

Be a Zoo Keeper for the day!

Zoo Keeper for the day is available daily throughout the year, except Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day. We have employed an extra member of staff to operate the scheme and this ensures that it runs efficiently and professionally, giving our participants one to one attention.

There are a number of rules that must be adhered to and we have listed these on a separate sheet. Please note – the confirmation of an up to date tetanus vaccination is required before a booking can be made.

The scheme is extremely popular with weekend and school holiday days being booked up well in advance. Consequently we advise you to telephone our booking office on 01323 874100 extension 201 to check availability before completing and returning the application form.

The price for **Keeper for the day** from January 2009 is £130 for weekdays and £140 for weekends and East Sussex School Holidays.

The day starts when you meet your keeper at the zoo entrance at 10:00am and includes activities such as – capybara, penguin, beaver and even cockroach feeding! There is the chance to see and have a go at preparing feeds and enrichment for some of our animals.

The enclosed sheet headed **a typical day** shows in a lot more detail the range of animals and tasks that a **Keeper for the day** is likely to encounter, however there is rarely a typical day as a Zoo Keeper, and we cannot guarantee that you will be able to work with any particular animals.

We request that only one adult (parent or guardian, but no other children) accompanies those with special needs or 6-9 year old Keeper for the day, throughout their time at the Park.

The day finishes at approximately 4:15pm with the presentation of a certificate.

✦ **Don't forget your camera** – there are plenty of photo opportunities!

Cancellation rules are as follows:

- If we are given 14 or more days notice of a cancellation – a 50% refund will be applicable.
- If we are given less than 14 days notice of cancellation – we regret that no refund is possible.
- In circumstances where we are able to re-book another Keeper for the Day (regardless of the notice given) a 100% refund will be given.

If you have any questions or require further details please do not hesitate to contact Angela Hale on 01323 874100 extension 201 – we look forward to hearing from you.

Keeper for the day – Rules and Conditions

1. The minimum age of Keeper for the day 6 years old.
2. Your tetanus vaccination must be up to date.
3. A parent or guardian must accompany a Keeper for the day that is under 10 years old, and will be allowed in free of charge.
4. If appropriate, a carer must accompany a Keeper for the day with special needs, and will be allowed in free of charge.
5. Up to **four** additional family members can visit the Zoo on the day at our standard group rates – our normal opening time is 10.00am.
6. With the exception of the guardian for a Keeper for the day who is under 10 years old, or the carer for a Keeper for the day with special needs, additional family members are not permitted behind the scenes.
7. No smoking or chewing of gum is permitted in the public areas.
8. Please wear appropriate clothing – Jeans, T-shirt, jumper or sweatshirt and appropriate waterproof coat or jacket.
9. Please wear appropriate footwear – Trainers and or boots.
10. Squash, tea and coffee are provided free of charge in the keeper's staff room. Food can be purchased from our catering outlets or you may bring a packed lunch if you prefer.

Keeper for the day – Health and Safety

All animals naturally carry a range of micro-organisms, some of which can be transmitted to humans where they may cause ill health. The animals also have the potential to cause harm through biting, scratching and their physical presence. Therefore it is essential that those taking part in Keeper for a Day follow closely the instructions given. Behind the scenes at Drusillas there are other work activities being carried out which may present a risk if these guidelines are not followed.

1. All participants in the scheme must have an up to date tetanus vaccination.
2. Cover existing cuts and abrasions on exposed skin with waterproof dressings and the disposable gloves provided.
3. Smoking, eating or drinking is only allowed in the designated rest areas.
4. Do not eat any of the food intended for the animals.
5. Hands should be washed at every opportunity, especially before eating, drinking or smoking and before leaving Drusillas.
6. Always use the disposable gloves provided when instructed.
7. During the day you should avoid putting your face close to the animals, placing your fingers in your mouth or kissing the animals.
8. You should remain in close contact with the Zoo Keeper who you are working with, and not wander off.
9. You must not enter an animal enclosure without specific instruction from the Zoo Keeper.
10. You must not touch, stroke or pet any animal unless you are told it is acceptable to do so by the Zoo Keeper.
11. If you take your breaks or lunch apart from the Zoo Keeper you must arrange to meet up again in a public area of the Park at a set time. You must not re-enter the off-show areas of the zoo unaccompanied.
12. No jewellery other than ear studs is permitted.
13. Long hair should be tied back.
14. High-heeled shoes should not be worn.
15. Any accident or injury should be reported to the Zoo Keeper immediately so that appropriate action can be taken and First Aid provided.
16. In the event of an emergency you should follow the instructions of the Zoo Keeper. If you become separated leave the area by the nearest emergency exit and make your way to the assembly point in the Car Park.

A typical day – Keeper for the Day aged 16 years plus

- Tour of kitchens
- Clean Serval dens
- Clean and feed porcupine
- Clean and feed capybara
- Prepare food for prairie dogs, ring tail lemurs and plated lizards
- Lemurland lunch time – feeding the ring-tail lemurs
- Feed prairie dogs
- Feed plated lizards
- Common marmoset scatter feeding or enrichment
- Prepare enrichment for bats, yellow mongoose and saki monkeys
- Tour of Discovery Centre animals
- Take round enrichment and give coati scatter feed
- Tour of bottom zoo and feed the penguins

A typical day – Keeper for the Day aged 10 – 15 years

- Tour of kitchens & off show areas
- Feed pigs
- Clean and feed meerkats
- Clean and feed porcupine den
- Prepare food for prairie dogs, ring tail lemur lunch, plated lizards and capybara
- Feed prairie dogs
- Clean and feed capybara
- Handle rabbits and guinea pigs
- Feed plated lizards and tortoises
- Lemurland lunch time – feeding the ring-tail lemurs
- Prepare feed for fruit/dung beetles
- Common marmoset scatter
- Feed fruit/dung beetles-tour of BUGS
- Prepare enrichment for bats and yellow mongoose
- Put out enrichment
- Look at Discovery Centre animals
- Coati scatter
- Tour of bottom zoo and feed the penguins

A typical day – Keeper for the Day aged 6 – 9 year

- Tour of kitchens and off show areas
- Feed Pigs
- Clean and feed meerkats
- Clean and feed porcupine den
- Prepare food for prairie dogs, Ringtail lemur lunch and plated lizards
- Feeding and handling of rabbits & guinea pigs
- Feed plated lizards and tortoises
- Feed prairie dogs
- Lemurland lunch time – feeding the ring-tail lemurs
- Prepare and feed fruit/dung beetles
- Prepare enrichment for bats, yellow mongoose and prepare capybara feed.
- Look at Discovery Centre animals
- Put out enrichment and give coatis scatter feed
- Feed capybara, mara and beavers
- Feed the penguins

At break times free drinks are available in the staff room. At lunch time you may purchase food from our catering outlets at discounted rates, or bring a packed lunch if you prefer.

2009 Application Form Keeper for the day

Details of the Keeper – the person who will be doing the event

Title	Forename	Surname
If under 18 – Date of birth		Age at date of event (Date No.1)
If under 18 – Name of parent or guardian		
Home Address		
		Postcode
Daytime Telephone		Mobile
E-mail address		

Details of the Booking – all information given will be treated in the strictest confidence

Please give 4 possible dates you would like to be keeper for the day – excluding 24, 25 and 26 December	
Date No.1	Date No.2
Date No.3	Date No.4
Date of last tetanus immunization	
Please give details of any allergies we should be aware of	
Please give details of any special needs we should be aware of	
Please give details of any medical conditions we should be aware of	
Please give the name and contact number of a person we can contact in case of an emergency on the day	

Details of the Fee Payer – of the person who will be paying for this booking (if different from above)

Title	Forename	Surname
Home Address		
		Postcode
Daytime Telephone		Mobile
E-mail address		

Payment Details – please note we do not accept personal cheques

Please debit my Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Solo / Maestro <input type="checkbox"/> Issue Number for £130 / £140		
Card Number		
3 digit Security Code	Start Date	Expiry Date

Fee Payer Signature – I agree to abide by, or to inform the person for whom I have booked this event of, all the Health and Safety rules

Signature	Date
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Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive any other information from Drusillas