



RIDES AND ATTRACTIONS ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE





RIDE SAFETY

Under the **Ohio Revised Code Section 993.08** that riders must obey all warnings and directions regarding amusement park rides and behave in a manner that will not cause or contribute to injury of themselves or others. Failure to comply is a misdemeanor. This includes people who behave in an unruly fashion or give the indication of being under the influence of alcohol or chemical intoxicants.

While all amusement attractions have associated risks, certain individuals are at an increased risk for injury from these attractions. Carefully evaluate each attraction to determine if you or members of your party can safely participate. We reserve the right to deny access to a ride or attraction to anyone we feel may not be able to safely experience the ride or may be hazardous to others.

The safety of our guests, animals and team members is the #1 priority at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. Safety is a shared partnership between the park and our guests. Guests are asked to carefully review and consider all ride and attraction restrictions using good judgment.

Written instructions are available with the ride operator at all the rides for those who are hearing impaired.

DEFINITIONS

Supervising Companion: An accompanying adult is someone who meets all ride requirements themselves, is at least 14 years of age, and demonstrates appropriate observed behavior. Most rides require ONE supervising companion per child unless otherwise stated.

ADA Guidelines & Access: The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium team members do not have the proper training to physically assist guests with disabilities. Please attempt

to enjoy our rides and attractions with someone who is aware of your needs and can physically assist you when needed. Accessibility varies from ride to ride due to the design and safety requirements of each individual attraction. All guests must meet the minimum height requirement and all other ride requirements.

Non-Walking Infant: A child who is unable to walk to the ride independently or maintain independent seated postural control.

Full Upper Body Control: The ability to sit or stand upright without assistance. This includes the ability to use an arm to brace and keep head and back pressed against the back of the seat.

Ability To Grasp: The ability to bend at least one arm and use it to hold the restraint or front of the car.






POLICY

ZooMore wristbands are required to be worn by the individual and not valid if not secured. If an accommodation is needed, please inform the staff member at time of purchase and they will assist in various options including but not limited to securing to a piece of clothing, a caregiver, or an ankle.

Gold Members are required to wear a wristband to access all Rides and Attractions. Physical or digital cards cannot be shown at individual attractions for admittance.

Wristbands can be acquired at any Guest Service Kiosk or Guest Relations building (availability based on season.) Accommodations available upon request for guests who are unable to wear a wristband

RIDE ACCESSIBILITY CHART

RIDES & ATTRACTIONS						HEIGHT/AGE	NON-WALKING INFANTS	ADA ACCESS	SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS
4D Theater	M	L	H	L	L	SC (Under 7 y/o)	Yes	Entrance Door 2, WC	D, AD, AL, CC
Dinosaur Island Boat Ride	M	L	M	L	L	42" or SC	No	Entrance, WC	D, 1, 5, 7, 8, 9, LB
Dust Devil	H	L	M	L	H	48" or 36" w/ SC!	No	Exit, T	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, LB
Falcon Fall	M	L	M	L	L	46"	No	Exit, T	1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10
Flying Clipper	M	L	M	L	M	48" or 36" w/ SC!	No	ADA Ramp Right Side, T	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, LB
Golden Frog Hopper	L	L	M	L	L	36"	No	Exit, T	1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, LB
Grand Carousel	L	L	H	L	H	42" or SC!	Yes on a chariot	ADA Gate Left Side, WC	D, 1, 3, 7, 8, 9
Havoc Harbor	H	L	H	L	M	44"	No	Exit, T	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 275LB
Jack's Tea Party	M	L	L	L	M	36" or SC	No	Exit, T	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, LB
Lighthouse Theater	L	L	M	L	L	N/A	Yes	ADA access through entrance, WC	D, AL
Mission Macaw	M	L	H	L	M	48" or 42" w/ SC	No	Exit, T	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, LB
North American Train Ride	L	L	H	M	M	52" or SC!	Yes	Exit, WC	D, 7, 8, 9, LB
Polar Playground	L	L	L	L	L	Under 54"	No	N/A	D (not on slides)
Safari Stampede	H	L	H	L	H	46" or 42" w/ SC	No	Exit, Step, T	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9
Sea Dragon	H	L	H	L	H	48" or 42" w/ SC	No	Exit, Step, T	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Shores Play Park	L	L	L	L	L	N/A	Yes	N/A	D
Swingin' Gibbons	M	L	M	L	M	36"	No	Exit, T	1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 165 LB
Tidal Twist	H	L	H	L	H	48" or 42" w/ SC!	No	Exit, T	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, LB
Tiny Town Train	L	L	L	L	L	36" or SC	No	Exit, T	1, 2, 3, 7, 9
Tiny Tusks	L	L	L	L	L	36" or SC	No	Exit, T	1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, LB
Wild Explorer Virtual Reality	M	L	H	L	H	36" or SC	No	Entrance	1,2,7,8,9, LB, T

LEGEND

 TOUCH

 TASTE

 SOUND

 SMELL

 SIGHT

Sensory Rating:
L = Low M = Moderate H = High

1	Must have full upper body control	8	Do not ride if you have motion sickness	Step	At least one step along access path
2	Restraints in use	9	Do not ride if you are or may be pregnant	T	Must transfer into a ride vehicle
3	Must have the ability to grasp	10	Do not ride if you are afraid of heights	WC	This ride can accommodate wheelchairs
4	Front to back forces	!	Supervising companions can accompany more than one child	y/o	Age requirement (years old)
5	Side to side forces	D	Service animals permitted	AD	Audio Description Available
6	Forces from all sides	LB	Weight limit in place	AL	Assistive Listening Available
7	Do not ride if you have heart, back, neck ailments, or had recent surgery	SC	Must have a Supervising Companion	CC	Closed Captioning Available








ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE

The following descriptions are designed to give you information on the type of actions caused by various rides along with their unique physical restrictions.



4D THEATER

Description: Stimulate all of your senses with a quick flick! Located in the Shores Play Park, this theater will feature 8-12 minute movies that stimulate all your senses. An experience that the whole family can enjoy!

 TOUCH	 TASTE	 SOUND	 SMELL	 SIGHT
Moderate	Low	High	Low	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seats that may poke upper back • 3D glasses to wear • Feet ticklers under chairs • Feeling of wind blowing on back of head • Possible water spray • Seat and theater vibration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No taste experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loud background music • Background noises relevant to film (i.e. crashing ocean waves, etc.) • Film dialogue • Possibility of people talking during film 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibility of aromatic mist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can cause motion sickness • Strobe or flashing lights • 3D visuals • Dark theater with bright screen

Special Requirements: Children under 7 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Service animals are permitted with caution. Closed captioning and headphones that raise/lower volume and provide descriptive audio are available for guests upon request. Wheelchairs can be accommodated in entrance door number 2.



DINOSAUR ISLAND BOAT RIDE

Description: A boat ride tour of the Zoo's Australia and the Islands region featuring dozens of realistic, life-size, animatronic dinosaurs!

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

Moderate

- Possibility of water misting and spraying
- Possibility of boats bumping at the end of the ride

Low

- Possibility of water mist getting in mouth

Moderate

- Subtle water sounds
- Sounds of other guests talking
- Loud animal noises
- Loud dinosaur soundtrack

Low

- Natural outdoor smells

Low

- Slow, smooth movement
- Subtly moving dinosaurs around the attraction
- View of Australia and Islands region

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control. May cause motion sickness. Service animals are permitted on this ride. Boat weight limit is 136 lbs. Do not ride if you have heart concern, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. This ride can accommodate wheel chairs.



DUST DEVIL

Description: Stir things up a bit with this classic “scrambler-type” ride as three arms with clusters of cars weave and rotate to really kick up the fun.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

High

- Lap bar and seatbelt in use
- Side to side forces
- Possibility of sliding in seat and bumping friends

Low

- No taste experience

Moderate

- The sound of whizzing as the ride moves and spins at a fast speed
- Other guests laughing or screaming

Low

- Natural outdoor smells

High

- May cause motion sickness as ride rotates on multiple axis
- Fast motion and spinning

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concerns, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. Weight limit is 540 lbs per car.



FALCON FALL

Description: A 50-foot-tall drop tower that provides a bird's-eye view of the Zoo. Guests will climb to the top before plummeting straight down. Riders will only be able to catch their breath for a moment, before being pulled up to do it all over again. Everyone is sure to tickle their tummies while catching some air over and over again!

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH

Moderate

- Shoulder harness in use
- Sensation of a fast drop



TASTE

Low

- No taste experience



SOUND

Moderate

- Sounds of other guests screaming
- Sounds of wind rushing during the drop



SMELL

Low

- Natural outdoor smells



SIGHT

Low

- High heights
- May cause motion sickness

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concerns, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery.



FLYING CLIPPER

Description: Fly through the high seas as you travel back and forth on a swinging clipper ship that swings to the heights of more than 50 feet. Take the incredible journey on the high seas! This Galleon swinging ship goes back and forth as the screams get higher and higher.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH

Moderate

- Lap bar in use
- Front to back forces
- Feeling of swinging



TASTE

Low

- No taste experience



SOUND

Moderate

- Screams from other riders
- Horn sound at start of the ride



SMELL

Low

- Natural outdoor smells



SIGHT

Moderate

- May cause motion sickness
- Swinging at high heights
- Swinging at a moderate speed
- View during ride is primarily of other riders

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concerns, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. Weight limit for entire ride is 5445 lbs.



GOLDEN FROG HOPPER

Description: Hop to it! This ride takes kids up 25 feet and provides an exciting bouncing descent.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

Low

- Lap bar in use
- Sensation of a slow drop

Low

- No taste experience

Moderate

- Sounds of other guests screaming
- Sounds of wind rushing during the drop

Low

- Natural outdoor smells

Low

- High heights
- May cause motion sickness

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concern, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. Weight limit for entire ride is 800 lbs.



THE GRAND CAROUSEL

Description: Enjoy the upbeat sounds and the thrill of riding on our authentic 1914 Mangels-Ilions Carousel, complete with 52 original horses, chariots, and band organ.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

Low

- Holding onto poles when sitting on horses
- Sensation of spinning

Low

- No taste experience

High

- Loud music
- Other guests laughing and talking
- Echoes as ride is indoors

Low

- No smell experience

High

- Moving features of the ride
- Indoor ride
- Mirrors
- Moderate speed

Special Requirements: To ride on a horse, individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Any guest can ride on a chariot. Service animals permitted. This ride can accommodate wheelchairs through the ADA access gate on the left of the ride. Do not ride if you have heart concern, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery.



HAVOC HARBOR

Description: Pilot your ship to safe harbor! This bumper car style ride is sure to be a family favorite.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

High

- Jerking and bumping sensations
- Forces from all sides
- Cloth belt across chest

Low

- No taste experience

High

- Loud bumping and screeching sounds
- Possibility of screaming and laughing from other guests

Low

- No smell experience

Moderate

- Open indoor space with natural light
- Unpredictable movement of other cars
- Possibility of self-controlled spinning

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concerns, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. May cause motion sickness. This attraction has a 275 lb. limit.



JACK'S TEA PARTY

Description: Adults and children can join in this tea party of sorts, while the table top spins, riders manually spin their own tea cups.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

Moderate

- Seatbelt in use
- Side to side forces
- Need to touch plate in center of tea cup in order to spin

Low

- No taste experience

Low

- May hear other riders laughing or talking

Low

- Natural outdoor smells

Moderate

- May cause motion sickness
- Rider controlled spinning on individual axis (can be fast if desired)
- Slow rotation around central axis






Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concerns, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. This ride has a weight limit of 440 lbs. per teacup.



LIGHTHOUSE THEATER

Description: Experience our Sea Lion Training Tales and our Encounter the Wild animal presentations. Learn about the remarkable natural behaviors of our animals that call Adventure Cove home and get a behind the scenes look into how we train our aquatic ambassador animals.

Sensory Ratings

 TOUCH	 TASTE	 SOUND	 SMELL	 SIGHT
Low	Low	Medium	Low	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No touch experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No taste experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May hear loud animal vocalizations, background music 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural outdoor smells 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fast moving animals are presented onto the stage



Special Requirements: Service animals are permitted. Assistive listening devices are available upon request.



MISSION MACAW

Description: Climb aboard this classic ride and glide through the skies with majestic macaws at your side. Guests will fly high on this interactive swing ride! Passengers may move the front fin to increase the excitement of the ride, causing the vehicle to swing in and out as it circles the main tower.

Sensory Ratings

 TOUCH	 TASTE	 SOUND	 SMELL	 SIGHT
Moderate	Low	High	Low	Moderate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seatbelt in use Sensations of swinging and spinning at moderate speed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No taste experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May hear other riders laughing or screaming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural outdoor smells 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High heights Rotating around central axis at moderate speed

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concerns, or neck and back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. This attraction has a 340 lb. weight limit per car.



NORTH AMERICAN TRAIN RIDE

Description: This 5-minute train ride takes you through North America and allows you to see many different animals such as the moose and the lynx

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

Low

- No restraints in use

Low

- No taste experience

High

- Loud sounds of the queue line under shelter
- Engine running
- Other riders talking or laughing
- Conductor talking
- Bells and whistles

Moderate

- May smell fuel or general engine smells
- Natural outdoor smells

Moderate

- May cause motion sickness
- Train goes through dark tunnel
- View of entire North America region

Special Requirements: Service animals are permitted. Do not ride if you have heart concern, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. This ride has a weight limit of 430 lbs. per bench. This ride can accommodate wheelchairs through the exit ramp, but wheelchairs weighing over 600lbs cannot be accommodated.



PLAYGROUNDS

Description: Playgrounds on Zoo grounds offer a complimentary activity to help kids burn energy and exercise. Located in Polar Frontier and Shores and Aquarium, height maximums vary per playground.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

Low

- Shirt, shoes and shorts must be worn at all times

Low

- No taste experience

Low

- Children laughing and playing

Low

- Natural outdoor smells

Low

- Other children running and playing

Physical Considerations: Service animals are permitted (not on slides).



SAFARI STAMPEDE

Description: Bring on the herd, as this “matternhorn-style” ride spins you and your friends. This ride circulates forwards, then backwards.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH

High

- Lap bar in use
- Side to side, and front to back forces
- Sensation of spinning and rocking



TASTE

Low

- No taste experience



SOUND

High

- Loud music playing during ride
- Other riders laughing or screaming
- Siren before, during, and after the ride



SMELL

Low

- Natural outdoor smells



SIGHT

High

- May cause motion sickness
- Fast speeds
- Partially covered with roof
- Colored lights

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concerns, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. Riders must be able to navigate steps to access ride.



SEA DRAGON

Description: This fully restored coaster features a double out and back, figure-eight layout that begins with a 37-foot hill. The coaster is 1,320 feet long and can reach speeds up to 25 mph.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH

High

- Seatbelt and lap bar in use
- Forces from all sides
- Jerking sensation from wooden ride



TASTE

Low

- No taste experience



SOUND

High

- Other riders screaming
- Chain clicking
- Sounds often associated with wooden rides



SMELL

Low

- Natural outdoor smells



SIGHT

High

- High heights
- Quick speeds
- May cause motion sickness
- Lights line track at night

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concerns, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. Wheelchair storage available. Arm and leg casts that cannot bend at the joint cannot ride. Riders must be able to navigate steps to access ride.



SWINGIN' GIBBONS

Description: Glide atop the trees with the greatest of ease on this classic wave swinger that has been popular since the 1970's.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

Moderate

- Lap bar in use with vertical chain in center of bar
- Sensation of spinning and swinging

Low

- No taste experience

Moderate

- May hear other riders laughing or screaming
- Loud music at surrounding rides

Low

- Natural outdoor smells

Moderate

- High heights
- May cause motion sickness
- Rotating around central axis

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concerns, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. This ride has a 165 lb. limit for the outside row of swings and 110 lb. limit for the inside row of swings. Prosthetics must be removed and left with a non-rider or properly secured.



TIDAL TWIST

Description: Standing 36 feet tall and reaching speeds of to 30 mph, Tidal Twist also does something others do not: it spins! Halfway through the ride experience, the vehicles “unlock” and spin through the remainder of the ride.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

High

- Lap bar in use
- Forces on all sides
- Sensation of fast spinning and stopping suddenly.

Low

- No taste experience

High

- Other riders screaming
- Chain clicking

Low

- Natural outdoor smells

High

- High heights
- May cause motion sickness
- Fast spinning

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and the ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concerns, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you have recently underwent surgery. Do not ride if you may be pregnant. The weight limit is 660 pounds per car. Wheelchair storage is available on exit ramp. Riders must have one fully functioning, naturally formed arm and hand to hold on with. Riders must have one fully functioning, naturally formed leg to the ankle and one to the knee.



TINY TOWN TRAIN

Description: This classic electric train features a locomotive, 2 tender cars and caboose designed for both adults and children to ride together.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

Low

- Seatbelt in use

Low

- No taste experience

Low

- Bells
- Other guests laughing

Low

- Natural outdoor smells

Low

- Slow speeds

Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concern, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery. Adult sized riders may not ride in the engine or caboose.



TINY TUSKS

Description: This procession of pachyderms is designed for both adults and children to ride together; riders manually raise and lower their elephant vehicles.

Sensory Ratings



TOUCH



TASTE



SOUND



SMELL



SIGHT

Low

- Seatbelt in use
- Slight sensation of rotation

Low

- No taste experience

Low

- Other guests laughing

Low

- Natural outdoor smells

Low

- May cause motion sickness
- Guests control height of vehicle
- Rotation around central axis


Special Requirements: Individuals must have full upper body control and ability to grasp. Do not ride if you have heart concerns, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you recently underwent surgery. This ride has a weight limit of 275 lbs. per elephant.



WILD EXPLORER VIRTUAL REALITY

Description: This virtual reality ride features 12 seats that move while you enjoy thrilling worlds through a VR headset! Guests who cannot self-transfer from their mobility device to the ride’s seats can still enjoy the experience through the headset.

Sensory Ratings

 TOUCH	 TASTE	 SOUND	 SMELL	 SIGHT
Moderate	Low	High	Low	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• VR glasses to wear• Motion from the seat	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No taste experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loud Background music• Background noises relevant to film• Film dialogue• Sounds of other guests talking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No smell experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May cause motion sickness• 360 visuals

Special Requirements: Full upper body control is required. Do not ride if you have heart concern, or neck and/or back ailments. Do not ride if you are pregnant or recently underwent surgery or have any broken limbs. Guests who cannot self-transfer from their mobility device to the ride’s seats can still enjoy the experience through the headset. Not recommended for those who suffer from or have suffered from photosensitive epilepsy. This attraction has a weight limit is 472 lbs. per platform.