





Guests are currently required to wear a mask during the Indian Rhino Encounter.

Indian Rhino Feeding

ZooTampa has teamed up with the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities at the University of South Florida to provide support and assistance to optimize the potential of people who are neurodiverse. We also recognize Autism Shifts, The Learning Academy, Autism Speaks, and the Diversity Action Coalition and applaud their efforts to promote inclusive experiences.

Updated 10/21

Sensory Key



There are lots of things to see here. It might be bright or hurt my eyes in places where I see this. I can wear sunglasses or cover my eyes.

There are lots of things to hear here. It might be loud in places where I see this. I can wear headphones or cover my ears if it gets too loud.

When I see this, there will be things I can taste here. I do not have to put anything in my mouth if I do not want to.

There might be a strong smell in places where I see this. I can hold my nose or cover my nose with something that smells good.

There are lots of things to touch here. There might be things that I feel uncomfortable touching when I see this. I do not have to touch anything that I do not want to.

The Indian Rhino Feeding participants meet at the Up-Close Encounter area. We can get there by using the ZooTampa app or map.





Check In

I meet for the Up-Close Encounter near the Guest Services booth. Look for the sign.





There might be a lot of noise around Manatee Circle, but we won't stay here long. Before we can start the tour, an employee of ZooTampa will ask me my name and look at a piece of paper to make sure I am at the correct location.

Next, I will sign my name on a piece of paper.



While we wait, we can put our face masks on. Face masks help keep people and animals safe.



Sometimes there are other people on our tour, and we will need to wait for them before we can meet the rhinos. That's okay. We will all get a chance to meet the rhinos.

Once everyone has arrived, the employee of ZooTampa will communicate the expectations of the tour and answer questions.





Indian Rhino Feeding



When we are ready to begin, the employee will lead us down the pathway to the Indian rhino habitat.

The rhino habitat location is in Asia. We can get there by following the employee of ZooTampa. The employee of ZooTampa will first unlock the gate; then I should wash or sanitize our hands before I meet the rhino.







Indian Rhino Feeding

Before we can go into the Indian Rhino encounter space, there will be a talk about rhinos.

I will use my listening ears to learn about the animals. If I have questions, I can raise my hand and ask my questions <u>after</u> the talk.





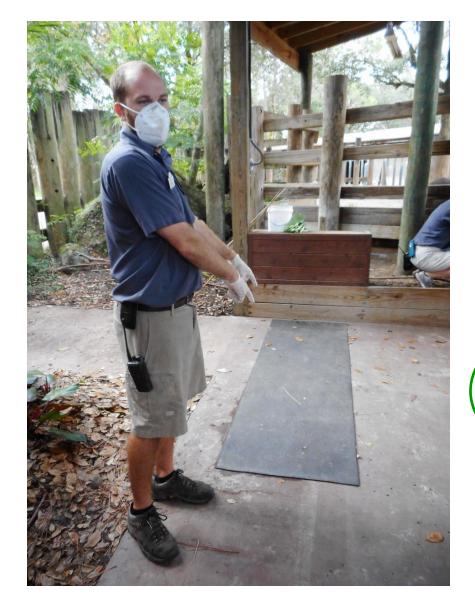
At the encounter entrance, the Animal Care Professional will communicate expectations and answer questions. Sometimes there is a line, and we need to wait our turn.

Everyone will all get a chance to meet the rhino.

The Animal Care Professional will tell us when we can enter the encounter space and show us which rhino we will be meeting.







What to expect:

space

- E
- Use looking eyes only
- Then, stand on a black mat

First, walk into the encounter

• Feet stay on the ground and hands stay at your side

To feed the rhino, the Animal Care employee will put some fruit or vegetables on the end of a long stick.

I will use the stick to put the food in the rhino's mouth.

If I do not want to touch the stick, that's okay. I can have someone help me feed the rhino.



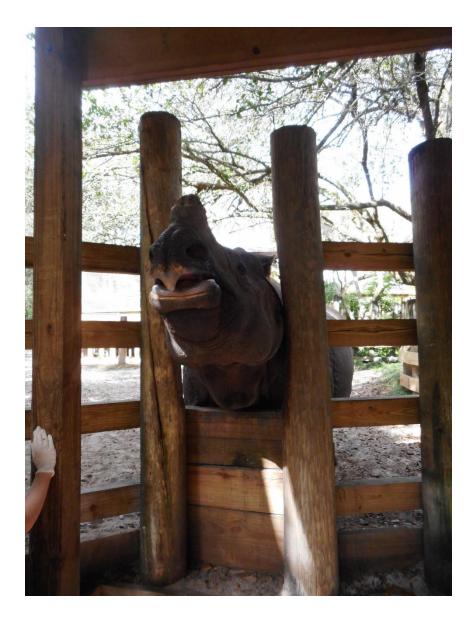






Sometimes the rhino is in the water, eating, or resting.

The Animal Care Professional will see if the other rhino wants to walk over and interact with us. The rhino is free to walk around. If the rhino makes me nervous, I can always take a step back.



After I meet the rhino, I will exit the habitat and sanitize or wash my hands.









THANK YOU

We thank our many like-minded partners for their support to produce materials to enhance the experience of guests at ZooTampa.



The Lowry Murphey Family Foundation, Inc.











