



HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO™

NRG Park • Feb. 27 - March 18, 2018

P.O. Box 20070 • Houston, Texas 77225 • 832.667.1000 • rodeohouston.com

2018 Field Trip/School Tour Program Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who do I contact at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo if I have questions about my tour or field trip?

A: Because we are very busy preparing for the 2018 Show, all school tours and field trip correspondence, including questions, are handled by e-mail. Please e-mail us your questions at schooltours@rodeohouston.com, and we will respond within 48 hours.

Q: Where do we park if we are NOT arriving by bus?

A: Only official school busses will be permitted to park on the NRG Park grounds. All other vehicles will need to park in the Yellow Lot. The Yellow Lot is accessed through Gate 16 off South Main Street. Parking is \$20 per vehicle. The Show provides complimentary tram service from this lot to NRG Park.

Q. What can we expect to see on the school tour?

A: You'll get a complete tour of AGVENTURE, presented by Occidental Petroleum, which is a great place for children and adults alike. Nearly every species of livestock — beef cattle, dairy cattle, goats, sheep, poultry, swine and rabbits — can be found inside this fun and educational area, with several live animal exhibits.

Bee Exhibit

See these busy bees work to make honey in their hives, which are encased in thick plastic. Honey bees produce an essential ingredient in much of the food we eat today. Watch these bees work!

Birthing Center

Experience the miracle of life right before your eyes in the Birthing Center, featuring newborns from various species of livestock. Stop by to visit the newborns, watch as they take their first steps, see how their mothers nurture them, and witness how they react to the world.

Breed Row Barn

Breed Row Barn showcases different breeds of swine, cattle, sheep and goats, with the opportunity to get a close-up view of all the animals!

Fisheries

This exhibit highlights recreational fishing in Texas and commercial fishing and its role in the Texas agricultural economy. There's even a saltwater touch tank where students will have a chance to get up close with fascinating saltwater livestock.

Milking Parlor

At the Milking Parlor, visitors have the chance to see how a cow is milked and the process used to make milk available in a local grocery store.

Petting Zoo

The petting zoos include nearly every animal you can think of — from the most exotic to the typical farm animal. Grab a handful of tasty treats and see which animals are hungry. Hand-sanitizing stations are located just outside the petting zoo. The petting zoos are located outside in The Junction and inside NRG Center in AGVENTURE, presented by Occidental Petroleum.

Pony Rides

Pony rides are perfect for each little cowboy and cowgirl. Beautiful Welsh ponies walk carousel-style for their young riders. Each ride is \$7 per ride, per child, and you can purchase a 4" x 6" photo for \$10 and a 5" x 7" photo for \$12.

Poultry

The poultry exhibit includes everything chickens to chicks and live incubating eggs. Come see one hatch!

Rabbits

Feel the soft fur of one of the many breeds of rabbits showcased in the rabbit display area.

Soil & Bug Exhibit

Learn about the importance of soil composition, insects, water, and vegetation in urban and rural agriculture. See amazing insects and observe ants in action in real ant farms. Plant a sunflower seed, take it home and watch it grow!

Tour of Texas

Take a fascinating tour through the seven different geographical regions of Texas, and learn about the agricultural products grown in each region and see wildlife native to each region. Here you'll learn how agricultural products produced in Texas become things we eat, use and wear every day!

We're Small Y'all Barn

Learn about various miniature breeds of livestock when you meet our pint-sized playmates.

Q: How long is the school tour and what else is there to do?

A: Each tour lasts approximately 30-45 minutes, but before and after your tour, you are free to roam the grounds! As always, you are welcome to come early and stay late so that you can see and do as much as possible in one fun-filled day! There are plenty of things to see and do, including:

Camel Rides

Come take a ride on a majestic animal that has crossed the world's deserts for hundreds of years. A camel ride is perfect for each little adventurer to view the carnival atop a camel's back. Each ride is \$9.

TDECU Fun on the Farm

Fun on the Farm allows children to explore the world of agriculture by following Farmer Joe through the process of producing farm products — from planting to market. Children can help with “chores” such as gathering eggs, planting and harvesting crops and milking a cow. Don't miss the fun!

The Junction Carnival

At the carnival, there is a special area dedicated for the children — The Junction Carnival. Fun games that award winners with prizes are around every bend. Bring your little cowpoke out to enjoy all the rides and games at The Junction Carnival. The carnival is operated by Ray Cammack Shows, a family business which started in 1956. RCS offers more than 70 of the safest, most exciting rides available, numerous specialty food booths and more than 50 game booths that award more than one million prizes annually.

Kids' Pedal Tractor Pull

The kids become the stars of the show while they compete in a fast paced, action packed pedal powered tractor pull. Kids four to twelve years old are welcome to join in the show for free and try their skill. The tractors and pulling sleds are built for fun and designed to produce smiles and laughter! Calling all kids! Come out and play at the Kids Pedal Tractor Pulls!

Mutton Bustin' – Presented by State Farm®

Mutton Bustin' also can be found in The Junction, with 5- and 6-year-old participants holding on tight to a sheep. Come and see how long you can ride! The cost is \$15 per ride.

Pig Races

Not every participant in the Show is competing for financial rewards. With the pig races, the prize for a job well done is a cookie or a piece of candy. These contestants, a group of perky piglets, wait patiently at the starting gate. After the gate is opened, the piglets shoot forward like guided missiles in front of a cheering, standing-room-only crowd. The pigs race around a 150-foot track in only a few seconds, all dashing for sweets waiting at the finish line. This fun, exciting attraction is definitely one to see!

Stars Over Texas Stage

Take a break by the outdoor stage for daily entertainment, including sing-alongs, animal acts and other talent.

Q: Are school tours and field trips allowed to bring lunches on site? If so, where can our groups eat their lunches?

A: You are welcome to bring your lunches, but plan on keeping them with you during your visit. Once you depart your vehicle, you won't see it again until it's time to go home, and there's no place to store your lunches while you see the sights. Rolling coolers or wagons work great and there are picnic tables scattered around the property.

Q: How much are admission tickets to the grounds?

A: Registered School Tours and Field Trips along with registered chaperones will receive free admission tickets to the Show grounds. If you need to purchase additional tickets, you may do so at the entrance gate when you arrive or online at rodeohouston.com. (2 years or younger – Free; 3-12 years - \$5 and 13 years and older - \$15).

Q: How do scheduled school tours and field trips access the Show grounds?

School Tours:

The parking passes included in your packet need to be displayed on your dashboard prior to entering the property.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is located at NRG Park, 3 NRG Park, Houston, Texas 77054 off the 610 Loop. From 610, exit Fannin Street and proceed north to the Holly Hall entrance gate.

Someone from the Tours Committee volunteer team will meet you at the Holly Hall entrance gate, check-in your busses and direct you through the bus tent to unload your group. Once unloaded, your busses will be directed to a designated parking area where they will remain until you are ready to depart. (You will not be able to return to your vehicles until you are ready to leave for the day, so please take everything you need with you when you unload.) All busses must be removed from the parking lot by 2 p.m.

Field Trips:

The parking passes included in your packet need to be displayed on your dashboard prior to entering the property. Only officially marked school busses with a parking pass will be allowed to enter for free.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is located at NRG Park, 3 NRG Park, Houston, Texas 77054 off the 610 loop. From 610, exit Kirby and proceed north to Westridge. Upon arrival, enter Gate 9 and proceed to the Loading/Unloading Zone.

A committee member will meet you to check in your bus and assist with unloading. Once your group has unloaded, your bus will be directed to a designated parking area where it will remain until you are ready to depart. You will not be able to return to your vehicle until you are ready to leave for the day, so be sure to take everything you need with you when you unload. Upon departure, a committee member will summon your bus back to the Loading/Unloading Zone once your group is ready to depart (your entire group must be present before your bus/vehicle will be summoned to the Loading/Unloading Zone).

Please allow at least 15-30 minutes for loading during departure. All buses must be removed from the parking lot by 2 p.m.

Q: What time should my group arrive for their scheduled tour?

A: We have put your tour date on your parking passes to help you out. Don't forget that you need to arrive at least 30 minutes before your tour — it's a big place and it will take time to get to your destination. Directions are on the back of your parking passes.

Q. What if I need additional tickets or have a change in the number of children or adults in my group?

A: You may purchase them when you arrive on site or on our website www.rodeohouston.com. Cash, credit cards and school checks will be accepted at the ticket windows.

Ticket prices are as follows:

Free – 2 years and under

\$5 – 3 years to 12 years

\$15 – 13 years and over