

Let's Visit Tracy Aviary

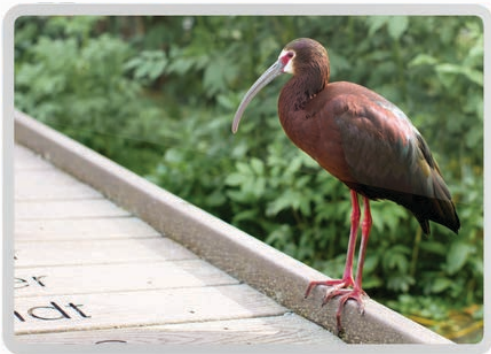


A social story from the
Tracy Aviary Education Department
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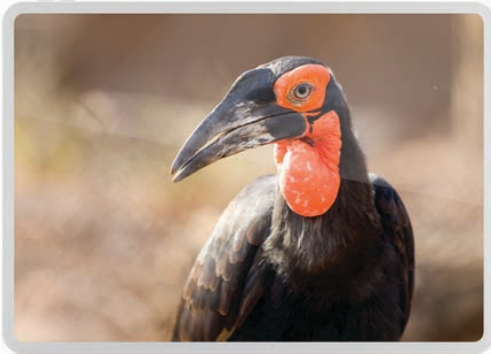
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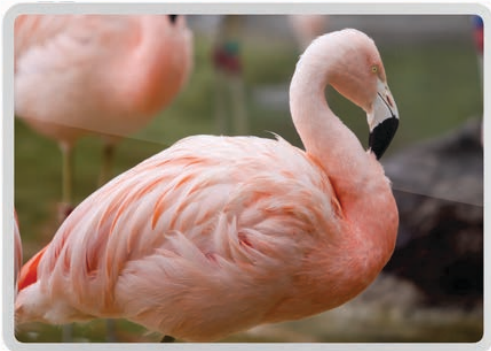
Today I will visit Tracy Aviary.



An aviary is a zoo that mainly has birds.



Many people like to come here to see all the colorful birds.



There will be many things to see and do during my visit.

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I will try to follow the rules at the Aviary so I can be safe and happy.



I will try to walk when I am on the sidewalks.



I will try to stay with my adult.



I will try to look at the birds instead of touching them.

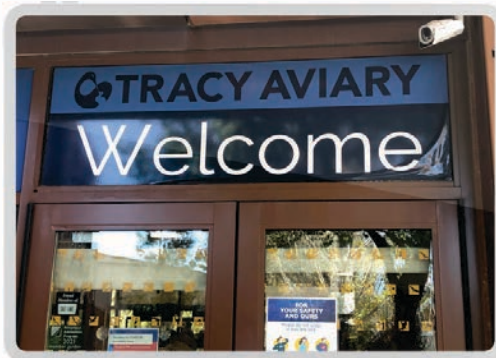
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There are many doors and gates at the front entrance of the Aviary.



There might be a line to enter the Aviary, but that's okay.



The door that says "Welcome" above it will lead me inside the Aviary.



Inside the door there is a Gift Shop, which has many things for people to look at or buy.

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When my adult is ready, we might leave through the Bird Feeder exit.



There are many people who work at the Aviary.



Staff members wear blue shirts and name tags.



If I get lost or hurt, staff members will help me.

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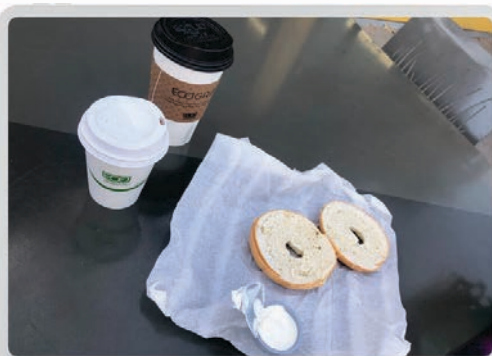
There are bathrooms and drinking fountains outside of the Gift Shop when I turn left if I need them.



When it is my turn, I may get a map that will show me how to walk to all of the exhibits in the Aviary.



While walking through the Aviary, I might see the Bird Feeder.



The Bird Feeder is a good place to buy food and drinks.

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If I have a question, I can ask staff and they will try to answer it for me.



I might be able to feed birds at the Aviary.



There are food machines that have pellets to buy that I can use to feed the ducks and geese.



People can buy tickets to feed fruits to the Lorikeets.

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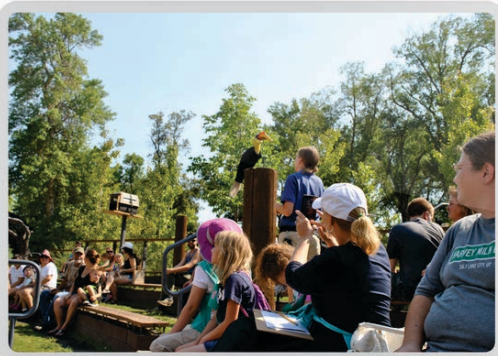
People can buy tickets to feed fish to the pelicans.



Feedings can be noisy, smelly, and messy.



I might be able to see a Bird Show while at the Aviary.



Sometimes the Bird Show is outside.

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Sometimes the Bird Show is inside.



I will try to stay seated and keep my hands in my lap while I watch the Bird Show.



The Bird Show might be noisy and crowded, because lots of people like to see it.



Sometimes the birds might fly or walk close to me, and I will try to not touch the birds.

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Sometimes the bird trainers will choose volunteers to hold or feed birds during the show. If I want to, I can raise my hand to let them know I want to volunteer.



If I get chosen, I will do what the trainer asks me to do.

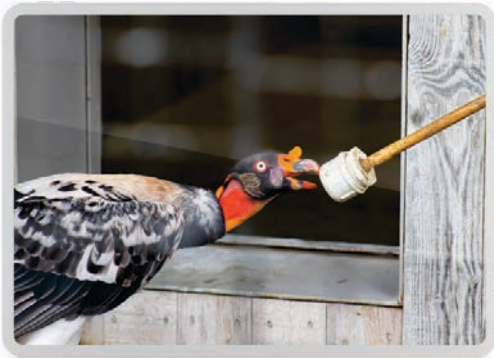


Someone else might get chosen to be the volunteer instead of me, and that's okay!



There are many exhibits with many different birds to see and hear.

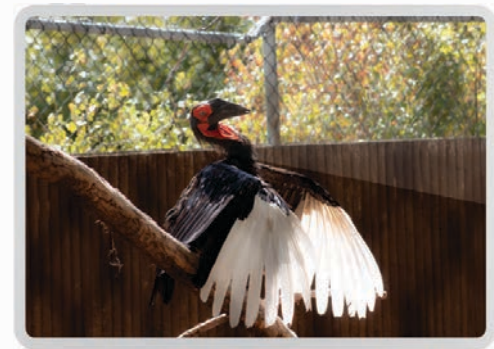
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Some birds will be awake.



Some birds will be asleep.



Some birds will be easy to see.



Some birds might be resting where it is hard to see them.

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Some exhibits are like big rooms that I can walk into.



There are doors and heavy curtains to go through to get into these exhibits.



In these exhibits, the birds are able to fly all around me.



I will try to stay on the walkway while I watch the birds.

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At the South American Pavilion, there are outdoor and indoor exhibits.



If I can't see a bird in the outdoor exhibits, I might be able to see it inside the building.



It may feel hot and stuffy in the building because the birds like warm temperatures.



There are bathrooms and drinking fountains near the South American Pavilion if I need them.

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Another indoor exhibit that may feel hot and stuffy is the Treasures of the Rainforest exhibit.



It may be noisy in these exhibits.



Other exhibits are completely outside.



When I am at an exhibit, there will always be a fence that shows me how close I can get to the birds.

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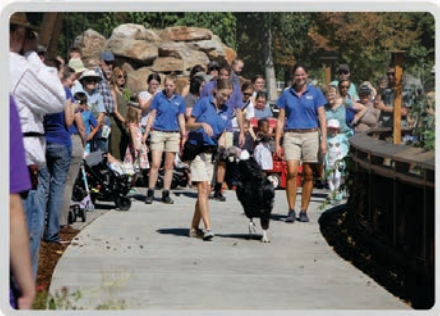
Some exhibits have ponds that might smell.



A few of the birds in the outdoor exhibits can be very noisy, like the macaws.



I might see birds walking around the Aviary by themselves, like peacocks or ducks.



I might also see bird trainers walking around with birds.

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The birds will feel safe if I look at them and do not touch them.



I can talk to staff about the birds, ask questions, and think about what I like about them.

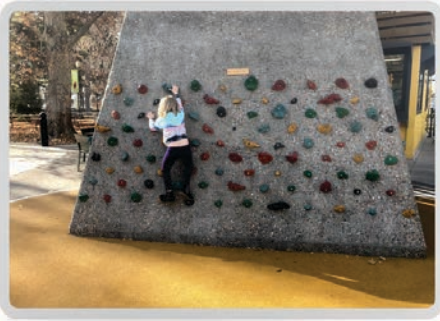


There are many places to play and explore in the Aviary.



I might play around the rib cage near King of the Andes.

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I can also climb on the rock wall in front of the Bird Feeder.



Or, I might explore the fallen logs or hide in the tree blind near owl forest.



I can explore the many hidden paths around the Aviary.



Some play spaces have many different areas and toys to play with.

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It might be fun to pump water, move the ramps, play with the sand, or play with toys at the water feature.



The toys at the water feature and sandbox are for everyone to share.



It might also be fun to explore the stream that runs through the Aviary with my adult.



Sometimes I need a quiet place, and that's okay.

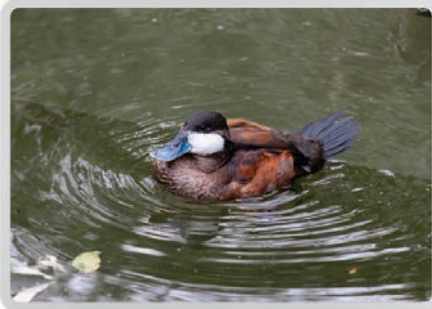
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It is very quiet at the stream near the Chase Mill.



It is also often very quiet at the tables behind the South American Pavilion.



At the end of my visit to the Aviary, I might try to remember my favorite bird that I saw.



I might want to thank any staff members I see on my way to the exit.



I may come back to the Aviary again soon!

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Tips for Parents and Guardians

- Tracy Aviary is usually open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Food and drinks are available to purchase on grounds, but there may be times when concessions open late or close early. To access the most up-to-date information on admissions, concessions, and programs, please visit www.tracyaviary.org.
- The Aviary is usually less crowded before 11 a.m. and after 3 p.m. on weekdays or on cool and rainy days. Summer, early fall, and late spring may be busier than other times of the year.
- Service animals must be checked in at Guest Services prior to entry and cannot be admitted to the Bird Show, to walk-through exhibits (except for South American Pavilion), or to Lorieet Adventures.
- While wheelchairs, strollers, and wagons are welcome on Aviary grounds, bikes, heelies, skates, or scooters are not allowed.
- There are manual wheelchairs and social backpacks available to borrow in the Nature Store.
- All public restrooms on grounds have automated flush toilets, faucets, and paper towel dispensers. There are changing tables located in all restrooms.

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- If you attend the Bird Show, it may be best to sit close to the entrance. If you need to leave during the show, please wait to exit until all birds are safely backstage. An usher may be available to assist you. The show is 30 minutes long and will not be held on Mondays or in inclement weather.
- The Bird Show changes schedules in the fall and early spring. Check with the front desk about the current schedule.
- There may be Indoor Bird Shows in the winter months. Please check with the front desk to see if indoor bird shows are being offered during your visit. These indoor shows also will have intense sensory input.
- Availability for feeding experiences such as Lorikeet Feeding and Pelican encounter vary throughout the year. Please check in with the front desk before or at your arrival to check availability. Both involve intense sensory stimuli.
- If you need a quiet place, the stream on the north side of the Chase Mill, the Treasures of the Rainforest exhibit, and the tables on the south side of South American Pavilion are good options. Note that the Treasures of the Rainforest exhibit is indoors in a room that may feel stuffy and loud.



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Education
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