Fresno Chaffee Zoo
Pam Wheelen
Events Manager
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Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 498-5925
(559) 498-5922 (fax)
Private Events

Weddings, Company picnics, Family reunions, Client Appreciation, Dinner Parties, Cocktail Receptions, Proms

When four walls and a ceiling just won’t do for your next event, consider a place that knows no boundaries! Whatever the occasion, our beautiful outdoor venues, not to mention our rare and exotic wildlife, will turn your celebration from ordinary to extraordinary!

Fresno Chaffee Zoo offers an assortment of beautiful venues for any type of special event. Our Rainforest Lawn features a long and dramatic pathway leading to a tropical garden area amidst the backdrop of the Tropical Rainforest. This venue accommodates from 50-100 guests depending on your desired set up. If you are in need of a semi-casual setting, for a wedding ceremony perhaps, the Winged Wonders Bird Show amphitheater offers tiered bench seating with a decorative back drop. Just steps from the amphitheater is our Dining Garden, a spacious lawn area accommodating our larger parties with space for a band or disc jockey and a dance floor. Your guests will be delighted dancing the night away under a canopy of stars. Be transported to the California coast with the sound of gentle waves and our beautiful Sea Lion Cove exhibit as your backdrop. You may even have a sea lion join you on the rock as you recite your vows or glide by as you dine on a delicious meal. Our newest exhibit, African Adventure, offers four new venues, each very unique and beautiful. These exclusive venues are unlike any other in the valley. With any venue or attraction you choose, you and your guests will share a wild and enchanted evening strolling the lush and picturesque surroundings of Fresno Chaffee Zoo.

We will be happy to assist you in creating an event that your guests will talk about for years to come!
**WILD ACTIVITIES**

**Animal Encounters $100 per Attraction**
Invite an animal to your event! A zoo naturalist will introduce you to one of our amazing creatures and discuss their impressive adaptations for survival. You may enhance your guests’ Zoo experience by selecting one or more of the following animal activities: Party Animals, Raptor Encounter, Farm Friends Encounter, Tropical Rainforest and Valley Farm. Guests can enjoy these interactive and educational presentations as part of their entertainment. Your guests will have a wild time!

The following programs are approximately **45 minutes in length** and are subject to availability of animals.

**Party Animals:**
Add some excitement to your event with the addition of some real Party Animals! Various small animals such as snakes, hedgehogs, tortoises, etc. will greet your guests or visit your party with a docent who will be happy to answer questions and provide information regarding each animal.

**Raptor Encounter:**
Take a walk on the wild side with a zoo Docent and get the inside scoop on our birds of prey such as a hawk, owl or kestrel.

**Farm Friends Encounter:**
With this favorite, your guests will have the opportunity to meet and learn more about our residents at Valley Farm. Choose an adorable goat, our friendly calf, Buttercup, or one of our Alpacas to join your event!

**Tropical Rainforest Guide**
This tropical walk-through rainforest exhibit will be open to your party exclusively with a trained interpreter on site. With animals such as the prehensile-tailed porcupine, the armadillo and a wide assortment of beautiful tropical birds, you’re guaranteed to have a great time exploring. (Rainforest is not open unless reserved.)

**Valley Farm**
Just imagine the fun as your little ones mingle with sheep, goats, and alpacas in our Valley Farm exhibit. Your guests can pet and brush the animals or just catch that once in a life time up close and personal photo.
Tropical Rainforest and Valley Farm close at dusk. It is recommended that they be scheduled soon after guest arrival and prior to dinner, i.e. 5:30 or 6:00p.m.

Your Event Coordinator will coordinate all the details and create a schedule of events to ensure that not only the guests have fun, but the host as well!

EXOTIC EVENING OPPORTUNITIES

This is an opportunity to show your guests the evening is truly all about them and having the experience of a life time. These special animal options are made available only for you and your guests the evening of your event.*

**Stingray Bay (now with sharks and horseshoe crabs!)**
A very special touching experience for all ages. Your guests will delight in oceans of fun at Fresno Chaffee Zoo. In addition to the stingrays, there will be two species of small docile sharks and horseshoe crabs. This attraction gets you up-close and personal with exotic sea life. Watch as the graceful rays glide by or dip your hands into the water and touch these captivating creatures. You can even feed these gentle rays, who are as curious about you as you are about them. Discover the underwater world of stingrays. It’s the ultimate hands-on adventure.

$300 – one hour
$400 – two hours
$2 per person for food

**Giraffe Feeding Station**
You and your guests will get the thrill of a lifetime feeding the giraffes. Imagine holding a handful of delicious leaves out for an elegant giraffe to nibble, their 20 inch prehensile tongue folding around them and pulling them in for a tasty treat.

$125/hour + $2 per person for food
**Sea Lion/Seal Presentation**

This is your opportunity to watch Fresno Chaffee Zoo's talented sea lions, Pismo, Catalina and Avila and our adorable harbor seals, Ariel and Jetta, as they demonstrate a variety of impressive behaviors in our beautiful new Sea Lion Cove exhibit. You will appreciate the grace, playfulness, and intelligence of our seals and sea lions while you watch them with their experienced trainers.

$200/30 min

**Winged Wonder Bird Show**

The Winged Wonders Bird Show is available April 1 through mid October. Enjoy this incredible free-flight bird show that is designed to promote awareness of the natural behavior of birds. Entertaining for groups of all ages.

$500

Evening show times are as follows:

April - September 15th  
6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

September 16th - October 14th  
5:15 p.m.-5:45 p.m.

*Canceled shows due to weather or circumstances beyond our control will be refunded.*
# Spaces & Fees

**Event Garden:**
- **Rental Fee:** $1,250.00 evening + $4.00 per guest over 100
- **Minimum seating:** 100 guests
- **Maximum seating:** 800 guests
- *Rental fees include the following standard set up for 100 guests-
  - 10 Rectangular 8’ Banquet Tables
  - 10 Plastic Table Cloths
  - 100 Metal Folding Chairs
  - 1 Security Personnel (4 hours)

**The Grove:**
- **Rental Fee:** $500.00 daytime + $4.00 per guest over 100
- **Minimum seating:** 100 guests
- **Maximum seating:** 700 guests
- *Rental fees include the following standard set up for 100 guests-
  - 10 Rectangular 8’ Banquet Tables
  - 10 Plastic Table Cloths
  - 100 Metal Folding Chairs
  - 1 Security Personnel (4 hours)

**Rainforest Lawn:**
- **Rental Fee:** $1,000.00 evening - $4.00 per guest over 60
- **Minimum seating:** 60 guests
- **Maximum seating:** 85 guests
- *Rental fees include the following standard set up for 60 guests-
  - 6 Rectangular 8’ Banquet Tables
  - 6 Plastic Table Cloths
  - 60 Metal Folding Chairs
  - 1 Security Personnel (4 hours)
**Jungle Bungalow:**
Rental Fee: $100.00 evening + $4.00 per guest over 50
Minimum seating: 50 guests
Maximum seating: 75 guests
*Rental fees include the following standard set up for 50 guests
5 Rectangular 8’ Banquet Tables
5 Plastic Table Cloths
50 Metal Folding Chairs
1 Security Personnel (4 hours)

**Sea Lion Cove**
Rental Fee: $2,000.00 evening only
Maximum seating: 50 guests
*Rental fees include the following set up for up to 50 guests
5 Round 60” tables
50 Chivari Chairs
Security Personnel

**Canopy Grove in African Adventure**
Rental Fee: $750.00 daytime + $4.00 per guest over 100
$1,500.00 evening + $4.00 per guest over 100
Minimum seating: 50 guests
Maximum seating: 800 guests
*Rental fees include the following standard set up for 100 guests
10 Rectangular 8’ Banquet Tables
10 Plastic Table Cloths
100 Metal Chairs
1 Security Personnel (4 hours)

**Simba Room**
Rental Fee: $750.00 daytime corporate package or $2,500.00 evening event
Maximum Seating: 35 guests
*Rental fee includes tables and chairs for up to 35 guests and security personnel
**Ziada Room**
Rental Fee: $750.00 daytime or $2,500.00 evening
Maximum Seating: 50 guests
*Rental fee includes tables and chairs for up to 50 guests and security personnel (Ziada Room can be rented in conjunction with the Simba Room for $1,000.00 for evening events)*

**Kopje Lodge**
Rental Fee: $5,000.00 available on Sunday – Thursday evenings only
Minimum Seating: 100 guests
Maximum Seating: 400 guests
*Rental fee includes existing tables and chairs and security personnel*

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**GROUP RATE TICKETS**
*Day Events: Group Rate Tickets must be purchased for day time events only.*

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Rates subject change.
PREFERRED VENDOR LIST

Caterers

Pardini's Catering  559.224.3188  www.pardiniscatering.com
Executive Catering  559.437.1243  execcatering225@aol.com
The Painted Table  559.936.5558  www.paintedtablecatering.com

Party Rentals

Best Party and Event Rentals  559.325-6615  www.bestpartyrentals.com
Expo Party Rentals  559.495.3300  www.expopartyrentals.com
Walker-Lewis Rents  559.438.7400  www.wlrents.com

DJs and Lighting

Light Up the Walls  559.355.0727  www.lightupthewalls.com

Décor/Decoration

KSB Company  559.273.3733  ksbcompany@aol.com

Photographers

The Photo Friends  559.908.2838  www.thephotofriends.com
Johnny Stafford Photography  559.683.0276  www.johnnystaffordphotography.com
OUTSIDE VENDORS

Rental Equipment
Your event site may require the rental of additional equipment, including extra tables, chairs and canopies not included in your site fee. Your Fresno Chaffee Zoo Event Coordinator will determine how much rental equipment is needed and will facilitate the reservation, set-up and removal of this equipment.

Florists, Face Painters, Musicians, Photographers, Etc.
Your Fresno Chaffee Zoo Event Planner will be pleased to assist with recommendations. Any live entertainment at the Zoo (bands, disc jockeys, performers, etc.) must first be approved by the Fresno Chaffee Zoo management. Every effort must be made to contain all noise to the immediate area of the event. For the well-being of our animals, sound levels will be monitored and may be restricted. Loud offensive groups should be avoided.

Vendors must provide proof of insurance and are required to adhere to Zoo rules and regulations.

Vendors are required to remove all items immediately following the event. Fresno Chaffee Zoo is not liable for equipment or decorations deposited prior, during or after an event.

Decorations
All decorations must be approved by Zoo staff in advance. Our first concern is to ensure the health and safety of our animals; therefore we do not allow balloons, straws, glitter, confetti, styrofoam products, rice, birdseed, bubbles, or candy with sticks on site.

Parking
Event guests are required to pay the Roeding Park entry fee or the current entry fee designated on the day of the event, which is mandated by the City of Fresno. Organization may prepay guests’ toll fee in advance. For more information on how to purchase pre-paid parking passes, call SP+ Parking at 264-6422, or ask your Event Coordinator.
Rental Items Available – ask for pricing

* Tables:  Rectangular
         Square
         Round
         Cocktail

* Chairs:  Bistro Chairs
          Wood Resin chairs with padded seat
          Chiavari Chairs w/ pads

* Chair Covers

* Linens:  Table cloths
          Table drapes
          Overlays
          Plastic table coverings

* Glassware:  Water Goblets
             Wine Glasses
             Champagne Glasses
             Coffee cups & Saucers/Irish Mugs

* Flatware:  Dinner, Salad, Dessert Forks
             Knife
             Spoon

* Plates:  Dinner, Salad, Dessert, Bread & Butter Plates

* Miscellaneous:  Salt and Peppers
                 Cream and Sugars
                 Water Carafes
                 Coffee Carafes
                 Coffee Maker
                 Heaters
                 Dance Floor
                 Tents

* Items for your Wedding Ceremony such as Aisle Runners, Pillars and Aisle Stands
EVENT INFORMATION REVIEW

Additional Event Services and Fees

- Day Adult Admission: See Group Rate Tickets
- Day Child Admission: See Group Rate Tickets
- Amphitheater Fee: $750
- Sales Tax: 8.225%
- Wine/Beer attendant: $200.00/3 hours (100 people)
- Security Personnel: $150.00/3 hour minimum
- Security Personnel Overtime: $20.00/hour
- Alcohol Permit: $50.00
- Wine Corkage Fee: $5.00/bottle (750ml)
- Beer bottle: $0.50/bottle (354ml)
- Assorted Sodas/Waters: $2.95/each
- Zoo Keeper: $75.00/hour per keeper

Additional Event Rentals

- 8’ Banquet Rectangular table: $7.50 over standard set up per area
- 72” Round Table: $15.00/table over standard set up per area
- Folding Chairs: $0.95 over standard set up per area
- Specialty Chairs: TBD
- Delivery Fees: TBD per rental order
- Ice: $6.00 bag
- Plastic table coverings: $3.00 each
- 10 x 10 Tents: $35.00/each
Frequently asked questions

1. Do you provide tables and chairs?
   Tables and chairs are included in your site fee (see Event Site fee). If additional rentals are needed, we will assist you in acquiring the desired equipment.

2. Is linen provided for tables?
   No, but linens can be rented through our Event Coordinator. Plastic table coverings are included in your site fee.

3. What forms of payment do you accept?
   We accept personal checks, all major credit cards and money orders.

4. When is payment due?
   Your deposit is due at the time of booking. Your payment in full is due five (5) working days prior to your event.

5. If I cancel my event, is my deposit refundable?
   A portion of your deposit may be refundable in the event of a cancellation. (See contract)

6. Am I able to have a bar at my event?
   Yes, you are allowed to bring in beer and wine. Fees for a bartender and corkage are listed in Additional Event Services and Fees.

7. Can I use candles to decorate?
   Yes, candles are permitted in any hurricane style container.

8. When do I have access to the event site for set up?
   Access is given at the discretion of the Event Coordinator depending on the complexity of the set up and prior events/bookings at the venue site.

9. Can I use my own caterer for my event?
   You may use your own caterer if you wish. There is an additional fee of $750.00 to use a non-preferred caterer. All caterers are required to be licensed, in good standing with the Health Department and must provide additional documentation and insurance to Fresno Chaffee Zoo.