Facilities

The historic Indian Well campground was constructed in the 1930’s by the Civilian Conservation Corps. It is located 1/2 mi (0.8 km) from the Visitor Center and Cave Loop. The campground has 43 sites available on a first-come, first-served basis. There are sites suitable for tents, pickup campers, small trailers, and motor homes up to 30 feet. Each site has a picnic table, fire ring and a cooking grill. Restrooms with water and flush toilets are available year-round. Showers, hookups, dump stations, and amenities such as gas, propane, and firewood sales are not available in the Monument.

Fees and Programs

The camping fee is $10.00 per night for each site occupied; unoccupied sites may not be held for others. Holders of an Access or Senior pass receive a 50 percent discount on their individual site. Monument entrance fees are also due separately at the Visitor Center or the entrance station at Gillems Camp. Ranger-guided activities include evening slide programs at the campground amphitheater during the summer season. Weekly program schedules are posted at the restrooms, at the Visitor Center, and on bulletin boards.

Campground Rules

Please be considerate of other campers, especially if you are camping with a large group. Children must be supervised at all times.

Limits

Campsite capacity is limited to 10 people and two vehicles or three motorcycles per site (where space is available). Vehicles must be parked on pavement. The maximum stay in the campground is 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period.

Fires

Fires are permitted in designated fire rings and grates only. To preserve the integrity of the landscape, collection of wood is prohibited except in designated areas; check at the Visitor Center or campground bulletin board. Campfires must not be left unattended. Fires may be prohibited during periods of high fire danger.

Pets

Pets are permitted in the campground, but must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 ft (1.8 m). Pets are not permitted in caves, on trails, or in buildings.

Hours

Check-out time is 12:00 PM. Quiet hours are from 10:00 PM to 7:00 AM; loud generators are prohibited.

Hunting Camps

Hunting camps are prohibited.

Group and Backcountry Camping

One group site is available. Fees are $3 per person, with a minimum of $45 and a maximum of $60 per night. The group site accommodates up to 40 campers. Reservations may be made up to three months in advance by calling (530) 667-8113. Fee waivers are not available for the group site. The group site is gated, and one vehicle at a time is permitted in for loading and unloading. All vehicles must be parked in the “A” loop overflow parking area near the comfort station, or at the Visitor Center.

Free backcountry camping is also permitted at Lava Beds, and provides an experience of wilderness solitude. Restrictions are in place for camping near developed areas and caves. Fires are prohibited, and no surface water is available. Check at the Visitor Center for more information.