



New Year at Yerevan Zoo

On December 25th, 26th and 27th Yerevan Zoo invites everybody to join colorful New Year celebrations: theatrical shows, funny games, contests, a bazaar of toys and New Year decorations as well as the first and unprecedented open-air exhibition of ice sculptures in Armenia. The festive events will run from 12 pm to 16 pm. On all festive days zoo visitors will have a chance to personally observe the creation process of the ice sculptures and talk to the artists. Yerevan Zoo's Santa Claus will welcome all children at the 5 meter high New Year Tree, made of plastic bottles. During the festive days the zoo invites children from orphanages as well as pupils of schools for children with special needs to join the celebrations for free. Moreover all children minor 16 will enjoy free entrance to the zoo.

Foreign experts work on Yerevan Zoo's new master plan

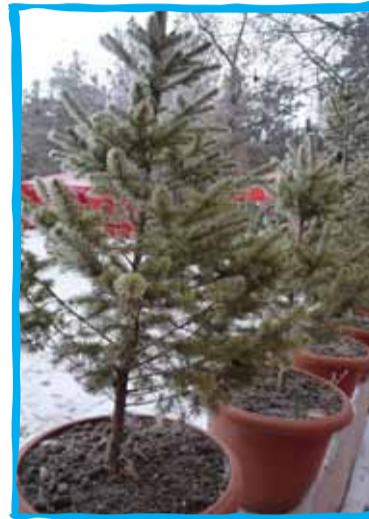


The work on a new master plan for Yerevan Zoo has started. A team of highly profiled international professionals, who have committed to design a new master plan for Yerevan Zoo without remuneration, visited Armenia on November 9-14. On November 11th they met

with media representatives to present a preliminary outline of the master plan. The public at large was informed about the Zoo's new structural approach and landscape architecture after its major renovation and reconstruction. Moreover the experts presented how these changes will improve the living conditions for the Zoo's animals. The experts, who have extensive experience of working on zoo and wildlife projects in many countries, will prepare a preliminary version of the future master plan that will be finalized in one year. The group of international experts includes: Haig Balian, Director of Artis Royal Zoo, Amsterdam Bernard Harrison, zoo designer and former director of Singapore Zoo David Hancocks, Architect/Zoo Concept Designer and former Director of Planning at Melbourne Zoo Janos Szantho, Curator of Artis Royal Zoo Willem Meijlink, former chief animal keeper of Artis Royal Zoo Thijs de Zeeuw, landscape architect from Amsterdam Simon Corder, light designer from London



New Year with a living New Year Tree



If you wish to welcome the New Year with a living New Year Tree without promoting deforestation, the alternative environment-friendly option is offered by the Yerevan Zoo. Every year, on the New Year's Eve, mass tree-cuttings in the Armenian forests result in the disappearance of thousands conifers. After the celebrations the green symbols of the New Year are thrown away and appear in garbage dumps. If the presence of a living New Year Tree at home is important for you, renting or buying a tree in a flowerpot can be a brilliant solution to the problem.

Those who wish to take part in the initiative can come to the Yerevan Zoo every day from December 15th to choose their tree. Later on, the organizers will deliver the tree according to the terms agreed with the customer. The tree will include an information brochure about proper keeping and care of the tree. If rented, the tree can stay at the customer's home until January 15th.

The renting price is 25.000 AMD, but if you want to purchase the fir tree, the price is 40.000 AMD. All revenues from the Living Tree project will be utilized to improve animal care and welfare in the zoo. Delivery is free within Yerevan. If you buy a tree, after Christmas holidays you can donate it to an educational institution or plant it in your garden in spring. For additional information call: (+37410) 555 209, (+37494) 482218.



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New animal information panels for Yerevan Zoo will be ready soon



Animals at the Yerevan Zoo will celebrate this New Year with new information panels differing essentially from the old ones. They will be in three languages – Armenian, Russian and English and provide basic information about each specific animal - about its diet, the length of its gestation or incubation period, how many offspring it has, its life expectancy, and of course, its natural habitat and geographic distribution. In case an animal is native to Armenia this of course will be mentioned also. The New panels will also display photos of the animals and maps indicating their geographic distribution.

