

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.

Winter Schedule 2009/2010

October 26, 2009 - March 12, 2010

Historic Tour	9:00(Sat. only), 9:45, 12:45
Mammoth Passage Tour*	11:00, 3:30
New Entrance Tour	11:30, 2:45
Frozen Niagara Tour	9:30, 1:15, 3:15
Introduction to Caving	<i>Ages 10+</i> 12:45 Sat. only
Wild Cave Tour	<i>Ages 16+</i> 9:30(Sat/Sun)
Grand Avenue Tour	<i>Ages 6+</i> 10:45 Sat/Sun; also Nov. 27 and Dec. 28-Jan. 1; not offered Jan. 4-Feb. 12

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

Note age limits on certain tours: Wild Cave Tour-16 years+; Introduction to Caving-10 years+; Grand Avenue Tour-6 years+

Visitor Center Hours	8:45 a.m.-5:00 p.m. CT
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We're in the Central Time Zone!

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	
Introduction To Caving	\$23.00	\$18.00	\$11.50	
Wild Cave Tour	\$48.00	n/a	\$24.00	
Grand Avenue Tour	\$24.00	\$17.00	\$12.00	

*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. ***Educational prices apply to Kindergarten-College groups. Please call the park at 270.758.2180 to schedule your educational group. †Box office only— not available by reservation.

Getting Here

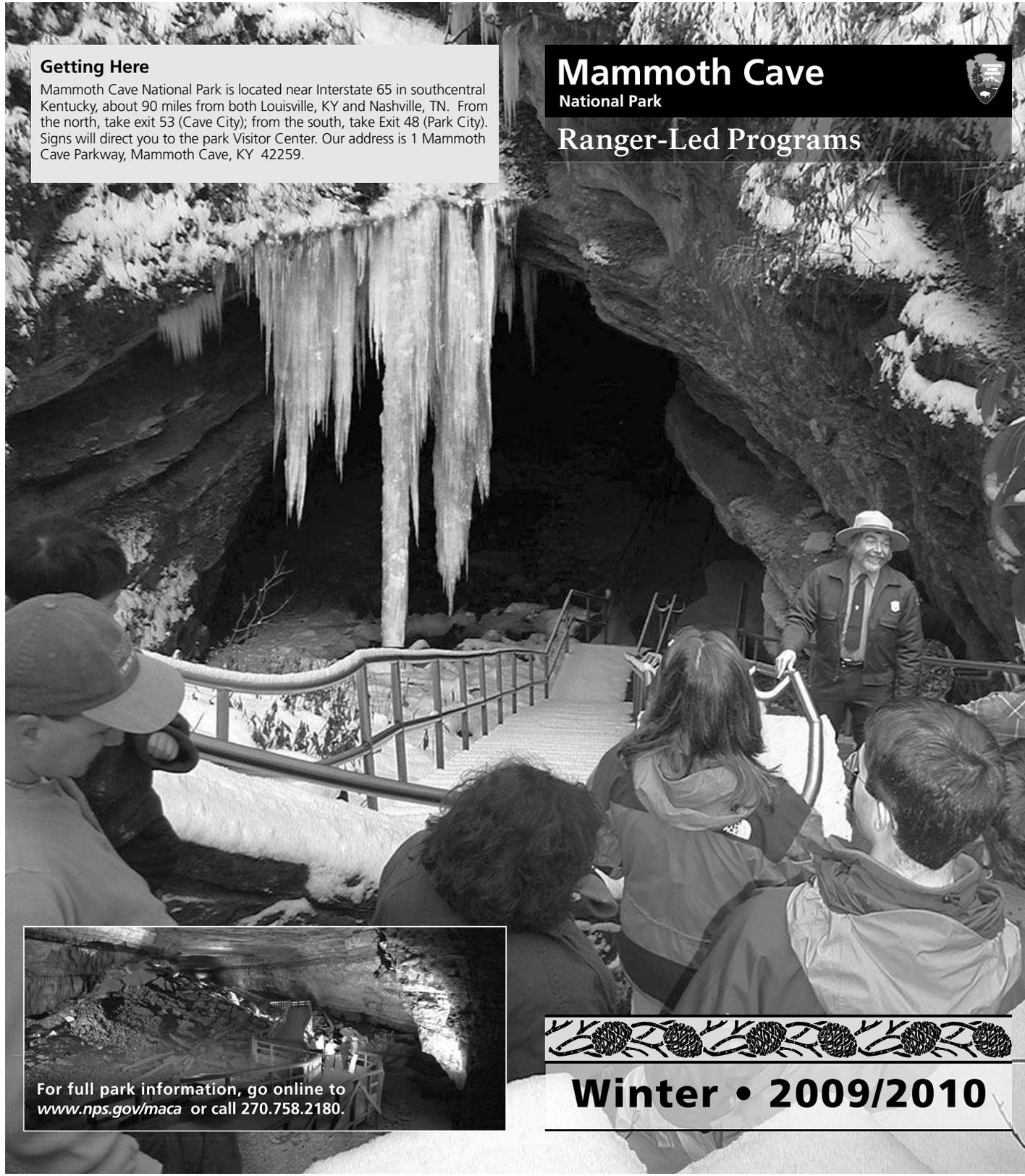
Mammoth Cave National Park is located near Interstate 65 in southcentral Kentucky, about 90 miles from both Louisville, KY and Nashville, TN. From the north, take exit 53 (Cave City); from the south, take Exit 48 (Park City). Signs will direct you to the park Visitor Center. Our address is 1 Mammoth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

Mammoth Cave

National Park



Ranger-Led Programs



Winter • 2009/2010

For full park information, go online to www.nps.gov/macac or call 270.758.2180.

Underground Tours

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: Easy.**

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: Easy.**

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: Moderate.**

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: 114. 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: Moderate.**

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 (cash only). There are two restroom stops. ►Tour meets at the Bus Loading area. **Difficulty: Moderate.**

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 a box lunch will be available for purchase in the Snowball Room in the cave (cash only). Both hands must remain free for climbing and crawling. ►Tour requires a minimum of two participants. **Difficulty: Very Difficult.**

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: Very Difficult.**

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

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

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.



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 weekends from March 1-Memorial Day; daily from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and weekends from Labor Day to Nov. 30