



## ZOOLIGHTS TICKETS ON SALE NOW

*Classic holiday light extravaganza returns with new dazzling displays and safety protocols*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Oct. 19, 2020

TACOMA, Wash.—Tickets are now on sale for Zoolights at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium and the holiday decorating has begun! The longstanding community tradition will have health at the top of mind this year, to ensure a safe environment for everyone. Zoolights begins Nov. 27 and runs through Jan. 3. Hours are 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. nightly, except for a two-night closure on Dec. 24 and Dec. 25.

Over the next month, the Zoo will transform into a colorful winter wonderland with over 700,000 sparkling LED lights. Local landmarks like the towering 23-foot-high Mount Rainier and two Tacoma Narrows bridges, a giant crab with moving pincers and an 8-foot-long sea turtle will be among the familiar favorites, along with whimsical animal scenes like sledding penguins, ice skating puffins, a walrus family and a trio of polar bears. The “tunnel of lights” will also return this year, now longer than ever at 117-feet. See if you can spot the muskox calf as well, a tribute to the zoo’s muskoxen Charlotte, Hudson and their calf Trebek who was born in June.

New this year: look for a salute to Seattle’s newest team, the Seattle Kraken, near the 100-foot-wide pink-and-orange octopus.

Guests will also have the opportunity to see who’s awake in the Asian Forest Sanctuary dayroom and at Kids’ Zone- a tiger? A tapir? Meerkats?

“Zoolights is the perfect way to end this year on a high note,” said Director Alan Varsik. “We are going to make it a safe experience for everyone, with the same magic and charm as always.”

To purchase your tickets for this longest-running and most-loved holiday light extravaganza in the region, visit: [www.pdza.org/zoolights](http://www.pdza.org/zoolights).

### **Enhanced Safety Protocols**

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is following all public health and safety guidelines for Phase 2 of Gov. Jay Inslee’s Safe Start plan.

- Face coverings required for everyone 5 and over.
- Guests will follow a one-way path.
- Timed online tickets required.

- A limited number of tickets available each night to ensure social distancing.
- Hand-sanitizing stations are placed around the Zoo.

### Prices

- Mon.-Thurs.: \$11 general admission, \$5.50 members
- Fri.-Sun.: \$14 general admission, \$7 members
- Children 2 and younger are free
- Special discount for BECU members

Both aquariums, the goat area and the carousel will be closed during Zoolights. Food and gift kiosks will be open. The aquariums will be open during the day for guests who visit the Zoo.

A premier goat grooming experience called [Groovy Goats](#) can be added on at night for an additional fee during Zoolights. Tickets for up to 5 household members must be reserved online in advance.

Zoolights is presented by BECU.

For more information, go to [www.pdza.org/zoolights](http://www.pdza.org/zoolights).

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*Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, the Northwest's only combined zoo and aquarium, practices and promotes responsible stewardship of the world's resources. A member of the [Metro Parks Tacoma](#) family, the zoo creates a legacy of sustainability for future generations through education, conservation, research and recreational opportunities; it also embodies Metro Parks' mission of creating healthy opportunities to play, learn and grow. The zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA). [The Zoo Society](#), a 501(c)(3) organization, is an instrumental partner in the conservation, animal-welfare and education initiatives.*

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