

ZSL LONDON ZOO & ZSL WHIPSNADE ZOO

# MONKEY BUSINESS

AUTUMN/WINTER 2007 TRAVEL INDUSTRY NEWSLETTER



## Dear Colleagues

Welcome to the Autumn/Winter 2007 edition of Monkey Business, your essential guide to what's new, as well as forthcoming exhibits and events at ZSL London Zoo and ZSL Whipsnade Zoo.

It has been a fantastic year so far at both Zoos thanks to the opening of some amazing new exhibits – such as Gorilla Kingdom and In with the Lemurs – and we look forward to continuing the success into 2008 with another fantastic new exhibit opening at each Zoo next year. More information can be found in this issue, but both will be following in the footsteps of this year's new attractions to provide world class experiences for visitors in a natural setting with no bars.

We have several events going on throughout the autumn/winter period, celebrating occasions such as Halloween and Christmas. More information on these events and upcoming travel shows that we will be exhibiting at can be found on the back page, or by visiting [zsl.org](http://zsl.org).

I look forward to working with you to give you and your customers, whether groups or FIT, a memorable Big Day Out in 2007/2008.

Best Regards

*Gwyn Davis*

Travel Trade Marketing Executive



## New for 2008 at ZSL London Zoo!

### Tropical Bird Pavilion

The 19th Century meets the 21st Century in a £2.3 million refurbishment of the Tropical Bird Pavilion. Originally built in 1883 to house reptiles, this magnificent Victorian building is being brought bang up to date to immerse the visitor in the sights and sounds of tropical birds. The main attraction will be the return of Hummingbirds to ZSL London Zoo.

The experience begins before you even walk through the doors, with a giant mechanical bird. Children will be able to climb over it, explore and even move its wings. This is followed by another bird-inspired take on a Victorian mechanical marvel, which performs an hourly clockwork display of avian mayhem.

Moving on through the exhibit, the atrium will house tropical species such as Toucans and Hornbills. This leads to the lushly planted Victorian Promenade where visitors walk amidst free-flying species such as Hooded Pittas, African Jacana and Trumpeters, bringing them closer to birds than ever before. A waterfall adds to the immersive experience before reaching the grand finale: the Avian Jewels, home to nectar feeders such as Sunbirds and the only Hummingbirds in the UK.

### Groups Benefits at ZSL London Zoo and ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

Bring your groups of 10 or more to either of our Zoos and take advantage of the fantastic group benefits available. Book in advance for fast track entry and a 20% discount, or turn up on the day for a 15% discount at our dedicated group entrance. Also, if you arrive by coach, the driver will be able to enter the Zoo for free and will also receive a £5 lunch voucher for use in one of our catering outlets. For more information visit [zsl.org/groups](http://zsl.org/groups)



## Cyber-mystery trails at ZSL London Zoo

This autumn, ZSL London Zoo will be partnering with Node, the world's pre-eminent location-based media company, to bring you an exciting new activity. You'll be given the opportunity to use handheld 'Node Explorers' to take part in an interactive adventure throughout ZSL London Zoo.

Along the way, you'll take behind the scenes looks at ZSL London Zoo while gaining a deeper understanding of the Zoo's conservation mission. The adventure takes approximately two and a half hours and will provide even the most seasoned Zoo visitor with a brand new and exciting way to view the Zoo. This exhibition is geared toward the 5-14 year old, but is fun for all ages.

Want to know more? Call 020 7449 6235.



## 2008 Prices Out Now!

Call your dedicated group bookings line on 020 7449 6235 to find out prices for both Zoos valid until March 2009, giving you plenty of time to plan ahead and book your trip. The new group brochure will also be out before Christmas giving you all the information you need. If you want to receive this brochure hot off the press, email [marketing@zsl.org](mailto:marketing@zsl.org) with your name, address, telephone number and email and we promise to send you one as soon as we get them.

## THIS YEAR'S SUCCESSES AT ZSL LONDON ZOO



Make sure you check out Gorilla Kingdom during your visit.

Our three gorillas have settled in very well and are loving their island and day gym. Also, the inhabitants of Clore Rainforest Lookout are having a wild time so drop by and join them in their jungle home. Don't forget to visit Night Zone to see who comes out when the other animals are fast asleep.

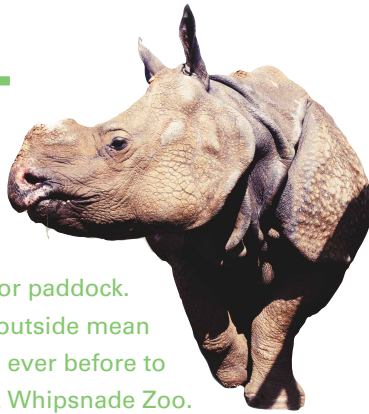


## New Cheetah Experience at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

Opening at Easter, our cheetahs will have a fantastic new 4000m<sup>2</sup> enclosure costing in excess of £1 million, complete with a rock lookout and watering holes. Visitors will view the cheetahs from an African style hut, where floor to ceiling glass will be the only thing separating them from the animals. Cheetahs, known as 'Duma' in the native Swahili language, are the fastest land animal and can reach speeds of up to 70 miles per hour.

# NEW! RHINOS OF NEPAL

Come and see the Asian rhinos in their fabulous new home, opening in early 2008, that boasts new stalls, indoor heated pools and a large outdoor paddock. Viewing areas both inside and outside mean that visitors can get closer than ever before to these amazing creatures at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo.



## New arrival makes a splash at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

He's shiny, black and loves the water, that's Dom, ZSL Whipsnade Zoo's first sea lion pup for five years.

Mother Salt successfully gave birth to the cute fella with the flippers on 12th June at 6.40pm, under the watchful eyes of staff on a closed circuit TV monitor.

He's been called Dom after the BBC Radio One breakfast show newsreader Dominic Byrne whose favourite animal at the Zoo is the pup's dad, Berkley.

Proud mother Salt, who is 18, has been carefully nurturing her new pup and according to keepers is being a fantastic mum. The pup is doing well and will enjoy his mother's rich milk for some time before moving on to fish.

Dom will be introduced gradually to the Zoo's other female sea lion Liz and then dad Berkley and is on show periodically in the indoor pool. By the end of the summer it is hoped he will begin swimming in the arena pool and eventually will take part in the demonstrations.

The Californian sea lions are a constant favourite at the Zoo's Splashzone arena. Check schedules for demonstration times and seasons.



## Go In with the Lemurs – they'll run rings round you!

Easter saw the launch of the hugely popular In with the Lemurs first walkthrough experience at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo. This is ZSL Whipsnade Zoo's first immersive experience with a bridge across to the lemur island and a walkway through it creating an up-close adventure. Visitors are able to view the cheeky ring-tailed lemurs in a barrier-free environment.

NEW CHEETAH EXPERIENCE COMING VERY SOON



The exhibit will also include a display vehicle where visitors can immerse themselves in the African savannah behind the wheel of a safari Land Rover or test their running speed against a sprinting cheetah time trial. The exhibit will have strong links with the ZSL conservation project in Tanzania, where work has been carried out over the last 30 years to research and better understand cheetahs to help ensure their survival.



# what's on?

## A couple of dates for your diary!

### 20th–28th October FIENDISH FUN

There's frighteningly good fun to be had at ZSL London Zoo and ZSL Whipsnade Zoo this Halloween, with a half-term crammed full of creepy activities.



#### ZSL London Zoo

Confront any phobias of the animal kind this Halloween. Enjoy the 'Halloween Spectacular Show' and get your adrenaline pumping by discovering which animals hide, spit or change colour when confronted by what terrifies them most.

#### ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

Visit our starlit den to hear spine-tingling tales of the Zoo's resident ghosts and ghouls. In our pumpkin-lit activity cave, your little monsters can carve their very own gruesome pumpkin in our daily craft workshops.

### December KEEPER'S LITTLE HELPERS

#### ZSL London Zoo and ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

Throughout December, younger visitors can enjoy being a Keeper's Little Helper. There's a chance to make gifts for our primates in the Activity Den, which will have been turned into a beautiful winter wonderland. Visit [zsl.org](http://zsl.org) later in the year for more details.



**BOOK YOUR COMPLETE PACKAGE BEFORE YOU ARRIVE AT THE ZOO!**

By ringing our dedicated Group Sales Line you will not just be able to book your discounted group tickets, but you can also buy vouchers to put towards meals in the cafes at both Zoos, guide books for both Zoos and children's adventure packs for ZSL London Zoo. For more information and to book, call our team on 020 7449 6235.

# MONKEY BUSINESS

ZSL LONDON ZOO & ZSL WHIPSNAD E ZOO

There are a few exhibitions and events coming up that you will be able to come and visit us at to discuss your requirements. See below for details.

### Excursions 2008

Come and visit us at Excursions show at Alexandra Palace in London on Saturday 12th January. The show is open from 10am–4pm so there will be plenty of time to discuss your group requirements as well as letting you know about the fantastic new exhibits opening at both Zoos. You will also be able to pick up our latest brochure and day planners giving you the most up to date information available. By visiting us you will also have the chance of winning a fantastic prize in our competition.

### GTOA Conference & AGM 2008

The next GTOA Conference and AGM is being held in Swansea on the last weekend in January (25th–27th). We will be there for the whole weekend and look forward to seeing you all there. If you miss us at Excursions it will give you another chance to catch up with the latest news at ZSL, and again have a chance to win a prize in our GTOA competition.

### British Travel Trade Fair 2008

BTTF 2008 is being held at the NEC in Birmingham on 11th–12th March. Being very close to the launch of the new major exhibits at both Zoos, we will have the latest information and images available. If you are planning to visit the show, make sure you drop by the stand to pick up the latest brochures and to discuss planning your trip to the Zoo.

ZSL is committed to limiting its impact on the natural environment. This leaflet is made from at least 75% recycled paper and uses vegetable based inks from sustainable raw materials.



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