

Dear Teacher,

Thank you for your enquiry regarding a school visit to Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve.

Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve is home to over 700 animals! Including the largest cat species in the world - the Amur tiger, the fastest land mammal - the cheetah, the critically endangered black rhino and many more charismatic animals. With over 80 different species of rare and endangered animals we are the perfect place for your school's adventure!

Working in conjunction with The Aspinall Foundation we have reintroduced a number of animals back out into the wild and protect their natural habitat, including Western lowland gorillas, black rhinos, Javan gibbons, Javan langurs and many others. By visiting Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve, not only will you and your pupils be learning about these rare and endangered animals but you will also be supporting the fantastic work of The Aspinall Foundation!

This pack contains information about Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve and our education sessions. Our sessions are designed on a wide variety of topics fitting into curriculums across the key stages. To book your trip, please complete a booking form which will be provided on request or can be downloaded from our website; [www.aspinallfoundation.org](http://www.aspinallfoundation.org)

Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve is open at 9:30am every day, except Christmas Day. Admission for school children, **up to 15 years old is £9.00 per pupil** and **£10.00 for pupils aged 16 and over**. We offer one free teacher ticket per five pupils to encourage supervision. Additional teachers or supervisors are £9.00 each.

Please do not hesitate to contact us on [zoer@aspinallfoundation.org](mailto:zoer@aspinallfoundation.org) or **01303 264647**. We will be delighted to help organise your visit or discuss any specific requirements for your group.

Please note prices shown are correct for 2020 and may be subject to change. Please check our website for current prices.

Yours sincerely,

**The Booking Office**

# PREPARATION

## **Pre visit tickets**

We are pleased to offer two free familiarisation tickets for teachers to visit the park and pre plan the best routes to take and complete risk assessments.

All we need to know are the names of the teachers and the date of visit at least one week in advance. Please note, we can only offer complimentary pre-visit tickets if you have already completed a booking form for your school group. We can also arrange for one of our Rangers to meet you to discuss your visit.

## **Risk Assessment**

We have completed our own comprehensive risk assessments to assist you with your visit. Risk assessments are available upon request and with your booking confirmation.

## **What to wear**

Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve covers many acres of land, some of which is hilly. Sensible footwear for lots of walking and rucksacks for carrying packed lunches are advised. Children need to come to the park prepared for all weathers. Please note that covered areas are limited at the park.

## **First Aid**

We have qualified first aiders on site. If you require a first aider during your school visit please contact the nearest member of staff.

The administration of any medication is the responsibility of the group organisers. If anyone in your group does have severe allergies, please inform the park before your arrival so that the first aiders can be notified. Please also ensure that you are carrying all necessary medication for the child in question.

## **Dietary Requirements**

Please let us know if your children or supervisors have any dietary requirements prior to your visit.

## **Education Talks**

If you have booked one of our fun and fact filled talks then please double check the location and time of the talk. To allow the talks to run smoothly we ask that you allow enough time to arrive five minutes before the start of the talk. If you are delayed, please let us know and we will endeavour to accommodate any changes.

## **Gift Shop**

We do ask that teachers supervise pupils in our gift shop at all times. Numbers may need to be limited if you are attending in a large group. Our staff will be happy to assist in accommodating your school group.

## **Lunch Facilities**

There are many picnic areas in the park which are available on a first come first served basis. If you have any special requirements for lunch, or require a packed lunch please let us know and we'll be delighted to arrange.

### **Safari**

Our trucks run on a tight schedule so we will pre-book a time for your group to fit in with your day. It takes about 15 minutes to walk from Gatehouse to the boarding point. If you are delayed, please let us know so that we can rearrange the time. Safari for each paying person is £3.00 each.

### **Teacher/ Pupil Ratio**

As a guideline, we would advise a minimum of one teacher with every five pupils, regardless of age. If you wish to have fewer teachers in your party, please let us know before your visit.

### **Accessibility:**

Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve is a combination of flat and hilly terrain. For those needing assistance, the park has an on-call minibus service that can transport you to any area required. Please contact any member of staff if you require assistance and this will be arranged.

We have toilets in four different locations around the park (male/female/disabled/baby change). Toilets at the main entrance, Babydoll's Restaurant, Basecamp Café and Mansion Hotel are wheelchair accessible. A number of our safari trucks also have a wheelchair lift; should this be required please let us know. Our full access statement can be found on our website.

<http://www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne>

### **Refunds**

All fees are non refundable and non transferable.

### **Invoicing**

If you would like us to invoice your school, please state this on the booking form. **Please note that your invoice must be paid two weeks in advance.**



[www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne](http://www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne)

@portlympnepark

# YOUR VISIT

## **Coaches**

We have ample space for coaches in our visitor car park. Parking is free and coach drivers have complimentary access to the Reserve.

## **Supervision**

You are offered free adult places to ensure that your school group has adequate supervision and we do not allow groups of unaccompanied children in the park. Therefore we ask that you ensure that all children/students are supervised by an adult at all times.

To assist in maintaining a safe and comfortable environment for all our visitors we ask that all pupils are effectively supervised at all times.

As well as the welfare of our visitors, we have the welfare of our animals to look after too. All of our animals are on carefully prepared and balanced diets. Please can you ensure that your group does not feed them as it could lead to the animals becoming ill.

As a conservation charity we also like to do our bit to look after and protect the environment so we do ask that all visitors put any litter in the bins provided around the park.

## **Further Information**

If you require any more information on any other issues regarding your visit to Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve, please contact the office on 01303 264647.



[www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne](http://www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne)

@portlympnepark

# TALKS & WORKSHOPS

Add to your visit by booking fun and fact packed animal talks, hands on workshops, guided tours or even an overnight stay!

## **Monkey Mayhem Talk - 45 minutes - 30 students - £45**

Find out more about the fantastic range of primates housed at Port Lympne.

## **Hungry Hunters Talk - 45 minutes - 30 students - £45**

Find out more about the amazing carnivores that call our park home.

## **Adaptations Workshop - 45 minutes - 15 students - £45**

Learn about different habitats and how various animals have adapted to live in their habitat. Once you've learnt all about habitats and adaptations, students can create their very own animal, adapted to the habitat of their choice!

## **Conservation Talk - 30 minutes - 30 students - £40**

This talk covers a variety of conservation topics including; the role of wildlife parks and discussing various methods of conservation. Find out how Howletts, Port Lympne and The Aspinall Foundation work together to try to prevent the extinction of wild animals and increase the population of many species both in captivity and in the wild.

## **Habitats and Adaptations Talk - 30 minutes - 30 students - £40**

Animals have adapted to live in particular habitats. During this session we'll look at some of the animals housed at our parks and students will discover how we adapt our methods to ensure their lives are as natural as possible.

## **Leisure and Tourism Talk - 30 minutes - 30 students - £40**

Howletts Wild Animal Park and Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve are visitor attractions dedicated to conservation. Your students will be able to examine some of the ways we combine our conservation projects with providing a fun day out, for over 450,000 visitors a year.

## **Guided Tours - 30 minutes - 30 students - £40 / 60 minutes - 30 students - £60**

For more information on the animals housed at Port Lympne, why not book a guided tour? Either one of our Rangers or Keepers will guide you around the areas of your choice, giving you in depth information on the individual animals, how we care for them and how we are helping to conserve the species.

## **Enclosure Talk - 30 minutes - 30 students - £40**

Enhance your visit with a talk dedicated to your class's favourite animal. Choose from lions, tigers, rhinos or gorillas. Either one of our Rangers or Keepers will talk to you about the animals, explain how we care for them and answer any questions your class may have.



[www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne](http://www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne)

@portlympnepark

# ENHANCE YOUR VISIT

## **Goody Bags**

If you want to spend more time around the park, but still want your pupils to have something to remember their day, we offer goody bags that can be collected from the Gatehouse.

We currently offer goody bags at a set price of **£3.00**. The £3 Goody bag will contain a TAF notebook, pencil, pen and rubber. If you wish to see the products for the goody bags then please pop in and see one of our retail team members during your pre visit.

## **Pinewood**

Make your visit to Port Lympne Hotel & Reserve totally wild by including an exciting overnight stay at our Pinewood Camping Pods. A unique getaway with nature right on the doorstep, set close to our Amur tigers and Lions, you'll get the real feeling of camping in the wild!

Pinewood pods are heated and have two single beds with comfy mattresses and a double futon. The site also has a communal room with pool table, separate shower and WC facilities and a large fire pit – perfect for toasting marshmallows.

For more information give our Short Breaks team a call on 01303 234112 or email them on [shortbreaks@aspinallfoundation.org](mailto:shortbreaks@aspinallfoundation.org)



[www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne](http://www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne)

[@portlympnepark](https://twitter.com/portlympnepark)

# TESTIMONIALS

“Just to say we had a fantastic day at the zoo, went home with exhausted but very happy children, who declared it was the best school trip they’d ever had. Andrew and Lucy did a splendid job with the children. Lucy handled them admirably, whilst Andrew’s knowledge was excellent. Good use of iPad to show pictures in support of fossil handling and info. They went above and beyond to help the children enjoy and get the most from the experience, with some great learning! The fossil dig was very well organised to enable all to be successful by the end. Also, felt they did very well with such young children (5-6 yr olds) as this isn’t easy for all adults! In addition, your 2 rangers were very helpful with general questions and ideas.”

**Lorenden Prep School**  
**April 2016**

“Just to let you know we had a fantastic day. The children loved everything, even the walk from the bottom to the top! They were particularly excited by the dinosaurs.”

**Sellindge Primary School**  
**June 2016**

“Thank you so much for our trip yesterday. The girls had a fantastic day and thoroughly enjoyed themselves!”

**Croydon High School**  
**April 2019**

“I am just writing to thank you and your staff for a very successful A level visit to the Park yesterday. Our students thoroughly enjoyed their day and gained a lot for their A Level studies. In particular, I would be very grateful if you could pass on my thanks to your Ranger who delivered excellent talks to our students. She pitched the talks at just the right level and made conservation work come alive for our students. They were really interested in everything she spoke about and I think that they were really surprised by the sheer amount and variety of the conservation work you do.”

**Fort Pitt Grammar School**  
**April 2019**

“A big thank you to you and your team... reception, Karl, safari driver, Italian restaurant and others...all very friendly and helpful. We look forward to visiting again.”

**Buckwood School**  
**June 2019**



[www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne](http://www.aspinallfoundation.org/port-lympne)

@portlympnepark