

### Historic Tour

►Enter through the Historic Entrance, as did the earliest explorers and visitors. Discover the role Mammoth Cave played during the War of 1812 and ponder the mysteries that surround the prehistoric people who walked these passages as many as 4,000 years ago. Descend and follow in the footsteps of the explorers who crossed Bottomless Pit and squeezed through Fat Man's Misery. Ascend towering Mammoth Dome and exit through the Historic Entrance. ►2 hours, 2 miles. *Tour limit: 120. Total stairs: 457. Elevation change: 300'.* ►Includes parts of the Mammoth Passage, Violet City Lantern, Star Chamber, River Styx and Discovery tour routes. ►Tour meets outside Visitor Center doors. **Difficulty:** ■■■□□

### New Entrance Tour

►A bus ride carries you to the New Entrance: opened in the 1920s, it provided a whole new way to see Mammoth Cave. Impressive pits, domes, and a few narrow openings soon give way to large passages and underground hills. Follow your guide to the Frozen Niagara formation, discovered in 1923. From Frozen Niagara to the cave exit you will pass through one of the most decorative and photographed areas of Mammoth Cave. ►2 hours, ¾ mile. *Tour limit: 118. Total stairs: 500, including 280 on initial descent. Elevation change: 250' from New Entrance.* ►Includes the complete Frozen Niagara Tour route and a portion of the Grand Avenue Tour route. ►Tour meets at Bus Loading area. **Difficulty:** ■■■□□

### Grand Avenue Tour

►This physically demanding trip unveils the size and complexity of the Mammoth Cave system. Learn the interwoven natural and cultural history of the cave as you journey through some of the cave's most dramatic passages. Discover gypsum-encrusted halls, twisting canyons, underground hills, vast chambers, and tapestries of dripstone. ►4½ hours, 4 miles. *Tour limit: 78. Total stairs: 670. Elevation change: 280, with hills more than 60' in several places.* ►The Frozen Niagara and Snowball tour routes, and portions of the New Entrance tour route, are seen on this tour. Children must be 6 or older. Food may be purchased from the park's concessionaire at the Snowball Room. There are two restroom stops. ►Tour meets at the Bus Loading area **Difficulty:** ■■■□□

### Snowball Tour

►Descend nearly 200 stairs at the Carmichael Entrance of Mammoth Cave, pass the craggy breakdown of the Rocky Mountains and enter gypsum encrusted Cleaveland Avenue. This tour showcases gypsum in various crystalline shapes and sizes. The beautifully elliptical Cleaveland Avenue terminates in the Snowball Room, viewed by visitors since the 1840s. Food may be purchased from the park's concessionaire during the 45 minutes spent in this room, traditionally a 20th-century underground meal stop. Visitors retrace Cleaveland Avenue, ascending nearly 200 stairs at the Carmichael Entrance. ►3 hours, 2 miles. *Tour limit: 38. Total stairs: Approximately 400. Elevation Change: 267'.* ►Tour meets at the Bus Loading area. **Difficulty:** ■■■□□

### Violet City Lantern Tour

►Explore some of the largest passages by lantern as guides recreate the ambiance of the first flame-lit tours. Experience the shadowed illusions that inspired Ralph Waldo Emerson and others of his day. See evidence of prehistoric mining, historic saltpeter production, and the remains of an underground hospital. ►3 miles, 3 hours. *Tour limit: 38. Total stairs: 160, and numerous hills without handrails.* ►Includes parts of the Historic, Discovery, Star Chamber, River Styx and Mammoth Passage tour routes. Only adults may carry the provided lanterns. Children must be 6 or older. ►No flash photography or flashlights permitted. ►Tour meets outside the Visitor Center doors. **Difficulty:** ■■■□□

### River Styx Cave Tour

►Trace the stages of cave development from solid layers of limestone into the world's longest known cave system. Follow the course of the water from ridge top to river bottom and witness the persistence and power required to create this geologic marvel. Experience some of the largest continuous canyon passages on the planet, smooth elliptical tubes and beautifully sculpted shafts. Working your way to the cave's lowest level you'll be able to peer into the cold river water that still hollows out the limestone and lengthens the cave system. Understand the processes of both the surface and subsurface and realize how all of the pieces of the puzzle fit together to make the story of the world's longest cave unfold before your eyes. ►2½ hours, 2½ miles. *Tour Limit: 40 visitors. Total stairs: 500. Elevation change: 360'.* ►This tour covers the entire Historic Tour route, as well as limited sections of the Star Chamber, Mammoth Passage and Discovery Tours. ►Tour meets outside the Visitor Center doors. **Difficulty:** ■■■□□

### Focus on Frozen Niagara Tour

►Limestone walls set in layers, then swathed in motionless curtains of orange and tan beg for your lens on a short stroll underground, while stalactites and flowstone pose for photos. Park rangers point out decorative formations and discuss the challenges of cave lighting on the interpretive walk into the cave; still and video cameras may then be used on the return trip through Thanksgiving Hall, Shower Bath Springs, Drapery Room Onyx Collonade, and Rainbow Dome. ►1½ hours, ¼ mile. *Tour limit: 30. Total stairs: 13, with 98 optional stairs at the Drapery Room. Elevation change: Approx. 50' at the Drapery Room.* ►Participants will caravan in private vehicles as they follow the Ranger guide to the Frozen Niagara Entrance. ►Tripods and camera bags are permitted on this tour only. **Difficulty:** ■□□□

### Star Chamber Tour

►See the cave as it was seen by Ralph Waldo Emerson, Jenny Lind and other nineteenth-century notables. Leave waning sunshine behind as you enter Mammoth Cave's Historic Entrance by lantern light. Follow the paths taken daily by Dr. John Croghan as he tended consumptive patients in his "hospital" 160 feet underground. Gaze upward at rock layers in a room called "Star Chamber." Follow your guide as you retrace along the oldest tour trails and exit the cave into another Star Chamber above the nocturnal Kentucky landscape. ►2½ hours, 1½ miles. *Tour limit: 40. Total stairs: 200. Elevation Change: 160'.* ►Includes parts of the Historic, Discovery, Violet City Lantern, River Styx, and Mammoth Passage tour routes. ►Only adults may carry the provided lanterns. Children must be 6 or older. ►No flash photography or flashlight use in the cave. ►Tour meets outside the Visitor Center doors. **Difficulty:** ■■■□□

### Wild Cave Tour

►Meet Mammoth Cave on its own terms as you and a small group of adventurers don helmets, headlamps, boots and kneepads and venture into miles of undeveloped passageways. Climb, crawl and canyonwalk your way through passageways no other tour sees. On the way, your guides will share their knowledge of the history and geology of places like Cleaveland Avenue, Thorpe's Pit, and Cathedral Domes. You must be prepared for free-climbing cave walls; lengthy crawls through areas as tight as 9 inches high; walking in a crouched position; hand and knee crawls over jagged rocks and dirt; crawling through wet areas; twisting into and out of tight crawlway openings. ►6-6½ hours, 5½ miles. ►Visitors must have had their **16th birthday.** ►An adult must accompany visitors under age 18. ►High-top, over-the-ankle lace-up boots, with lug or deeply treaded soles, are required. No low-cut hiking or athletic shoes allowed. You will not be allowed to participate in the tour if you are not wearing proper footwear, and no exceptions can be made. ►Chest or hip measurement must not exceed 42 inches; if you are larger than this, you cannot physically pass through the crawlspaces. ►Work or climbing gloves and long pants are recommended - do not overdress. ►Helmets and lights provided; participants are strongly urged to bring kneepads – hard plastic kneepads not permitted. ►Tour requires a minimum of 4 participants. ►You may bring a small bag with water and food, or lunch will be available for purchase in the Snowball Room in the cave. Both hands must remain free for climbing and crawling. ►Tour requires a minimum of two participants. **Difficulty:** ■■■■■

### Introduction to Caving

►A wild caving challenge for new cavers! Designed for both adults and kids 10 years and up, Introduction to Caving will let you probe lesser-visited channels and chambers while learning the rules and techniques of safe caving, and an appreciation of the cave as a special environment. Similar to Wild Cave Tour, but shorter and less difficult – still, expect climbing and descending cave walls; tight belly crawls; walking in a crouched position; hand and knee crawls over rough rocks and dirt; crawling over damp trail; and twisting into and out of passageway openings. ►3½ hours, 2 miles. ►Visitors must have had their **10th birthday.** ►An adult must accompany visitors under age 18. ►High-top, over-the-ankle lace-up boots, with lug or deeply treaded soles, are required. No low-cut hiking or athletic shoes allowed. You will not be allowed to participate in the tour if you are not wearing proper footwear, and no exceptions can be made. ►Chest or hip measurement must not exceed 42 inches; if you are larger than this, you cannot physically pass through the crawlspaces. ►Work or climbing gloves and long pants are recommended - do not overdress. Helmets, lights and kneepads provided. ►Tour requires a minimum of 2 participants. ►You may bring a small bag to carry water, but both hands must remain free for crawling and climbing. **Difficulty:** ■■■■□

### Trog

►A kids-only off-trail adventure! Hike through the forest to the Historic Entrance and find out how the surface and subsurface are connected. Put on your hard hat and headlamp (provided) as you travel off-trail. Unlock the secrets of how the animals of Mammoth Cave survive in the deep dark as you hike, crawl and belly-slide through rarely visited passages. ►2½ hours, 1½ miles. *Tour limit: 12 children, 8-12 years only.* **Difficulty:** ■■■□□

# Mammoth Cave

National Park



## Ranger-Led Programs • Summer 2009



With more than 367 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 they illustrate the connection between humans and their environment.



# Summer

# Summer Schedule 2009

	Early Summer <i>May 23-June 19</i>	Mid Summer <i>June 20-August 9 &amp; September 5-6</i>	Late Summer <i>August 10-September 4; September 7</i>
Historic Tour	9:00, 10:30, 12:45, 2:15, 4:00	10:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00(Fri-Sun), 2:45, 3:45, 4:45	9:00, 10:30, 12:45, 2:15, 2:45, 4:00
Mammoth Passage Tour*	8:45, 4:45	9:00, 4:15, 5:00	8:45, 4:45
New Entrance Tour	9:00, 10:00, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30	9:00, 10:30, 11:45, 12:45, 2:30, 3:30, 4:00	9:00, 10:00, 11:30, 12:30, 1:30, 3:00, 3:30
Frozen Niagara Tour	9:30, 12:00, 5:00	8:30, 9:15, 5:30	9:30, 12:00, 5:00
Grand Avenue Tour**	10:30, 11:30	10:00, 11:15	10:30, 11:45
Snowball Tour	10:45	10:15, 11:30	
Violet City Lantern Tour**	9:15	9:30, 1:30	9:15
River Styx Cave Tour		3:30	
Wild Cave Tour**	10:00	10:00	10:00
Introduction to Caving**	2:00	9:30	2:00
Trog**		2:15	
Star Chamber Tour**	6:15 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	6:15 p.m.
Focus on Frozen Niagara Tour		7:00 p.m. (Fri-Sun)	
Mammoth Cave Discovery Tour*	Offered as needed and staff is available		
<i>*Not available by reservation. Tickets may be purchased at the Visitor Center on day of tour only. **Age Limits on these tours: Wild Cave - 16 years+; Intro to Caving - 10 years+; Grand Avenue, Violet City Lantern and Star Chamber - 6 years+; Trog Tour - ages 8-12 only.</i>			
Visitor Center Hours	8:00 a.m.-6:15 p.m. CT	8:00 a.m.-7:15 p.m. CT	8:00 a.m.-6:15 p.m. CT



## Prices

Cave Tours	Adults	Youth*	Special Access**	Educational***
Historic Tour	\$12.00	\$8.00	\$6.00	\$5.00
Mammoth Passage Tour†	\$5.00	\$3.50	\$2.50	
New Entrance Tour	\$12.00	\$8.00	\$6.00	
Frozen Niagara Tour	\$10.00	\$8.00	\$5.00	
Grand Avenue Tour	\$24.00	\$17.00	\$12.00	
Snowball Tour	\$14.00	\$8.00	\$7.00	
Violet City Lantern Tour	\$15.00	\$11.00	\$7.50	
River Styx Cave Tour	\$13.00	\$9.00	\$6.50	
Wild Cave Tour	\$48.00	-	\$24.00	
Introduction To Caving	\$23.00	\$18.00	\$11.50	
Trog	-	\$14.00	-	
Star Chamber Tour	\$12.00	\$8.00	\$6.00	\$5.00
Mammoth Cave Discovery Tour†	\$4.00	\$2.50	\$2.00	

\*Youth is 6-12 years of age. \*\*Special access prices are for visitors presenting Golden Age, Golden Access, and America The Beautiful Senior and Access Passes. †Box office only - not available by reservation. \*\*\*Educational prices apply to Kindergarten-College groups, including home schools. 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, New Entrance, Frozen Niagara, and Mammoth Passage tours if purchased in person at the park for tours on the same day. *Note: The entire Frozen Niagara Tour route is seen on the New Entrance Tour. Parts of Mammoth Passage Tour are seen on Historic.*

## Getting Here

Mammoth Cave National Park is located ninety miles north of Nashville, TN and ninety miles south of Louisville, KY. Traveling south, leave Interstate 65 at Cave City, exit 53. Follow the signs nine miles to the park Visitor Center. Traveling north, leave Interstate 65 at Park City, exit 48. Follow the signs eight miles to the park Visitor Center.

## Camping/Picnic Shelter Fees:

*Prices in parentheses (\$) are for Special Access*

Mammoth Cave Campground	\$17 (\$8.50)
Mammoth Cave (VIP Public)	\$40 (\$20)
Mammoth Cave CG (Group)	\$20
Maple Springs (Group)	\$30
Maple Springs (Horse, hookups)	\$30
Maple Springs (Horse, primitive)	\$22
Houchins Ferry Campground	\$12 (\$6)

Open-Air Picnic Shelter \$25/day  
*One shelter; limited availability*

Enclosed Picnic Shelter \$50/day  
*One shelter; available Sat/Sun March 1-Memorial Day; daily Memorial Day - Labor Day, Sat/Sun Labor Day - Nov. 30*

## 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



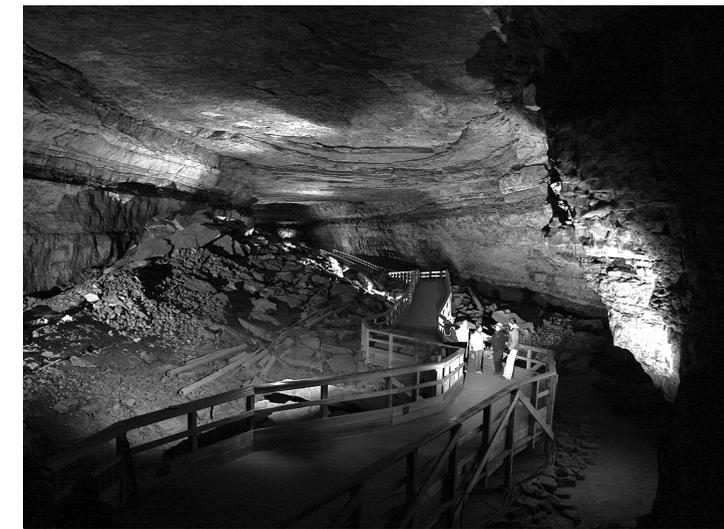
## Cancellation

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

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



## Underground Tours

Easy: ■□□□  
Moderate: ■■□□  
Difficult: ■■■□  
Very Difficult: ■■■■

### Mammoth Passage Tour

►Follow your guide to the Historic Entrance where the cave was first discovered more than 4,000 years ago. Entering the cave, imagine early visitors as they walked through these "Mammoth Passages". Visit one of the largest rooms in the cave and see remains of an early mining operation. ►1¼ hours, ¾ mile round-trip. Tour limit: 40. Elevation change: 160'. Total stairs: Approx. 160. ►Includes parts of the Historic and Discovery tour routes. ►Tour meets outside Visitor Center doors. Difficulty: ■□□□

### Frozen Niagara Tour

►Depart by bus and journey to the Frozen Niagara Entrance, created in 1924. Enter one of the most "decorated" areas of the cave and learn how this "flowing rock" is formed. Descend optional steps under the Frozen Niagara formation to visit the Drapery Room. ►1¼ hours, ¼ mile. Tour limit: 36. Total stairs: 110 (98 are optional). Elevation change: 40'. ►Includes parts of the New Entrance and Grand Avenue tour routes. ►Tour meets at the Bus Loading area. Difficulty: ■□□□

### Mammoth Cave Discovery Tour **Self-Guiding**

►Visit the Rotunda, one of the largest rooms in the cave, explore a vast canyon passageway, and learn about 19th-century saltpeter mining operations and the geologic origins of Mammoth Cave on this self-guiding tour. ►30 min. minimum, ¾ mile round-trip. Total stairs: Approx. 160. Elevation change: 160'. ►Includes parts of the Historic and Mammoth Passage tour routes. ►Offered as visitation warrants and staff is available. ►Tour enters at the Historic Entrance. Difficulty: ■□□□

*For full park information, check the official National Park Service website at [www.nps.gov/maca](http://www.nps.gov/maca) or call 270.758.2180.*