

MAIN EVENTS 2019

Pilsen zoo keeps Aardvarks for the first time

We welcomed the two-year old female Sabi, which came to Pilsen from the Belgian Antwerp Zoo at the end of September. She was born on 22nd August 2017 and her mother Curlz arrived in November. The Aardvark exhibit was created already in 2001 in our Pavilion of the African Night. Aardvarks are kept in 25 European zoos and we are the fourth zoo in the Czech Republic, which has these animals. Other newly acquired animals worth mentioning were a female of the Chinese Leopard or the pure-blooded female of chimpanzee named Brigitte.

A tree as an ecosystem

We offered our visitors a new exhibit called “A Tree as an Ecosystem”. The exhibit was built as an educational path in a tree, where visitors can learn about the association of animals living in oaks in a playful way using models of mushrooms, insects and birds. There are, for example, ten voices and models of birds to be recognised in the surrounding branches. They were made by Lars Mandler, an owner of a specialized atelier based on ideas and order from our Head Botanist Ing. Tomáš Peš. The new exhibit may be found in a slope above the Mediterranean exhibit near entrance to our DinoPark.

Breeding of the Short-beaked Echidna

Our offspring was reared in third, finally successful trial. The breeding pair stays in our breeding background area. The long awaited offspring was significant success – most probably the first in the Czech Republic. You may find more detailed info on this topic in this publication.

Another rearing worth mentioning was certainly of the Southern American Bushmaster, which is the second in a European zoo and the Mexican Beaded Lizard, which was the second in the Czech Republic.

Flee of the Red Panda in August

Our male of the Red Panda was missing for a few days and luckily he was found west of the zoo in a woody area. This event brought us a new promotional slogan “Is your holiday also over?”, which amused many people in our region and our pandas thus became much more popular.

Over 500 000 visitors in one year for the first time

The Pilsen Zoo had a record number of visitors in 2019 totalling 504 987 people. We hold the fifth place as for visitors number after Prague, Zlín, Ostrava and Dvůr

Králove nad Labem. The jubilee visitor, Mr. Vladimír Finna with his family, was welcomed on the 30th December by the zoo director Ing. J.Travnicek and Mgr. Roman Zarzycký, the Pilsen Mayor first deputy. The Finnas family is a regular guest to our zoo including Christmas time. They praised many changes done in the zoo.

Bronze award from the EAZA

Our zoo was awarded by a bronze medal for active work in the Silent Forest campaign, which was announced by EAZA (European Association of zoos and aquariums). Its aim is to point out the massive loss of bird species in tropical rain forests in south-east Asia, caused mainly by loss of biotopes and hunting for feather business. Pilsen Zoo supported the campaign actively through a May Day action, which was attended by schools and nature fans. It was also introduced during our school summer camps. Interactive info elements, which were placed in our Asian exhibit, also supported this campaign. Further, we designed a beautiful paper cut-out, which was issued in three languages and distributed to schools, EAZA, CZ and SK zoo gardens and to Indonesian organization Green Books. Birds were also supported during a run with "Let's make Czech people run" organisation. Children from our breeding and nature club voted for sending the collected amount of CZK 72 587 to the Sumatra Songbird Sanctuary.