

STARGAZING PROGRAMS & GENERAL INFORMATION



FREE STARGAZING & TELESCOPE VIEWING

Attending our Evening Programs prior to stargazing with telescopes is key to getting the most out of your Astronomy Festival experience. At the shows you'll not only be told how to best look through a telescope, but also how to better appreciate the surrounding stars & planets. To assist your viewing of the heavens, we proudly enlist volunteers from the Salt Lake Astronomical Society (SLAS) and other astronomy groups who are the most helpful and knowledgeable telescope operators around! Therefore, don't be shy! If you don't see anything, let the telescope operator know! Please ask questions & most of all, enjoy the view!

WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY - BRYCE CANYON STARGAZING SITE*

STARGAZING: 10:30 PM - 12:30 AM

At the Stargazing Site, Bryce Canyon's Park Rangers will offer 20-minute constellation tours where you can learn more about the mythology and lore of the night sky.



***Parking at the Stargazing Site is limited to persons with disabilities and telescope operators. EVERYBODY ELSE must arrive at the Stargazing Site via the Star Shuttles (see Star Shuttle Information).**



Dress Warmly: At 8,000 feet, Bryce Canyon is cooler than you may expect. While daytime temperatures typically reach 80°F, nighttime temperatures can fall below 40°F.



Bad Weather: In the event of cloudy or stormy weather, stargazing will be cancelled as determined only at the conclusion of the evening programs.



Flashlights: No flashlights, flash photography, or laser pointers allowed on the Stargazing Site. Trust us, you can see in the dark once your eyes have had 10-15 minutes to adjust. **DIM RED LIGHTS** are allowed.



Star Shuttles: Parking near the Stargazing Site is limited. Each night (June 1-4), two nighttime shuttles provide transit between the evening program venues, the Stargazing Site, and overnight accommodations. See map at right. The Star-Shuttle has a 15-minute return interval. A second shuttle, the Ruby's-Star Shuttle, will make all of these stops and additionally go out to Ruby's Inn. The Ruby's-Star Shuttle has a return interval of 30 minutes. Express Shuttles from Ebenezer's Barn and Grill to the Stargazing Site will operate every evening.

STAR SHUTTLE: 8:00 PM - 12:30 AM

RUBY'S - STAR SHUTTLE: 8:00 PM - 12:30 AM



Accessibility: Handicapped parking is available at the Stargazing Site. The Stargazing Site itself is gravel and flat.

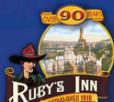


Restrooms: Two portable toilets (one is handicapped accessible) are located at the Stargazing Site.

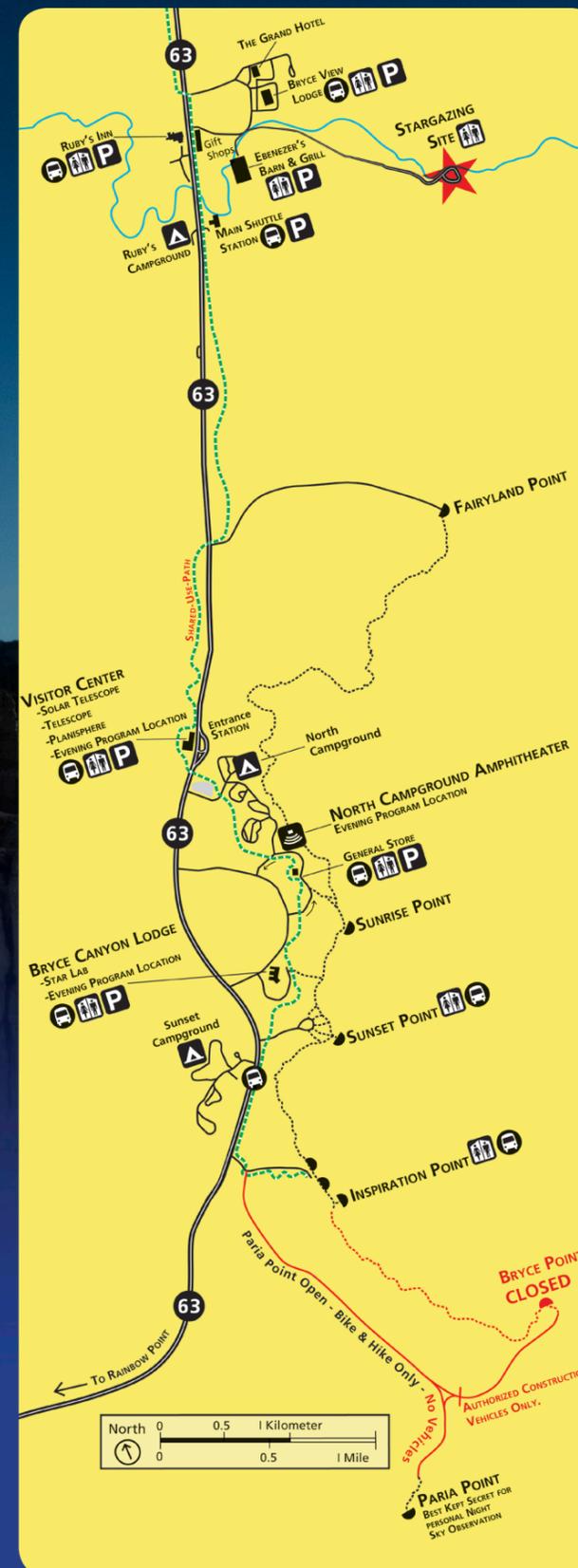


Book Store: Visit the book/gift store located at the Visitor Center. We feature a full range of "Night Sky" related products. All proceeds support various park projects & programs.

This special event is sponsored by the National Park Service, Bryce Canyon Natural History Association, Bryce Canyon City, Ruby's Inn, Garfield Travel Council, Salt Lake Astronomical Society, the National Park Foundation and the Cache Valley Astronomical Society.



MAP OF FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES



Bryce Canyon National Park
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



16TH ANNUAL BRYCE CANYON ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL

"The last grand sanctuary of natural darkness"

JUNE 1 - 4, 2016



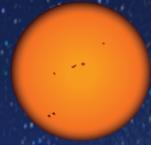
KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
SETH JARVIS
DIRECTOR
CLARK PLANETARIUM
SALT LAKE CITY, UT

MILKY WAY VIEWED FROM MOSSY CAVE TRAIL. PHOTO BY DEREK DEMETER 2015.

During day-light hours, Rangers and Volunteers will be facilitating fun activities and programs for the whole family to enjoy.

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Solar Viewing
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Telescope Basics
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Star Lab
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Planisphere

- DAYTIME PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES ARE ATTENDED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.
- DON'T GET CAUGHT GUESSING AT THE TELESCOPES. ATTEND OUR FREE "TELESCOPE BASIC" PROGRAM!
- ATTEND OUR FREE RENOWNED EVENING SHOWS & THEN JOIN US FOR TELESCOPE VIEWING INTO THE NIGHT!



SOLAR VIEWING

Using special solar telescopes, we will safely show you the Sun & explain solar prominences including sunspots.

ATTENDANCE LIMIT: NONE

LOCATION: OUTDOORS, BRYCE CANYON VISITOR CENTER PATIO ENTRANCE



TELESCOPE BASICS

Join park Volunteer Irene Sheppard to discover the magic behind seeing the stars and planets.

ATTENDANCE LIMIT: 30 (FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED)

AUDIENCE AGE: 10 +(CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED)

LOCATION: OUTDOORS, BRYCE CANYON VISITOR CENTER PATIO ENTRANCE

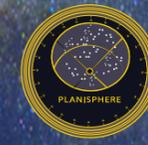


STAR LAB

Enjoy the magic of the stars in the middle of the afternoon. 20-minute programs offered from 2 - 5 pm in a special "Star Lab."

SESSION ATTENDANCE LIMIT: 30 CHILDREN OR 15 ADULTS

**LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE AUDITORIUM
 NEW SESSION EVERY 30 MINUTES**



PLANISPHERE

Becoming a constellation expert requires nothing more than practice with a planisphere. Let Bryce Canyon's Park Rangers teach you how to use this simple device and share with you other useful tips and tricks for navigating the night sky. Join us for this great warm-up to stargazing.

ATTENDANCE LIMIT: 50 (FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED)

LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON VISITOR CENTER THEATER

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1ST

THURSDAY, JUNE 2ND

FRIDAY, JUNE 3RD

SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH

ADMIT ONE Tickets: Because of limited seating, FREE tickets are required for the Wednesday, Thursday, & Saturday Evening Programs (for Friday keynote see below). Tickets must be obtained in person and are available at the Visitor Center beginning at 8 pm the night before the program (Visitor Center open until 10 pm June 1 - 4; tickets for Wednesday programs available beginning at 6pm Tuesday).

EVENING PROGRAMS

EVENING PROGRAMS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

EVENING PROGRAMS

STAR STORIES

Planetarium Educator Dr. Amy Sayle takes you on a trip through the constellations and the eternal legends they help tell. Help act out one of the greatest star stories ever told!

**LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON VISITOR CENTER THEATER
 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 8:15 PM - 9:15 PM**

ASTRONOMY: 3,000 YEARS OF STARGAZING

Astronomy is among the most accessible of all sciences. At the primal level, all one needs to do is look up. Join Ranger Ben Benson in an upward looking exploration of a universe that is accessible, and even (somewhat) understandable.

**LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE AUDITORIUM
 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 8:45 - 9:45 PM**

DARK SKY TREASURES OF BRYCE CANYON

From vast spiraling galaxies, to riches of knowledge and imagination, the bejeweled nightscape above Bryce Canyon is brimming with treasure. Join Ranger Kelly Ricks for a cosmic treasure hunt, and discover the unique and precious beauty that can still be observed within this grand sanctuary of light and darkness.

**LOCATION: N. CAMPGROUND OUTDOOR THEATER
 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 9:15 PM - 10:15 PM**

AS ABOVE, SO BELOW

Join Ranger Michael Ellis and learn how we live in an ecosystem that extends far beyond the Earth.

**LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON VISITOR CENTER THEATER
 THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 8:15 PM - 9:15 PM**

PALE BLUE DOT

The dark night sky above Bryce Canyon reveals wonders which people have marveled upon since the dawn of humankind. Join Ranger Amy Bilbeisi in an exploration of the sky which has inspired our collective curiosity, creativity, imagination, and intellect as long as we have been looking up.

**LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE AUDITORIUM
 THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 8:45 PM - 9:45 PM**

BILLIONS OF PLANETS OUT THERE!

The Discovery of Exoplanets and the possibility of Interstellar travel brings us unique events in our Earth's long history that have made it our magnificent home. Join Ranger Donald Williams in the exploration of a billion planets.

**LOCATION: N. CAMPGROUND OUTDOOR THEATER
 THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 9:15 PM - 10:15 PM**

FRIDAY, JUNE 3RD 9:00 PM - 10:30 PM

"THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM"

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL, PLANNING FOR THE BICENTENNIAL

Join the director of the Clark Planetarium Seth Jarvis and celebrate the centennial, planning of the bicentennial.

Seth Jarvis is head of one of Utah's premier science attractions — Clark Planetarium, an institution he has helped shape since it moved to Salt Lake City's Gateway Mall eight years ago.

Seth Jarvis has been in love with planetariums longer than he's been able to spell the word. He's written planetarium shows and children's astronomy books, he's traveled the length and breadth of Utah as a lecturer for the AstroVan outreach program.

"The advent of human intelligence can be seen, physically, as stars becoming aware of themselves. That is a very powerful concept."

~Seth Jarvis~

LOCATION: EBENEZER'S BARN & GRILL, BRYCE CANYON CITY

ATTENDANCE LIMIT: 1500

ADMISSION: \$3 PER PERSON /\$10 PER IMMEDIATE FAMILY

PAY AT THE DOOR OR ADVANCE TICKET SALES MONDAY – FRIDAY, 2 TO 6 PM AT THE EBENEZER'S BARN & GRILL DESK IN RUBY'S BEST WESTERN LOBBY

*Followed at 10:45 PM by FREE stargazing w/ telescopes at the Stargazing Site (see location on map on reverse page)

STAR STORIES

Planetarium Educator Dr. Amy Sayle takes you on a trip through the constellations & the eternal legends they help tell. Help act out one of the greatest star stories ever told!

**LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON VISITOR CENTER THEATER
 SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 8:15 PM - 9:15 PM**

PALE BLUE DOT

The dark night sky above Bryce Canyon reveals wonders which people have marveled upon since the dawn of humankind. Join Ranger Amy Bilbeisi in an exploration of the sky which has inspired our collective curiosity, creativity, imagination, and intellect as long as we have been looking up.

**LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE AUDITORIUM
 THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 8:45 PM - 9:45 PM**

THE LIVES OF STARS

You wonder how stars form, what goes on inside, and maybe even pondered the meaning of their color. Join Dark Ranger Joel Allen as he explores these stellar characteristics, as well as their personalities and impact on each other and us.

**LOCATION: N. CAMPGROUND OUTDOOR THEATER
 SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 9:15 PM - 10:15 PM**

FOR EVENING PROGRAMS: PLEASE ARRIVE 5 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED START TIME, ALL UNCLAIMED SEATS WILL BE GIVEN AWAY TO BYSTANDERS.