

# Crystal Cave Rocks!



Explore fabulous cave formations. NPS Photo

No tickets are sold at the cave, only at Lodgepole and Foothills visitor centers. Buy them at least 1-1/2 hours in advance of the tour.

Crystal Cave Road is 15 miles (24 km) from the Sequoia Park entrance on Hwy 198, and 3 miles (5 km) south of the General Sherman Tree (see page 12 map). Maximum vehicle length is 22' (6.7 m) on the road to the cave.

Use parking-lot restrooms; the cave has none. Wear sturdy shoes and bring a jacket; the 1/2-mile trail (.8 km) to the cave is steep and it's 50°F (10°C) inside.

No strollers, tripods, or baby backpacks. Not wheelchair accessible. Ask about **Wild Cave Tours** and group reservations! Tours by the SNHA: 1-559-565-3759.

## 45-minute cave tours daily starting May 12

Schedule: *Don't miss this opportunity!*

From 5/12 through 6/15: Weekdays 11am, noon, 2 pm, & 3 pm. Saturday & Sunday 11 am-4 pm on the hour. Memorial Day weekend (5/26-28): every half hour from 10:30 am to 5pm.

Extra tours may be added.

From 6/16 through 9/3: Weekdays 10:30 am to 4:30 pm every half hour. Saturdays & July 4th holiday (6/30-7/4) every half hour 10 am to 5 pm; Sundays 10:30 am to 5 pm.

Fees: Ages 6-12 \$6; age 13-61 \$11; age 62 & up \$10; under 6 free. National Park, Interagency, & Golden Age passes do not apply. SNHA members get a discount!

## 1-1/2 hour Discovery Tours start June 25th

Weekdays only through 8/31 (no tours 7/2-4), starting at 4:15 pm. Enjoy a more in-depth tour of this fabulous cave! Limited to 16 people aged 13 & up. Fee: \$18.95 each (SNHA members \$16.95).

# Activities

**WALKS & TALKS** Free ranger-led talks or walks may be offered in spring at Giant Forest, Lodgepole, Grant Grove, Cedar Grove, & the Foothills, usually on weekends. Check bulletin boards and visitor centers to see what is scheduled.

**VISITOR CENTERS** Each one offers different exhibits to enjoy (check out the new exhibits at the visitor center in Grant Grove). They also sell a wide variety of books, maps, postcards, posters, and other items. Remember: All your purchases at visitor centers help to support the parks! See pages 8 and 9 for hours and locations.

**TEACHERS: BRING YOUR CLASS TO THE PARKS!** Rangers offer fun, curriculum-based programs for 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6<sup>th</sup>-grade classes in spring and fall. Topics include geology, sequoias, Native Americans, and other cultural history. For details or to reserve a date for your class, call 1-559-565-4303.

**SEMINARS & FIELD CLASSES** See the exciting list of options on the back of the Sequoia Natural History Association insert found in this paper.

**JR. RANGER PROGRAM** People of all ages earn a badge while learning to protect resources. Those 5 to 8 years old earn the Jay Award. If you are 9 to 12 years old, work for a Raven Award. Ages 13 to 103 earn an Arrowhead Award! Pick up a Jr. Ranger booklet in any visitor center. Follow the instructions and have fun!

### 8th Bi-Annual Cleanup of the South Fork of the Kings River!

On June 2, meet at 9am sharp in Cedar Grove Visitor Center parking lot in the Kings Canyon. Be prepared with sturdy shoes, work gloves, insect repellent, water, sunscreen & snack. BBQ lunch provided if you RSVP in advance. For more information: [wtemplin@surewest.net](mailto:wtemplin@surewest.net) or <http://sfkingsriver.org> or 916-601-9954

### NATIONAL RIVER CLEANUP WEEK!

## WHERE CAN I...

You are visiting two different areas - a National Park (NPS) and a National Forest and Monument (USFS). Some activities that are illegal in the Park may be legal in the Forest (see page 2 to learn more). Use a map to know where you are!

• **WALK A PET?** In the Parks: Not on trails but it's ok 100 feet from roads in developed areas (picnic areas, campgrounds, roads). In National Forest: Pets can go on trails. In both areas: Pets must be on a leash less than 6 feet (1.8m) long. Don't leave pets in hot cars.

• **GO CAMPING?** In the Parks: Only in numbered sites in designated campgrounds. In National Forest: In campgrounds or, unless posted otherwise, near roadsides. Pull safely off the road, no further.

• **RIDE A BICYCLE?** In the Parks: Keep bikes on roads only, not on any trail. In National Forest: Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles. In both areas: Be careful & courteous near pedestrians & horses. People under 18 must wear a helmet.

• **HAVE A FIRE?** In the Parks: Only in fire grills in campgrounds & some picnic areas. In National Forest: Fire permits required outside campgrounds & picnic-area grills. Get one at Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center (Grant Grove) or USFS office in Dunlap on Hwy 180.

• **CUT WOOD?** Not in the Parks. In National Forest: Call Hume Lake Ranger District for permit & guidelines: 559-338-2251.

• **DRIVE OFF-ROAD?** Not in either area. Stay on roads.

• **RIDE SNOWMOBILES?** Not in the Parks. In National Forest: Only on designated routes. 1-559-243-4005.

• **GO PICNICKING?** See picnic symbols on map (back page). Never leave food unattended! Most sites have tables, restrooms & fire grills, except: No fire grills at Foothills & Sandy Cove. No fires permitted at Lodgepole & Crescent Meadow. No water at Grizzly Falls, Halstead, & Powdercan.

• **GO FISHING?** In both areas: Permitted during the season; a California fishing license is required for ages 16 & up. Get copies of park-specific regulations at any visitor center.

• **COLLECT THINGS?** Not in Parks: Leave everything to play its natural role in the ecosystem. In National Forest: Gathering a few cones or rocks for personal use is permitted. In both areas: Archeological sites & artifacts are protected by law.

• **HUNT?** Not in the Parks. Firearms must be unloaded, inoperable & stored in way that prevents ready use prior to entering national parks. In National Forest: Only during the season with a license. For details: 1-559-243-4005.

• **RIDE HORSEBACK** From late spring or early summer into fall. Hourly rides, backcountry spot trips, & guided trips.

Cedar Grove  
1-559-565-3464 summer  
1-559-337-2314 off season

Grant Grove  
1-559-335-9292 summer  
1-559-337-2314 off season

Horse Corral  
(at Big Meadows in Sequoia National Forest south of Grant Grove)  
1-559-565-3404 summer  
1-559-564-6429 off season  
1-559-679-3573 cell