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**PHOTOS ATTACHED**

**THE LIVING DESERT ZOO AND GARDENS TO REOPEN SELECT AMENITIES AND  
ATTRACTIONS ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

**PALM DESERT/INDIAN WELLS** – (February 4, 2021) – The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens will resume select amenities and attractions on Friday, February 5. In addition to the 500 amazing animals and more than 50 botanical gardens, private safari tours, giraffe feeding, Wildlife Wonders Show, carousel, and the Zoo's restaurants take-away service will reopen under the State of California's lift of the 'stay at home order' and Riverside County's return to the Purple Tier.

The Living Desert will continue its COVID-safe operating practices, which includes required advanced reservations, limited guest capacity, required face coverings for all guests 3 years and older, easy access to numerous handwashing/sanitizing stations, in addition to the Park's current COVID-19 safe operating procedures.

"With the return of some of our beloved attractions, there's now even more to experience during your visit to The Living Desert," said Allen Monroe, President/CEO. "From the wallabies in Australian Adventures to the majestic views of our giraffe savanna, and exclusive access to our nature and hiking trails, there is always something new to discover."

All attractions and amenities have been modified to accommodate social distancing and COVID-safe operating procedures. The Wildlife Wonders Show is free with paid park admission and takes place at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2 p.m. on weekends and 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on weekdays. Giraffe Feeding is offered daily from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. and is \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members. The Carousel is \$3 per ride and operates daily from 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Private safari tours are available to family groups up to six guests. These tours are an engaging two-hour upgraded experience that includes admission to the Zoo, a personal guide, private shuttle, and giraffe feeding. Advanced reservations are required.

"The health, safety and wellbeing of our guests, staff, volunteers, and animals continues to be our highest priority, and we remain diligent in our efforts to help slow the spread of COVID-19," continued Monroe. "Mask-wearing and physical distancing throughout the Park are enforced."

Indoor and high-touch areas continue to be closed to the public including: Gecko Gulch Play Park, Discovery Center, indoor exhibit spaces, keeper chats, the Tenny Wildlife Hospital and Conservation Center, and indoor restaurant seating.

For more information, visit [LivingDesert.org/Health](http://LivingDesert.org/Health).

The Living Desert is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with last admission at 4 p.m. Advanced reservations are required and tickets can be purchased online at [LivingDesert.org](http://LivingDesert.org).

**About The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens:**

The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens is a nonprofit, accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, ensuring the highest standards of all aspects of animal care, education, conservation, public service, and operations. The Zoo is active in conservation research, habitat protection, breeding programs and education initiatives around the world, as well as in its own community. The Zoo has been a top destination in the Palm Springs area for 50 years. The Living Desert is located at 47900 Portola Ave, Palm Desert, CA 92260. For more information: (760) 346-5694 or visit [livingdesert.org](http://livingdesert.org).