



Birthday parties

AT THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES



Inspire your pint-sized scientist with an unforgettable birthday bash at the California Academy of Sciences!

Why host your birthday party at the Academy?

Celebrate in the heart of Golden Gate Park with a one-of-a-kind party at the California Academy of Sciences. Select the perfect package for your young one, and let your dedicated party host take care of the details.

Party with the penguins at a venue like no other, while supporting the important work of the Academy. From pioneering a global initiative to restoring our critical coral reef systems, expanding environmental literacy around the world, and lowering barriers to entry, our doors are wide open to our community and beyond. Let the party begin!

Our birthday packages include:

- » Admission for up to 16 guests (including birthday family); additional guests welcome for an extra fee per person
- » 2-hour party room rental, including decorations, setup, and cleanup
- » Dedicated party host
- » A special gift for the birthday child and party favors for all kids
- » Express entry into the Shake House (earthquake simulator) and Osher Rainforest
- » Reserved seating in the Planetarium (minimum age of 5)



Party packages:

AQUARIUM ODYSSEY Explore the depths of the aquarium in a self-guided scavenger hunt to find & identify marine species.

CANOPY QUEST Embark on an exciting self-guided safari inside the rainforest to find & identify a variety of animal species.

COSMIC CRAFTS In addition to a space talk and out of this world memories, guests will make their own celestial creation.

FEROCIOUS FOSSILS Guests will learn about the giants that used to roam the land and create their own fossil to take home.





Guest policy

We require a 1:5 adult to child ratio. Chaperones are responsible for helping gather and monitor the children during party activities.

Please note that the base package includes up to 16 guests (including the birthday family), and you may add additional guests up to the room capacity. Additional guests are \$40/person for Aquarium Odyssey and Canopy Quest packages, and \$45/person for Cosmic Crafts and Ferocious Fossils packages, regardless of membership status. Anyone over the age of 1 is considered a guest.

Don't know your final headcount? Don't worry, you can still book your party. Please note we require the final headcount and payment for any additional guests 2 weeks prior to your party.

Book your birthday party today!

Birthday parties are available Saturdays and Sundays, from 10-noon and 2-4. Please note that we are unable to extend the party time if attendees arrive late.

Are you a member? Academy members receive a special discount on birthday party packages.

If you have any further questions please reach out to our Enhanced Experiences team at experiences@calacademy.org or (415) 379-5854.



FAQs

What can I expect during the birthday party?

All of our party packages are designed to be flexible, in order to allow you time to explore the museum and celebrate in a personalized way! In addition to the package activity, you are welcome to order additional food and will have ample opportunity to choose your own self-guided adventure on the museum floor.

When is payment due?

Booking is available through our website and payment is due in full at the time of booking.

How do party guests get into the Academy?

Upon arrival, please check in with the name of the birthday child at the Service Desk, located to the right of the front entrance. Here you will receive Birthday Party wristbands and gain entrance to the museum. Your Party Coordinator will meet you at the Service Desk 15 minutes prior to party time, and then show you to the party room. Please let your guests know to check in at the Service Desk in order to receive their wristbands.

Can I bring my own food or caterer?

You may bring your own cake or cupcakes, but added food can be ordered through our in-house caterer. Items must be finalized a minimum of two weeks prior to the event. Contact us at experiences@calacademy.org to learn more. Any additional food orders must be finalized a minimum of two weeks prior to the event.



Can I bring additional party decorations and party favors?



While both are included, you are welcome to bring additional things. Please note the following items are not allowed: balloons, bouncy balls, confetti, flowers, flying or projectile objects & toys, gum, costume masks, outside entertainment, skateboards/scooters or toy weapons.

What is the cancellation policy?

No refunds are given for cancellations within 30 days of the event. Party can be rescheduled once without penalty, no later than 60 days prior to the event date. All other transferring of dates will be treated as a cancellation of the original date.

How does parking work?

Within Golden Gate Park, limited free three- and four-hour street parking is available on MLK Jr. Drive, JFK Drive, and Nancy Pelosi Drive.

There is additional parking in The Music Concourse Parking Facility, operated by CityPark, located on Fulton Street and 10th Avenue. It includes wheelchair-accessible spots near the elevator. For more information, please visit GoldenGateParking.com.

The California Academy of Sciences is a renowned scientific and educational institution dedicated to exploring, explaining, and sustaining life on Earth. Based in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, it is home to a world-class aquarium, planetarium, and natural history museum, as well as innovative programs in scientific research and education—all under one living roof. calacademy.org



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