



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Busch Gardens Tampa Bay Unleashes *Lion & Hyena Ridge* – One of the World’s Most Immersive Animal Habitats Opening Spring 2026

Busch Gardens Tampa Bay’s most ambitious new animal habitat in over a decade invites guests to explore the heart of the African savanna like never before.

[DOWNLOAD HIGH-RES IMAGES HERE](#)

TAMPA, Fla. (Nov. 5, 2025) – Busch Gardens Tampa Bay is roaring into 2026 with the **ALL-NEW *Lion & Hyena Ridge***, an extraordinary new addition to the park’s award-winning animal care portfolio and the most ambitious new habitat in more than a decade. This reimagined area of the park expands the existing space to **more than double its previous size**, creating nearly **35,000 square feet of dynamic savanna terrain** where two of Africa’s most iconic species will thrive - a pride of five young male lions and a pair of playful hyenas.

Highlights include:

- **Immersive Viewing** – Step into the savanna through expansive glass viewing areas and shaded pathways offering awe-inspiring, 270-degree perspectives of the new habitat.
- **Innovative Habitat Design** – A naturalistic environment featuring rocky kopje formations, cascading water elements, and diverse spaces that allow the animals to choose and explore their surroundings throughout the day.
- **Roaring Animal Stories** – Guests will connect with lion brothers Pascal, Lou, Henri, Hugo, and Herman - born in 2024 - and hyenas Cazi and Dazi, in an immersive new setting that allows engaging educational moments that’ll inspire conservation and curiosity.

“We’re thrilled to unveil our newest habitat, the all-new *Lion & Hyena Ridge*, opening in 2026,” said Brian Bacica, Park President of Busch Gardens Tampa Bay. “This space not only offers our guests a closer look at these incredible species, but also reinforces our commitment to conservation, education, and animal care at the highest standards.”

Even More Reasons to Visit in 2026

Along with *Lion & Hyena Ridge*, Busch Gardens guests can look forward to a year packed with new festivals, family fun, and entertainment:

- **ALL-NEW Sesame Street® Kids' Weekends** – fun-filled themed activities for the family
- **ALL-NEW Food, Wine & Garden Festival** – the park's largest culinary celebration to date
- **ALL-NEW Glory in the Gardens (May)** – Christian music and spring garden festival
- **ALL-NEW Military Appreciation Month (May)** – exclusive events honoring service members
- **ALL-NEW Wild Oasis Kids' Weekend (November)** – themed food, activities, and family fun

Be among the first to experience the all-new Lion & Hyena Ridge with a Busch Gardens Annual Pass

Guests can experience the best of Busch Gardens with a 2026 annual pass, including unbeatable benefits, unlimited visits, and the opportunity to be the first to experience the all-new Lion & Hyena Ridge before it opens to the public. Annual passes for 2026 are on sale now, with our Black Friday Presale starting as low as \$13.50 per month with no down payment. Membership includes access to all the returning and new vibrant seasonal events and exclusive Pass Member benefits.

2026 Annual Pass Benefits Include:

- Unlimited admission with no blackout dates
- Free parking (select tiers) and guest tickets
- Discounts on food, beverages, and retail
- **New in 2026!** Free Quick Queue (select tiers) and \$10 in quarterly park credits

Guests can learn more about all the events, future announcements, and the unbeatable benefits of being an Annual Pass Member by visiting [BuschGardensTampa.com](https://www.buschgardens.com/tampa). To be the first to know about park updates, guests can follow Busch Gardens Tampa Bay on [Facebook](#), [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#), [Instagram](#), and [TikTok](#).

About Busch Gardens Tampa Bay

Busch Gardens® Tampa Bay is the ultimate family adventure, offering 300 acres of fascinating attractions based on exotic explorations around the world. Busch Gardens is a unique blend of thrilling rides, an AZA-accredited zoo with over 16,000 animals representing more than 200 species, and exciting seasonal events all year providing unrivaled experiences for guests of every age. For more information, visit [BuschGardensTampa.com](https://www.buschgardens.com/tampa). Busch Gardens is owned by United Parks & Resorts, Inc. (NYSE: PRKS), a leading theme park and entertainment company providing experiences that matter and inspiring guests to protect animals and the wild wonders of our world.

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