



With more than 400 miles of cave passageways, Mammoth Cave ranks as the longest known cave in the world. Mammoth Cave National Park was established in 1941. In 1981, the park was designated a World Heritage Site, and became the core area of an International Biosphere Reserve in 1990. The park merits this extra protection and special status for its spectacular features on the surface and in the cave, and the way these features illustrate the connection between humans and their environment.

## Ranger-Led Activity Schedule • Fall 2014

August 18 – August 29 and September 2 – November 2

Cave Tours	Departures
Mammoth Passage Tour*	3:30
Frozen Niagara Tour	9:00, 1:00, (2:30 Fri-Sat), 3:30
Historic Tour	10:00, 12:15, 2:15, 3:00
Domes and Dripstones Tour	9:30, 11:30, 12:45, (2:00 Sat-Sun), 3:00
Violet City Lantern Tour	9:30
Great Onyx Lantern Tour	1:30
River Styx Cave Tour	10:45 (Sat-Sun)
Gothic Avenue Tour	9:00 (Sat only)
Star Chamber Tour	5:00pm
Introduction to Caving	1:15 (Sat only)
Wild Cave Tour	9:00 (Sat-Sun)
Surface Walks & Programs—Free!	Departures
Heritage Walk	9:30, (12:45 Fri-Sat)
Campfire Program	7:00pm (Fri-Sat)
Visitor Center Hours	8:30a.m. – 5:15p.m. Central Time

\*Not available by reservation. Tickets may be purchased at the Visitor Center on day of tour only.

Note—Certain tours have age limits! Please review the tour descriptions on the reverse side of this brochure before selecting your tour. Youth under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult 18 years or older on all tours.

For full park information, go online to [www.nps.gov/macac](http://www.nps.gov/macac) or call 270.758.2180.

### Prices

Cave Tour	Adults	Youth <sup>1</sup>	Special Access <sup>2</sup>	Educational <sup>3</sup>
Mammoth Passage Tour*	\$5.00	\$3.50	\$2.50	
Frozen Niagara Tour	\$12.00	\$9.00	\$6.00	
Historic Tour	\$12.00	\$8.00	\$6.00	\$5.00
Domes and Dripstones Tour	\$14.00	\$9.00	\$7.00	
Violet City Lantern Tour	\$17.00	\$12.00	\$8.50	
Great Onyx Lantern Tour	\$17.00	\$12.00	\$8.50	
River Styx Cave Tour	\$13.00	\$9.00	\$6.50	
Gothic Avenue Tour	\$11.00	\$8.00	\$5.50	\$5.00
Star Chamber Tour	\$12.00	\$8.00	\$6.00	\$5.00
Introduction to Caving	\$25.00	\$19.00	\$12.50	
Wild Cave Tour	\$50.00	N/A	\$25.00	

<sup>1</sup>Box office only—not available by reservation. <sup>2</sup>Youth is 6-12 years of age. <sup>3</sup>Special access prices are for visitors presenting Golden Age, Golden Access, and America The Beautiful Senior and Access Passes. <sup>4</sup>Educational prices apply to Kindergarten-College groups. Please call the park at 270.758.2180 to schedule your educational group.

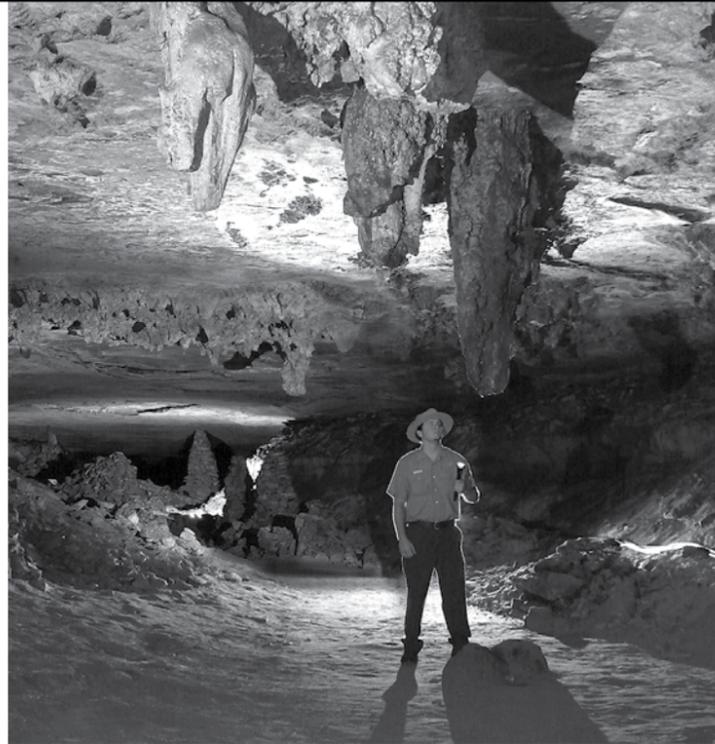
### Interested in a second cave tour?

A \$3 second-tour discount may apply to Historic, Domes and Dripstones, Frozen Niagara, and Mammoth Passage tours if purchased in person at the park for tours on the same day only. Note: The entire Frozen Niagara Tour route is seen on the Domes and Dripstones Tour. Parts of Mammoth Passage Tour are seen on the Historic Tour.

### Getting Here

Mammoth Cave National Park is located near Interstate 65 in southcentral Kentucky, about 90 miles from both Louisville, KY and Nashville, TN. From the north, take exit 53 (Cave City); from the south, take Exit 48 (Park City). Signs will direct you to the park Visitor Center. Our address is 1 Mammoth Cave Parkway, Mammoth Cave, KY 42259

**We're in the Central Time Zone!**



►The following items are not permitted on Cave Tours: Any type of backpack or knapsack, camera tripods or monopods, strollers or infant backpack carriers ►The following items are not permitted on cave tours or in the Visitor Center: Any type of weapon (clubs, batons, brass knuckles, etc.), pepper spray/mace, knives, or firearms. Secure these items in your vehicle, or in one of the lockers provided at the bus loading area.

►Tour requirements regarding White Nose Syndrome (WNS) in bats

While there are no known harmful effects to humans, White Nose Syndrome is responsible for the deaths of millions of hibernating bats across the United States and Canada since its discovery in 2006. White Nose Syndrome was found at Mammoth Cave National Park in 2013. ►As a precaution to minimize the spread of the White Nose Syndrome fungus from the park, all participants on cave tours must walk on bio-security mats immediately following their tour. ►When visiting another cave or mine, do not wear clothing or shoes worn here without first washing. ►Never touch or handle any bat. If you have contact with a bat, please notify a park ranger. ►For more information, call 270.758.2180, visit the park's website at [www.nps.gov/macac/whitenose.htm](http://www.nps.gov/macac/whitenose.htm), or inquire at the Visitor Center upon arrival.

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## Reservations

Please note that Mammoth Cave National Park offers a number of guided tours, both on the surface and underground. Demand is high for these popular activities—tours can, and do, sell out. You may reserve tickets in advance for cave tours by calling (877)444-6777. Campground reservations are also available through this service. You may also make your reservations via internet using the address:

[www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

### For Reservations...

By Phone: (877)444-6777

TDD (hearing impaired): (877)833-6777

### Payment...



### Cancellation...

Cancellation fees apply. Call (888)448-1474 for more information.

### Call Center Hours...

9:00 am–9:00 pm Central Time, 7 days a week.

Take a little time to ensure that the activity you have chosen is the best one for you. All cave tours and nature walks can be strenuous, so be sure you understand what will be required of you before the start of your activity. If you are unsure, ask a park ranger to explain what will be required of you. NEVER let someone talk you into doing an activity if you feel uneasy about it. Youth under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult 18 years or older on all tours. ►Cave and surface trails are uneven and slippery so be sure you have the proper footwear and always look before you step. ►All cave tours require shirts and shoes for admittance. ►Any type of backpack or knapsack, camera tripods or monopods, child strollers and infant backpack carriers are prohibited in the cave for visitor safety and resource protection. ►Walking sticks and canes are permitted on cave tours only when sufficient need is demonstrated. ►To protect air quality, smoking is not permitted in the cave or at cave entrances. ►Year-round cave temperature in interior passageways fluctuates from the mid-50s to the low 60s (in degrees Fahrenheit). However, winter temperatures can be below freezing at entrances! Generally, you will be comfortable if you wear long pants and bring a sweater or jacket.



### Camping & Picnic Shelter Fees

Location	Site Type	Regular	Special Access
Mammoth Cave CG	Regular	\$17.00	\$8.50
	VIP	\$40.00	\$20.00
	Group	\$20.00	
Maple Springs CG	Group Camp	\$30.00	
	Horses - Hookups	\$30.00	
	Horses - Primitive	\$22.00	
Houchin Ferry CG	Primitive Frontcountry	\$12.00	\$6.00

Mammoth Cave Campground is open March 1 - November 30.

Maple Springs Group Campground is open March 1 - November 30.

Houchin Ferry Campground is open year-round.

### Picnic Shelters

Open-Air Picnic Shelter \$25.00

Limited availability

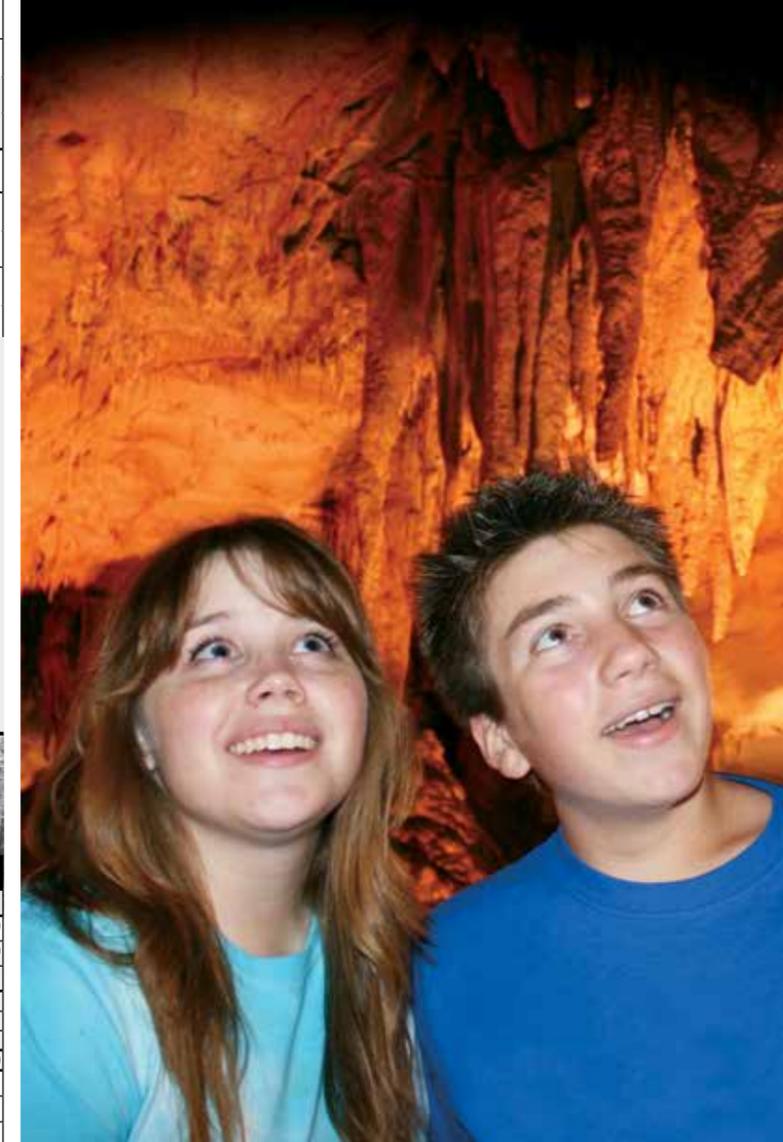
Enclosed Picnic Shelter \$50.00

Available on weekends from March 1 to Memorial Day, daily between Memorial Day and Labor Day, and weekends from Labor Day to November 30.

**Mammoth Cave**  
National Park



## Ranger-Led Programs



**Fall • 2014**



## ▲ Surface Activities

## Underground Tours ▼



### Mammoth Passage Tour

►Visit the Rotunda, one of the largest rooms in the cave and explore a vast canyon passageway. Learn about prehistoric Native American explorers, saltpeter mining operations, and basic cave geology. This is a short introductory tour to Mammoth Cave. ►1¼ hours, ¾ mile. *Tour limit: 40. Total stairs: 160. Elevation change: 160'.* ►Includes part of the *Historic Tour* and all of the *Discovery Tour* routes. Offered as visitation warrants. Call the Park the day of your visit to check availability. Includes a steep outdoor hillside trail to and from the cave's natural entrance. This tour does not see dripstone formation areas. Not available by reservation. ►Meets at the Visitor Center. **Difficulty: Easy.**



### Frozen Niagara Tour

►The Frozen Niagara Entrance provides easy access to this decorative area of the cave. Walk through a fairyland of formations to learn how dripstone is formed. An optional 49 step staircase takes visitors under the Frozen Niagara formation to the Drapery Room. This easy trip is ideal for people who want a short introduction to Mammoth Cave. A ten minute bus ride to and from the entrance is included. ►1¼ hours, ¼ mile. *Tour limit: 36. Total stairs: 12, plus an optional 98. Elevation change: 50'.* ►Includes part of the *Domes and Dripstones Tour* and *Grand Avenue Tour* routes. ►Meets at the Visitor Center. **Difficulty: Easy.**

### Heritage Walk

►Travel with us along the Heritage Trail to learn how early residents interacted with the landscape, and the role the Green River and cave systems played in their communities. This boardwalk trail travels along a forested ridge, with a scenic overlook of the Green River valley from Sunset Point. ►¾ hour, ¾ mile. ►Meets at the Visitor Center Back Porch. **Difficulty: Easy.** ♿

All ranger-led surface activities are free of charge!

### Historic Tour

►Feel the same excitement that intrigued our earliest explorers and visitors. Leave initial large passages behind to descend into deeper levels. Cross over Bottomless Pit, squeeze through Fat Man's Misery, clamber up Mammoth Dome tower to return to the Historic Entrance. ►2 hours, 2 miles. *Tour limit: 120. Total stairs: 440, including 155 at Mammoth Dome. Elevation change: 300'.* ►Limited areas of the *Discovery*, *Mammoth Passage*, *Star Chamber*, *River Styx* and *Violet City Lantern Tours* are visited on this route. This tour does not visit dripstone formation areas. ►Meets at the Visitor Center. **Difficulty: Moderate.**



### Domes and Dripstones Tour

►Wind down through deep pits and high domes via a 280 step staircase. Vertical cave gives way to large canyons and underground hill climbs. Visit the Frozen Niagara formation, then pass through one of the caves most decorative dripstone areas. A ten minute bus ride to and from the entrances is included. Formerly known as the New Entrance Tour. ►2 hours, ¾ mile. *Tour limit: 114. Total stairs: 500, including 280 on initial descent. Elevation change: 250'.* ►Includes the complete *Frozen Niagara Tour* route and a portion of the *Grand Avenue Tour* route. ►Meets at the Visitor Center. **Difficulty: Moderate.**



### Campfire Program

►Join a park ranger for a special program at an informal setting. Various topics will be shared with props and stories; ranger's choice. Check at the Visitor Center to learn about currently scheduled topics. The Campfire Circle is located adjacent to site #97, Loop "D". ►¾ hour. ►Consider carrying a flashlight for added safety on the walkways following the program after dark. ►Meets at the Campfire Circle, Mammoth Cave Campground. ♿



### Violet City Lantern Tour

►Walk through miles of large passages by lantern light. Relive the stories and illusions of almost 200 years of tourism as the guides recreate the rugged nature of early tours. The flickering flame and rustic trails in this area make it seem as if time stands still in the cave. ►3 hours, 3 miles. *Tour limit: 38. Age limit: 6 and older. Total stairs: 160, and numerous hills without handrails. Elevation change: 160'.* ►Includes parts of the *Historic*, *Gothic Avenue*, *Star Chamber*, and *Mammoth Passage Tour* routes. Lanterns may cause some discomfort for visitors with respiratory illnesses. Only adults may carry lanterns. Good walking shoes recommended. ►Meets at the Visitor Center. **Difficulty: Strenuous.**

### Gothic Avenue Tour

►Gothic Avenue features hundreds of candle-smoked signatures and monuments of stacked limestone dating back through the cave's early years of tourism. ►2 hours, 1½ miles. *Tour limit: 40. Total stairs: 260. Elevation change: 160'.* ►Portions of this tour are also seen on the *Historic*, *Mammoth Passage*, *Star Chamber* and *Violet City Lantern Tour* routes. ►Meets at the Visitor Center. **Difficulty: Moderate.**

### River Styx Cave Tour

►Want a glimpse of the underground rivers at the cave's deepest levels? This geologic journey includes the complete *Historic Tour* route, plus a short visit down to the Dead Sea, the banks of River Styx and a quick view of Lake Lethe. ►2½ hours, 2½ miles. *Tour limit: 40. Total stairs: 500 including 155 at Mammoth Dome. Elevation change: 360'.* ►This tour covers the entire *Historic Tour* route. Limited sections of the *Star Chamber*, *Violet City Lantern*, *Mammoth Passage* and *Mammoth Cave Discovery Tours* are also seen. ►Meets at the Visitor Center. **Difficulty: Moderate.**



Sign language interpreters may be provided on cave tours by calling 270.758.2180 at least two weeks prior to the reserved tour(s).

### Star Chamber Tour

►Leave waning daylight behind as you enter the Historic Entrance by lantern light. See the cave as it was seen by early tourists. Gaze upward in the Star Chamber as a traditional illusion is recreated. Follow your guide into mystical Gothic Avenue. Retrace your steps and exit the cave to Kentucky's nocturnal landscape. ►2½ hours, 1½ miles. *Tour limit: 40. Age limit: 6 and older. Total stairs: 260. Elevation change: 160'.* ►Includes parts of the *Historic Tour*, *Violet City Lantern Tour*, *Gothic Avenue Tour*, *Discovery* and *Mammoth Passage Tour* routes. Lanterns may cause some discomfort for visitors with respiratory illnesses. Only adults may carry lanterns. ►Meets at the Visitor Center. **Difficulty: Moderate.**

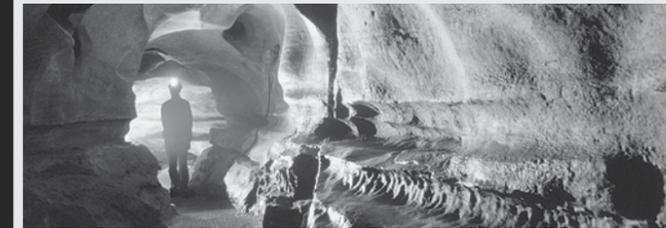
### Great Onyx Lantern Tour

►A great cave activity for returning visitors, this trip includes a bus ride through a forested valley to another historically toured cave within the national park. Coleman lanterns illuminate a series of beautifully sculpted decorative rooms and passageways. ►2¼ hours, 1 mile. *Tour limit: 38. Age limit: 6 and older. Total stairs: 40. Elevation change: 30'.* ►This cave is not known to be connected to the greater Mammoth Cave System. Bus ride included in tour duration. Gas lanterns may cause some discomfort for visitors with respiratory illnesses. Only adults may carry lanterns. Entrance steps are uneven with a low ceiling. ►Meets at the Visitor Center. **Difficulty: Moderate.**



### Introduction to Caving

►A wild caving challenge for new cavers or families! Designed for both adults and kids 10 years and up. Learn the rules and techniques of safe caving, and an appreciation of this special environment. Similar to Wild Cave Tour, but shorter and less difficult. ►3½ hours, 1 mile. *Tour limit: 20. Age limit: 10 and older. Total stairs: 280+. Elevation change: 250'.* ►An adult must accompany visitors under age 18. Organized youth groups must have at least two adult representatives accompanying minor children. Chest or hip measurement must not exceed 42 inches; if you are larger, you cannot physically pass through the crawlspaces. Lace-up hiking boots that cover the ankle are required. Boots must have good tread. No slick-soled footwear is permitted. No tennis shoes allowed. You will not be allowed to participate in the tour if you are not wearing proper footwear—No exceptions. Shorts and t-shirts are recommended for wear under coveralls. Please bring extra pair of shoes or sandals for use during boot cleaning after the tour. All equipment and outerwear provided; no personal caving equipment allowed. Requires at least 2 participants. ►Meets at the Visitor Center. **Difficulty: Strenuous.**



### Wild Cave Tour

►A wild caving challenge for adults only. Venture into miles of undeveloped passageways no other tour sees. Be prepared for free-climbing, lengthy crawls, wet areas, and tight openings. Good physical condition is essential. ►6-6½ hours, 5 miles. *Tour limit: 14. Age limit: 16+; proof of age may be requested. Elevation change: 300'.* ►An adult must accompany visitors under age 18. Organized youth groups must have at least two adult representatives accompanying minor children. Chest or hip measurement must not exceed 42 inches; if you are larger, you cannot physically pass through the crawlspaces. Lace-up hiking boots that cover the ankle are required. Boots must have good tread. No slick-soled footwear is permitted. No tennis shoes allowed. You will not be allowed to participate in the tour if you are not wearing proper footwear – no exceptions. Shorts and t-shirts are recommended for wear under coveralls. Please bring extra pair of shoes or sandals for use during boot cleaning after the tour. All equipment and outerwear provided; no personal caving equipment allowed. Visitors will need to bring their own lunch or snacks and water bottle. A small fanny pack will be provided. Requires at least 2 participants. ►Meets at the Visitor Center. **Difficulty: Very Strenuous.**

INTRODUCTORY CAVE TOURS

GENERAL CAVE TOURS

SPECIALTY CAVE TOURS

SPECIALTY CAVE TOURS

Raymond Klass

Raymond Klass