

# Sleepovers at the Natural History Museum

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What does a sleepover include?

- An exciting and fun opportunity to spend a night at the museum surrounded by fossils!
- Fun and educational activities for all participants
- Free admission to the museum the following day after checkout
- An evening snack and continental breakfast

### Where will we sleep?

Guests will sleep on the floor in front of the iconic dioramas located in the North American Mammal Hall or the Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Oschin and Family Hall of African Mammals. Guests may set up their belongings in the center or along the perimeter of their assigned hall, and final locations will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis after checking in.

### What is the parking situation?

Parking is located in the museum's Car Park, near the corner of Exposition Boulevard and Bill Robertson Lane. Click [here](#) for a map and additional information. The fee for parking is \$12 during a sleepover and is not included. Rates are subject to change.

### What time is the sleepover?

Check-in for sleepovers begins at 6:30 pm in the lower level of the Otis Booth Pavilion. Guests will set up their sleeping areas after checking in. Activities begin promptly at 7:30 pm, and we strongly encourage on-time arrivals. Please note that for security reasons no one will be permitted to check-in after 8:00 pm.

### What should I bring?

- Sleeping bag, pillow, and sleeping pad (Air Mattresses are permitted, though access to outlets is regulated by the museum, and guests are responsible for providing their own pumps.)
- Pajamas and toiletries (Please note family restrooms are limited; expect to share sink space.)
- Comfortable clothing for the night; we recommend sweatshirts and warm layers
- Water bottle

### What should I bring? (continued)

- Flashlight
- Washcloth and small towel
- Walking shoes
- **Highly recommended:** earplugs and eye mask (Please note that the lights will never go completely dark in some areas.)

### Where do we change into our sleeping clothes?

Restrooms are available adjacent to the sleeping areas.

### What should I leave at home?

- Music players and all other electronic devices
- Roller shoes
- Tents

### What is the food policy?

Participants are strongly encouraged to eat dinner before arriving for the program. An evening snack may include cookies, fruit, granola bars, cheese, nuts, lemonade, or juice. Breakfast may include fresh fruit, bagels and cream cheese, assorted pastries, coffee, tea, and juice. Not every item listed will be available at every sleepover—these are merely examples. Due to the sensitivity of our collections, no outside food or drink is permitted in the museum. Guests with food allergies or dietary restrictions should contact [sleepovers@nhm.org](mailto:sleepovers@nhm.org) before signing up.

### Is there a minimum number of people required to participate?

For the sleepovers, all children must be accompanied by a registered adult (age 21+) for the entirety of the event. There must be a minimum of at least one registered adult for every four children, and there is a maximum of two registered adults for every one child.

### Is there a group rate?

Yes. Groups of 10 or more receive a group rate. Please call us at 213.763.DINO to inquire about our payment options and to check availability for a specific sleepover program.

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### **Are there age restrictions?**

Yes, sleepovers are open to children between the ages of 5 and 12 years old; chaperones must be at least 21 years old. Since the program is designed for children, we limit adult attendance to no more than two adults per child.

### **Are younger and older siblings allowed to participate?**

No, younger and older siblings are not permitted to participate, unless they are between the ages of 5 and 12 years old and have registered for the sleepover.

### **Are children allowed to sleepover without adult supervision?**

No. For every four children, at least one registered adult (age 21+) is required to be physically on site to chaperone their group.

### **Can a family member or friend enter the museum for an part of the program?**

For everyone's safety, only registered participants who have been properly checked in are allowed to enter the museum (both indoor and outdoor spaces) during any sleepover program.

### **Do I have access to my car throughout the night?**

No, for everyone's safety, the Car Park will not be accessible between 8:00 pm and 7:30 am.

### **When is payment due?**

Full payment is required upon registration. Groups of 10 or more receive a group rate. Please call us at 213.763.DINO to inquire about group rates and availability.

### **What is your cancellation and refund policy?**

All payments are final. In the unlikely event that the museum finds it necessary to cancel a sleepover, a full refund will be provided.

### **What if someone gets sick?**

If anyone in your group gets sick or hurt, please notify a sleepover staff member or museum security immediately. A museum security guard will be posted at the desk located by the South Entrance throughout the event.

### **Are the exhibits and programs wheelchair accessible?**

Yes. All exhibits are wheelchair accessible.

### **Can I check out a wheelchair?**

A limited number of non-motorized wheelchairs can be borrowed on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact a sleepover staff member on arrival if you will require one. A valid ID is required as collateral for wheelchair use.

### **What happens the next day?**

Lights will be turned on at 7:00 am. Guests will be invited to enjoy a continental breakfast at 7:30 am after getting dressed and packing up. The Museum Store will open at 7:00 am for an exclusive shopping experience. Museum admission is included starting at 9:30 am on the day after the sleepover. Participants who wish to stay must put all of their sleepover belongings in their cars before returning to the museum.



#### **Contact Information**

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NHM.ORG/sleepovers

**If you have additional questions,  
please e-mail us at [sleepovers@nhm.org](mailto:sleepovers@nhm.org).**