

BREVARD

ZOO

Experience a zoo unlike any other in the state of Florida.

COURTESY OF THE BREVARD ZOO

Situated along the Atlantic Coast, in the eco-friendly community of Melbourne, visitors of all ages can enjoy a plethora of native and exotic animals and plant life.

EXPEDITION AFRICA: Visitors of the Brevard Zoo can enjoy a kayak ride down the Nyami Nyami River where they encounter a wide variety of African wildlife including birds, primates, gazelles, lemurs, antelopes, rhinos, and of course, giraffe.

LA SELVA: More commonly referred to as "the jungle", this exhibit brings encounters with jaguars, many species of monkeys and tropical birds, and capybaras, the large guinea pig-like animals. The tapirs might be taking a dip in their pool or the giant anteater might be snuffling out some tasty ants in a hollowed out palmetto.

AUSTRAL-ASIA: The Austral-Asia Loop has a free-flight aviary where the cockatoos, eclectus parrots, kookaburras and cockatiels offer a rousing welcome.

For an up-close encounter, guests can feed the rainbow lorikeets fruity nectar. Indonesian fruit bats (also known as flying fox), muntjacs (tiny deer from China), cassowaries (giant prehistoric-looking birds), Visayan warty pigs, wallabies, kangaroos, turtles and emus round out the visit.

WILD FLORIDA: Just down the way, past the 250-pound crocodiles, this exhibit is where visitors feed two white-tailed deer. The otters dive into their pool for a block of ice loaded with fruit. The alligators, including 13-foot Humphrey, are waiting for their public feeding.

At the end of the walkway, guests find themselves ready for a kayaking adventure through a restored wetland area. The guided tours are offered daily, weather permitting.

What's New... PAWS ON: Build, Explore, Splash, Touch! Open in two phases, The Wildlife Detective Training Academy (WDTA) is a new 1,800-square-foot play area. The WDTA allows children to practice caring for plush patients in a pretend vet lab and solve animal mysteries involving real animal artifacts.

The second Phase, which opened in February, was developed for children and families to reconnect with nature. Exhibits include the Indian River Lagoon Adventure where families are encouraged to explore the real Indian River Lagoon. Fort Animal where children can take fort building to a whole new level and the third section is a new contact yard where children get hands-on experiences with animals of different sizes.

Did you know?.... The Brevard Zoo is the only zoo in the country to offer kayaking around an animal exhibit.

Brevard Zoo | 321-254-9453 | www.brevardzoo.org