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Take a ride on the wild side!

Point Defiance Zoo becomes the only zoo in the Northwest to offer camel rides



Tacoma, Wash. – Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium has three new animal residents, and this summer, visitors will get the chance to have an especially up-close experience with them. Beginning Saturday, June 20, the Tacoma zoo will become the only zoo in the Northwest to offer camel rides.

“Our zoo is known for its intimate feel and our ability to give families a truly up-close experience,” said Zoo Deputy Director John Houck. “With the addition of camel rides and our new Budgie Buddies exhibit, this summer is all about close encounters.”

The camels, Mojave, 6, Duma, 4, and Ruby, 4, come from Australia. Two are Dromedary camels, and one is a Bactrian/Dromedary hybrid.

Camel rides will be available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day through September. The rides cost \$5 per person, and up to three visitors can ride a camel together.

For more information on Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, visit www.pdza.org or call 253-591-5337.

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Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, the Northwest’s only combined zoo and aquarium, is located in Tacoma’s beautiful Point Defiance Park, 5400 North Pearl Street. Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium promotes responsible stewardship of the world’s resources through education, conservation, research and recreational opportunities. The Zoo, a division of Metro Parks Tacoma, is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA).