

Banham Zoo, Who knew?

What exactly is a zoo?

A zoo is a place where animals live in captivity and can be put on display for people to view. Zoos usually contain a wide variety of animals from all over the world.

Did you know?

The word 'zoo' is short for 'zoological park' or 'zoological garden'.


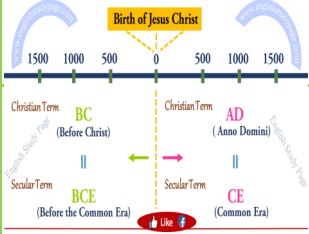



How long have zoo's existed?

People have kept wild animals for thousands of years (just take a look at the **timeline** over the page!) However, those collections were not like modern zoos. These early zoos were created as private collections by the wealthy to show their power. These private collections were called menageries.

Did you know?

The word 'zoo' comes from the Greek word 'zoion' which means animal.

Glossary:

aviaries	A large cage or closed space where birds are kept as pets.	
BCE	Before Common Era - this is used instead of BC to describe the time before the birth of Christ .	<p>BC/AD or BCE/CE (Historical Terms)</p> 
CE	The Common Era—this is used instead of AD to describe the time after the birth of Christ.	
elite	The richest or most powerful people.	
menagerie	A collection of wild animals that are kept privately or to show to the public.	
zoology	The scientific study of animals, especially their structure and behaviour.	

Zoos across the world—a timeline

2,380 BCE

- ♦ **First Known Zoo:** this belonged to the King of Ur. Evidence shows it included lions but this was not a public zoo.



1500 BCE

- ♦ **First Real Zoo:** was created by Queen Hatshepsut of Ancient Egypt. She collected animals from all over Africa.

30 BCE

- **Rise of Private Zoos:** these were enjoyed by the **elite** in Rome, Italy. They included **aviaries**.

790

- **Animal Collector:** Emperor Charlemagne collected animals from other rulers around the world. He had three zoos and his most prized possession was an elephant from Bagdad.



1735

- **System of Nature:** In Sweden, Carl Linnaeus began to classify animals in his book, 'System of Nature' and a new branch of science was created — **Zoology!**

1752

- **Tiergarten Schonbrunn:** Emperor Franz I built a spectacular **menagerie** in Vienna. It was originally only for his family and guests. It is the world's oldest zoo and is still in existence. Today, it welcomes over 2 million guests and has over 8,500 animals!



Tiergarten Schonbrunn

1828

- **London Zoo:** this is the world's oldest scientific zoo. It was originally opened for scientific study but soon became open to all for the admission price of—a penny!

1968

- **Our very own Banham Zoo!** When Harold Goymour bought a farm in Banham back in 1952, little did he realise he would be responsible for creating a zoo that is still thriving to this day. The first visitors were welcomed in February 1968 and have continued to visit ever since.



Have you been to Banham Zoo?