

SCHOOL FIELD TRIP GUIDE

CONNECTICUT'S BEARDSLEY ZOO

ORGANIZE YOUR TRIP WITH US!

CONTACT US

Group Sales
groupsales@beardsleyzoo.org
203-394-6565 ext. 148

Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo
1875 Noble Ave
Bridgeport, CT 06610

WELCOME!

Thank you for choosing Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo for your group visit. Our goal is to provide a welcoming, engaging, and educational experience for every guest. School groups, camps, and nonprofit organizations visit the Zoo each year to explore wildlife, learn about conservation, and enjoy a day outdoors together.

Group visits are designed to be flexible, self-guided experiences that allow educators and group leaders to explore the Zoo at their own pace. Students and guests can discover animal habitats, participate in conversations about wildlife conservation, and enjoy time together in a unique outdoor learning environment.

Please read through this guide for more information about rates, booking instructions, preparing for your visit, and more!

We ask that all bookings be completed at least (2) weeks prior to desired visit date to ensure ample time for shipment of wristband packet.

Still have questions?
Please feel free to contact us directly at groupsales@beardsleyzoo.org.

We look forward to seeing your group soon!



GROUP RATES FOR FIELD TRIPS

$10

- Students (Ages 2 to 17)
- Camp CIT's / LIT's (Ages 12 to 17)
- Seniors and Special Needs
- Adults aged 18 and up including Teachers, Aides, Paras, Nurses, Administrators, Chaperones, Parents, Staff and Camp counselors aged 18 and over.

We offer (1) free adult (ages 18+) admission for every (10) paying school students or campers ages 2 to 17.

Groups are encouraged to book their Zoo visit as far in advance as possible as group visits are popular and space is limited!

All bookings must be completed online. Payment is due at completion of booking.

Group rates are available Monday - Friday to schools, camps, and other non-profit organizations with 10 or more paying guests.

We ask that all groups reserve their visit in advance and pay online with the group reservation to ensure lowest rates and availability.

Please Note: a small $14.95 handling fee is applied to each group booking. Group reservations are non-refundable and non-transferable.

We encourage every group to plan their attendance numbers carefully and include any anticipated additional guests when reserving. Guests added at the gate will be subject to the daily Admission rate.

ADD ON CAROUSEL RIDES

$1.00 – Carousel ride tickets per person, adult or child, are $1 only if purchased at time of booking. Day of arrival tickets are $2. A ticket is required for all ages, including infants.



LUNCHES & SNACKS

Groups are welcome to bring their own lunches and enjoy them in the Zoo's outdoor picnic grove. Please note the following important information:

- Unfortunately, the Zoo is unable to store group lunches. Groups are encouraged to make a plan for storage of lunches in advance.
- Groups may have each child carry their own lunch or may bring coolers and wagons to transport lunches. These may be left off to the side in the Zoo's outdoor picnic grove. Complimentary pull carts are available near the Welcome Center that can be borrowed to transport the lunches to the picnic grove. Groups are asked to return the carts to the same place so that other groups arriving afterwards may use them.
- We request that all groups discard of all trash and food waste at the conclusion of lunch in the designated waste and recycle bins located adjacent to the picnic grove.
- Please note that due to capacity restraints, groups are not permitted to eat in the cafe as this space is reserved for individual families visiting the Zoo.

BOOKING YOUR GROUP TRIP TO THE ZOO

Group Leaders may book their group's visit to the Zoo at any time without needing to do so through a Zoo representative! Please follow the steps below.

VISIT OUR GROUP PORTAL:

CLICK HERE

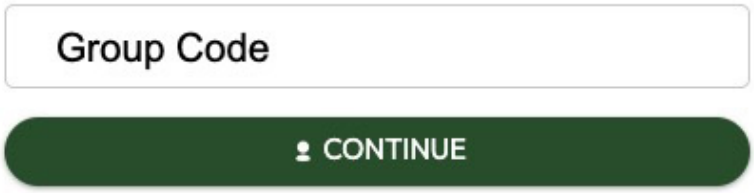


NEED A GROUP CODE?

Click here to request a group code. Our team will follow-up within (3) business days.

ALREADY HAVE A CODE?

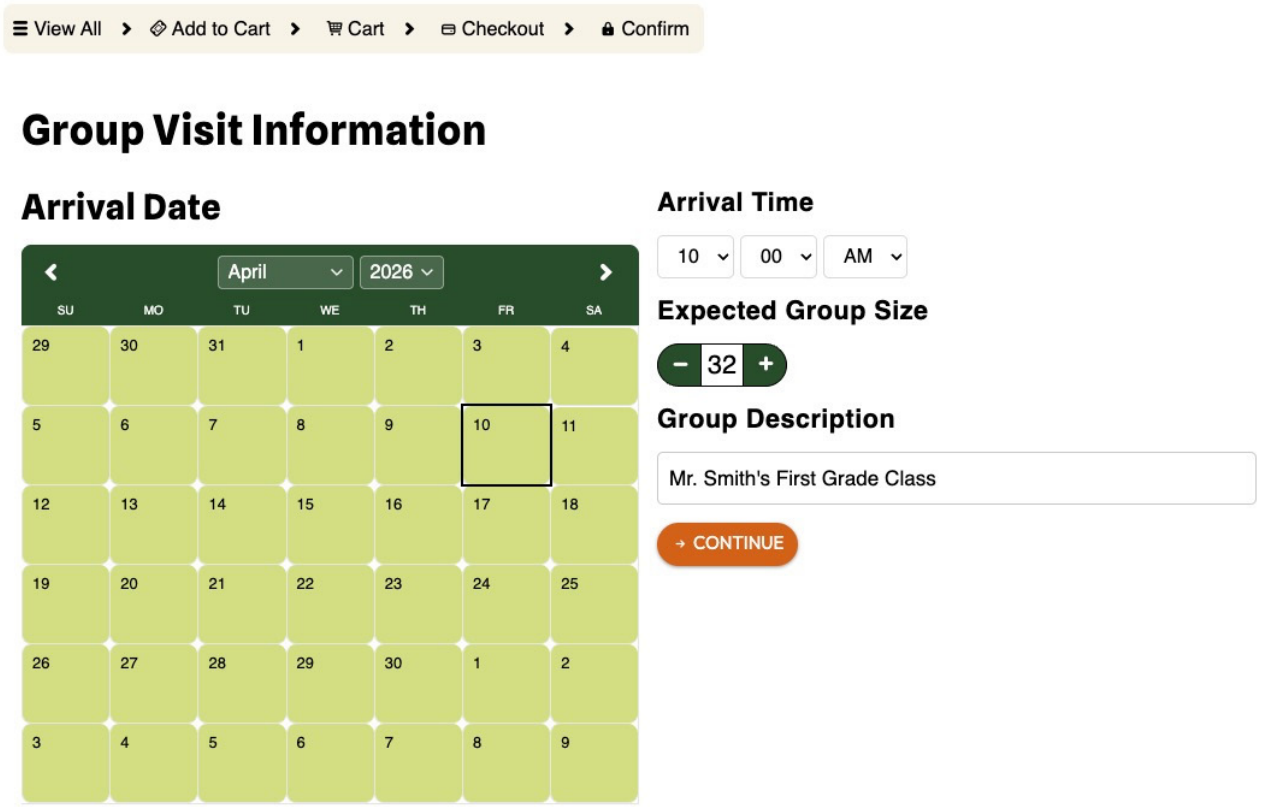
Enter your code and click CONTINUE to book your visit.



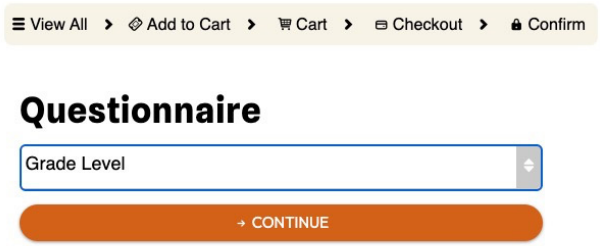
BOOKING YOUR GROUP TRIP TO THE ZOO

STEP 1

Complete Group Visit Information and Select Grade Level



Please note: Arrival time should be an approximate time you anticipate your group's arrival to the Zoo. We recommend groups plan ahead with transportation/bus companies to ensure timing.



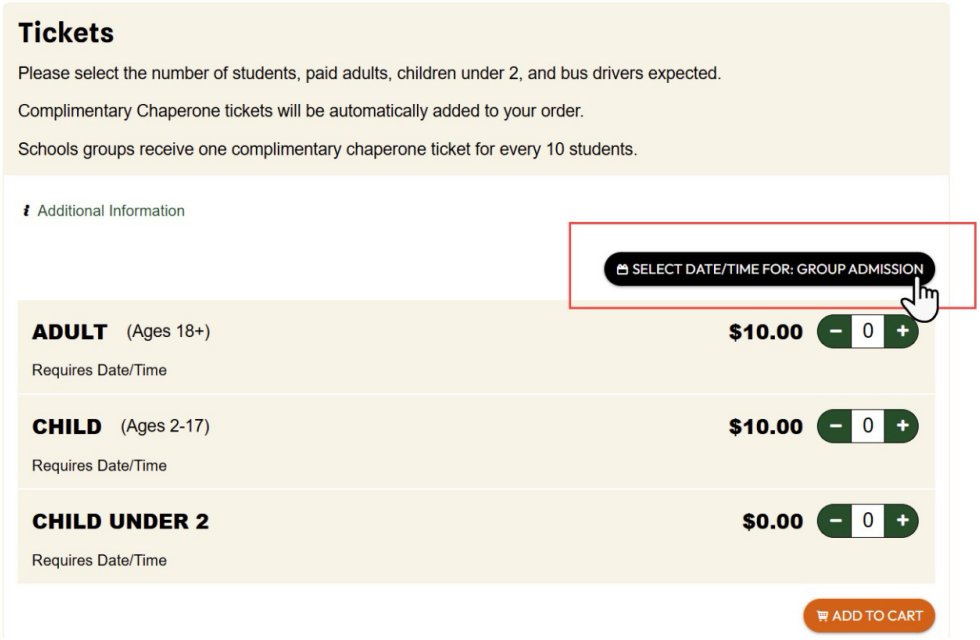
Please indicate the grade level of your group. Bringing multiple grade levels on one visit? Please select the lowest grade level.

BOOKING YOUR GROUP TRIP TO THE ZOO

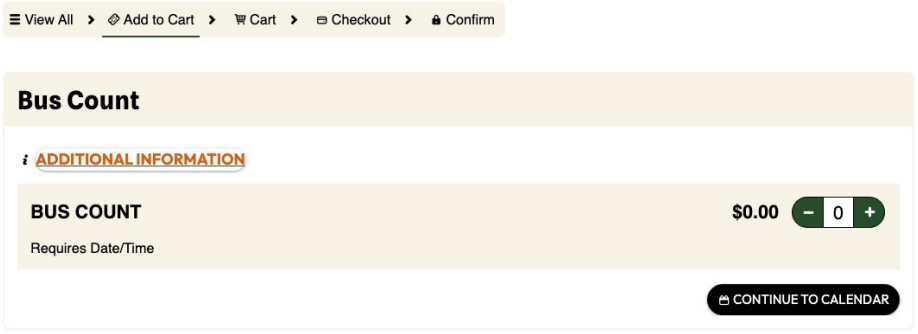
STEP 2

Select Group Tickets and Number of Buses

Confirm the date of your group's visit and select the appropriate tickets.
Note: All groups will receive (1) complimentary adult per (10) students (ages 2-17), which will be automatically added to the cart.



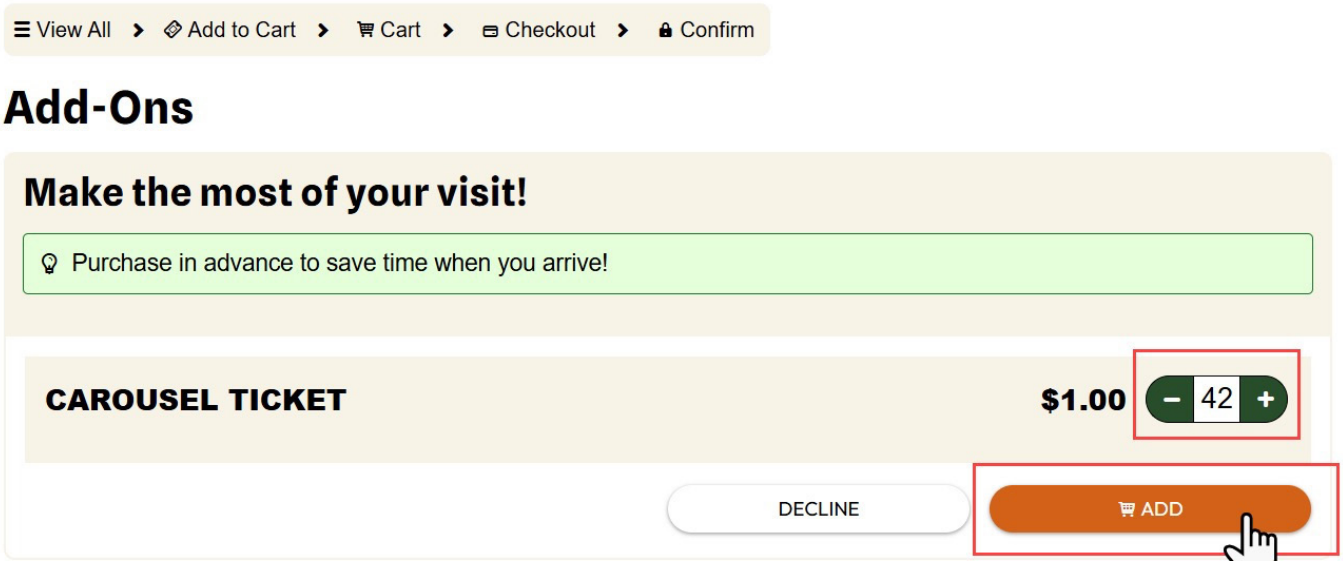
As parking is limited, please indicate the number of buses your group will be bringing. Drivers receive complimentary admission during your visit!



BOOKING YOUR GROUP TRIP TO THE ZOO

STEP 3 | Select Add-Ons

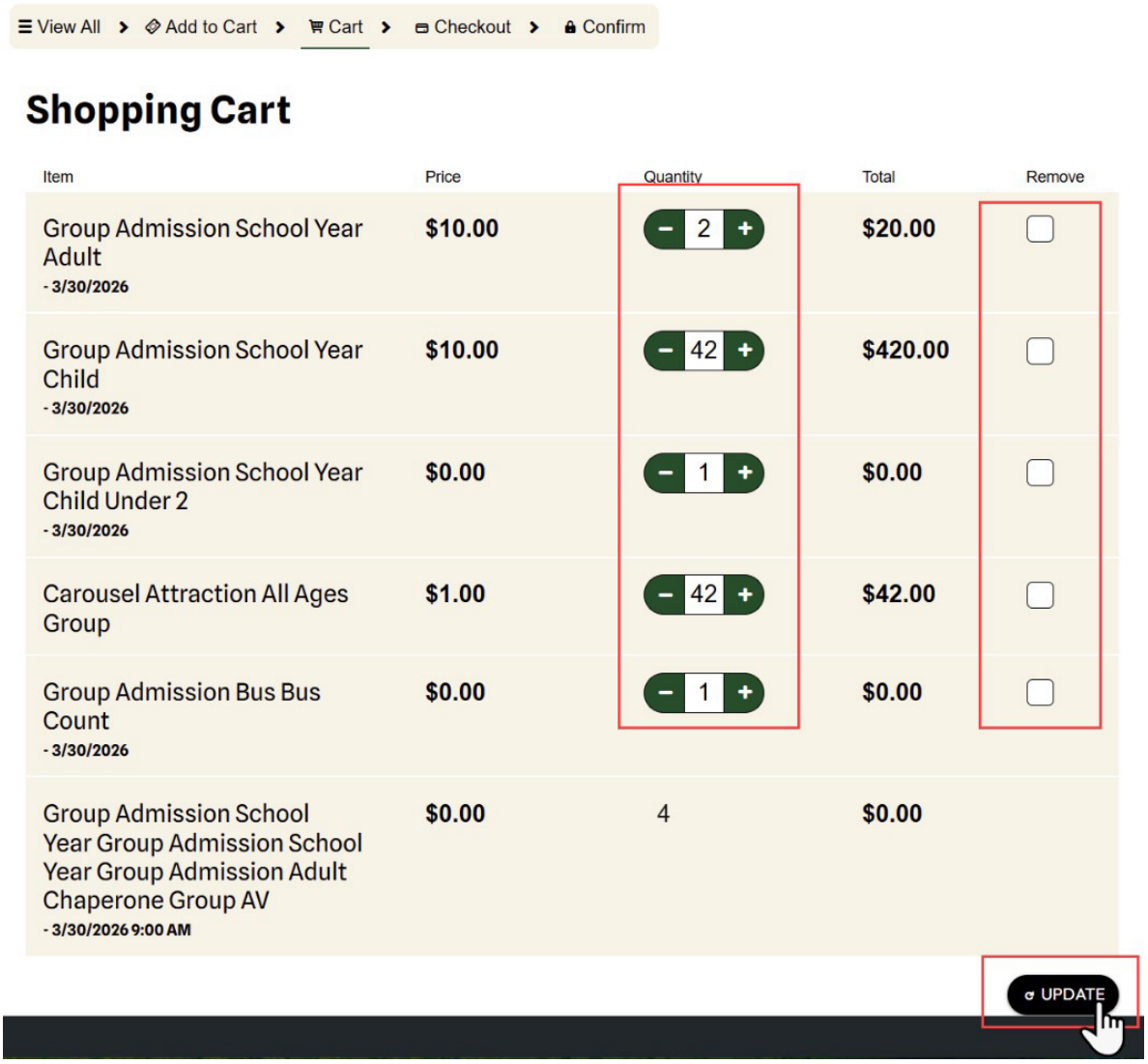
We are pleased to offer discounted Carousel rides to groups, if purchased in advance. If your group is interested, please indicate the number of tickets needed and Add to Cart. Otherwise, click Decline. Note: All ages require a ticket to ride.



BOOKING YOUR GROUP TRIP TO THE ZOO

STEP 4 | Verify Numbers in Shopping Cart

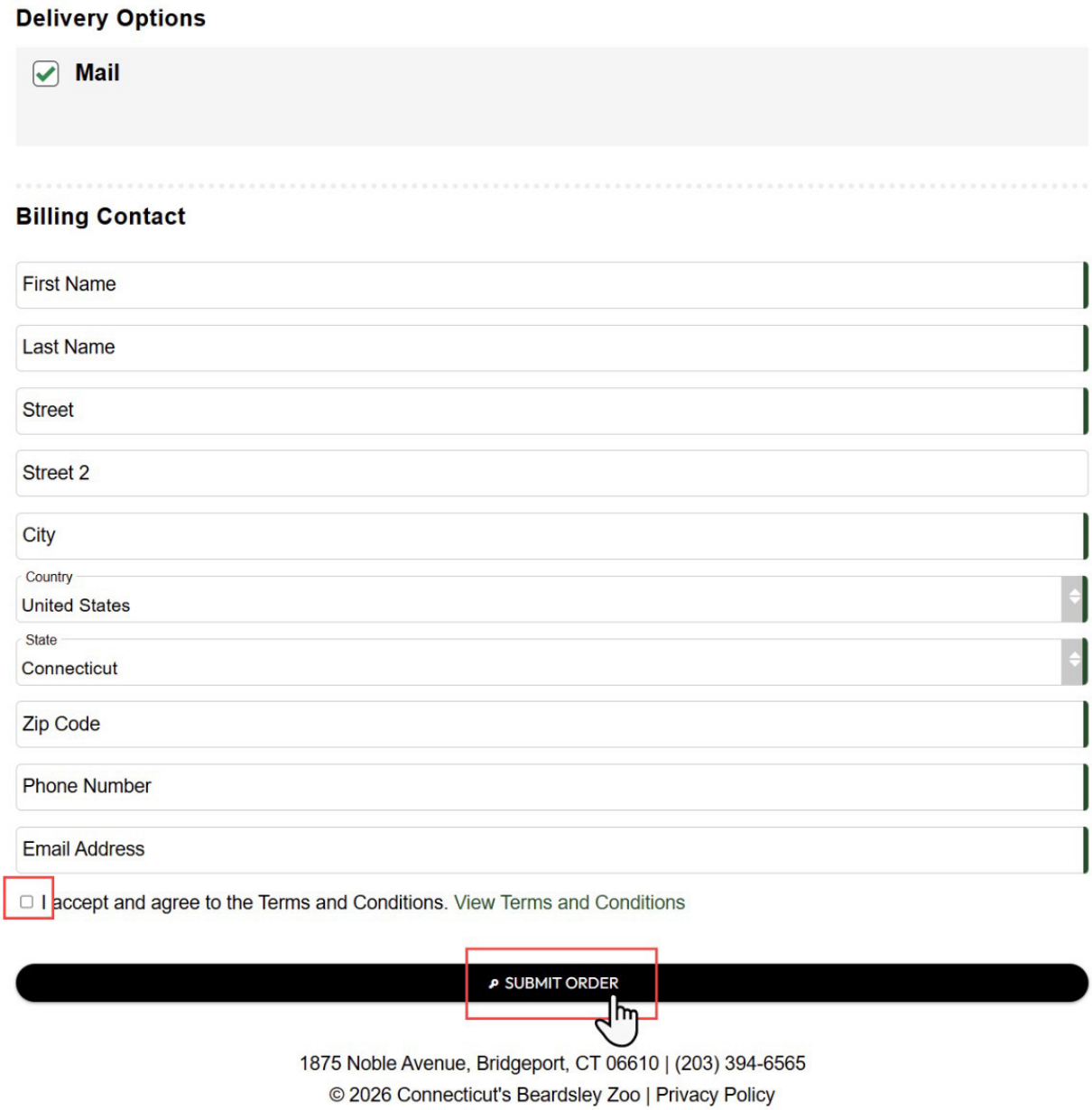
To ensure accuracy, please review all quantities in your shopping cart. If adjustments are needed, simply click the + or - symbols on each line. If a line needs to be removed, simply click the box under Remove. Once finished making changes, click Update to apply and reload your cart.



BOOKING YOUR GROUP TRIP TO THE ZOO

STEP 5 | Enter Billing Information

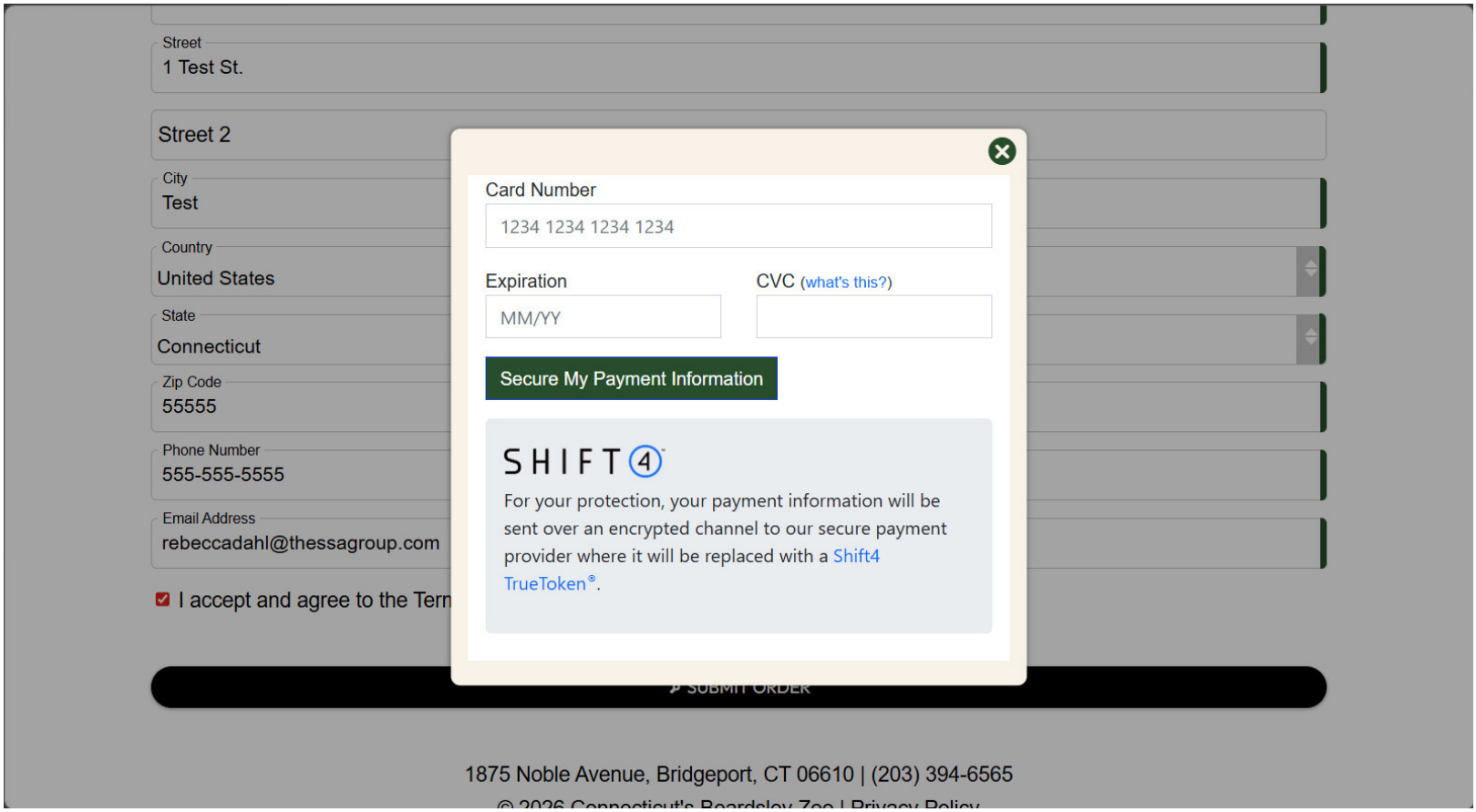
The final step in the booking process is filling out billing information for your group. Please Note: The billing zip code provided should match the credit card used.



BOOKING YOUR GROUP TRIP TO THE ZOO

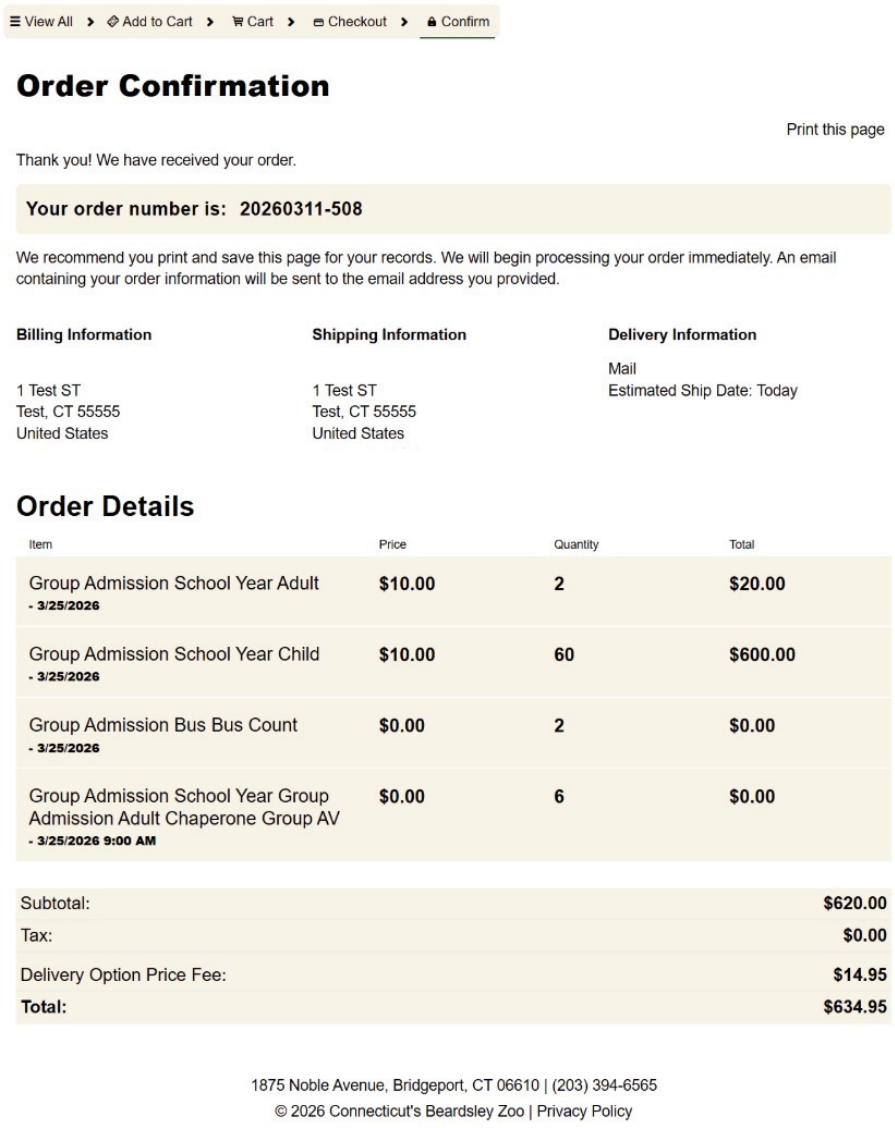
STEP 6 | Complete Booking Enter Credit Card Information &

A pop up dialogue will appear prompting the user to enter credit card information. Once complete, click Secure My Payment Information to process and complete your booking.



BOOKING YOUR GROUP TRIP TO THE ZOO

STEP 7 | Order Confirmation



View All › Add to Cart › Cart › Checkout › Confirm

Order Confirmation

Print this page

Thank you! We have received your order.

Your order number is: 20260311-508

We recommend you print and save this page for your records. We will begin processing your order immediately. An email containing your order information will be sent to the email address you provided.

Billing Information	Shipping Information	Delivery Information
1 Test ST Test, CT 55555 United States	1 Test ST Test, CT 55555 United States	Mail Estimated Ship Date: Today

Order Details

Item	Price	Quantity	Total
Group Admission School Year Adult - 3/25/2026	$10.00	2	$20.00
Group Admission School Year Child - 3/25/2026	$10.00	60	$600.00
Group Admission Bus Bus Count - 3/25/2026	$0.00	2	$0.00
Group Admission School Year Group Admission Adult Chaperone Group AV - 3/25/2026 9:00 AM	$0.00	6	$0.00

Subtotal:	$620.00
Tax:	$0.00
Delivery Option Price Fee:	$14.95
Total:	$634.95

1875 Noble Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06610 | (203) 394-6565
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Once payment is accepted, the user will be presented with an Order Confirmation page.

We recommend printing this page for your records.

Any adjustments or assistance needed with the order will require the confirmation number provided on this page.

Order Confirmations are sent from tickets@beardsleyzoo.org.
Please Note: Order Confirmation may arrive in a junk or spam folder depending on email service rules.



PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT

Please review the following information to best prepare for your group's visit.

ARRIVAL

- Share your group's Zoo arrival time with all teachers, chaperones, and drivers. Your planned arrival time will be listed in your confirmation email.
  - We recommend allowing time for traffic and delays. Please text the number on your orange check-in pass to let the Zoo know if your group is running late.

WRISTBANDS

- For the safety of all groups, please distribute wristbands prior to arrival. Space is limited in the arrival zone and can be chaotic during peak group arrival times.
- All members of your group must have a wristband for entry to the Zoo.
  - Please distribute wristbands to chaperones driving separately prior to arrival at the Zoo.

BUS DRIVER COORDINATION

- We recommend sharing contact information with your group's bus driver(s) in the event a complication arises or your group needs to depart early.

PREPARE FOR THE WEATHER

- As the Zoo is primarily outdoors with scattered indoor locations, guests are encouraged to dress for forecast weather conditions. Group leaders are encouraged to share this with their attendees.

SHARE MEETING LOCATIONS AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION

- We highly encourage group leaders to pick a designated meeting location and share with their attendees. Additionally, we recommend Group Leaders share their contact information with chaperones in the unlikely event of an emergency.

MAKE A GAME PLAN FOR YOUR DAY

- To make the most of your group's visit, we recommend taking a look at the Zoo's website and the Zoo map (printable PDF here) to identify the locations of must-see habitats, restrooms, and more. Chaperones may download the Zoo map to their smart device using the QR code located on their wristband.



ARRIVAL INSTRUCTIONS

To ensure a safe and efficient arrival for all groups, we ask that Group Leaders review the following instructions.

- Buses should drop off at the designated areas only and follow all directions provided by the Zoo greeters in the safety vests.
- When your group arrives at the Zoo, please check in with a Zoo greeter.
- We ask for everyone's patience, especially during peak group visit season as there may be delays due to the large number of groups visiting. For everyone's safety, we ask that no one disembarks the bus until instructed to do so by a Zoo greeter.
- The group leader should be the first one off the bus to provide the orange check-in pass to the Zoo greeter.
- Once all guests in the group have their belongings and a wristband on, they may disembark the bus. A Zoo greeter will happily direct your group to their entry point. REMINDER: Everyone in the group will need to present a wristband for entry.
- Once the group has disembarked, please avoid gathering in the drop off area as this could prevent a potential safety hazard for your group. We recommend gathering at the "Globe" or adjacent polygon area.
- Please note: Buses may NOT park in the Zoo parking lot as it is reserved for standard guest parking and is not zoned for buses. Vans may park in the Zoo parking lot.
  - Bus parking is located at Beardsley Park (right out of exit, approximately 1000ft to overflow lot)
- Outside contracted bus drivers are entitled to complimentary admission with the group. A wristband will be provided if the bus is accounted for in the registration.
  - Bus drivers who are staff members and part of the group must be included in registration counts.
  - Guests of the bus driver are not complimentary and must be included in the group counts to receive admission.

ZOO ETIQUETTE

For the benefit of our animals, our guests, and yourself, please follow the guidelines and policies below. By reading over and practicing these tips, you are doing your part to ensure that all guests and animals have a happy and healthy day at the Zoo.

1. Please avoid loud noises and shouting. Animals have feelings, too. Please do not tap or bang on exhibit glass.
2. Keep all objects out of the animals' habitat. Please do not throw or toss rocks, trash or other articles into exhibit areas. Animals may eat the indigestible articles causing them harm or death. If an item falls into an exhibit, please contact a Zoo staff member.
3. Food and drinks are not allowed inside of any Zoo buildings. The same applies to smoking. Smoking is permitted in posted areas only.
4. For the safety of both humans and animals, please remember no guest shall go over, under, between or otherwise cross any guardrail, fence, moat, wall or other safety barrier. It is unsafe to sit on, stand on or hold children over such barriers.
5. Zoo animals have specialized diets. All of our animals get room service. Our keepers prepare special meals for each of our animals. People food is not on their menu, so please do not share your food with them.
6. Please help with our conservation efforts by disposing of your plastic, glass and aluminum in the appropriate recycling receptacles.
7. There are many growing things throughout our Zoo. Help us keep them alive for all to enjoy by not climbing the trees, picking flowers, or disturbing the landscape.
8. Running, shoving, or climbing of rocks and trees is not permitted at the Zoo.
9. Bikes, roller skates, roller blades, skateboards, scooters are not permitted.
10. For the welfare of our animals, no pets are permitted in the Zoo.
11. For the safety and welfare of all animals, Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo does not permit pets or other animals to be left in vehicles or tethered during the stay of our guests. This applies to all animals in vehicles (locked, unlocked, idling, non-idling, with heat or air conditioning) regardless of the duration of stay. Please help us to keep all animals safe.
12. Please listen to and follow instructions of staff.
13. Most importantly, learn about our incredible animals and HAVE FUN!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Beardsley Zoo makes every effort to be open rain or shine. In some cases, extreme weather may force the Zoo to close out of an abundance of caution. In the unlikely event a closure takes place on your scheduled visit date, our team will work with you to reschedule your visit. Please store your wristband packet in a safe space. Lost contents of this packet will incur a fee should they need to be replaced.

RESCHEDULING A VISIT

In the event your group needs to reschedule your visit, please contact us via email (groupsales@beardsleyzoo.org) as soon as possible. If you have a new date in mind, please inform our team in your email. We will do our best to work with you to find a new date that works for your group. Please store your wristband packet in a safe space. Lost contents of this packet will incur a fee should they need to be replaced.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms located at the Zoo's Front Gate Entrance Plaza and up the road, past the picnic grove, just around the corner from the Peacock Café. Using the upper restrooms nearest the picnic area is faster as there are more of them which saves considerable time.

FIRST AID

First Aid kits are located throughout the Zoo and marked by green + signs. Please contact the nearest Zoo staff member for assistance.

CHAPERONE POLICY

We ask that all children, regardless of age, are accompanied by an adult chaperone (age 18+) during the entirety of your visit.
College visits are exempt from this policy.

ZOO MAPS

To support Beardsley Zoo's green initiative efforts, we proudly offer our guests a digital version of our map. The digital Zoo map can be accessed here and by utilizing the QR code located on the blue wristbands provided to your group.