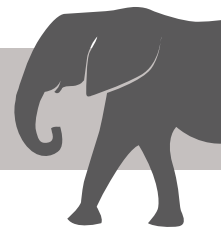


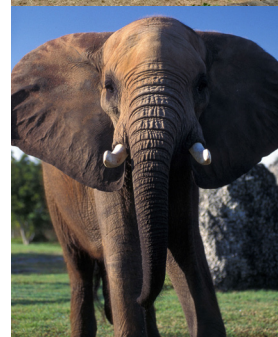
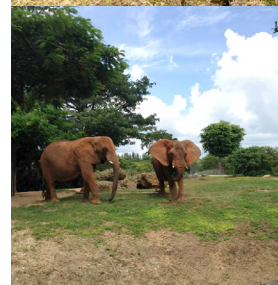
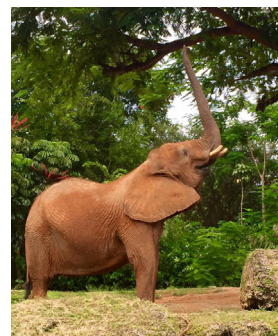
# ELEPHANTS AT THE VIRGINIA ZOO

## TOP TEN



## REASONS WHY ZOO MIAMI IS THE RIGHT ANSWER

- 1 | Studies of elephants in the wild show that elephants, especially females, are highly social animals. Because of this research the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) has put forth a policy that requires elephants to be kept in larger herds. It was necessary to find a place where our elephants could have more social opportunities. Lisa and Cita, will join Peggy and Mable at Zoo Miami. Zoo Miami also has a larger habitat for the girls and a much warmer climate.
- 2 | Zoo Miami is the only sub-tropical zoo in the continental US, offering our girls the best climate conditions. Miami's average annual high is 84° F and average annual low is 69.° F, affording Lisa and Cita 24 hours a day, 12 months a year outdoors.
- 3 | Lisa and Cita will spend the majority of their time outside on natural, soft substrates, like sand and soil. Standing on hard substrates can be uncomfortable and tough on elephant feet.
- 4 | As a larger zoo, Zoo Miami has an elephant care team that spends their entire day solely working with the elephants. At the Virginia Zoo, our elephant team is also responsible for all the other animals seen in the African exhibit. As Lisa and Cita age they will receive attention from a large veterinary team.
- 5 | Zoo Miami occupies almost 750 acres, with 340 developed. The African Elephant exhibit is twice the size of ours.
- 6 | In the near future Zoo Miami intends to expand their elephant program and build even larger elephant exhibits.
- 7 | Lisa and Cita have played a significant role as ambassadors for their species here at the Virginia Zoo and they will continue to educate one million visitors each year at Zoo Miami.
- 8 | Zoo Miami's space allows the animal care team to provide a comfortable and more easily-managed environment for Lisa and Cita as they age. Health-related issues can be closely monitored and preventative care can be provided.
- 9 | Lisa and Cita will remain in the AZA population at Zoo Miami due to their value of providing enhanced social interaction with other Species Survival Plan animals.
- 10 | Zoo Miami is home to more than 3,000 animals in natural habitats and provides visitors the feel of a safari. Guests enjoy okapis, giant river otters, elephants and rhinos in large, open-air exhibits.



Mabel and Peggy at Zoo Miami