

Cotswold Wild Life Park Visit

We were woken by thunder and lightning, followed by gutters overflowing and water pouring down the windows! Not a good start to a day out in a park. But the weather forecast said "rain stopping at 9.30" and it stopped at 8.30. The weather gradually improved and soon we had warm sunshine and by lunchtime it was hot.

Leaving promptly we arrived by 10.30 and we all went our separate ways. My first target was the walled garden and we were just in time to see the penguins being fed – great fun, I love the way they waddle. Also in the walled garden were otters, very cute cuddling up to each other;



Meercats, always fun to see;
Lemurs; Prairie Dogs;



Also in the walled garden is the tropical house, where there were lots of exotic birds flying freely around. There was supposed to be sloths, but in spite of repeated detailed searches we found none.

We went on to investigate the incredible noise and found Howler monkeys. Next was the reptile house, you name it, there was one there.

We missed the children's farmyard and on to the giant anteaters but they were hiding. Capybaras, Tapirs, Flamingos, Wallabies, Cranes, but no sign of the wolves.

We passed Zebras on the way to the Giraffes, we were confused to see a keeper raising huge tree branches on hoists, all was revealed when we went into their house where they were being fed with similar branches.

By the time we had seen the Lion and the Camels we were not only exhausted, we almost late and had to rush back to the coach.

When we arrived and were told pickup time was 4.45, I thought how are we going to occupy ourselves for all that time, but we still missed many animals.

The gardens were quite spectacular with many exotic plants

I went in the late seventies and still thought of it as a children's theme park, but, how it has changed! A really great day out.



Dave Jones