



Cliff Notes



Tonto Offers Night-time Activities

By Jan Harper, Interpreter

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be in the cliff dwelling at night? Tonto National Monument is offering a variety of evening programs and activities during the winter season. The Lower Cliff Dwelling will be open on Saturday November 20th and Saturday February 19th between the hours of 5:30 and 7:30 pm.

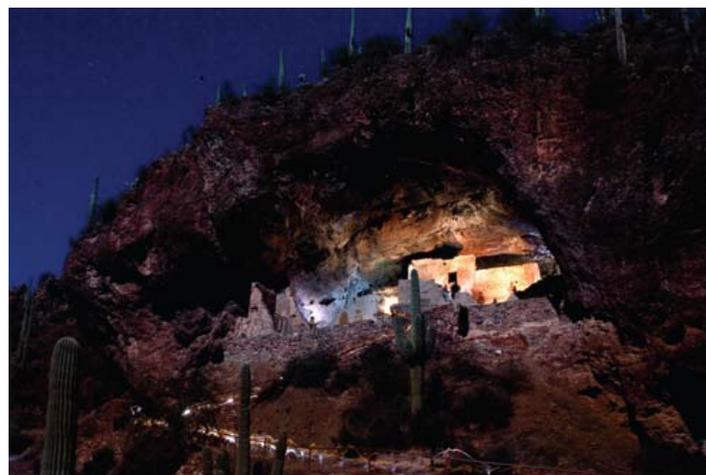
Enjoy the night sky with a ranger or embrace the ambience of the ruin under special lighting. Be sure to dress for the weather (layers and rain gear if necessary), and bring a flashlight or headlamp for the walk to and from the dwelling. You can also join a ranger for a short walk to the riparian area and learn about the variety of animals that make the Sonoran desert their home. See the spring which supplied the Salado with fresh drinking water and still provides water for the park and animals that live here today. No reservations are required.

For more experienced hikers, [Full Moon Hikes to the Upper Cliff Dwelling](#) will be offered on the following dates:

Monday	November 22nd	5 - 8:30 pm
Wednesday	December 22nd	5 - 8:30 pm
Thursday	January 20th	5:30 - 9 pm
Friday	February 18th	5:30 - 9 pm

These tours are limited to 12 persons and reservations are required.

For further information or to make reservations call: (928)467-2241 ext 8450.



The Lower Cliff Dwelling at night.
Photo by Rex Lavoie, NPS Volunteer

Photo by Peg and Rex Lavoie NPS Volunteers

A Day in the Life of An Archeologist at Tonto

By Gavin Gardner, Project Archeologist



Gavin Gardner, Archeologist,
sporting his bee suit.
NPS Photo

Everyone dreams of the adventurous life of an archeologist. Exotic locations. Excavating treasures from lost civilizations. Romance, excitement, adventure ... If only you knew!

As an archeologist at Tonto National Monument, I am in charge of a variety of projects and have many responsibilities. Maintaining the Lower and Upper Cliff Dwellings is a full time job in itself. This past year we have completed a cyclical maintenance project at both dwellings to fix negative impacts and keep both sites in good condition. During this project, we assessed the entire site room by room, wall by wall, for impacts and damage caused by a variety of factors.

Destructive rodent holes, basal erosion, cracks, and areas of visitor-caused damage were all located, photographed, mapped, and described in detail. Then, dirt from a local source had to be carried up to the dwellings 30 pounds at a time, along with gallons of water, over and over again. The dirt and water was mixed to form a mortar that was used to patch, fill, and cover the noted impacts. When everything was finished, project reports were written and photographs were taken again.

In addition to this major project, from day to day, there are a variety of tasks that must be accomplished. The dwellings must be assessed for destructive rodent impacts caused by rock squirrels which burrow into the floors and walls of the dwellings. If digging gets out of hand, these squirrels must be humanely trapped and relocated to other areas in order to protect the sites. Photos taken by remote trail cameras throughout the park must be downloaded to a computer database. These cameras monitor the variety of species that call Tonto home including black bears, mountain lions, bobcats, skunks, javelina, gila monsters, rattlesnakes, and a variety of owls and birds. Active bee hives must be assessed, and twice a month the swarm traps in place around the dwellings must be checked. We currently have the park's bee population under control, but constant inspections are needed to keep the park's visitors and employees safe.

In addition to the cliff dwellings, Tonto National Monument has over 60 other archeological sites. These sites must be assessed on a set schedule for impacts, and intrusive vegetation must be cleared from them. And, did I mention an archeologist's most important tool? No, not an excavation trowel, the computer! There is an endless variety of databases that must be filled out and kept up to date, reports to write, and site forms, assessment forms, monitoring forms, accession forms, photo logs and checklists that all need to be completed. It's exhausting!

So, in the end, all I ask is, please don't create any more work for me. Respect the cliff dwellings as a monument to a fascinating culture. These dwellings have stood for over 700 years, and we would like them to be around for at least 700 more. The ongoing efforts of the Tonto National Monument cultural resources staff will continue to protect the cliff dwellings and rich history of the park so that current and future generations can experience the Salado culture. This is an amazing park, I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.

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Join volunteers Rex and Peg Lavoie on a Photo Walk to the Upper Cliff Dwelling catered to professional and serious amateur photographers!

Slow Down and Enjoy the Scenery!

**SPEED
LIMIT
25**

- The 25 mph maximum speed limit on the park road is intended to protect park wildlife.
- Desert wildlife can cross the road in front of you at any moment.
- Watch for javelina, deer, and rabbits grazing alongside the road.
- Reptiles frequently cross the road near the pumphouse as this is where Cave Creek crosses from one side of the road to the other.



Give us a break!

Lions and Tigers and Bears, Oh My!

By Jan Harper, Interpreter



Spotted skunk trapped in one of our old garbage cans. "Let me out! Help! I can't get out!" NPS Photo

Think of it from the animal's perspective:

Here I am just going about my day's business when a strong odor attracts my attention. It seems to be coming from that brown box over there ... near where the people always seem to go. It sure smells good! Maybe I can climb up on top and get in there for a nice little snack. OK, here goes! Oh no, oops, I've fallen in the darn thing. How am I going to get out? This box is like a sauna. Never mind the awful stomach ache I usually get from eating this stuff. If I don't get outta here soon, I'll roast!

Think of it from the Park Biologist's perspective:

This sort of thing happens more often than you might think. Somehow, this always ends up being my job. Now just how am I going to get this critter outta here without getting sprayed or bitten ... or hurting the poor thing?

I do wish people would be a little more careful with their trash. It's important to make sure the lids are securely latched on these new trash cans. Human trash can make an animal very ill or even kill them.

And I thought I was having a bad day (note the sling on my right arm)! Can you imagine being trapped in a very hot garbage can with no way out? That's gotta be very scary!

Thankfully, this story had a happy ending:

The skunk was released without incident for either party Whew! That was a close one!

Why the bear-proof cans?

We've been getting this question a lot here at Tonto National Monument. Our old garbage cans were recently replaced with new bear-proof cans.



NPS Biologist Jenny Shrum NPS Photo
"Please don't spray me, please ... I'm here to help."

New bear-proof garbage cans at Tonto keep all animals out of the trash. And yes Dorothy, we do have bears in the park! NPS Photo



Spotted skunk after being released. "Whew! Is she gone?" NPS Photo

Become a National Park Service Volunteer!



Rex and Peg Lavoie, NPS Volunteers
Photo by David Sunfellow

It's easy to find a place to volunteer. Start by visiting the National Park Service Volunteer website:

www.nps.gov/volunteer

You can find a place to volunteer by typing in a park name, a state, or even a zip code.

You can print a volunteer brochure or a volunteer application from the website as well. It's easy!

You can also join NPS Volunteers on Facebook or follow the Volunteer Network on Twitter.

For more information about volunteering here at Tonto National Monument, please contact our volunteer coordinator:

Eddie Colyott, Park Ranger
(928) 467-2241 ext. 8420

There are nearly 400 national parks and even more ways that you can help ... Find an opportunity at a park near you!



Photo Walks Offer Unique Opportunities ...

NPS volunteers Rex and Peg Lavoie will offer their popular photo walks again this season. The tours provide a way for professional and serious amateur photographers to photograph along the Upper Cliff Dwelling trail and the ruin itself without disrupting the regular ranger-guided tours.

The photo walks allow participants the time to compose images and are timed to provide them with the best lighting conditions. Group size is limited to 5-7 people to make it easier to photograph in the dwelling without getting in each other's way. Below are some samples of past participant's work:



Tonto Gold Upper Cliff Dwelling Trail
Photo by Peg Lavoie, NPS Volunteer



Spring Wildflowers
Upper Cliff Dwelling Trail
Photos by bcphotography.com



Doorway to the Past Upper Cliff Dwelling
Photo by Rex Lavoie, NPS Volunteer



Upper Cliff Dwelling Trail
Photo by David Sunfellow

Upper Cliff Dwelling
Photo by David Sunfellow



It's a shootout ... Only a bunch of photographers would do this!

"Thanks again, Rex and Peg for the memorable experience and photo tips! You both made the trip a great one!"

Bob Rehder

Photo Walk Schedule for 2009-2010

November 17th (Wed.)

February 9th (Wed.)
& 24th (Thurs.)

December 1st (Wed.)
& 16th (Thurs.)

March 9th (Wed.)
& 24th (Thurs.)

January 13th (Thurs.)
& 26th (Wed.)

April 14th (Thurs.)
& 26th (Tues.)

Call the monument for times and to make reservations: (928) 467-2241 ext. 8450

America Celebrates Theodore Roosevelt's 150th!

By Jan Harper, Interpreter

In September 1901, Theodore Roosevelt became the 26th president of the United States in the wake of the assassination of William McKinley. At 42, he was the youngest person to become President. John Kennedy was 43 when he took the oath.

He would leave a lasting impact upon the nation, expanding the powers of the presidency, advocating consumer protection laws and regulation of big business, supporting conservation of the environment, and asserting America's authority abroad.

While he had not come into office through a national election, Theodore Roosevelt's presidency would become one of the most important in the history of America, and is one that continues to affect the nation today.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT:

- West Wing of the White House
- Workmen's Compensation
- Women's Suffrage (the right to vote)
- Reclamation Act of 1902
- American Antiquities Act of 1906
- Nobel Peace Prize 1906
- Roosevelt Dam (he considered this his second greatest achievement)
- Panama Canal (his greatest achievement)



Theodore Roosevelt (1858- 1919)

THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S CONSERVATION LEGACY:

As President he set aside 230 million acres:

- 51 Bird Sanctuaries
- 4 Big Game Preserves
- 5 National Parks
- 18 National Monuments
- 150 National Forests
- 24 Reclamation Projects

That's 84,000 acres for each day of his presidency, or 1/5th of the country!

He also signed into law the Antiquities Act of 1906.



In 1907 the Tonto cliff dwellings became the 9th national monument set aside by President Theodore Roosevelt under the Antiquities Act of 1906. NPS Photo

Why Is the Antiquities Act So Important?

No other law has had such a wide-ranging influence on the protection of our cultural and natural heritage.

1. It makes it a crime to appropriate, excavate, injure, or destroy any historic or prehistoric ruin or object of antiquity on federal lands.
2. It authorizes the President to establish National Monuments in order to protect historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest.
3. It grants permits only to reputable museums, universities, colleges, or other recognized scientific or educational institutions to perform archaeological excavations and collection of artifacts, and requires that the collections be permanently preserved in public museums.
4. It enables the creation and preservation of large-scale cultural and natural preserves for scientific reasons (i.e. the Northwest Hawaiian Islands National Monument created in 2006 preserves 140,000 square miles of ocean, coral reef, atolls and islands).

Hi, I'm Sam!

By Christine Sterling, Facility Management Software Specialist

I want to share with you one of my favorite dog-friendly national park units, Tonto National Monument. Why is it dog-friendly? At Tonto, leashed pets are allowed on the Lower Cliff Dwelling Trail, the Cactus Patch Trail and in the picnic area. Well mannered pets are also allowed in the Visitor Center to cool off.

The rangers at Tonto do ask that you follow a few simple rules if bringing your canine buddy along. First of all, pets are not allowed on the Upper Cliff Dwelling Trail. This trail is open from November through April for ranger-guided tours. Pets are also not allowed in the Lower Cliff Dwelling. However, the view from under the shade tree just below the dwellings on the trail is great! I've hiked this trail several times with my people, and I never get tired of seeing the dwelling from there.

The rangers also ask that you do not leave your pet in the car. Temperatures can rise greatly in a parked vehicle, even with the windows open. As for me, I wouldn't want to make this terrific drive all the way out here and then have to wait in the car! Take me with you!

As a courtesy to others that visit the park, please pick up after your pets. Remember to bring plenty of water for Fido too!

Oh yeah, I almost forgot. Rattlesnakes are generally out of hibernation from early April through November. Keep the leash tight and don't allow your dog to snoop under bushes!

Well, my people and I have some hiking to do! We hope to see you soon at Tonto National Monument. And for those of you who like water, be sure and get your people to take you to nearby Roosevelt Lake after your hike for a swim.

Happy Trails!

Sam



Plan Your Visit

Tonto National Monument is located 30 miles northwest of Globe on Highway 188. Driving time from Phoenix, Scottsdale or Mesa is approximately 2 to 2 1/2 hours; from Tucson or Flagstaff, 3 to 3 1/2 hours.

The Visitor Center has a museum, bookstore, viewing deck, an 18 minute orientation video, and is open daily (except Christmas Day) from 8 am to 5 pm. The park also has a picnic area for your enjoyment with restrooms.

Self-Guided Lower Cliff Dwelling Trail

A paved trail winds its way through the Sonoran desert to the Lower Cliff Dwelling. You will climb 350 vertical feet, so be prepared for a steep climb. Signs along the trail provide information about the desert plants, geology of the area and lives of the ancient Salado. Sit on one of several benches along the path and enjoy the view of Roosevelt Lake. Once you arrive at the dwelling, walk through homes that were last occupied 700 years ago. On your return walk, the Cactus Patch Trail branches off the main trail and ends in the parking lot. Learn how desert plants have adapted to arid conditions and how the Salado used these plants to provide food, shelter, and clothing. Bring water, sunscreen and a hat with you. **The one mile roundtrip walk takes about an hour to complete so plan to arrive at the park before 4 pm.** Allow extra time to visit the museum, bookstore, and watch the video.



Lower Cliff Dwelling

Photo by Rex and Peg Lavoie NPS Volunteers



Upper Cliff Dwelling

Photo by bcphotography.com

Upper Cliff Dwelling Tours

Early Bird tours of the Upper Cliff Dwelling are offered on Saturdays or Sundays at 8:15 am in October and May. During the winter season (November through April), rangers give guided tours to the Upper Cliff Dwelling. Tours are offered every weekend. Additional weekday tours are added as visitation increases. This 3 mile roundtrip backcountry trail travels through a riparian area by way of a creekbed, then gains 600 feet in elevation via switchbacks and numerous steps. The tour lasts 3-3 1/2 hours. Full moon hikes to the Upper Cliff Dwelling for experienced hikers are offered in the winter months only. Reservations are required for all Upper Cliff Dwelling tours. See page 7 for a schedule of *Ranger Programs*.

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CALL TONTO NATIONAL MONUMENT AT (928) 467-2241 ext. 8450.

Heritage Days

This years' Heritage Days event will be held on **March 19th and 20th**. The Upper Cliff Dwelling will be open to visitors to tour on their own without a guide, for an entire weekend. Uphill travel on the trail is allowed between the hours of 9 am and 2 pm. Be sure to bring the family for a fun filled **FEE FREE** weekend!



Photo of basketmaker by Peg and Rex Lavoie NPS Volunteers



Demonstrators produced and displayed replicas of artifacts during a recent Heritage Days weekend. Photo by Peg and Rex Lavoie NPS Volunteers



Melissa Reilly of Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center holds a Harris Hawk. Photo by Jan Harper

If you visit the ramada area during our Heritage Days weekend, you can watch Native American basketmakers, potters, and flintknappers at work. Be sure to visit the raptors and other animals from the Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center as well.

Activity	Location	Time	Duration	Frequency
Early Bird Upper Cliff Dwelling Tours      <p>Early Bird tours of the Upper Cliff Dwelling are offered on Saturdays or Sundays in October and May. Because of the heat, we stop less often and hike a little faster.</p>	Visitor Center	Tours leave at 8:15 am	3-4 hours	Sundays: October 17th, 24th & 31st Saturdays: May 7st, 14th
Upper Cliff Dwelling Tours      <p>Upper Cliff Dwelling tours are offered from November through April. Rangers lead this 3 mile roundtrip backcountry hike through a riparian area via the creekbed and then up switchbacks that have numerous steps. The trail climbs 600 vertical feet to the caves.</p>	Visitor Center	Tours leave at 10:00 am	3-4 hours	Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays; Fridays are added in January
Wildflower Walks      <p>Wild flower walks along the Upper Cliff Dwelling trail are offered on Wednesdays in March and April. The walk will include a tour of the Upper Cliff Dwelling as well! See the description of the trail (on page 6) under Upper Cliff Dwelling tours.</p>	Visitor Center	Tours leave at 10:00 am	3-4 hours	Wednesdays: March 2nd, 16th, & 30th April 6th & 13th
Cline Terrace Platform Mound Tours     <p>The Cline Terrace Platform Mound site is similar to other sites along the Salt River but it also has several distinct characteristics. There is a massive compound wall around the complex, and many walls are faced with white gypsum. Why? The site must have been quite impressive in the moonlight!</p>	Call the park for directions to the site: (928)467-2241 ext. 8450	2:30 pm *11:00 am in April	Approx. 2 hours	Saturdays: January 8th March 26th *April 2nd
Schoolhouse Platform Mound Tours    <p>The Schoolhouse Platform Mound site is unique in that it was occupied for over 100 years while most other settlements in the basin were smaller and were occupied only briefly. People from neighboring villages apparently moved to the Schoolhouse Platform Mound. Why?</p>	Call the park for directions to the site: (928)467-2241 ext. 8450	2:30 pm *11:00 am in April	Approx. 2 hours	Saturdays: January 15th February 26th March 5th *April 9th
Photo Walks      <p>Photo walks along the Upper Cliff Dwelling trail as well as at the ruin itself are offered to small groups of professional and serious amateur photographers. These tours allow plenty of time for composing photos and are timed to provide the best lighting conditions. The tours are led by volunteers Rex and Peg Lavoie, retired professional photographers.</p> <p>See Page 3 for more information.</p> <p>CALL THE MONUMENT FOR TIMES AND TO MAKE RESERVATIONS.</p>	Visitor Center			Days Vary: November 17th December 1st & 16th January 13th & 26th February 9th & 24th March 9th & 24th April 14th & 26th

 Bring plenty of water, a hat and sunscreen. Wear boots or tennis shoes, no flip flops!

 Reservations required. Call (928) 467-2241 ext. 8450

 Venomous creatures may be encountered in the desert.

 Program may be canceled due to foul weather or flooding.

 No dogs allowed; don't leave pets in your vehicle!

 High clearance vehicle needed to get to the site.

Children must be accompanied by an adult on all programs.

Western National Parks Association (WNPA) Bookstore

Supporting Educational and Research Programs of the National Park Service Since 1938

The WNPA Nonprofit Bookstore at Tonto National Monument provides educational and interpretive materials through an active publishing program. Proceeds from our retail sales are used to support educational, research and interpretive programs at Tonto National Monument as well as at other National Park Service units.

Help Us Help Tonto National Monument!

Your annual \$25 membership entitles you to a 15% discount on purchases in the WNPA Bookstore (20% discount for Seniors). Discounts are honored at many other cooperating association bookstores in National Park Visitor Centers. Your membership contribution directly supports research and educational programs at Tonto National Monument.

To order by phone, call our bookstore manager Sherrie Brooks (928) 467-2241 ext. 8451
To order online visit: www.wnpa.org

You'll find the items shown here and many other fine educational materials for sale in our bookstore:

Archaeology

- History of the Ancient Southwest* \$39.95
- The Hohokam Millenium* \$24.95
- Those Who Came Before (Book and DVD)* \$24.95

Children's Books

- Cactus Cafe* \$6.95
- Desert Trip* \$16.95
- Saguaro Moon* \$8.95
- The Three Little Javelinas (English or Spanish)* \$15.95
- Wake Up, Black Bear! (Book and Toy)* \$13.95
- Whitefeather's Outdoor Survival Handbook* \$13.95

Cookbooks

- Healthy Southwestern Cooking* \$14.95
- License to Cook Arizona Style* \$7.95
- Taco Table* \$9.95
- The Healthy Southwest Table* \$24.95

Craft Kits

- Coiled Basket Kit* \$22.00
- Pueblo Pottery Kit* \$18.95
- Spider Woman Basket Kit* \$21.95

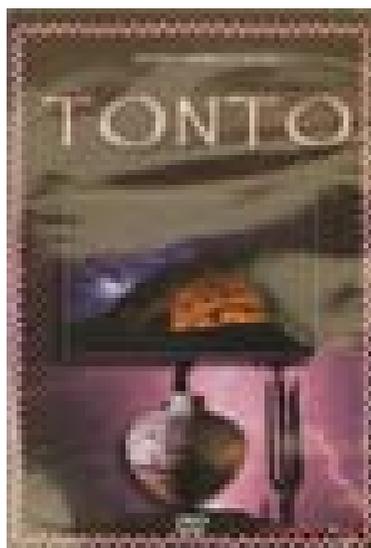


The Grandest Things
Our National Parks in
Words, Images and Stamps

The Grandest Things explores how our National Park System began, the changes it has endured, and the astounding array of sites it includes ... all through breathtaking images and historic stamps. \$49.95

Field Guides

- Arizona Rocks and Minerals* \$14.95
- Night Sky A Field Guide to the Constellations* \$14.95
- The Photographer's Guide to Canyon Country* \$15.95
- Wildflowers of Arizona* \$16.95



Tonto DVD

Discover the intriguing world of the ancient Salado in this DVD. Hundreds of years ago, pueblos lined the Salt River. In the sometimes harsh environment of Arizona's Tonto Basin, the Salado built irrigation canals and made the desert bloom. \$16.95

Games

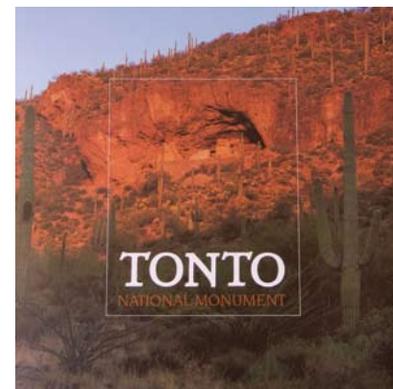
- National Parks Scrabble* \$29.95
- National Parks Uno* \$12.95
- Professor Noggins: National Parks Card Game* \$9.99

Hats

- Eco Southwestern Animal Hats* \$15.95
- Safari Cooling Hat* \$25.95
- Tonto Ballcap* \$16.95
- Tonto Sun Hat* \$21.95

Junior Ranger Gear

- Backpacks* \$24.95
- Hats (Small or Large)* \$11.95
- Vests (Small to XXL)* \$21.95



Tonto National Monument

This small booklet is just packed with information. The daily activities of a typical Salado family, the geologic history of the area, and a brief history of the site's discovery and preservation as a National Monument are just some of the topics included. \$1.00

Local History

- Images of America: Around San Tan Mountains* \$19.99
- Images of America: Globe* \$19.99
- Images of America: Payson* \$21.99
- Postcard Booklet: Payson* \$7.99

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- Arizona Roadmap* \$3.95
- Geologic Highway Map of Arizona* \$10.00
- National Geographic Wilderness Area Maps* \$11.95
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The bookstore is open daily
(except Christmas Day)
from 8 am to 5 pm.