

WHERE EVENTS BECOME

Unforgettable

WEDDING VENUE GUIDE

JACKSONVILLE



AND GARDENS



Sights

TAKE IN THE

Transforming an award-winning attraction into an intimate setting for unique experiences, Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens delivers the best of Jacksonville like no other destination. With wildlife just steps away, our venues are a memorable choice for your special event.



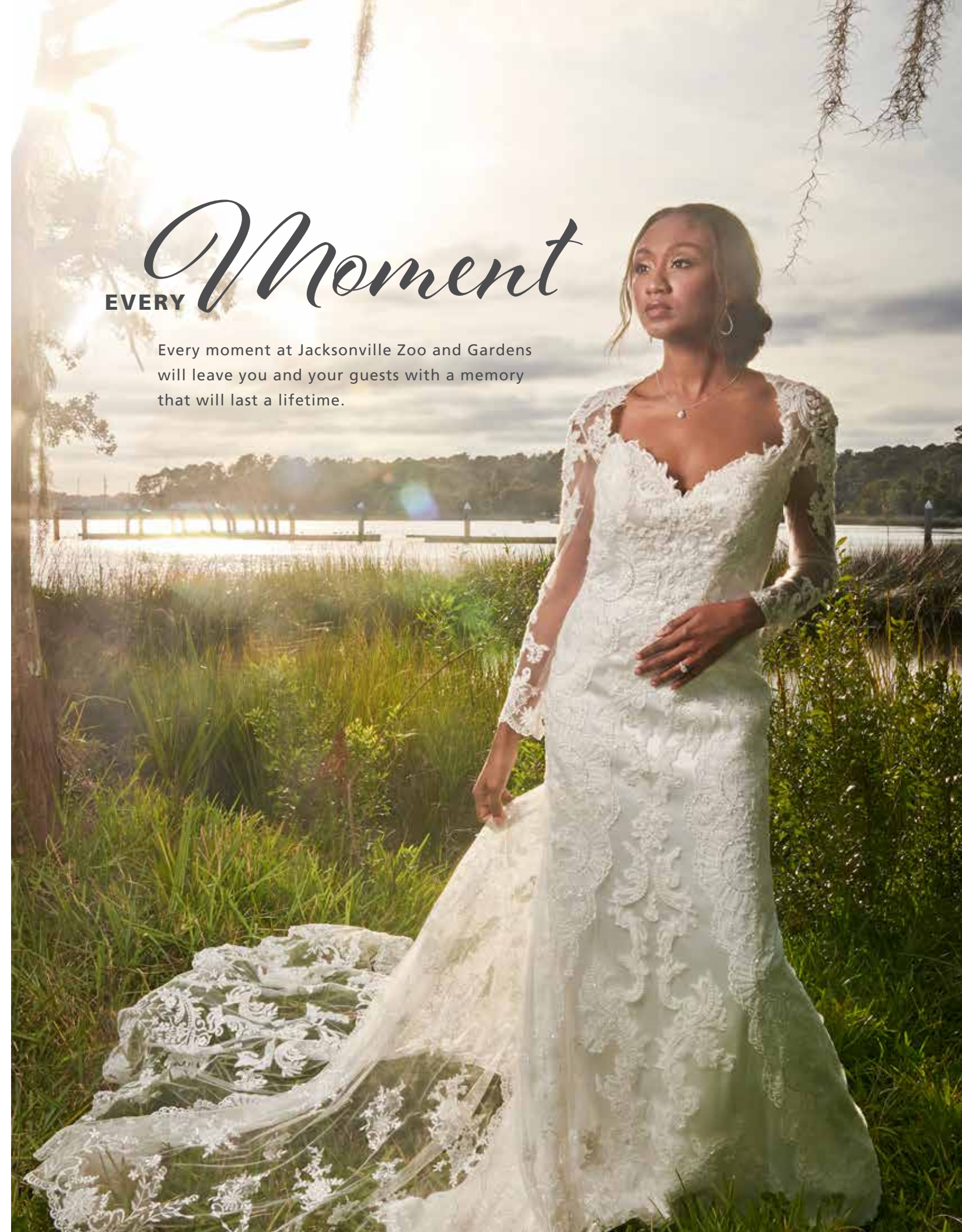
Picturesque views surrounded by fauna and flora deliver the perfect moment. Or choose a spacious covered patio banquet space overlooking the Zoo's Main Path.

- ▲ GARDENS AT TROUT RIVER
- ▼ SHABA TERRACE
- ◀ RANGE OF THE JAGUAR



Scenic photo opportunities abound with close-up views of the most beautiful creatures of the world and tranquil gardens with exotic flowers at sunset.

- ▲ MOON GATE
- ▼ ASIAN BAMBOO GARDENS
- ▶ RIVERVIEW GARDENS



EVERY *Moment*

Every moment at Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens will leave you and your guests with a memory that will last a lifetime.



Set along the Trout River, Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens combines a naturally romantic setting with a collection of indoor and outdoor spaces. Whether you prefer candlelit dinners among jaguars or cocktails in gardens, we can transform your event into an amazing reality. Wow guests before the first hors d'oeuvre is served.

- ▲ CAROUSEL
- ▶ RANGE OF THE JAGUAR





AVAILABLE *Venues*

With more than 100 acres of land, our setting packs plenty of wow factor—making your next special event or meeting unconventionally brilliant. Indoor and outdoor areas provide for even more spacious and unforgettable event locations. We offer a refined or casual venue for wedding receptions, corporate gatherings, and other important events. Provide your guests with a unique experience and up-close encounters.

◀ ASIAN BAMBOO GARDENS



◀ **Range of the Jaguar Award-Winning Design**

SEATS UP TO 200 GUESTS FOR PLATED DINNERS, 250 BUFFET.

From the replica Mayan stone temple to the enchanting three-tiered water fountain, this South American-styled plaza is perfect for any event with its built-in stage.

Ceremony or Reception starting at \$3,100*

Gardens at Trout River Plaza

SEATS UP TO 200 GUESTS FOR PLATED DINNERS, 250 BUFFET.

Our most popular ceremony site, this Tuscan-styled garden located near Trout River boasts floral-topped columns, year-round roses, and a celebratory fountain. Includes one, one-way train transfer.

Ceremony or Reception starting at \$2,900*

Asian Bamboo Gardens

SEATS UP TO 48 GUESTS UNDER ORCHID PAVILION OR ACCOMMODATES UP TO 100 GUESTS FOR A COCKTAIL HOUR

This tranquil garden borrows from a range of Asian traditions and features the yin and yang pond and a garden bridge overlooking the Lotus pool and Koi pond. Includes one, one-way train transfer.

Ceremony or Cocktail Hour starting at \$2,900

Shaba Terrace

SEATS UP TO 200 GUESTS FOR PLATED DINNERS, 250 BUFFET.

Located near our main entrance, this is a rustic open-air venue overlooking beautiful lush foliage.

Reception Only starting at \$2,900

Giraffe Overlook and Savanna Blooms Garden *Seasonal*

ACCOMMODATES UP TO 100 FOR A COCKTAIL HOUR.

This flourishing African oasis includes an elevated viewing platform to meet our gentle giants.

Cocktail Hour Only starting at \$1,500

Riverview Gardens

ACCOMMODATES UP TO 100 FOR A COCKTAIL HOUR.

Just past Gardens at Trout River Plaza, mingle among gardens under a canopy of trees along Trout River.

Cocktail Hour Only starting at \$2,000

Moon Gate

ACCOMMODATES UP TO 150 FOR CEREMONY.

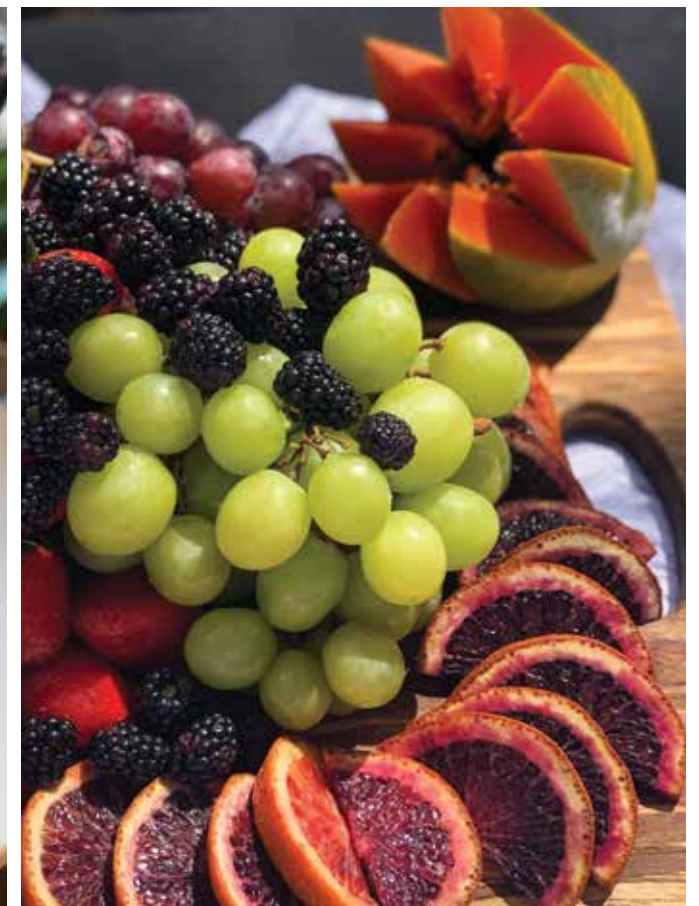
Set along our bamboo forest, this traditional Asian gate with circular entry symbolizes perfection. Includes one, one-way train transfer.

Ceremony Only starting at \$2,000

* Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens can accommodate both a wedding ceremony and reception in the **Range of the Jaguar** or **Gardens at Trout River** for groups of 100 or less.

UNIQUE CULINARY *Adventures*

Clean Slate Hospitality, our exclusive culinary company, brings a creative and inspired cooking experience to every dish. From plated dinners to cocktail receptions and food action stations, any type of set up can be arranged for events.



Exclusive Add Ons

Train Transfer

One, one way transfer. Train can accommodate approximately 100 guests at a time.

\$350

Wildlife Carousel Photo Op

Immediately follows your ceremony. Photographer not included.

\$350

Penguin Photo Op *After Hour Wedding & Engagement Sessions Only. Seasonal ▶*

Make memories that will last a lifetime while getting beautiful photos with this unique penguin experience! Step into our penguin enclosure and get up close and personal with our waddling friends! Photo ops last approximately 30 minutes. Photographer not included.

\$400

Limo Cart Service

For guests needing extra assistance, we will provide golf cart service from the Zoo's main entrance to your event and back at the end of the night. Golf cart holds five guests per trip. Service begins at 5:30pm and goes until event end.

\$300

Mahogany Resin Folding Chairs

Chairs available for ceremony and/or reception. Maximum 100 available.

\$4/each

Table Numbers

Various styles available to coordinate with your decor. Maximum 20-25 table numbers available per style.

\$25

Propane Heaters

Available to rent to bring warmth to a space.

Price based on venue size and final guest count

Fire Pits

Add ambiance to your evening event. Ask about our s'mores package upgrade..

\$125/each

PENGUIN ENCOUNTER FEATURED
IN THE NEW YORK TIMES



Frequently Asked Questions

What time can weddings begin?

The Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens is open to the public every day from 9:00-5:00pm. Ceremonies may begin at 6:30pm, and receptions may begin at 7:00pm. All events must end by 11:00pm. Vendors will have one hour to breakdown from 11:00pm-12:00am.

What time can set up begin?

Vendors are permitted to set up between 5:00pm-6:30pm.

What's included in the venue rental fee?

The venue rental fee includes private venue space for your event, necessary tables and chairs, and set up and breakdown of tables and chairs. JZG also manages tablecloths and napkins for your event for an additional fee.

What are your vendor requirements?

All food and beverage service including bar service is provided by our exclusive culinary team, Clean Slate Hospitality. Extensive menu selections for both plated and buffet dinners are available depending on the size of the party. All pricing includes dinnerware and glassware.

Clients are welcome to use any licensed and insured vendor for photography/videography, DJs, musicians, photobooths, florists, wedding cake, officiants, or wedding planners. Please ask for a list of recommendations.

Do you charge a cake cutting fee?

Yes, there is a cake cutting fee of \$100 or \$1.50 per guest, whichever is higher.

Is there a minimum expenditure?

There is a minimum expenditure of \$6,000 for weddings held at the Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens on Mondays-Thursdays, and \$8,000 for weddings held Fridays-Sundays.

What is the maximum amount of people you can host for a wedding?

We can host a maximum of 200 guests for a plated dinner and 250 guests for a buffet dinner.

Do you provide a wedding coordinator?

The JZG does not provide bridal consulting or day-of wedding coordination. We strongly recommend hiring a wedding planner or day-of wedding coordinator. Dedicated JZG staff will be on site for the event and will manage set-up of the venue (ceremony chairs, reception guest tables & chairs), food and beverage service, guest arrival and departure, and zoo communications.

Do you have a bridal suite?

We do not have a bridal suite on site. Our brides and wedding party arrive to the Zoo photo ready!

What is considered your peak wedding season?

Our most popular months for weddings are March, April, May, September, October, and November. Due to annual Zoo events, we have limited availability for weddings in October and December, and holiday themed decor may be present from mid-August through December.

What is required to book my wedding at the Zoo?

A signed contract and 25% non-refundable deposit based on your expected expenditure are required to secure your date.

What happens if it rains?

The JZG team will decide day-of if the wedding ceremony, cocktail hour, and/or reception needs to be moved to our rain back up location, Shaba Terrace.



Relax *and* Enjoy

Spaces can be used for a
variety of special events:

WEDDINGS

RECEPTIONS

REHEARSAL DINNERS

BRIDAL SHOWERS

ANNIVERSARIES

Reserve your event space today:
jacksonvillezoo.org/venue-rentals
(904) 757-4463 ext. 103
venuerentals@jacksonvillezoo.org