

Tierpark Chemnitz Vivarium

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LOCATION:

Nevoigtstraße 18 , 09117
Chemnitz , Germany
URL: <http://www.tierpark-chemnitz.de>

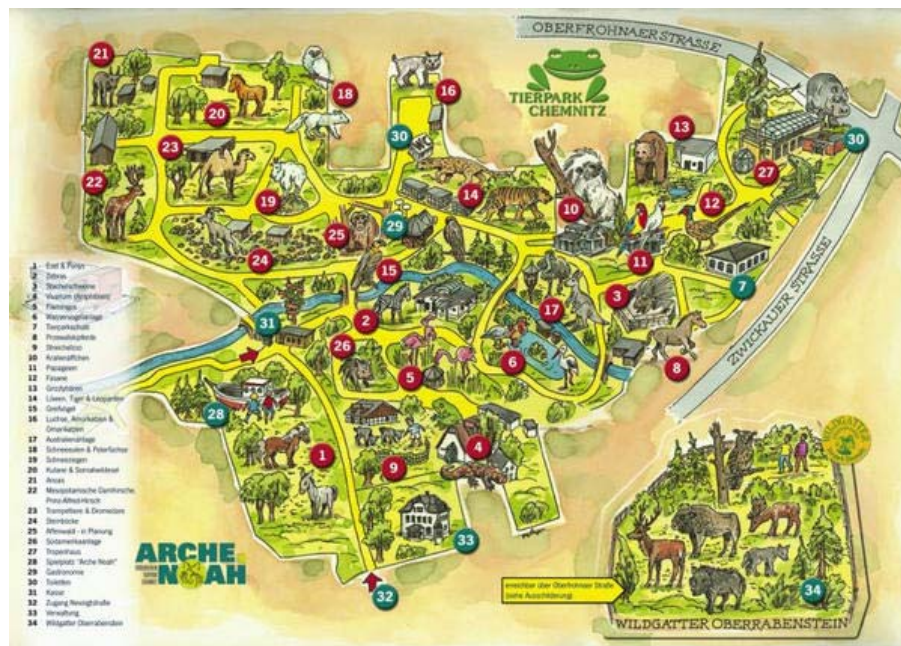
KEY WORDS:

salamanders and newts
(Caudata), frogs and toads
(Anura), caecilians
(Gymnophiona), amphibians
(Amphibia)

DESCRIPTION:

The Vivarium exemplifies the Noah's Ark concept of the Tierpark Chemnitz: By keeping and breeding rare species the Tierpark contributes to conservation of these species. In the Vivarium, visitors can encounter amphibians of all colors and shapes from around the world up close in a wide variety of mini-biotope. The species listed in page number **xx** were on display in December 2003. The biotopes are grouped together according to the climatic zones of the tropics, sub-tropics, and palearctic. As a facility unique in Europe and being inhabited by numerous interesting amphibian species, the Vivarium has turned into a main attraction at Tierpark Chemnitz.

The Vivarium was the result of the modification of an existing building, where previously the zoo's riding and work horses had been kept.



Overview - The Vivarium is marked with number 4.

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Site Plan, ©Tierpark Chemnitz, 2004

Animal information © Tierpark Chemnitz, 2003

Almanzor - Feuersalamander

Salamandra s. almanzoris

Winziges Verbreitungsgebiet in der Umgebung von Kraterseen auf dem Berg Almanzor in Zentralspanien. Die Larvenzeit ist durch die tiefen Temperaturen und wahrscheinlich auch durch Jodmangel außerordentlich lang.



Oviedo- Feuersalamander

Salamandra s. bernadezi

Diese Unterart kommt nur in der nordspanischen Stadt Oviedo teilweise auf Hinterhöfen und in Abbruchhäusern der Innenstadt vor. Es werden, da kaum freies Wasser in diesem Lebensraum vorhanden ist, fertig entwickelte Jungtiere geboren. Stark bedrohte Art.



Ambystoma mexicanum, ©Hermann Will, 2000

SIZE: Cold room 1: 14.2 m², cold room 2: 14.8 m²; heated room: 111.9 m² and holding/breeding room: 14.6 m². Space allocation in square meters:

COSTS: Euro 320,000

OPENING DATE: 1996

FEATURES DEDICATED TO ANIMALS: The amphibians are accommodated in landscaped terrariums and aquariums which imitate a small section of the natural habitat of these animals. Depending on the particular ecological requirements of the animals, water features are also provided. To assure a high ambient humidity, nebulisers were installed, which operate in the morning and in the evening. In addition, the terrariums are sprayed with water once a day.

FEATURES DEDICATED TO KEEPERS: The terrariums in the public area are placed on shelves inside illuminated glass display cases, and they are also secured by lockable glass doors. The terrariums can only be accessed from the public area, and so all servicing and feeding can only be done outside regular visiting hours. Except for the purpose of keeper meetings and public display feedings, animal care staff members are normally not present in the public area during opening hours.

Breeding and quarantine tanks in the breeding rooms are accessible from above and can be serviced throughout the day. As protective measures against toxic skin secretions and to avoid cross contamination with diseases, disposable rubber gloves are available to all animal care staff.

FEATURES DEDICATED TO VISITORS: The Vivarium includes the total of three exhibit rooms, each featuring a different temperature zone. In the entrance area (which also serves as exit since there is a circular exhibit pathway), there are rearing tanks with amphibian larvae and

juveniles for visitors to observe. The terrariums are illuminated and positioned one above the other (always two) in long rows. In the generally relatively dark room they are easy to view. Each terrarium has a species identification label that provides information about the origin of the species, as well as a few interesting biological details. In addition, some larger explanatory graphics give general information about the Class Amphibia and its three Orders.

INTERPRETATION: From tiny, yet highly venomous Amazonian poison dart frog to the massive cane toad, the Vivarium showcases the vast variety of amphibian shape, size, color, and survival strategies. Interested visitors can learn about the animals from terrarium signs and explanatory graphic panels. Staff from the Tierpark, the Education Department, and the Zoo's Support Association take visitors on guided tours through the Vivarium sharing information about the facility and its inhabitants. At Meet-the-Keeper sessions during school holidays and on many weekends a keeper gives a short talk and demonstrates the feeding of certain non-dangerous amphibians. These sessions are well received by the public. The Vivarium provides an excellent opportunity to abolish prejudices and fears about amphibians, and to show visitors what fascinating and diverse animals amphibians really are.

CONSERVATION: Because of the large numbers of extremely rare species bred and kept here, the Vivarium has become a miniature Noah's Ark. Among the particularly endangered species are the Chinese giant salamander, various Amazonian poison dart frog species, axolotl and the red tomato frog.



Yellowheaded Poison Frog, *Dendrobates leucomelas*
©Hermann Will, 2000

List of species in Tierpark Chemnitz Vivarium

Family: Species: Common Name:

Ambystomatidae *Ambystoma laterale* Blue-spotted salamander
 Ambystomatidae *Ambystoma maculatum* Spotted salamander
 Ambystomatidae *Ambystoma mexicanum* Mexico salamander
 Ambystomatidae *Ambystoma opacum* Marbled salamander
 Ambystomatidae *Ambystoma tigrinum* Tiger salamander
 Bombinatoridae *Bombina maxima* Giant fire-bellied toad
 Bombinatoridae *Bombina orientalis* Fire bellied toad
 Bombinatoridae *Bombina v. variegata* Orange-speckled toad
 Bufonidae *Bufo guttatus* Smooth sided toad
 Bufonidae *Bufo marinus* Cane toad
 Bufonidae *Bufo melanostictus* House toad
 Bufonidae *Bufo paracnemis* Cururu (Rococo) toad
 Bufonidae *Bufo spinulosus* Warty toad
 Caeciliidae *Dermophis mexicanus* Mexican burrowing caecilian
 Caeciliidae *Typhlonectes compressicauda* Aquatic caecilian
 Cryptobranchidae *Andrias davidianus* Chinese giant salamander
 Cryptobranchidae *Cryptobranchus alleganiensis* Hellbender
 Dendrobatidae *Dendrobates auratus* Green and black poison frog
 Dendrobatidae *Dendrobates azureus* Blue poison dart frog
 Dendrobatidae *Dendrobates leucomelas* Yellow banded poison frog
 Dendrobatidae *Dendrobates pumilio* Strawberry poison frog
 Dendrobatidae *Dendrobates tinctorius* Dyeing poison frog
 Dendrobatidae *Dendrobates ventrimaculatus* Amazonian poison frog
 Dendrobatidae *Phyllobates bicolor* Black legged poison frog
 Dendrobatidae *Phyllobates vittatus* Golfodulcean poison frog
 Hylidae *Gastrotheca marsupiata* Marsupial frog
 Hylidae *Hyla meridionalis* Mediterranean treefrog
 Hylidae *Litoria infrafrenata* White lipped tree frog
 Hylidae *Osteopilus septentrionalis* Cuban tree frog
 Hylidae *Phrynohyas resinifectrix* Amazonian milk frog
 Hylidae *Phrynohyas venulosa* Pepper tree frog
 Hynobiidae *Pachyhynobius shangchengensis* Shangch salamander
 Hyperoliidae *Kassina senegalensis* Running frog (bubbling kassina)
 Leptodactylidae *Leptodactylus pentadactylus* Smokey jungle frog
 Microhylidae *Dyscophus antongilli* Tomato frog
 Microhylidae *Dyscophus guineti* False tomato frog
 Microhylidae *Kaloula pulchra* Malaysian painted toad
 Microhylidae *Scaphiophryne pustolosa* Spiny burrowing frog
 Pipidae *Pipa carvalhoi* Common Surinam toad
 Pipidae *Pipa parva* Surinam toad
 Pipidae *Pipa pipa* Surinam toad
 Pipidae *Xenopus laevis* African clawed frog
 Plethodontidae *Eurycea lucifuga* Cave salamander
 Plethodontidae *Plethodon jordani* Jordan's salamander
 Plethodontidae *Pseudotriton ruber* Red salamander
 Proteidae *Necturus maculosus* Mudpuppy
 Ranidae *Rana cubitalis* Dark-eared frog
 Rhacophoridae *Mantella viridis* Green mantella
 Rhacophoridae *Rhacophorus cruziger* Parachute frog
 Salamandridae *Cynops cyanurus* Blue-tailed fire belly newt
 Salamandridae *Cynops ensicauda* popei Okinawa newt
 Salamandridae *Cynops orientalis* Chinese fire belly newt
 Salamandridae *Cynops pyrrhogaster* Japanese fire belly newt
 Salamandridae *Pachytriton brevipes* Chinese brook newt
 Salamandridae *Pachytriton labiatum* Unterstein's newt
 Salamandridae *Paramesotriton fuzhongensis* Fuzhong warty newt
 Salamandridae *Paramesotriton hongkongensis* Hong Kong warty newt
 Salamandridae *Paramesotriton spec.* Warty newt
 Salamandridae *Pleurodeles waltl* Spanish ribbed newt
 Salamandridae *Salamandra atra* Alpine salamander
 Salamandridae *Salamandra s. bernadezi* Spanish fire salamandra
 Salamandridae *Salamandra s. gallaica* Portugal fire salamandra
 Salamandridae *Salamandra s. almanzoris* Spanish fire salamander
 Salamandridae *Tylototriton shanjing* Mandarin newt
 Salamandridae *Tylototriton verrucosus* Crocodile newt
 Sirenidae *Siren lacertina* Greater siren



Veined Tree Frog, *Phrynohyas venulosa* ©Hermann Will, 2000



Smokey Jungle Frog, *Leptodactylus pentadactylus*, ©Hermann Will, 2003



***Ambystoma mexicanum*, ©Hermann Will, 2000**