unique venue • Animal encounters • BBQ & Gourmet catering

Book today at groupevents@torontozoo.ca or call 416-392-5940 for more information.



THE ZOO NEEDS YOU!

Apply today to become a year-round volunteer.

Join our active and outgoing team of adult year-round Volunteers connecting kids and families to nature, educating and inspiring others, promoting wildlife conservation, and supporting the Zoo's special events. To learn more about the Zoo's Volunteer Programs, or to register for our open house information session, visit us online at torontozoo.com/becomeavolunteer.



your day at the zoo

meet the keeper!

Each and every Toronto Zoo Keeper is an animal expert, so we let them do the talking. Through their passion and knowledge for our animals, our Keeper Talks are a not-to-miss opportunity to learn more about different species that call the Zoo home, animal conservation and ways you can make a difference. Plus, visitors have the opportunity to increase their Zoo IQ and ask our keepers questions at the end of each talk!



NEW Snow Leopard 1 pm daily!

Meet the Keeper Schedule:



Komodo Dragon
11:30 am



Cheetah
1 pm



Polar Bear
12 pm and 3 pm



Lion
1:30 pm



African Penguin
12:30 pm



Indian Rhino
2 pm



Otter
12:30 pm



Giraffe
2 pm*



White Rhino
12 pm*



Snake
2:30 pm*



Orangutan
1 pm



Gorilla
2:30 pm



Grizzly Bear
1 pm



Hippopotamus
2:30 pm*

* Weather permitting

hip-hippo-ray for summer!



Perky



Petal



Samson



Did you know the Toronto Zoo is one of only two places in North America where you can see both species of hippopotamus? Summer is the best time to see our river hippos, since they are sensitive to cold weather due to their naked skin. In the wild, they spend the day sleeping submerged in waterways across sub-Saharan Africa, and our river hippos at the Zoo do the same: you're most likely to see them lounging about in their pool, occasionally lifting their heads to breathe (they can easily hold their breath for five minutes at a time). The best time to see our river hippos awake and active is first thing in the morning and late in the afternoon – AND during the daily keeper talk, when they get treats such as apples or a juicy melon.

Our three river hippos are all siblings. Samson, the oldest at 41 (turning 42 on July 21), is housed by himself to prevent breeding and is significantly larger than his sisters. If you see two hippos on exhibit, you know it's the girls: Petal (who will turn 29 on July 15), who has a dark teardrop marking under her left eye, and Perky (24 years old), who can be identified by her lower left canine tooth which peeks out from her lips.

Although the river hippos are only on display during warmer weather, you can check out Harvey, our 20-year-old male pygmy hippo, in the African Rainforest Pavilion year-round. Native to the rainforests of West Africa, pygmy hippos are 5-10 times smaller than river hippos in terms of weight ... but they still weigh 400-600 pounds!



Harvey

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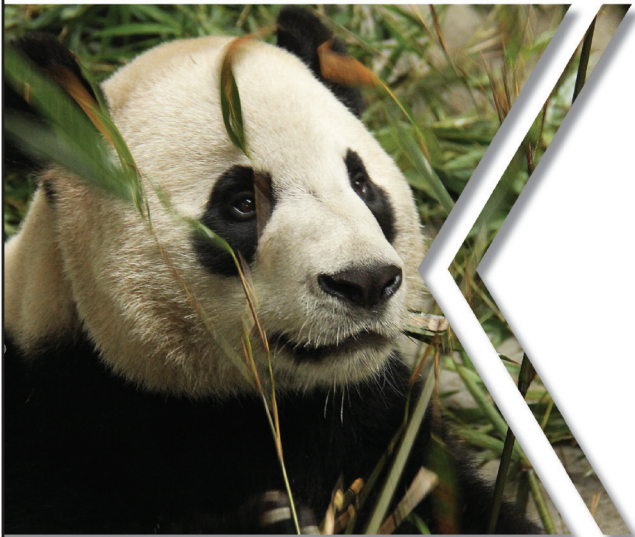
We're proud to be the Official Transportation Services Provider for the Giant Pandas at the Toronto Zoo. Delivering precious moments ... and a whole lot of bamboo!

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THE TORONTO ZOO

Toronto's #1 Newscast



MICHELLE DUBÉ & KEN SHAW



**NEWS
TORONTO**

WEEKNIGHTS 6

A close-up photograph of a giraffe's head and neck as it eats from a bush of green leaves. The giraffe has a brown and tan patterned coat. The background shows a clear blue sky with some light clouds and more green foliage.

thank you for reading
Newsprints online!

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Watch for your next edition in August 2015