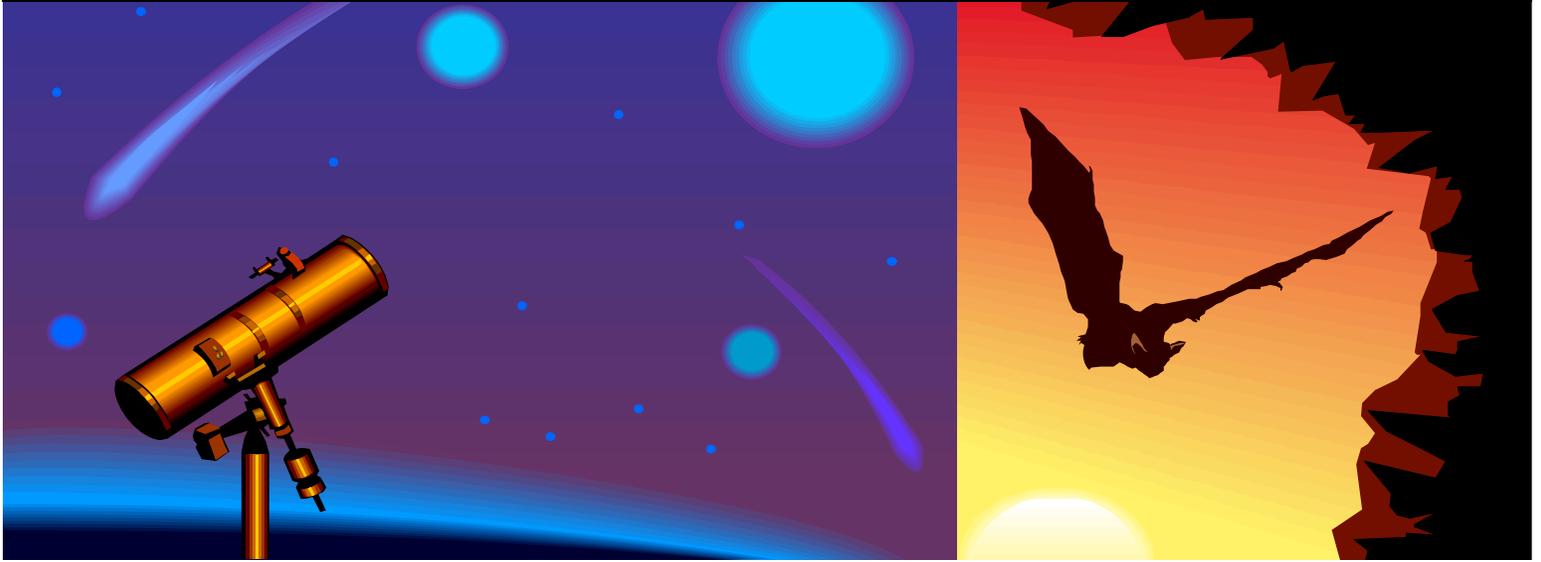


Carlsbad Caverns

Friday, July 13

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Carlsbad Caverns National Park
New Mexico



2007 Celebration of the Night

Join us as we celebrate the mystery and splendor of nighttime in the Chihuahuan Desert!

- 9 a.m.** **Solar viewing** – Stop by the bat flight amphitheater and see if there are any sunspots visible today! Student Conservation Associate SaraBeth Brockley.
- 5:30 p.m.** **Planet walk** – Join State Park Ranger Kathryn Jones as she takes a walk from the sun to the farthest reaches of the solar system. Meet at the flagpole.
- 6 p.m.** **Kids Activity** – Explore the mysteries of stars and constellations, then make a constellation of your very own with Ranger Marjorie Thomas.
- BF -30 min** **Sign up at bat flight amphitheater for the night's walks**
- TBA*** **Bat Flight** – Curious about the night's most mysterious and misunderstood creatures? Join Ranger Michael Chavez at the bat flight amphitheater. ***For program time**, check at the ticket trailer or call 505.785.3012 the day of the event.
- BF +30 min** **How Do They Do That?** – Get your body involved and learn how bats use echolocation and solar systems to tell time. Rangers Tiffany Best and Shannan Marcak.
- 8:30 p.m.** **Twilight Desert Walk – Swingin' Nightlife**
Join Ranger Gosia Allison-Kosior and discover the secret nightlife of the Chihuahuan Desert's plants and animals.
- 9 p.m.** **Night Sky Walk – Long ago, in a galaxy far, far away...**
Join Ranger Greg Litten for a walk that will reveal many of our space neighbors. Death stars not included.
- 9:30 p.m.** **Laser Tour of the Night Sky** – Directionally challenged when it comes to the night sky? Ranger Hugh Hawthorne will have you star hopping in no time.
- 10 p.m.** **Telescope viewing begins!!!**
THANK YOU to Carlsbad and Amarillo area astronomers for their assistance!
- 10 p.m.** **Bat Walk** – Learn more about these under-appreciated yet amazing flying mammals and the legends they inspire. Ranger Lauren Hamilton.
- 10:30 p.m.** **Night Sky Walk – Long ago, in a galaxy far, far away...**
- 11 p.m.** **Desert Night Life Walk** – Search for the desert's secretive night life with naturalist Rick Wiedenmann.

****Activities and programs subject to change due to weather.****

Space on the walks is limited.

So, sign up at the bat flight amphitheater 30 minutes prior to the bat flight program.

Star Party Etiquette

Star parties are fun for the entire family! Bring everyone, but be sure you bring whatever layers, blankets, or chairs you need to keep everyone comfortable. Also, remember that viewing the heavens requires that your eyes be adjusted to low-light conditions. So, please, abide by all **dark-out restrictions**.

- Bring binoculars if you have them. It's amazing how much you can see once you learn where to look!
- There is no smoking at the star party.
- Pets are not allowed.
- Quiet is a part of the nighttime experience. Please talk softly.
- Astronomers will be happy to show you what they are observing; but please, let them show you the proper way to use their instruments.

What are "dark-out restrictions?"

Dark-out restrictions are rules intended to allow people's eyes to adjust to low-light conditions and to stay adjusted.

These restrictions will be in effect between 9:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m.

- There will be no automobile traffic in or near the viewing field.
- All light sources—lanterns, flashlights, etc.—should be red or covered in red. The pupil of the eye does not react to red light the same way it does to white light. Rangers will be happy to provide red tape for flashlights.

General

- **Pets:** Pets are allowed in the park, but must be kept on a leash at all times when outside the vehicle. Pets are not allowed at the bat flight amphitheater or star party. **Please clean up after your pet.**
- **Alcohol:** Alcohol is not allowed in the park.
- **Trash:** Please help us keep your park beautiful. Trash receptacles are located at the bat flight amphitheater, the star party viewing area, near the visitor services trailers. Recycle bins are available near the amphitheater bathrooms and near the bathroom trailer.
- **Bathrooms:** Flush toilets are available at the trailer in the west parking lot and at the bat flight amphitheater.
- **Smoking:** Smoking is only allowed in the west parking lot and in front of the visitor services trailers. It is not allowed at the bat flight amphitheater, at the star party, or on any park trails.

