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zoo report

the magazine for friends of the Brno Zoo

BRNO



special supplement
ZOOREPORT PROFI

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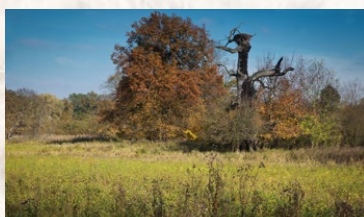
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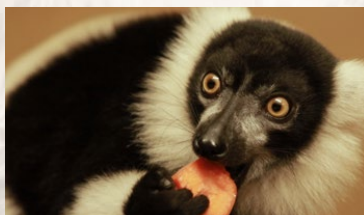
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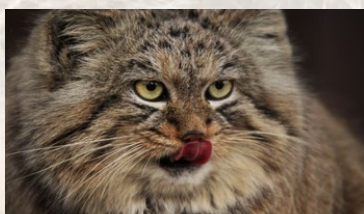
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Pallas' cat

UNSALEABLE

I Am Leaving, But I Will Still Visit Brno Zoo

My first editorial for the magazine ZooReport is unexpectedly also my epilogue, as, after four years, I am now leaving the position of spokesperson for Brno Zoo. I will thus use this opportunity to look back on four exciting years...

During my entire working experience in the zoo, my most absolutely powerful experience was the November 2012 birth of the polar bear cubs just a few weeks after my arrival! Cora later gave birth to her second set of twins, Kometa and Nanuk. For the media, it was a very hot topic; and for me as spokesperson, a big test. Since then, Cora and Umca have bred a fifth Brno cub, a female named Noria. Thanks to the four years I could observe them in our zoo, I have never ceased to be fascinated by such perfection of nature!

I do not like statistics; therefore I cannot give any about the number of births, adoptive parents of animals, answered questions, press releases, or organized events for our visitors during „my“ four years. I do, however, remember some very touching messages from our visitors just after the birth of the polar and Kamchatka bear cubs, thank-you e-mails after the very successful Halloween and Children's Day, and happy faces of parents and children walking on Mniši hora in all seasons. I will never forget the amazement in the eyes of a famous tennis player, Lucie Šafářová, during the feeding sessions of the sea lions, the sincere joy of actress Bára Hrzánová at the christening of a little giraffe, or the enthusiasm of the entertainer Dalibor Gondík during the run through the zoo.



Photo Michal Vanič

Monika Brindzákova and reticulated giraffes in the Brno Zoo's Safari paddock

I am grateful for learning so much interesting information. I will forever remember how many teeth a polar bear has, and what the colostrum is. Through my work with fellow zoologists, breeders, and other experts, I was able to peek behind the scenes of the zoo and to learn firsthand about their often extremely demanding work. Thanks to them, I could be at the vaccination of lynxes, at the transport of bison, and at the hunt for stray kangaroos, just to mention a few examples. I am glad I could be part of Brno Zoo and help at such events as the openings of the eagle aviary and the African Village, and the laying of the foundation stone of the new exhibition of lions.

I look forward to next year's return of lions to Mniši hora, and I will be there again, but as a regular visitor.

Brno Zoo moved forward with big steps during the past five years and is still changing with the ambition and potential to become one of the most important tourist destinations in Moravia. What do I wish for „our“ zoo? I would certainly wish for more than one thing! However, the two things I would like to see most would be the construction of a car park and a new modern entrance! Not only the zoo, but especially its visitors deserve these things.

Monika Brindzákova,
Brno Zoo Spokeswoman



Monika Brindzákova

worked in the media from the time she finished her high school studies. She commenced her professional career in the regional broadcasting field with the launch of Nova TV. After this, she continued as the presenter of a private country radio station, and eventually became a member of the public service media – Czech TV and Czech Radio – where she also worked as presenter for fifteen years.

At Czech Radio Brno, she hosted such shows as „Dobré ráno“ and „Apetýt“; and for the broadcasting station Český rozhlas Dvojka, she hosted the very successful show „Kolotoč.“ On Czech TV, we could see her in the show „Dobré ráno“ with entertainer Honza Musil; and, in 2015, as the guide in a show about folk traditions, called „Za našima humny.“ From 2012 to the end of 2016, she has been working in PR and as the spokesperson for Brno Zoo.

Currently, she appears as presenter at many different social and cultural events, and not only in South Moravia. She states her creed as follows: „Everything I do, I try to do one hundred percent. I believe that quality work requires good communication, loyalty to your employer, and a positive attitude to the world and life.“



Children came to the Valley of Fairies with the Autumn King



Children show their palettes decorated with colourful leaves to the fairies

Autumn in Hlídka

Educational programs of the Environmental Education Centre in Hlídka, an integral part of the Brno Zoo, are offered to kindergarten and first-grade pupils, and are thematically focused on the four seasons. In autumn, there are three programs from which children can choose: "How King Kaštanek Deserved Princess Duběnka," "Who Are Vegetables from the Garden," and "Autumn Paints." The two-hour activity is presented as play, and takes place first in the garden of the Environmental Education Centre Hlídka, which is in the adjacent park beneath Špilberk, and then in the classrooms.

In 2016, three groups of children attended the program "Autumn Paints" at Hlídka, which means that it was attended by approximately sixty children. What

is the importance of such a program, and what can children expect? First, in front of the building of the Environmental Education Centre Hlídka, the fairy-tale character Autumn King welcomes all the children. He wears a hat with a wide brim adorned with dried fruits and leaves instead of a golden crown, and confides to the children that he has lost his colour palette. Everyone then starts to look for the palette in the park. Soon they run into the Valley of Fairies. Colourful little smiling nymphs are swinging in the branches of shrubs and give the children an important task: "Help Autumn King to create a new palette of colours from natural products that can be found in the park!" The children run around searching, and bring different coloured fallen leaves, pine cones, acorns, chestnuts, red berries, blueberries, blackberries, white snowberries, and other fruits that abundantly grow in the old park. They then sort out their finds by colour onto a large palette painted on

canvas which has been laid on the ground. The King, inspecting it, explains to the children what they have actually found. Children learn many things from this experience, such as how to recognize some native species including maple, birch, linden, beech, and oak.

The King then thanks all the children for his beautiful new palette, and every child is rewarded with a small painting palette with its typical thumb hole. The children's palettes are nice, but monochrome. Fortunately, they can stick different things onto them, so the children eagerly decorate their palettes with a variety of colourful autumn leaves and present their finished work to the fairies.

Before the kids move to the classroom, they run and compete and are asked to create the longest possible "domino," putting together a long line of fallen leaves in which every leaf partially overlaps the next one on the pathway in the park.

In the classroom, the children gather at a long table and get materials suitable for making a painting of autumn leaves. Each one is instructed to draw a leaf with a stalk on white paper and then to use bright watercolours to give it an autumn appearance. After the program, the children are allowed to take their drawings, palettes, and attached leaves home.

The final entertainment was Tree Day, which falls on October 20. When children were asked what the best way would be to celebrate this day, they came up with many different answers and ideas. The one that will always stay with me was: "We will plant new trees so they will not be lonely, and will care for those we already have."

Mgr. Vladimíra Dolejšová,

Lecturer of Environmental Education
at the Centre Hlídka



The Autumn King explains the products of nature on his new palette

The Moravian Amazonia Deserve More Protection

The southeastern extremity of our state at the confluence of the Morava and Dyje rivers, which is now commonly known as Soutok (confluence), should have become the twenty-seventh Czech protected landscape area (PLA) no later than 2015. The proposal for its establishment is related to an area of 13,937.57 hectares. The Ministry of the Environment had proposed this protection, but it ultimately was not declared due to a lack of consent from local communities.

The land of Soutok, which people have been using for centuries, has one of the highest biodiversities in the country, and even throughout Europe. The local forests, sometimes referred to as the Moravian Amazonia, hide huge numbers of water canals and both permanent pools and periodically flooded ones. High groundwater, which is necessary for the growth of a floodplain forest, must be artificially induced nowadays. A mosaic of habitats is complemented by floodplain meadows and raised unflooded wind-blown sands.

On the long-term flooded areas there are so-called "soft meadows" covered with fast-growing tree species such as white willow. Areas with shorter-term flooding enabled the growth of hard meadows on which, at Soutok, oaks are the main tree. Massive solitary pedunculate oaks, reaching a height of 35 meters and a hundred years of age, are the remains of a forest that people dug up in the past to convert to pasture. In the withering wood of these old trees live larvae of rare insects such as the great capricorn beetle. Hollows in their



Eastern imperial eagle

Photo Shutterstock



Huge solitaires or sparse groups of oaks growing in the meadows at Soutok are the remains of the forest that, in the past, people have dug up in order to graze cattle. Trees provided livestock with fodder and shade in the heat. Today we value them as hosts of many rare organisms threatened with extinction

trunks and thick branches are used by other animals, especially birds and bats, as well as by various amphibians and reptiles. And in the crowns of some of these lonely standing tree giants, white storks nest.

The local landscape is particularly suitable for birds, of which about 250 species have been found, over 140 of which are nest there. Soutok is the only place in the Czech Republic where the eastern imperial eagle nests, and other birds of prey do so here regularly as well: white-tailed eagles, black kites, red kites, honey buzzards, and saker falcons. White storks nest at Soutok in forest colonies along with grey herons. Individually, at various locations in the woods, black storks build their nests. The banks of canals and rivers are inhabited by common kingfishers; and cavities of old trees are used by middle spotted woodpeckers, collared flycatchers, and many other species which prefer hollow trunks.

Around thirty years ago, European beavers returned to Soutok. Their current population is estimated by foresters at 500 individuals. Foresters keep red deer, fallow deer, and wild boar at Soutok Game Park, which has an area of 4,232 hectares.

In 2003, Soutok became part of the Lower Morava Biosphere Reserve, which, though recognized by UNESCO, does not legally protect it,



Photo Shutterstock

Great capricorn beetle

since our law does not acknowledge the concept of a "Biosphere Reserve." At present, for example, large-scale deforestation and high numbers of fair game in game parks threaten the still-preserved natural species diversity on the lower reaches of the Morava and Dyje rivers. And the possibility of the future mining of slate gas has not been excluded.

But our legislation does include a European network of protected areas, Natura 2000, to which Soutok belongs, and we are therefore obliged by European law to protect such an area. Because Soutok, as a Biosphere Reserve under Czech law, is not receiving the necessary protection, our state this year has been facing administrative proceedings before the European Commission. It seems that instituting protection for this unique PLA would be the best course of action.



The cub big hairy armadillo (right), large almost like its mother, is still going to drink milk

The First Successfully Bred Hairy Armadillo in Our Zoo

The pup of a big hairy armadillo (*ChaetophRACTUS villosus*) which was born in our zoo July 13, 2016 was successfully raised by his mother, Eliška. He is already slated for departure to another zoo at the end of this year.

Visitors could not see the small male for quite a long time after his birth. His exposure

quarters in the Exotarium pavilion were covered by a canvas with a notice stating that the female and her pup inside must be left undisturbed. After about a month, the breeders began gradually uncovering the exposure until, at the end of September, the whole exposure could be seen. The floor of their quarters was first lined with wool and wood chips, which were then covered by a substrate. This formed a base for thick branches, stumps, and hollow trunks which serve as hideouts for our big hairy armadillos. A partition divided their quarters into two roughly equal parts. One was inhabited

by the male, the other by the female and her offspring. The baby, still being fed with her mother's milk, sometimes ran up to the food bowl, looking and sniffing at it curiously, but it had not yet started to get used to solid food.

Brno Zoo has kept big hairy armadillos since 2013, when two females were imported from Děčín Zoo. One later left for another zoo. The other, Eliška, who had been born on 26 June 2011, remained with us. She was paired with Eda, who had been born on 7 April, 2014 in Krakow Zoo, Poland, after he arrived in Brno in November of 2015.

Big hairy armadillos grow to a length of 40 cm, and live in the pampas and forests in Paraguay, Argentina, Chile, and southern Bolivia. They feed on small invertebrates, vertebrates, and carrion, as well as on plants. In nature, they are hunted by many enemies such as jaguars, pumas, introduced foxes, and stray dogs. People also hunt them for their delicious meat and their skin, from which handbags and other items can be made. On the large territory that this species occupies, however, they are still quite abundant.

Dasypodidae (of the family *Xenarthra*) evolved in South America. Some species later crossed the Isthmus of Panama into southern Mexico. Their bodies are covered by an armour of bony plates, which are arranged in rows and connected by a flexible skin. They are therefore able to partially bend, but they cannot completely coil. Big hairy armadillos dig long burrows in which they search for food, and dens where they hide from predators or adverse temperatures. Their nostrils are stuffed with skin folds which



The cub climbs over the mother's body



Before chewing an apple, big hairy armadillo plays with it

act as a filter for dust or soil. They have a large lung capacity, which also has helped them to adapt to life underground.

It is difficult to rear big hairy armadillos in zoos. The exact reasons are not known, but it probably has to do with inexperienced mothers which, after their first birth, only rarely successfully rear the pup. Usually, the first few offspring soon die or are born already dead. This birth of Eliška's had been preceded by two unsuccessful attempts. Because interference is thought to be one of the reasons for failures in zoos, we made a special effort to create a peaceful environment for the rearing of this pup.

Only a few days after the two armadillos were put together, breeders observed mating. However, on February 7, they found a dead pup lying on the surface of the substrate. It might have been born dead, or the male might have assaulted it. The vet treated the female's genitals, and the breeders separated the pair for a few days. The second birth occurred on April 10, but the baby lived only three days. The reason was not discovered during the autopsy of the pup by the vet, but Eliška's maternal feelings were slow to awaken, and she apparently did not produce milk. Also, if there were loud noises from visitors, she got nervous and would put the baby in her mouth.

Breeders decided to try to prevent further failures. The temperature in the quarters was increased. Originally, it did not exceed 30 °C, but this was increased to 31–35 °C. Sometimes the breeders would sprinkle more substrate to in-



Female big hairy armadillo with her cub

crease the humidity. They also further increased the proportion of protein components in the food by adding locusts, crickets, and mealworms to the usual meat mixture, cottage cheese, eggs, rice, fruits, vegetables, insects, and worms. A few days before the expected birth, which date was estimated by the length of gestation (65–75 days) and the date of last observed mating, the male was removed. The birth and rearing then proceeded smoothly, without complications.

With the exception of mothers caring for their young, big hairy armadillos in zoos show

little shyness. Curiosity and the desire to explore predominate in them. In our exposition, they often run around here and there, over logs or stumps, and even over one another. Sometimes they will stand on their hind legs and try to climb to a higher obstacle, while sometimes they will dig into a layer of wood chips and shredded bark and eagerly explore underground. The substrate surface undulates, so they are able to raise or roll a small log. It is a beautiful spectacle.



We compiled the breeding pair of big hairy armadillo in 2015



Male Eda



Freshwater pig-nosed turtles move underwater like sea turtles, reminding one of birds

Turtles' Month

October 2016 in Brno Zoo could well have been called "Turtles' Month." Exhibitions, lectures, and a children's competitive trail drew attention to how critically turtles, especially sea turtles, are endangered.

"Turtles' Month" was started on October 6th with a lecture at Brno Zoo's administrative building by its Director Martin Hovorka. He especially reminded everyone that our zoo is building a rescue station on the Indonesian island of Nusa Penida which will treat sea turtles seized from illegal traders and, after successful rehabilitation, release them into the wild.

On World Animal Day (October 8), a discussion was held in the administrative building with RNDr. Hana Svobodová, PhD. She is an expert on the subject of the global crisis of turtles. In addition to her job at the Pedagogical Faculty of Masaryk University, she is a project coordinator for the protection of sea turtles on the island of Borneo. Dr. Svobodová also prepared two exhibitions in pavilions at the zoo: in the Tropical Kingdom, "Look Under the Carapace, or What Burns Indonesia;" and in the Exotarium pavilion, "Indonesia – With Turtles, or Without Them?"

On October 20, Professor Zdeněk Knotek from the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences spoke on turtles' diseases. The last lecture

on the subject, again in the administrative building at the occasion of "Turtles' Month" was led by Monika Brindzáková, a spokeswoman of Brno Zoo, on October 29. She summarized all the ups and downs that were encountered in building the rescue centre, and explained that it was necessary to overcome many obstacles of an administrative character, too.

Three commented feedings of pig-nosed turtles, which took place 1, 15, and 29 October in the Tropical Kingdom pavilion, also focused on the protection of turtles and promoted Project Kura Kura.

And what could visitors learn last October in Brno Zoo? For example, that reptiles protected

by bony carapaces are amongst the oldest living organisms on our planet, having inhabited the earth for tens or hundreds of millions of years; but that today, because of humans, they are on the brink of extinction. The greatest dangers that now threatens sea turtles are the collection of their eggs, which are laid on sand beaches, and the killing or capture of the females for meat. Turtle eggs and turtle meat in many countries are considered a delicacy. Although turtles are protected by law, trade in them is still blossoming. Of the seven species of sea turtles, four are critically endangered, and some formerly abundant species have completely disappeared. The situation is worst in the Indian Ocean.

In an effort to help avert this negative trend, our zoo, together with the Indonesian foundation Yayasan Kura Kura Nusa Penida and the Union of Czech and Slovak Zoos, created Project Kura Kura (Save Turtle) a decade ago. Its aim is to establish a rescue centre for sea turtles on the Indonesian island of Nusa Penida, with its station building professionally affiliated with the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno.

Construction costs cannot be paid for by the zoo from its budget; so, from the start of the project, we have been trying to raise funds from public collections. Our October 2016 visitors had the opportunity to contribute money, even a small amount, for this into collection boxes which had been placed at several locations in the zoo.



Three commented feedings of pig-nosed turtles, which took place 1, 15, and 29 October in the Tropical Kingdom pavilion, also focused on the protection of turtles and promoted Project Kura Kura.

Students Compile a Mobile Application about Zoo Animals

A new application for mobile phones and tablets allows visitors to Brno Zoo to significantly increase the amount of information they can learn about some of our animals. When a visitor is interested in an animal on a tour of the zoo, he/she can look up this species on the application menu or by using the QR code displayed at the exhibition. What he then hears are not boring lectures but funny and exciting stories, commentaries, and narration. Among other interesting facts, the person will also be introduced to the names we have given individual animals, what they prefer to eat, and where they usually hide. This service will be up and running from December 2016 with information about fifty animals located on the main visitor route. Gradually, this service will be expanded to cover the entire zoo.

The idea to set up this service came from students of the Faculty of Arts at Masaryk University (Czech Language and Computational Linguistics department) who visited the zoo on a field trip. Under the leadership of Mgr Dana Hlaváčková, PhD, assistant professor in the Institute of the Czech Language, they then turned their idea into reality after consultations with breeders and breeding curators.

Two New Species of Lemurs

Two new species of lemurs have enriched the collection of primates of Brno Zoo in 2016. Breeding of the black-and-white ruffed lemur (*Varecia variegata*) was stopped here at the turn of the



Black lemur (female)



Black-and-white ruffed lemur

millennium; and the black lemur (*Eulemur macaco*) had not yet appeared in our zoo.

Black-and-white ruffed lemurs live in the forests of northeastern Madagascar. Twin female black-and-white ruffed lemurs Antala and Alika were born on April 4, 2015 in Olomouc Zoo. We imported them to Brno on 6 October 2016. They were put into the second Monkey Pavilion, the larger part of which is inhabited by chimpanzees. Lemurs need spacious internal living quarters, and ours can go from the exhibition quarters into a spacious outdoor enclosure. The wall adjacent to the corridor is glass, so visitors to the pavilion can observe the lemurs even during the cold season.

Black lemurs live in forests and secondary forests at the northwestern tip of Madagascar and on two adjacent smaller islands. They show strong sexual dimorphism, males being dominantly black while females are mostly brown. Our three-member group of black lemurs, a parental couple with their little one, arrived in Brno on July 12, 2016 from Hodonín Zoo. The male, Jeni, was born on March 17, 1995 in Olomouc Zoo; the female, Magdalena, was born on March 10, 2012 in Prague Zoo. Their son,



Black lemur (male)

Kájínek, first saw the light of day on March 5, 2016 in Hodonín. In Brno, the family was moved to the first Monkey Pavilion. Kájínek, who arrived as a young animal, sometimes squeezes through the bars of his enclosure and walks around outside, scaring visitors. We had to put up a notice that there is no need to report his escape, assuring people that the pup will return to his parents on his own!



The Pallas' cat exposition is nowadays inhabited by the male, Manu, only. The female, Rosa, and her four kittens inhabit quarters including a run which, however, is not along the visitors' paths of the zoo.



Manu, the Pallas' cat male

The Pallas' Cat Kittens are in Their Mother's Care Away from Visitors

Four Pallas' cat kittens (*Otocolobus manul*), two females and two males born April 18, 2016, are thriving. As they grow, their mother, Rosa, still watches, cherishes, and breastfeeds them. The whole family – except for the father – is located in the vet-

erinary surgery building. Manu, the father of these quadruplets, is in an exposition near the sea lions.

Our entire zoo watched the development of these small feline kittens with a certain tension. In human care, Pallas' cats are difficult to breed, which is why they are not seen often in zoos: In the Czech Republic, they can only be seen in Brno Zoo, Zoopark Chomutov, and Jihlava Zoo. All our kittens successfully overcame the critical period of their first six months of life. The difficulty of breeding in captivity is explained by the fact that Pallas' cats live in the upland steppes of Central Asia and so do not have immune systems adapted to the bacterial environment of lower altitudes. In the zoo, this is manifested primarily by a high kitten mortality rate: They are often subject to various infections such as toxoplasmosis – so-called “cat” disease caused by the microscopic protozoan *Toxoplasma gondii*.

The breeding of Pallas' cats is also characterized by the fact that the sexes are normally kept

apart because these carnivores are aggressive. Breeders put a male with a female only during the rut. Also, our male, who was born in April 2012 in Jihlava Zoo, was our only Pallas' cat when he came to Brno in 2013. Rosa, born in March 2014, came from Highland Wildlife Park near Kingussie, Scotland. Since coming to Brno Zoo in May 2015, she has lived in the breeding facilities. When, in January this year, she went into estrus and breeders brought Manu to her for a few days, she became pregnant. The kittens will stay with her at least until they become sexually mature, at the age of 10–11 months. Then the kittens will go to other zoos.

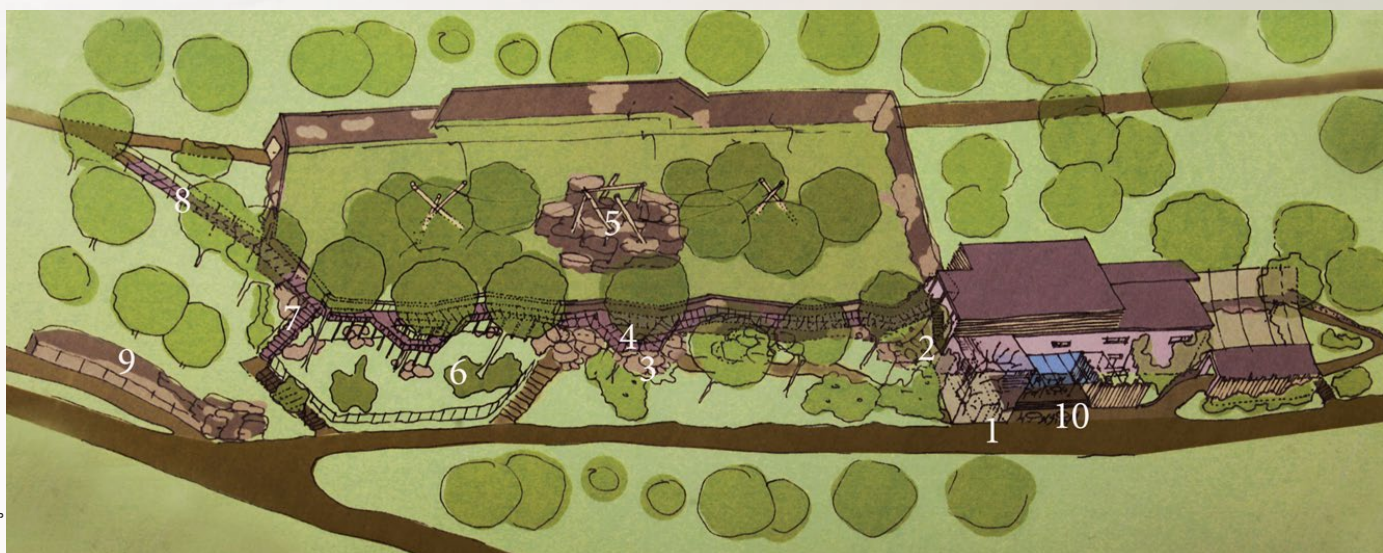
Pallas' cats live in the mountains of Central Asia, their habitat stretching from the Caspian Sea east to Tibet and Mongolia. They live at altitudes of up to 4,800 meters above sea level, and hunt mainly rodents. They differ from other small cats by their long fur, especially on the stomach, which protects them from the cold. Until recently, people used to hunt them for their dense fur, although most of the countries where these cats live prohibited their shooting.

The Pallas' cat is actually about the size of a domestic cat; but, due to its massive fur, it looks bigger. Its richly coated head, small ears, and long whiskers give the impression that it has a broad face. This unusual facial feature attracts people, many of whom would like to keep a Pallas' cat at home. But it is not easy to tame, and it is even more difficult to obtain a kitten born in a zoo, while private breeders have succeeded only rarely in rearing a Pallas' cat kitten.



One of the Pallas' cat kittens is peering out of a hollow trunk, which they use as a shelter in their quarters.

Drawing: Studio AND



The new range of chimpanzees to be built on the western edge of the pavilion will use about 2,000 square meters of adjacent wooded slope. Chimps will be observed mainly from the walkway leading from the top of the southern perimeter wall. ① access to the footbridge through a cage with small monkeys; ② stairs and elevator to the high footbridge; ③ main view from the footbridge; ④ covered view from the ground; ⑤ waterhole; ⑥ additional exposure; ⑦ the end of the footbridge with the staircase; ⑧ wheelchair-accessible walkway connecting to the network of paths; ⑨ exposure of meerkats; ⑩ outdoor seating with refreshment area.

Chimpanzees Will Be Observed from a High Walkway

A new outdoor chimpanzee run will be built in our zoo next year. Along with the chimpanzee enclosure, our zoo will build two additional exposures for smaller monkeys.

Chimpanzees presently inhabit one of our two pavilions for monkeys. Visitors can still observe them inside the pavilion and in a smaller outdoor enclosure which consists of three interconnected cages. These were



Chimpanzee

built in the 1960s, when the pavilion was built. The new range will use about 2,000 square meters of the wooded hill adjacent to the western edge of the pavilion. Thus, the apes will have not only more living space, but also an environment closer to their original habitat. Another important part of the new outdoor enclosure will be a glazed extension on the roof enabling the chimps to climb to an 11-meter-high space during the colder periods of the year.

Visitors will be able to observe the chimpanzees from a 100-meter-long footbridge which will be built 4–6 meters above the ground. It will start at the top of a wall which can be ascended by stairs or a lift at the access path. This will take the visitor through a cage with smaller monkeys (which species has not yet been decided), so the monkeys will be able to be seen at different levels. The cage will also serve to hide the stairs and lift. Once on the high footbridge, which will change direction and width, we will be able to observe the great apes, the main viewing point being roughly in the middle of the „path in the trees.“ The walkway will end with a staircase

at the meerkats' exposure, with a barrier-free connection to the network of paths below.

The new enclosure will be surrounded by a five-meter-high concrete wall, although it will not look that high, as it will be built in a trench. From the access path, the wall will appear to be a rock, though it will actually be artificial. Inside, out of sight of visitors, there will be a stainless steel grid. An additional exposure for some kind of smaller monkeys will be built there. The footpath will lead to an artificial rock from where it will be possible to look, as if from inside a cave, through a glass wall at the waterhole in the chimpanzees' run. From here, also, breeders will have access to the monkeys' quarters from a neighbouring exposure.

A 2010 reconstruction of the chimpanzees' pavilion primarily related to its internal layout and furnishings. By the connection of their three original quarters, chimps were given a greater exposure range; and, after adaptation of a former warehouse below their quarters, they got two new "bedrooms."

And the „icing on the cake“ will be that, after removing the original cages, there will be room for the zoo to add an outdoor refreshment area with seating in front of the pavilion.

A black and white lemur is hanging upside down from a thin tree branch. The lemur has a black face and head, with white fur on its body and limbs. It has large, round, orange-brown eyes and is looking directly at the camera. Its black hands are gripping the branch. The background is a blurred forest scene with brown and green foliage.

Brno Zoo wishes
all our friends success and
all good things in
2017