

A Visual Story to
support your
“Meet the
Giraffes”
experience

**WHIPSNADE
ZOO**

a ZSL conservation zoo



The “Meet the Giraffes” experience is **ONLY** available to ticket holders. It is not included in your Zoo entrance ticket.

Tickets for the “Meet the Giraffes” experience can be booked online on the ZSL Website.

Tickets for “Meet the Giraffes” can be booked here: [Meet The Animals At ZSL Whipsnade Zoo | Zoological Society of London \(ZSL\)](#)

Getting to the experience in the Zoo

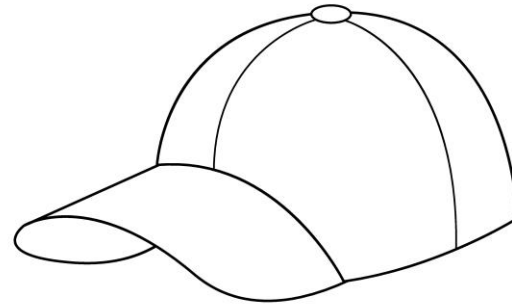
Please make your way to the Giraffe enclosure to find the “Meet the Giraffes” meeting point. The meeting point can be found close to the Giraffe house.

A map of the Zoo can be downloaded here:

[Map of ZSL Whipsnade Zoo](#)
[| Zoological Society of London \(ZSL\)](#)



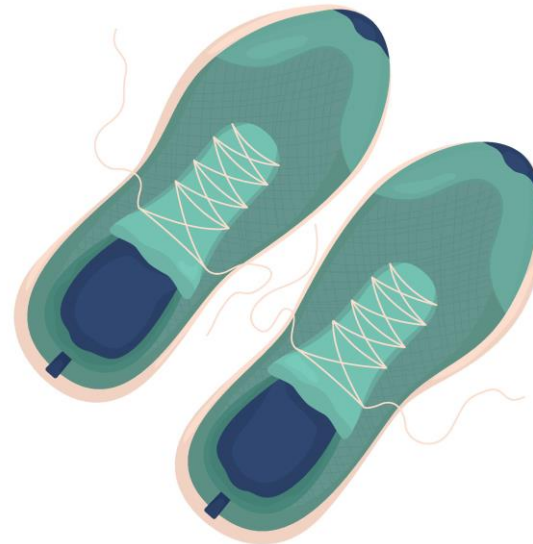
The experience takes place outside at the giraffe enclosure.



I need to make sure I wear suitable clothes for being outside. This might be a sunhat and t-shirt or raincoat and jumper.



I need to make sure I wear closed-toe shoes, like trainers, for the experience to make sure I stay safe.



Arriving at my experience

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MEET THE GIRAFFES MEETING POINT



Pre-booked ticket holders only
Tickets available from the Visitor Centre

- At 11:45am I will wait close to the “Meet the Giraffes” meeting point sign. This meeting point is close to the Giraffe’s house.
- This is what the “Meet the Giraffes” Meeting Point sign looks like. And this is where the sign is.



Waiting for my experience to begin

- The experience does not start until 12pm, but while I am waiting for the zookeepers to arrive I can look for the giraffes in their enclosure. Sometimes the zookeepers might not arrive exactly at 12pm. If they arrive a little bit early or late this is OK as I will still get to take part in the “Meet the Giraffes” experience.
- There might be lots of people around in the area where I must wait but this is OK. If I don’t like this there is lots of space here so I can move away where there are fewer people.
- If I move away this is OK as there are lots of places where I can still see the “Meet the Giraffes” sign to watch for the zookeepers to arrive.

Starting my experience

- A zookeeper will come to the “Meet the Giraffes” sign and meet us there.
- A Zoo Volunteer will also meet us at the “Meet the Giraffes” sign and check my ticket and anyone else who is doing the experience’s ticket.
- There are a maximum of 4 people who can take part in the experience so there might be other people doing the experience with me.



This is a picture of a zookeeper. The zookeepers that meet you will be wearing green uniforms.



This is a picture of a volunteer. The volunteers that meet you will be wearing red uniforms.

My “Meet the Giraffes” experience

- The zookeepers will tell me and everyone else taking part in the experience a few things to remember. It is important I listen to what the zookeepers say as it will help to keep me safe once we go into the special area where my experience will take place.
- Although I will be close to the giraffes there is a special fence between where I will be standing and the giraffes. This means I will be safe from the giraffes.
- Once the zookeepers have told us the important information we will go through the gate into the special area.
- The special area where the zookeepers take me will let me see the giraffes up close. This is the gate into the special area.



My experience

- This is what the special area looks like.
- It is important that I stand back against the fence away from the giraffes. If I am not sure, the zookeepers will be able to tell me where I need to stand to stay safe.
- When everyone taking part in the experience is in the special area, one of the zookeepers will tell me what I can do to feed the giraffes.



What the giraffes eat

- The giraffes like to eat something called “browse”. Browse is another name for a tree branch with leaves on.
- While I am at the giraffes I will be able to smell them.
- The tree branch might be a bit wet if it has been raining and it will probably feel rough in my hands.



What I will be doing

- The zookeepers will tell me what to do to feed the giraffes. They will also watch while I feed the giraffes to make sure I stay safe.
- I will be able to hold a branch up for the giraffes to eat from. They like to eat the leaves and the bark.
- To make sure I stay safe it is important I don't try to stroke the giraffes as I give them their food. They do not like it if I try to stroke them and they might try to bite.
- This is an example of how I will be able to feed the giraffes.



What I am allowed to do

- Everyone taking part in the “Meet the Giraffes” experience will be able to feed the giraffes at the same time.
- If a giraffe doesn't come to my branch that I am holding to start with this is OK. They will come to me and I will get a chance to feed the giraffes.
- While we are feeding the giraffes, the zookeepers will tell us lots of information about them and I will be able to ask questions about the giraffes.
- I can ask someone to take photos of me while I feed the giraffes, and I can take photos too. I will need to make sure I concentrate on feeding the giraffes so it is safer if I ask someone to take photos for me.



The end of my experience

- Once we have fed the giraffes all the food, I will be able to ask the zookeepers any questions and then it will be time for the experience to end.
- This will be the end of the experience and the zookeepers will open the gate to let us all out of the special area.
- After I have finished the experience, I will be able to look for more animals in their enclosures at the Zoo.



Thank you
for taking part in
our "Meet the
Giraffes"
experience

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