



Muttart Conservatory

Edmonton

Muttart Conservatory Birthday Programs

Thank you for booking your birthday party with the Muttart Conservatory! This package is intended to provide you with information about your program and our facility, and answer frequently asked questions. For any booking questions, modifications or cancellations, please contact our birthday party booking office directly:

Email artsattractionsbookings@edmonton.ca

Your Birthday Party

Included in the Program Fee

Your party includes a thematic 1.5 hour program delivered by a knowledgeable interpreter. You will tour all 4 pyramids with fun activities. Each participant will plant a seedling to take home. After this, you will have a one-hour room rental.

Group Size & Adult Supervision

The maximum number of people (including parents and siblings) is 25. At least 4 adults are required to stay with your group and assist with supervision. Additional guests beyond the 25 maximum are not permitted. Adults may need to help the kids with program activities and make sure everyone is following the Muttart Conservatory guidelines listed below.

***Are you having an adult birthday? Maximum of 25 people per group. See more below in FAQ's.**

Facility Guidelines

The Muttart Conservatory is a living museum, please respect these rules:

- Stay on the paths in the pyramids; walk slowly to keep everyone safe.
- No climbing on rocks, ledges, benches, etc. for your own safety
- No food or drinks are allowed in the pyramids.
- Use respectful indoor voices and volume.

- **Do not touch the plants.** This includes picking leaves, flowers or fruit. We work hard to maintain our collection and touching can damage our special plants. This is for your safety and for the plants.
- What you see in the pyramids, stays in the pyramids.
- Groups are responsible for cleaning up after themselves.
- At the end of your rental remember to:
 - Put all garbage and recycling into the appropriate containers.
 - Remove any leftover food, drinks, and decorations.
 - Pack up all items and be ready to leave the party room on time. There may be another group using the space after you.

Inclusion Needs

To help us deliver the best program we can for your particular group, please inform us about participants with inclusion needs in advance of the program if you think there's anything we should know.

Inclusion needs may include:

- Learning disabilities
- Physical disabilities or limitations
- Medical conditions (especially plant-related allergies)
- Behavioral and sensory-related conditions

With notice, modifications can be made to better include all participants. [Let us know if you want to rent a sensory backpack!](#)

Arrival Procedures

The Muttart Conservatory is located at 9626-96A Street. Parking is provided at no charge in the main parking lot. You can input your licence beyond the front desk on your left. Your program leader will meet at the main entrance before your program.

When can we arrive?

You can enter the facility 15 minutes before your program starts to bring in your supplies, food, etc.

When you are contacted by a member of our team before your program date, tell them if you are planning on arriving early and we will inform your program leader.

Guest Arrival

If your party is in the morning, please remember our gates do not open until 10:00am. Do not panic, one of our staff will be looking out for you before 10 to let you in.

If the party is in the afternoon, guests arriving at Muttart should let the front desk staff know they are here for a birthday and they will be directed to the party room.

Clothing

Please ensure children have comfortable, supportive shoes that can be worn throughout the program. In winter, we suggest participants bring indoor shoes to change into during the program since heavy winter boots can be uncomfortable inside. Some pyramids can be quite cool in the fall, winter, and early spring. Guests are advised to wear long sleeves and/or a sweater during these months.

What to Bring

- Your party guests and a fun-filled birthday celebration spirit!
- **Newspaper or reusable shopping bags are helpful in the winter time to protect the potted seedlings guests will take home.**

Food

The café at Muttart, Café Bloom, can provide catering for birthdays. Please contact them directly if you are interested in finding out more.

If you are not using our caterer, you are responsible for supplying any food, drinks, plates, and cutlery for your party. There are no cooking facilities at the Muttart Conservatory. All food must be prepared prior to the party. If you are bringing food and/or drinks that you want to keep cool, we suggest you bring a cooler.

Remember that you are responsible for cleaning up any food, drinks, or decorations that you bring and that you need to be ready to leave the party room at the end of the rental (as shown on your booking confirmation).

Decorations

You may bring your own decorations for your party room, including:

- Tablecloths (we supply reusable ones or you can bring your own)
- Table-top decorations
- Banners (hung with masking tape only)
- Non helium balloon arches and weighted helium balloons are allowed in Centre Court and the classrooms only.

The following items **are not** permitted:

- NO Sparklers
- NO Items needing to be tacked or nailed to walls
- NO Items needing to be hung from the ceiling

Program Cancellations

All adjustments and cancellations must be provided in writing via email at:
artsattractionsbookings@edmonton.ca

- Programs run rain or shine
- Cancellations with 8 - 30 days' notice are subject to a fee of **50%** of the program cost.
- Programs cancelled with less than 7 days' notice will be charged the **full program fee**.

Frequently Asked Questions

1) What happens if I need to end the program early? We can end your tour or planting early. Please let your interpreter know prior to (via email) or at the start of the program when you would like the program to end.

2) What happens if we arrive late? Your program will begin at the scheduled start time OR when you arrive at the Muttart Conservatory and are ready to begin. The program will end at the scheduled end time indicated on your booking confirmation sheet and we cannot adjust the day of.

3) What happens if my child is sick the morning of my program and I want to cancel/reschedule? If you want to cancel and/or re-schedule your program for any reason, please refer to the Program Cancellation policy section.

4) Do we have the room rental for the whole time? Yes. All belongings can be left in the room during the 1.5 hour program of activities while we tour the pyramids. We will not be in the rental room the entire time. We usually draw the doors closed when the party is out of the room. The rooms do not lock. Please bring small valuables, such as purses, with you.

5) Do we need to clean up afterwards? Please be considerate and help our staff by ensuring that all garbage and recycling is placed into the correct receptacles. Additionally, please assist our staff with any large messes your group makes (i.e., spilled food/drink). If you need more paper towels, please ask your interpreter for some. The interpreter will put the tables and chairs away and vacuum.

6) Can parents/guardians enter the facility to drop-off/pick-up their child without paying admission? Yes. Ask parents/guardians to let the front desk staff know they are here to drop-off/pick-up a child for a birthday party.

7) Can we have the room rental time before the program activities? Sorry, but the program activities must be done before the 1 hour room rental. The interpreter will be cleaning up the program activities while you have your rental time.

8) My children are young (i.e., 4 yrs) and may not be ready for 1.5 hrs of continuous programming. Our programs are designed for older children but we are able to accommodate younger children. We have multiple options for younger children: storytime, free play plant-themed toys, musical instruments, and rainbow finders. Additionally, we can shorten our program time with you.

a) Can we have a snack/bathroom break in the middle of the program? Yes. Please include this request when booking or when the facility contacts you.

b) Can we have a shorter program (i.e., 1 hour), and use the extra time to extend the room rental time by an extra 30 minutes? Yes. Please include this request at the time of booking. c) Large free play toys can be placed out for children to play with when not exploring the pyramids.

9) I have only 15 children, but 10 adult guests as well. Can they all participate without the adults paying extra admission? Yes. The maximum participant size is 25

10) Do you offer any birthday programs for infants/toddlers (children under the age of 4)? Our current birthday programs and activities are designed for children aged 4 years and up. Younger children are welcome to attend these birthdays with additional adult supervision.

We are able to create a custom plan for you if you would like activities for an infant party. Room rental, photography sessions, and self-guided tours are also an option. We can direct you to our rentals team if you would prefer one of these options.

NOTE: Please call our birthday program bookings office if you are interested in booking a mixed-age birthday party and would like more information.

11) Can I book a birthday for an adult or grandparent? No problem at all! We are happy to have all guests! The birthday experience for 18+ is an in-depth 1 hr tour of the pyramids plus a planting activity to take home with the extra room rental time.

12) Can I tip my interpreter if they did a great job? No, City of Edmonton employees cannot accept tip money. Once the program is over, you can thank them verbally or let us know by completing a feedback survey!

We look forward to seeing you at the Muttart Conservatory!