Guests are currently recommended to wear a mask during the Expedition Africa Safari ride.

ZooTampa has teamed up with the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities at the University of South Florida to provide support and assistance to optimize the potential of people who are neurodiverse. We also recognize Autism Shifts, The Learning Academy, Autism Speaks, and the Diversity Action Coalition and applaud their efforts to promote inclusive experiences.
Distract Pak

Caregivers, a reminder to pick up a free Distract Pak at Guest Services upon arrival to ZooTampa. The Distract Pak contains a purple wristband that will allow front-of-line access to the Expedition Wild Africa safari ride.
ZooTampa’s Modified Operation Plan during a Pandemic.

- The park, shops, and restaurants are operating at limited capacity.
- Reservations/Pre-purchased tickets are not required, but are recommended and the only way to guarantee entry.
- Touchless transactions will be available and encouraged.
- Always maintain 6 feet distance between groups.
- Masks are NOT required to outdoor areas of the Zoo except to participate in Signature Encounters and Giraffe Meet and Greet.
- Masks are required at any indoor location on Safari Expedition.
- Handwashing and sanitation stations have been increased throughout the Zoo. Please wash hands frequently using soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Temperature checks are conducted at the entrance. Anyone with a temperature over 100.4F will not be permitted entry.
- If you are feeling sick, please return home and seek medical care.
- Rides are sanitized between use and are operating at limited capacity.
- Some attractions may be closed.
Modified Operation Plan Signage

You will notice circle signs that say “Please stay 6 feet apart”, they signs are to help ZooTampa ensure we have lots of space between people.
We are going to Expedition Wild Africa.

The Expedition Wild Africa ride is in the Africa section of ZooTampa. We can get there by following the map or using the ZooTampa app.
Line at Expedition Wild Africa

We might have to wait in line for the ride.

If waiting is hard for me, I will remember to pick up a free distract pak from the front gate. The pak has a purple wristband in it that allows us to skip the line.
To skip the line, we can enter through the ‘Assisted Loading’ gate to the left of the Expedition Wild Africa sign. When we get to the inner gate we will need to stop and let the platform attendant know that we have a purple wristband. They will help us get on the next truck that enters the station.
While we wait we can put our face masks on. Face masks help keep the people and animals safe. Masks are required on the truck.
When it is time to begin, a platform attendant will help us get on the safari truck. There will be a short video to announce a few safety rules that are very important to follow. The ride will take about 35 minutes.
The narrator will tell us all about the animals we see as we journey through Africa.
During our Safari, there may be times when there is a lot to see, hear, or smell.

If it is too bright and hurts my eyes, I can wear sunglasses or cover my eyes.

If it is too loud, I can wear headphones or cover my ears.

If something smells bad, I can hold my nose or cover my nose with something that smells good.
When we get back to the platform, it is important we stay seated until the narrator calls our row to exit.

As I exit the truck, I will be careful not step in the gap between the truck and the stairs and will watch my step on the stairs. I will hold on to the handrails and use my walking feet on the stairway so I don’t fall.
Our safari journey is complete when we get back to the station.

I might have more time to enjoy the Zoo or go home. Either way, I had a good day at the ZooTampa.

Thank you to our community partners!