

## THE WALK

The **Outdoor Rain Forest** features a moated island populated by duiker antelope, and Madagascar lemurs that howl at the least provocation.

In the **Rain Forest building** see reptiles, insects, and amphibians on the forest floor. Climb up into the forest on a circling ramp and look for golden tamarin monkeys, snakes, and tropical birds on the branches of tropical trees. Emerge to see 150 birds soaring over the trees. You are 100 feet up, suspended in the rain forest canopy of Burma or Malaysia.

See elephants in a clearing in the **Elephant Forest**, an **Asian Marsh** with pools, meadows, and waterfalls, the **Thai Logging Village**, and the **House of Elephants**, a barn where the elephants stay at night and during cold weather. The **Trail of Vines** and **Elephant Forest** present tropical Asian zone mammals and plants in natural environment simulating Thailand, the Malay Peninsula, and Borneo. Follow the path through Asian jungle to waterfalls and a view over the forest canopy. Vines hang from tropical trees. Orangutans swing and play, delighting in visitors' attention. The six gorillas in the **Great Ape House** are another favorite attraction. Look for two families each with a silver-backed male and several females and youngsters.

Continue north to the **Raptors**, a collection of birds of prey, tethered by short leashes, who have been injured and can't survive in the wild. See at close

range owls, a peregrine falcon, and a golden eagle.

The **Northern Trail** contains animal communities of the Arctic tundra, taiga, and the montane where wolves, grizzly bears, elk, mountain goats and eagles co-exist in natural enclosures as they have adapted to their cold windswept habitats. Timber wolves are separated from the elk by an invisible barrier. Next see a pair of Arctic Foxes and a magical Great Snowy Owl .

The **Grotto** offers underwater views of river otters and grizzlies, who are sleeping, not hibernating, and wake up for every meal of salmon. At the lowest level look for a pair of eagles that have been injured, but are recovering. Old, traditional exhibits are the **Day House** and **bear grottoes** housing sun bears, sloth bears, and tigers. The **Bug World**, the **Nocturnal House**, where darkness and quiet make day into night. The **Zoomazium**, on the Park's west side, shows animals in their climatic zones.

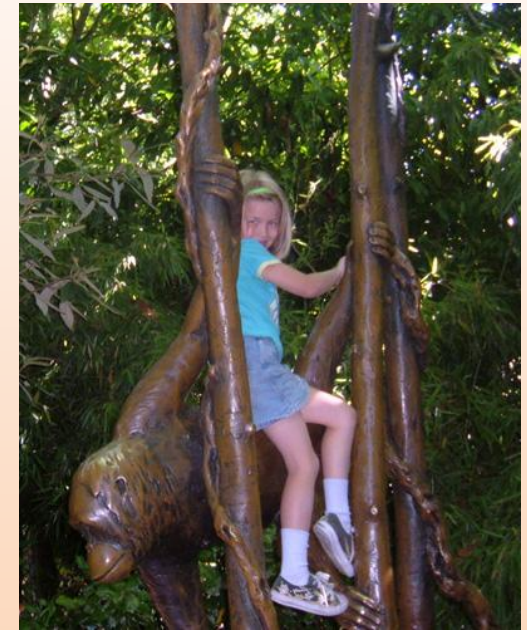
In the **Butterflies and Blooms** exhibit, free-flying butterflies flutter around you, gathering nectar, landing, and resting at random places. Butterflies live two weeks, and are constantly replaced.

To return to your car or bus, walk south through the maze of exhibits to the south entrance. Or exit by the north entrance.

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joan@joanburton.org  
www.joanburton.org

# Woodland Park Zoo Urban Walk

An In-city Family Adventure with  
**Joan Burton**



START YOUR WALK HERE 



## WOODLAND PARK ZOO THE PARK FOR KIDS

Woodland Park has irresistible rewards for all ages, but especially for kids. It has become a world-class zoo, recognized by the Zoological Society for creating natural habitats for its animals. This 92-acre zoological garden has more than a million visitors a year, 300 animal species and 5,000 plant species grouped together to create natural habitats.

Weekend afternoons at the Zoo are crowded to capacity. If you can get there in the morning, or even better on a weekday, your child can see more. The animals are most active at dawn and around dusk.

Feeding times for animals are posted at entrance kiosks and the Zoo's web site. Along with the apes and the big cats, the elephant exhibit is a favorite for small children. Watching the keeper

wash them with a hose is a treat that makes the kids laugh out loud. The Raptor exhibit allows them to observe tethered hawks, falcons, owls and eagles up close. At Halloween they like to see keepers feeding leftover pumpkins to the hippos. The new Zoomazium is a magnet for kids, and on rainy days, offers shelter and a place for kids to play.

The seasonal Family Farm has a collection of farm animals for children to see, touch and pet.

## GETTING THERE

To reach Woodland Park's south entrance from I-5, drive west on 50th St. N. to Green Lake Way. Continue west to the south Park entrance, where an admission fee is charged. From the north drive Phinney Ave. N. to 59th St. to the north entrance. Parking is available at both entrances for a fee. Take Metro buses #5 to the west; #6 to the east; #44 to the south entrance.

## HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Guy Phinney, an Englishman who arrived in Seattle in 1887, bought land on Phinney Ridge for a country estate which he opened as a park with a small zoo and a herd of deer. Seattleites came to enjoy his woodland park.

When he died in 1893, the city bought his estate for the unheard of price of \$100,000.

The Olmsted brothers, who designed several of Seattle's parks and scenic streets, liked the park and left its gardens, park, forest and zoo, adding roads and clearing trees. Woodland Park Zoo was opened in 1904, with bear pits and cages housing elk, deer, bears, eagles, and ostriches.

New enclosures were added at the time of the 1909 Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition. In 1931 city and state engineers divided the park into Upper and Lower Woodland Park to allow Highway 99 to cut through the park. Unemployed men from the Works Progress Administration cleared logs and brush during the Depression. In the 1940's bond funding and Forward Thrust helped finance Zoo development.

Major contributors to Zoo development included Director David Hancocks, who emphasized natural enclosures and instituted admission fees and the sale of "ZooDoo" to help finance the zoo. David Towne launched the "Save Our Elephants" campaign for a new elephant house. A gorilla exhibit that looked like native habitat was built with advice from Jane Goodall and Dian Fosse.

The Elephant Forest opened in 1989 to national praise and an American Zoological Association award for the best new exhibit of the year. Other new exhibits – a Thai Village with a crew of working Asian elephants, a "Tropical Rain Forest" (1992) the "Northern Trail" (1994) and "Trail of Vines" (1995) – won high praise and top exhibit awards from the American Zoo Association. Baby elephant Hansa's birth in 2000 brought a virtual elephant rock star to the Zoo.

