

a guide to the
Carlsbad-Guadalupe
Mountains area
of New Mexico
and Texas



Guadalupe Journal

1985-86



▪ PUBLISHED BY THE CARLSBAD CAVERNS NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION ▪

Carlsbad Caverns National Park

Visitor Center - Information and Exhibit Area

Telephone 505/785-2232. Open daily
7:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. June thru August,
8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. September thru May
(Mountain Time). Closed December 25.

Carlsbad Cavern Trips - Leaving continuously,
7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. June thru August
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. September thru May
(Mountain Time). See schedules, back page
*Guided Tours December 2-18, 1985 and January 6-
February 7, 1986.*

Guided Lantern Trips - Through undeveloped New
Cave in Slaughter Canyon. By reservation only.
Make reservations at visitor center or by telephone
505/785-2232. Daily trips May 24 thru Labor Day.
Weekend trips Labor Day thru May. See page 4.

Bat Flight Program - Ranger talk at cave entrance
amphitheater preceding nightly exit of bats. Daily,
May thru September just before sunset.

Desert Nature Walk - One-half mile long, self-
guiding. Starts near cave entrance.

Walnut Canyon Desert Drive - 9.5 mile, one-way,
gravel road. Begins one-half mile from visitor center,
travels along the top of a ridge to edge of
Rattlesnake Canyon and back down through upper
Walnut Canyon to main entrance road.

Backcountry Hiking - All hikers are requested to
register at the visitor center information desk. Trails
are poorly defined, but can be followed by using a
topographic map. Short day hikes or extended trips.
No water in the backcountry. Permits required for
overnight hikes.

Picnicking - Rattlesnake Springs Picnic Area.
Grassy, tree shaded area with water, picnic tables,
grills and toilets.

Guadalupe Mountains National Park

FRIJOLE INFORMATION STATION

Telephone 915/828-3251. Open daily,
7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. June thru August,
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. September thru May,
Located on U.S. Highway 62-180, 55 miles
southwest of Carlsbad, NM and 110 miles east of
El Paso, TX.

CAMPGROUNDS

Pine Springs Campground - 1½ miles west of
Frijole Information Station - Water, restrooms. No
hook-ups or dumping station. Backcountry trailhead.
No fires, stoves only. Fee \$4.00.

Dog Canyon Campground - 70 miles from city of
Carlsbad, NM. Water, restrooms. No hook-ups or
dumping station. Backcountry trailhead. Charcoal
grills.

RANGER NATURALIST PROGRAMS

Campfire Programs - Every evening June thru
August.

Conducted Hikes - June thru August. Check at
Frijole Information Station or bulletin boards for
more information.

AREAS REACHED BY VEHICLE

Butterfield Stage Line Station - Ruins of stage
line's "Pinery" station built in 1858. One mile west
of Frijole Information Station.

Frijole Historic Site - Most complete and
substantial buildings of early ranching enterprises in
area. One-half mile north of Frijole Information
Station.

Williams Ranch Historic Site - 8-mile, four-wheel
drive road. Check out key and obtain directions at
Frijole Information Station. Allow 3 hours.

BACKCOUNTRY HIKING AND CAMPING

Desert, canyons, forest. Eighty miles of trails. Carry
all water. Camp in designated areas. No-fee permit
required. No fires or pets in backcountry. Topo
maps, hikers' guide, permits at Frijole Information
Station.

HALF-DAY HIKES (2-4 HOURS)

McKittrick Canyon - Day use area. Highway
entrance gate opens at 8:00 a.m., closes 4:30 p.m.,
Mountain Time, (7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. June-August).
Drive to Information Station at canyon mouth and
hike 5-mile round trip with self-guiding pamphlet to
Pratt Cabin and back or hike 7-mile round trip to
Grotto Picnic Area. Striking fall colors late October,
early November.

Smith and Manzanita Springs - Gentle uphill hike
from Frijole Historic Site to a natural oasis
overlooking the desert. Two-mile round trip, 1½
hours.

Devils Hall - Rocky but level 4-mile trip
along the wash floor of Pine Springs Canyon to the
narrows of the canyon. Begin at Pine Springs
Campground and allow 4 hours.

ALL DAY HIKES (6-10 HOURS)

Guadalupe Peak - From Pine Springs Campground
to highest point in Texas (8,749 ft.) 8½-mile round
trip, elevation gain 3,000 feet.

The Bowl - From Pine Springs Campground to
Hunter Peak and down Bear Canyon. 9-mile loop
trail, elevation gain 2,500 feet. Trail leads through
forest of pines and Douglas fir.

Lincoln National Forest

Guadalupe Ranger District

Sitting Bull Falls Picnic Area

- Day use area.
Located 50 miles from Carlsbad. Ten picnic tables
with charcoal grills. Water and restrooms. Waterfall
pouring over spectacular canyon walls. Trail to pinon
and juniper forest. Closed December thru March.

Five Points Vista - Located on Forest Road 540, 74
miles from Carlsbad. Panoramic view of desert
below. Interpretive signs explain natural features.
Very scenic.

Living Desert Zoological & Botanical State Park

Experience the Chihuahuan Desert, learn about
especially adapted plant and animal life as you
enjoy a walk along trails through the following
exhibits.
60 Species of Chihuahuan Desert birds, mammals,
and reptiles.

1,000 varieties of hardy Chihuahuan Desert plants
exhibited along a mile and a half of trails.
1,000 varieties of exotic cacti and succulents
exhibited in the protected environment of the
greenhouse.

Welcome Bienvenidos

Estamos sumamente encantados en tener como distinguidos huéspedes a nuestros amigos de México

The magnificent Guadalupe Mountains are visible for more than 50 miles in almost any direction, standing out clearly on the horizon for approaching visitors. Precipitous cliffs make up the southern tip of the Guadalupe in Texas and the range slopes gradually downward until it reaches the level of the plains around Carlsbad, New Mexico. Elevations range from about 3,000 feet to almost 9,000 feet. This mountain range, remote and virtually unexplored until the late 1800's, holds in its rugged canyons and cliffs some spectacular natural wonders.

Most famous among these wonders is the fabulous Carlsbad Cavern. Although the existence of the cavern was known to Indians who occasionally used its entrance for shelter, a cowboy and guano miner named Jim White is given credit for its first exploration. White first went into the cavern in the early 1900's, and continued to explore for several years. The cavern became a national monument in 1923. A year later, an article in the National Geographic brought the cavern national attention. Carlsbad Caverns National Park, which encompasses 46,755 acres, was established in 1930 and has become one of the most popular attractions in the Southwest.

The National Park Service also administers the southernmost portion of the mountain range, which is Guadalupe Mountains National Park. This rugged 76,293 acre park includes Texas' four highest peaks, but was little known before it became a national park in 1972.

The northern half of the Guadalupe Mountains is in the Guadalupe Ranger District of the Lincoln National Forest, and is administered by the U.S. Forest Service. In addition to recreational opportunities, the National Forest provides important watershed protection, wildlife habitat and livestock grazing.

A scenic and educational attraction near Carlsbad is the Living Desert State Park. Located just north off Highway 285, this facility provides interpretation of a large collection of desert flora and fauna.

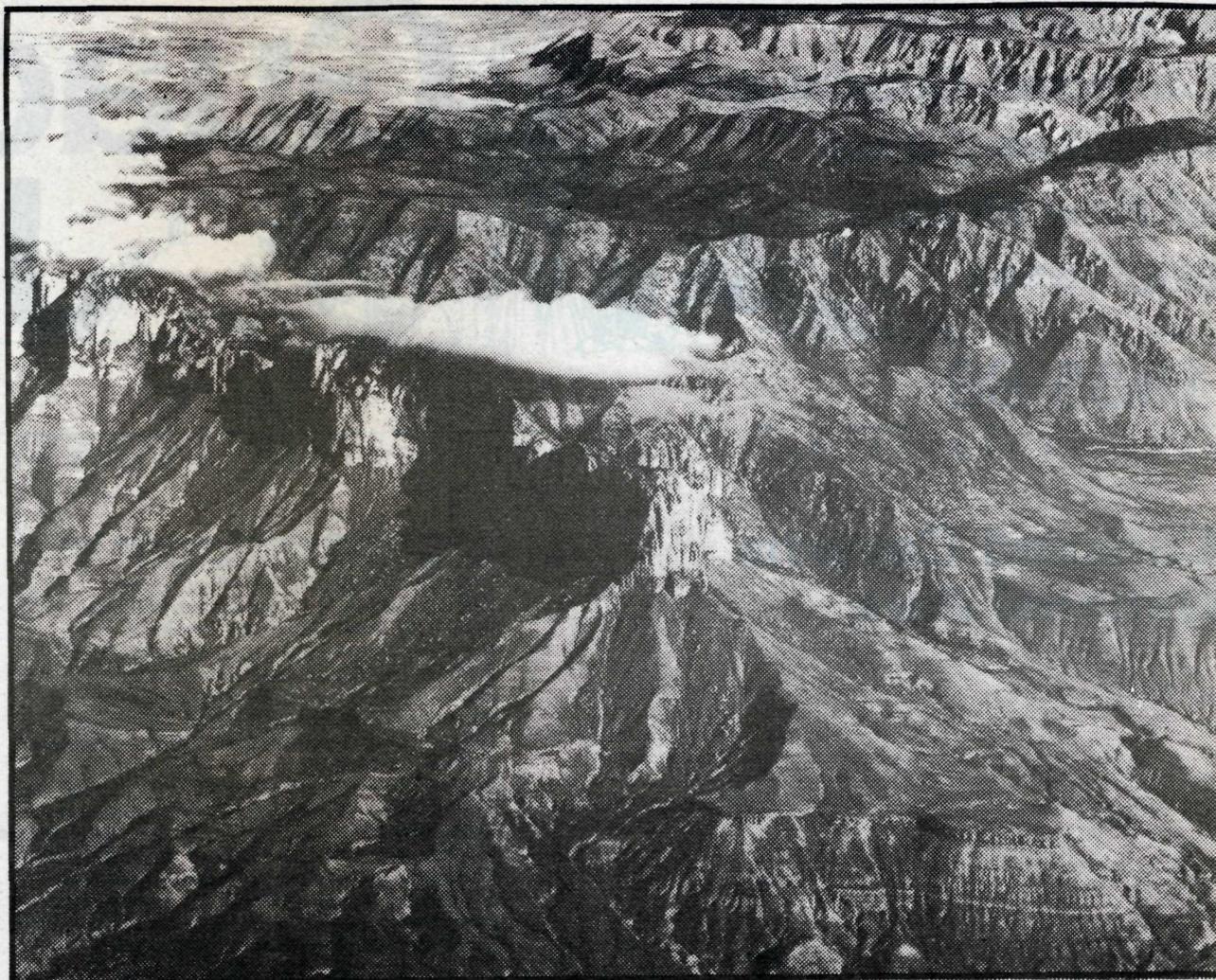
Geology

The Guadalupe Mountains, in which all of these attractions are located, have a fascinating geological history.

From about 180 to 230 million years ago a deep sea covered much of what is now west Texas and southeastern New Mexico. Along the northern edge of this ocean basin stretched an enormous limestone reef. This reef grew by lime secretions of tiny algae and sponges along with calcite crystals precipitated from the warm waters of the sea. The great saltiness of the lagoon behind the reef to the north discouraged much life and so the flat-lying mud layers there were not churned up and destroyed by burrowing animals. The reef grew outward into the deep ocean basin. It became top-heavy and cracks appeared in the limestone rock.

The inland sea became separated from the larger larger ocean to the southwest and gradually disappeared. Over many years, the basin and reef were covered with thousands of feet of sediments.

Around 10-12 million years ago the North American continent may have drifted over a rising mass of partly molten magma. Heating of the underside of New Mexico probably expanded, uplifted and tilted the earth in the Guadalupe region. As the mountains rose, erosion by water removed the deposits that covered much of the reef and cut deep rugged canyons into the exposed portions. Carbonic acid from dissolved carbon dioxide gas in soil water ran down through the cracks in the fossil reef and began to form Carlsbad Cavern. Oil from within the basin to the south may have supplied sulfuric acid to dissolve and enlarge holes such as the Big Room, the largest known cave room in the United States. The Guadalupe Mountain Range fans out northward as a giant V from its southern tip at El Capitan in Guadalupe Mountains National Park. The ancient reef slopes downward to the north until it is completely underground; but it continues under the surface in a large horseshoe shape which stretches



Muldrow Aerial Surveys Corp.

Southern end of Guadalupe Mountains.

through 350 miles of southeastern New Mexico and west Texas. It appears again above ground to form the Apache and Glass Mountains of western Texas, but nowhere in the world is found a more spectacular exposed fossil reef formation than in the Guadalupe Mountains.

History

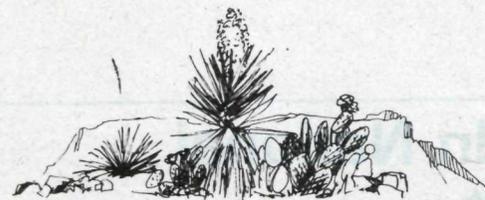
The early explorers had little time or opportunity to study the structure of the Guadalupe Mountains, which they passed on their way west. The area was controlled by Mescalero Apache Indians who lived and hunted in the Guadalupe. Guadalupe Peak and El Capitan were important landmarks on the trail west, but few travelers lingered in the arid and dangerous region, preferring to continue on as soon as possible.

A Butterfield Overland Stage station was established near Guadalupe Pass in 1858. In fact, the first meeting of cross-country stagecoaches, one from San Francisco and one from St Louis, took place just west of Guadalupe Pass on September 18, 1858. The ruins of the Pinery, as the Guadalupe Mountains station was called, are located in Guadalupe Mountains National Park, just off U.S. Highway 62-180.

A few hardy homesteaders and ranchers were the only residents in the Guadalupe Mountains throughout the early part of the 20th century. Small mining operations dug for copper in the Dog Canyon area and removed bat guano from the caves that dot the region.

Today

The visitor can take advantage of a wide variety of experiences in the Guadalupe region, from the underground grandeur of Carlsbad Cavern to the spectacular scenery and rugged solitude of Guadalupe Mountains National Park and Lincoln National Forest, to an enjoyable and educational experience at the Living Desert State Park. The National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and the New Mexico Parks and Recreation Division manage these lands and facilities for public use and enjoyment. Specific attractions are detailed throughout this newspaper.



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Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

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Editor, Bob Peters
Graphic Designer, Christina Watkins

Guadalupe Mountains National Park

West Texas was once covered by an inland arm of the sea. In warm, shallow waters near the edge of the sea a gigantic reef grew. This reef, fossilized as limestone and long buried, was pushed upward by mountain building forces 10 to 12 million years ago and now forms the rugged Guadalupe Mountains. The southern end of this mountain range makes up Guadalupe Mountains National Park.

The Guadalupe are rough and spectacular. Some of the features found in the national park are Guadalupe Peak (the highest point in Texas), forests of pine and Douglas fir in the "bowl," and McKittrick Canyon. Deer, elk, mountain lion, and bear are among the animals found here.

U.S. 62-180, the route from Carlsbad, New Mexico to El Paso, Texas, passes through a portion of the park's east side. Guadalupe Peak and the precipitous cliffs of El Capitan tower 3,000 feet above the highway in historic Guadalupe Pass.

Besides the grandeur of the peaks and cliffs, the Guadalupe offer something else to visitors, a dramatic contrast with the surrounding area. At lower elevations, succulents of the Chihuahuan Desert are common. Within the protected bowls and canyons and at higher altitudes, one finds an abundance and variety of vegetation rare in this part of the country. Here are forests of ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, limber pine, and Gambel oak, typical of more northern forests.

The ruins of the Pinery, a stage station on the Butterfield Overland Mail route which extended from St. Louis, Missouri to San Francisco, California, are just off the highway at Pine Springs.

An 80-mile trail system makes the park easily accessible by foot. There are opportunities for one to two-mile hikes, all day hikes, and overnight backpacking trips. Even the shorter hikes get off of

the road and into the mountains far enough to reveal much of the scenic charm and beauty of the park.

There are vehicle campgrounds at Pine Springs and Dog Canyon. Backcountry camping is permitted at designated sites. No-fee permits are required for all overnight hikes. Hiking in the Guadalupe requires careful planning and preparation. Water is not available in the backcountry so hikers must carry all they will need. A gallon of water per person per day is a good rule of thumb for overnight hikers. Many trails are steep and rugged, and the weather in the Guadalupe is extremely variable. Hikers should anticipate high winds and be prepared for rapid changes in the weather. Rain is common in the mountains and in the winter months, snow, wind, and subfreezing temperatures should be expected.

Trail registration boxes are provided at the beginning of each trail system. These should be used by all hikers as they are checked regularly by rangers to locate or assist overdue hikers.

One of the most beautiful spots in Guadalupe Mountains National park is McKittrick Canyon. This canyon is protected by high, sheer walls and a wide variety of trees and other plants grow along its spring-fed stream. The canyon also offers excellent opportunities to view birds and other wildlife. From late October to mid-November maple, oak, walnut, and other hardwood trees provide an abundant array of red, orange and yellow hues, contrasting with the green of pines and juniper trees. The mouth of the canyon can be reached by a paved road from highway 62-180.

Pine Springs Campground Fees

There are 24 tent sites, 29 RV sites, and 2 group sites.

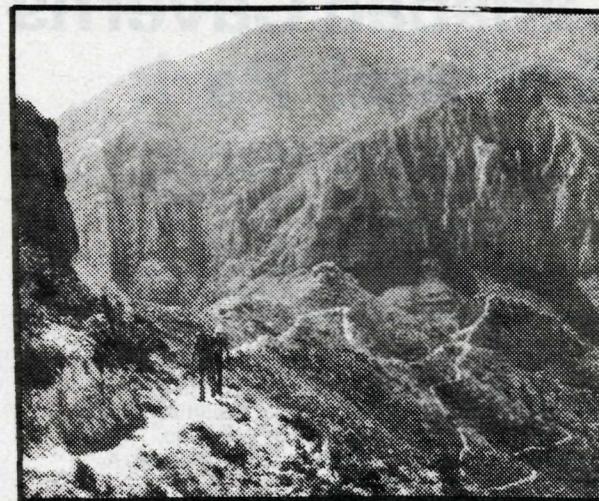
Individual sites - \$4.00.

No reservations.

No utility hookups.

Group sites - \$10.00 each plus \$1.00 for each additional person over 10 in group.

Reservations are accepted for group sites.

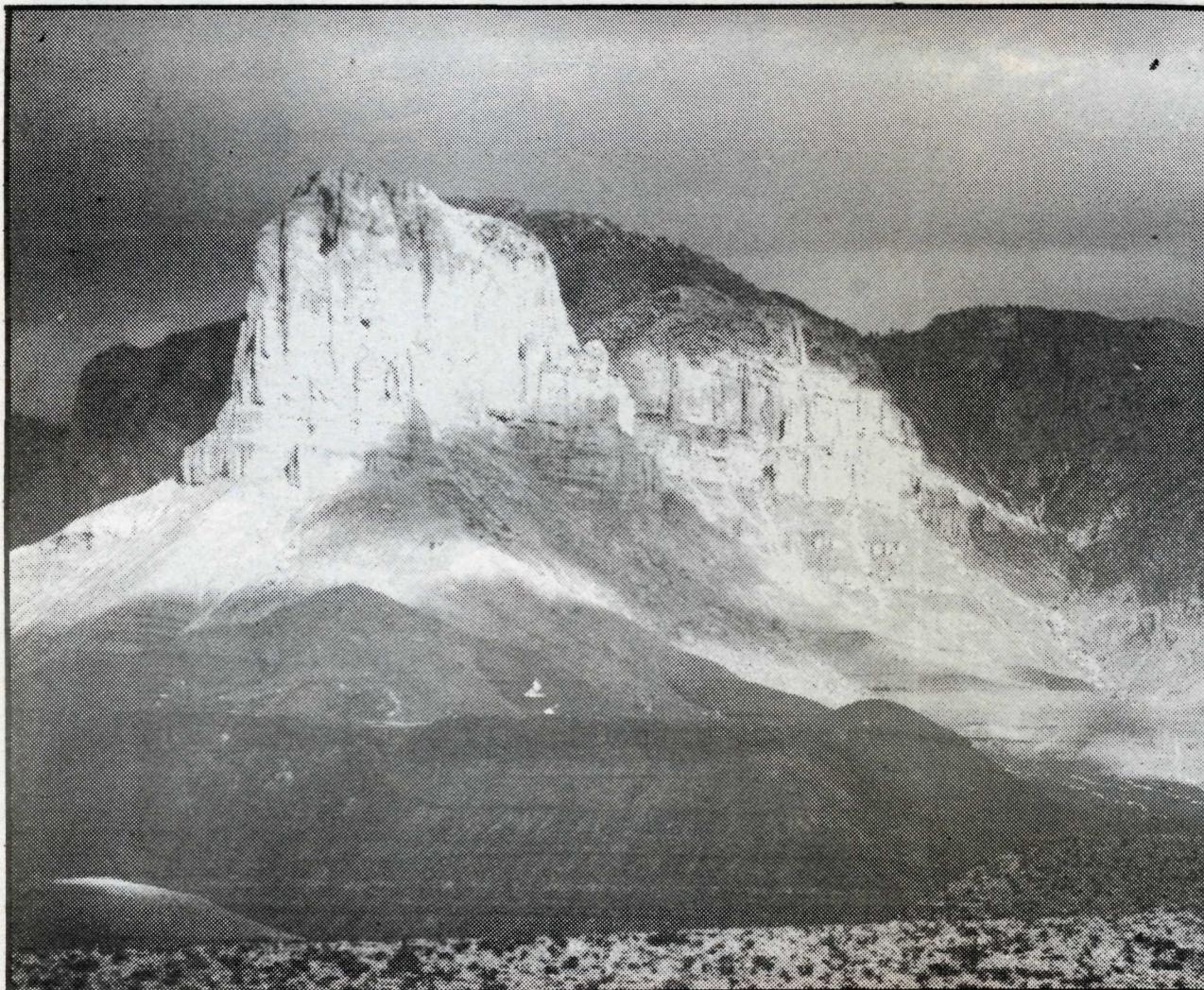


Hiking in Guadalupe Mountains National Park.

El Parque Nacional de las Montañas de Guadalupe

El Parque Nacional de las Montañas de Guadalupe es un parque de desiertos, canones, y bosques de pino. Se encuentra en el suroeste del estado de Texas entre El Paso, Texas y Carlsbad, Nuevo Mexico. El punto mas alto en Texas, el Pico de Guadalupe, se eleva 1500 metros sobre el llano salado al oeste. El Capitan, un lugar muy conocido y historico, aparece como un guardia sobre la carretera que pasa por las Guadalupe. Un rio con agua refrescante y muy clara, y las veredas entre los arboles del Canon McKittrick, estan a contraste con el desierto alrededor. Es facil de conocer el parque a pie cuando contamos con 148 KM de veredas - una caminata de 2 KM a 4 KM, o un viaje de dia y noche.

El Campamento de Pine Spring en la carretera 62-180 ofrece 55 campamentos, agua potable y banos modernos. El precio de cada campamento es \$4.00 por noche. La Estacion de Informacion de Frijol, cerca del Campamento de Pine Spring, esta abierto todos los dias para proporcionar ayuda al visitante.



Fall leaves, McKittrick Canyon.



El Capitan, Guadalupe Mountains National Park.

Carlsbad Caverns National Park

One of the largest and most spectacular cave systems in the world is found in Carlsbad Caverns National Park. There are more than 70 caves in the park and two - Carlsbad Cavern and New Cave - are open for public tours. Facilities have been developed by the National Park Service so that everyone can enter the cavern and experience the spectacular underground world in safety and comfort.

The visitor center and the cave entrance are seven miles west of White's City and 27 miles southwest of Carlsbad, New Mexico. Facilities on the surface include an exhibit room, gift shop, restaurant, and even a nursery for small children. A kennel is available for pets as well.

There are two ways to enjoy the cavern. You can either walk down into the cave through its natural entrance, or you can go down by elevator to a point 750 feet below the surface and begin the walk there. The paved walkway through the natural entrance winds down into the depths of the cavern and passes through a series of underground rooms. This walk is 1 3/4 miles and requires about an hour and forty-five minutes. It is somewhat steep and strenuous. The trail reaches 830 feet below the surface at its lowest point, and ends in the underground lunchroom. It is at this point that persons entering the cave by elevator join the trail for a tour of the spectacular Big Room.

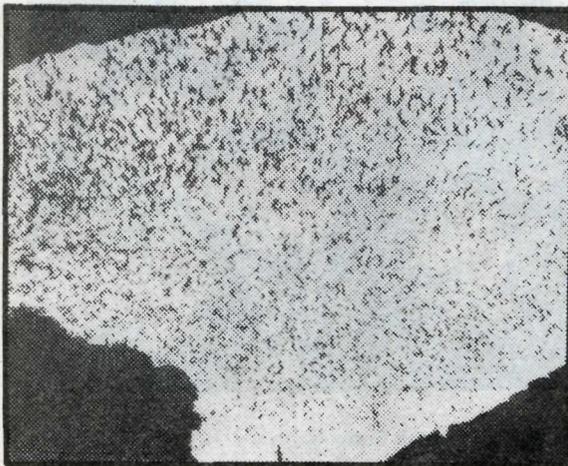
The tour of the Big Room is along a fairly level path. It is 1 1/4 miles long and requires about an hour. This is the largest room in the cavern, with a floor space of 14 acres. The ceiling in much of the room is over 200 feet above the trail.

Some of the most spectacular formations, including the Hall of Giants and Temple of the Sun, are accessible to visitors in wheelchairs.

Cavern visitors should wear comfortable walking shoes with rubber soles and heels, since trails are sometimes wet and slippery with steep grades. High heel shoes or floppy sandals present problems in walking and might cause a fall. The cavern has a constant temperature of 56 degrees the year round; a light jacket or sweater is appropriate.

Visitors can start a trip through the cavern at any time during the designated hours. (From Dec. 2-18, 1985 and Jan. 6 - Feb. 7, 1986 guided tours will be given.) The cavern is well lighted, and you may walk at your own pace. Park rangers are stationed throughout the cave to assist visitors and to provide information. The cavern is open every day of the year except Christmas, but the hours vary with the seasons. For information about the cavern's hours, see the schedule on the back page.

Each evening about sunset, from late May to October, tens of thousands of bats exit from the natural entrance of the cavern. The bats winter in Mexico, but make the cavern their summer home. They sleep in the cavern during the day and fly out each night to feed on flying insects. Bat flight programs are conducted by park rangers, usually



Bat flight, Carlsbad Cavern.

starting about 7 p.m. Since the bat flight time varies considerably over the course of a season, visitors should inquire at the information desk in the visitor center for the exact time.

There are no campgrounds or other overnight accommodations in Carlsbad Caverns National Park. White's City has a motel and campground, and Carlsbad has numerous accommodations and facilities.

Guided Lantern Trips Through Undeveloped New Cave

New Cave is not really "new," having been discovered in 1937 by a goat herder named Tom Tucker, who had been searching for lost goats in the area. However, it is one of the larger and more interesting caves found thus far in Carlsbad Caverns National Park, and guided tours are given.

New Cave has spectacular and unusual formations, and also intriguing evidence of the guano mining activities that went on intermittently at the cave until the late 1950s. The cave consists of a corridor 1,140 feet long, with numerous side passages. The total extent of the surveyed passage is 1 3/4 miles, and the lowest point is 250 feet below the entrance.

New Cave is in an isolated area of the park and is undeveloped. A visit to New Cave is a more rugged, adventurous experience than the hike through Carlsbad Cavern, and more closely parallels the spelunking expeditions that cavers regularly undertake. The trip is strenuous and should be attempted only by those in good physical condition. The most difficult part is the hike from the parking lot to the cave entrance, where the trail climbs 500 feet within a distance of one-half mile.

Tours are scheduled daily during the summer, but only on weekends during the winter season. Reservations are required, and may be made by calling 505/785-2232. There is a limit of 25 people per tour.

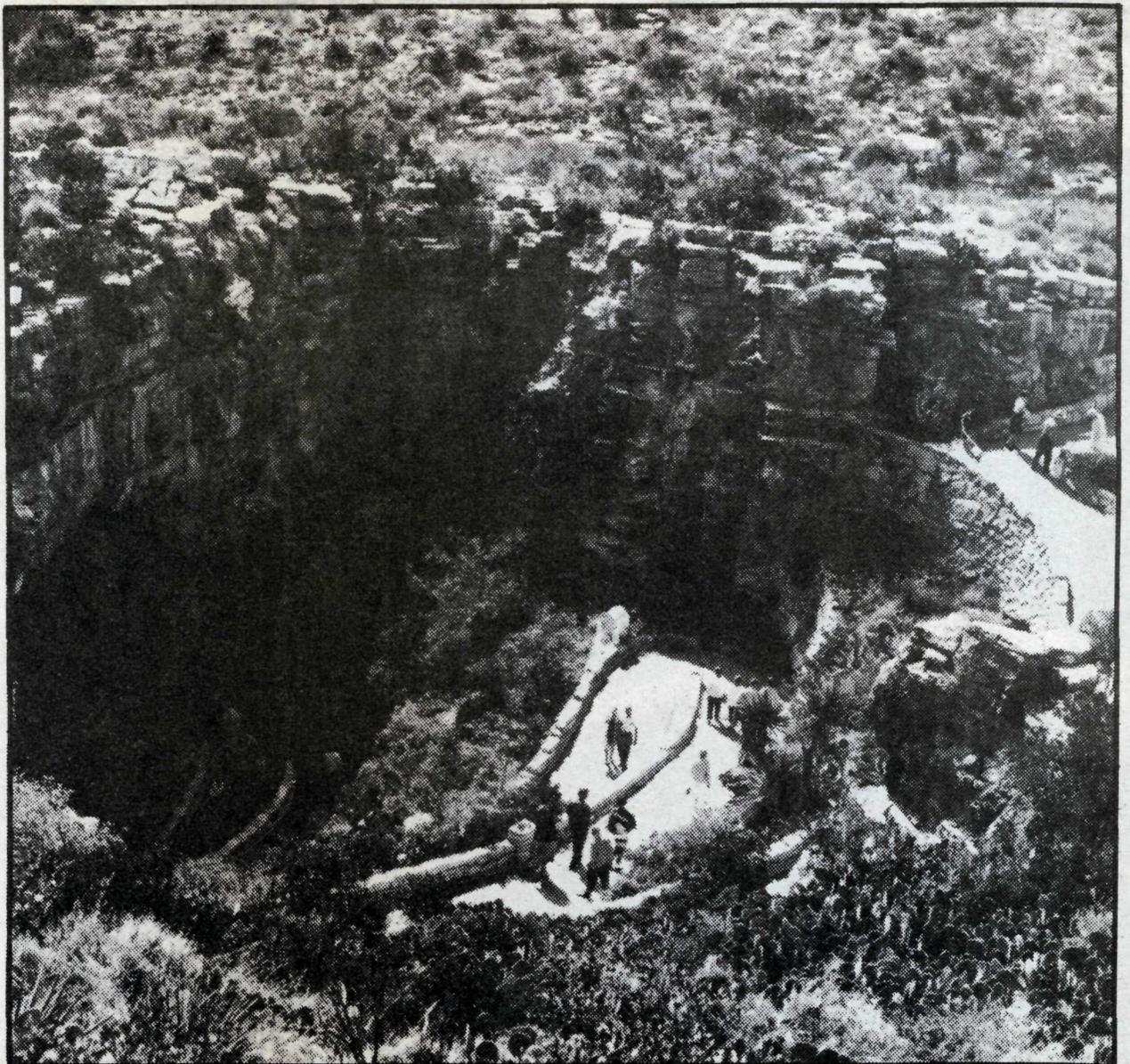
Necessary items for the tour are: one flashlight per person, hiking boots or good walking shoes, and drinking water. The cave temperature is a constant 62 degrees and the humidity about 90 percent. Infant carriers and backpacks are not recommended for the cave tour. Photography is permitted, but it is requested that tripods not be used since the time available for photo stops is limited.

Visitors must furnish their own transportation to the New Cave parking lot at the mouth of Slaughter Canyon. The parking area is located approximately 23 miles from the visitor center of Carlsbad Caverns National Park and 36 miles from the city of Carlsbad. It is reached by turning off U.S. Highway 62-180, five miles southwest of White's City. The distance from this turnoff to the parking lot is about 11 miles. It is recommended that visitors allow 30-45 minutes for the hike up to the mouth of the cave from the parking lot. The hike through New Cave itself is about 1 1/4 miles, and the actual cave tour lasts about 1 1/2 hours.

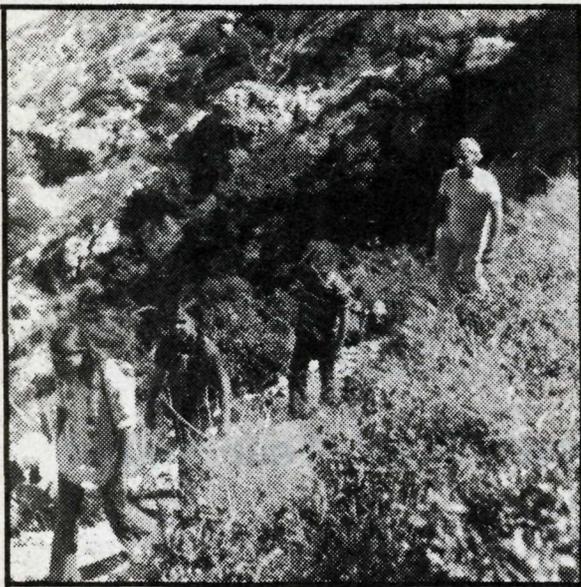
It is important to note that all departure times are scheduled from the cave entrance rather than the parking lot. It is best to allow from 1 1/2 to 2 hours to reach the cave entrance, from the time one leaves either the visitor center or the city of Carlsbad.

Fee Per Person

	Carlsbad Cavern	New Cave
Through December 31, 1985		
Adults	\$2.00	\$3.00
Ages 6 thru 15	\$1.00	\$1.50
Under 6	Free	\$1.50
Beginning January 1, 1986		
Adults	\$3.00	\$4.00
Ages 6 thru 15	\$2.00	\$3.00
Under 6	Free	\$3.00
Golden Age and Golden Access Passport holders receive a 50% discount.		
Golden Eagle Passports are not applicable.		



Natural entrance to Carlsbad Cavern.



Hiking to New Cave.

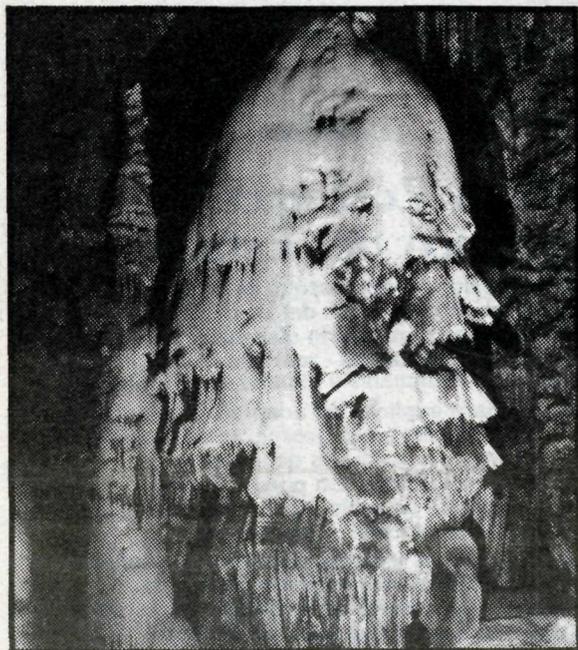
Cavernas de Carlsbad

La Caverna Carlsbad, uno de los sistemas de cavernas mas extenso y espectacular en todo el mundo, se encuentra en el Parque Nacional de las Cavernas de Carlsbad. La entrada de la caverna y el centro para visitantes estan a 50 KM. al suroeste de Carlsbad, Nuevo Mexico. Junto al centro de visitantes hay un museo, un restaurante, una tienda de regalos, una guarderia de niños, y un lugar para animales domesticos.

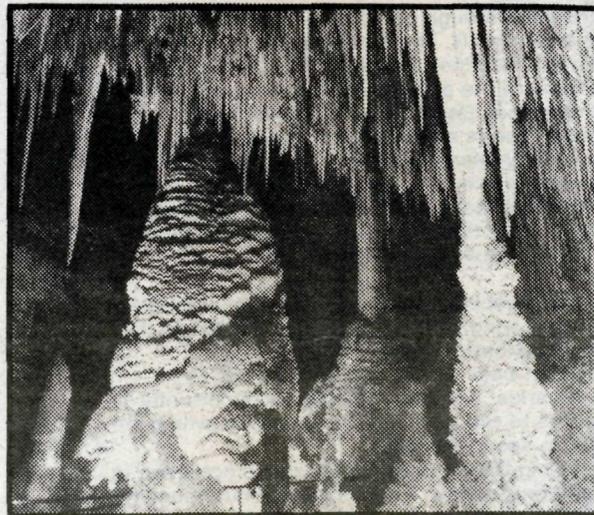
Se ofrecen dos maneras de entrar a la caverna. Entrar por la entrada natural, un viaje de 5 KM., o bajar 230 metros por elevador y un viaje del Salon Grande de 2 KM. Todos regresan a la superficie por elevador. Todos los recorridos son continuos y se puede empezar durante las horas indicadas.

No Deje de Usar Calzado Propio!
Cada persona recibira un radio-receptor el cual le explicara en Espanol e Ingles las bellezas de la caverna. Contamos con guardaparques por toda la caverna para dar ayuda para dar informacion, y para contestar preguntas.

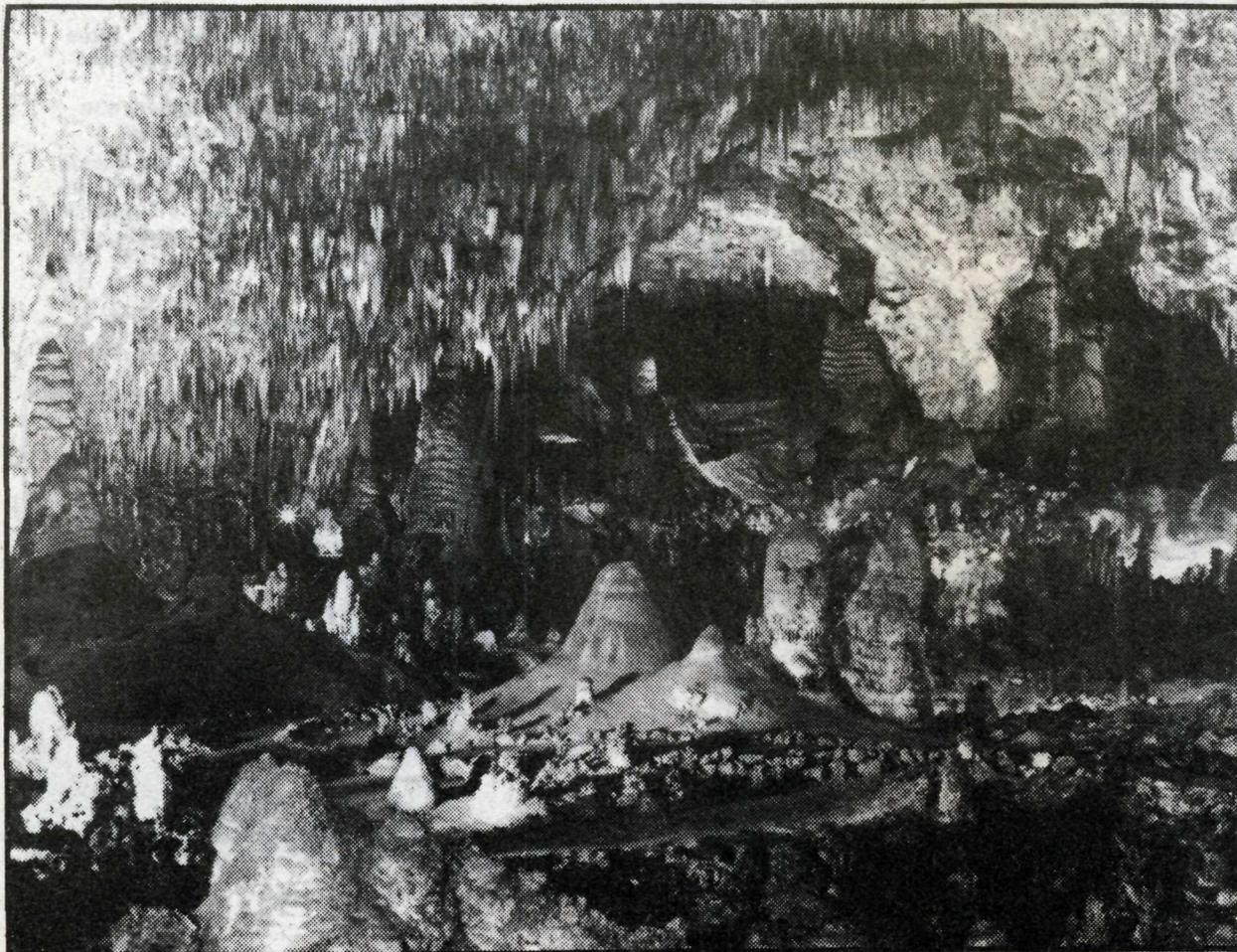
Los vuelos de los murcielagos tienen lugar diariamente durante el verano, poco antes de la caída del sol, a la entrada de la cueva.



The Christmas Tree, New Cave.



Temple of the Sun, Big Room, Carlsbad Cavern.



Children's Nursery Available

Since the long walk through Carlsbad Cavern is usually quite tiring for small children, and also for parents if they carry the children, a nursery is provided at the visitor center by the park concessioner. Baby strollers are not permitted on the narrow cave trails because of safety considerations. The nursery is well equipped, staffed with trained personnel, government approved, and reasonably priced.

Crime Pays (unless you help)

Vehicles, especially motorhomes and RVs, are frequently the target of thieves in national parks and national forests. In order to reduce the risk of your visit being marred by an unfortunate incident, we suggest that you follow these simple steps.

DO

- take valuables with you, or lock them in the trunk if you must leave them in the vehicle.
- install locking devices which are difficult to break into.
- use coin operated lockers in the Carlsbad Caverns visitor center.

DON'T

- leave vehicle doors unlocked or windows open.
- leave valuables (cameras, traveler's checks, purses, etc.) in sight.
- attempt to hide valuables under towels and blankets, under a seat, or in a glovebox.

Motorhome owners can often protect themselves by simply changing the locks on their vehicle doors. Some standard locks on these vehicles are easily picked and many thieves have "master" keys to the common motorhome door locks.

Finally, if you are a victim of a theft, or you observe someone tampering with a vehicle, call a park ranger.

At Carlsbad Caverns - 505/785-2232.

At Guadalupe Mountains - 915/828-3251.

Or Eddy County Sheriff - 505/887-7551.

Bus Service From Whites City, New Mexico

Bus service is available between Carlsbad Caverns National Park and White's City. Buses leave from the gift shop at White's City and from the caverns visitor center. The bus also picks up passengers each evening, after the bat flight, at the natural entrance amphitheater. Purchase tickets at White's City gift shop.

FARE \$5.00 Round Trip PHONE 505/785-2291

Summer Schedule

Lv. White's City	Lv. Caverns
7:00 am	7:18 am
11:00 am	11:18 am
1:30 pm	1:48 pm
5:30 pm	5:48 pm
	after bat flight from amphitheater

Winter Schedule

Lv. White's City	Lv. Caverns
8:00 am	8:18 am
11:00 am	11:18 am
1:30 pm	1:48 pm
4:30 pm	4:48 pm

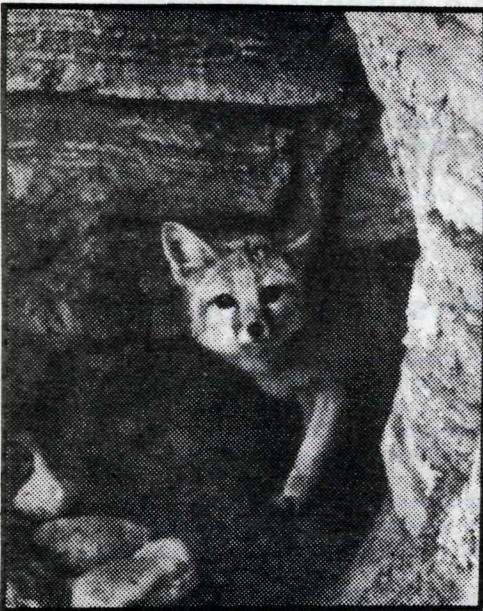
Pets

Don't leave pets in your vehicle. Even with windows down the temperature in your car can easily become unbearable and fatal for your pet.

Kennels are available for a nominal fee at Carlsbad Caverns. Inquire at the cavern gift shop.

The Big Room, Carlsbad Cavern.





Kit Fox



Prairie Dog



Living Desert State Park

A Glimpse of Life in the Chihuahuan Desert

Visitors who come to southeastern New Mexico to visit Carlsbad Caverns are often surprised to find another unusual attraction, the Living Desert State Park. Here, atop the Ocotillo Hills just northwest of the city of Carlsbad, is an assemblage of plants and animals of the Chihuahuan Desert. The Chihuahuan Desert, one of four large deserts on the North American continent, extends north from Mexico into southwest Texas and southeast New Mexico. Each of the world's deserts is different, but few are as barren and lifeless as most people believe. The Chihuahuan Desert is rich in animal and plant life and the Living Desert State Park provides visitors an opportunity to experience the variety and life of this desert.

As part of a continuing development program, major construction of a new area of sand dunes, desert uplands, a gypsum sink, and arroyo (which is also home for the javelina), and a completely remodeled nocturnal exhibit were completed in the spring of 1985.

Paths lead through outdoor exhibits of native plants and animals. The botanical garden is an extensive collection of native American plants. While most of the plants exhibited here are native to the Chihuahuan Desert, several plants from other American deserts are displayed. Yucca, sotol, agave, prickly pear, and acacia are a few of the many species exhibited for your enjoyment. An indoor exhibit of succulents of the world contains an extensive collection of exotic cacti and succulents from Mexico, Bolivia, Madagascar, and South Africa.

For many people, the zoo is the most interesting part of the Living Desert. It houses over 50 species of animals. Most of these are native to the Chihuahuan Desert region, and all are native to North America. The park provides an opportunity for visitors to see many elusive creatures which are difficult to see in the wild.

The Living Desert State Park's zoo is not a zoo in the traditional sense. Animals are not intentionally trapped for display in the park. They are in the park because they could no longer survive in the wild. Many of the animals were originally brought to the park for care because they were sick or injured.

Those which have recovered enough to survive on their own in the wild have been released. Others may appear healthy but are unable to survive in the wild and have been kept.

While most zoos attempt to exhibit a wide range of "exotic" animals from all over the world, the Living Desert State Park limits its collection primarily to those animals found in the Chihuahuan Desert region. Many rare and unusual creatures are found in this region; in fact, some are found on no other continent in the world.

The purpose of the Living Desert State Park is to preserve a representation of the Chihuahuan Desert and to provide an entertaining and educational experience for visitors of all ages.

Open Daily, Year Round

Hours:

Labor Day thru May 14

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Last Tour - 4:00 pm

May 15 thru Labor Day

8:00 am - 8:00 pm

Last Tour - 7:00 pm

Admission:

\$1.00 per person; six and under free.

Organized groups, \$.50 per person.

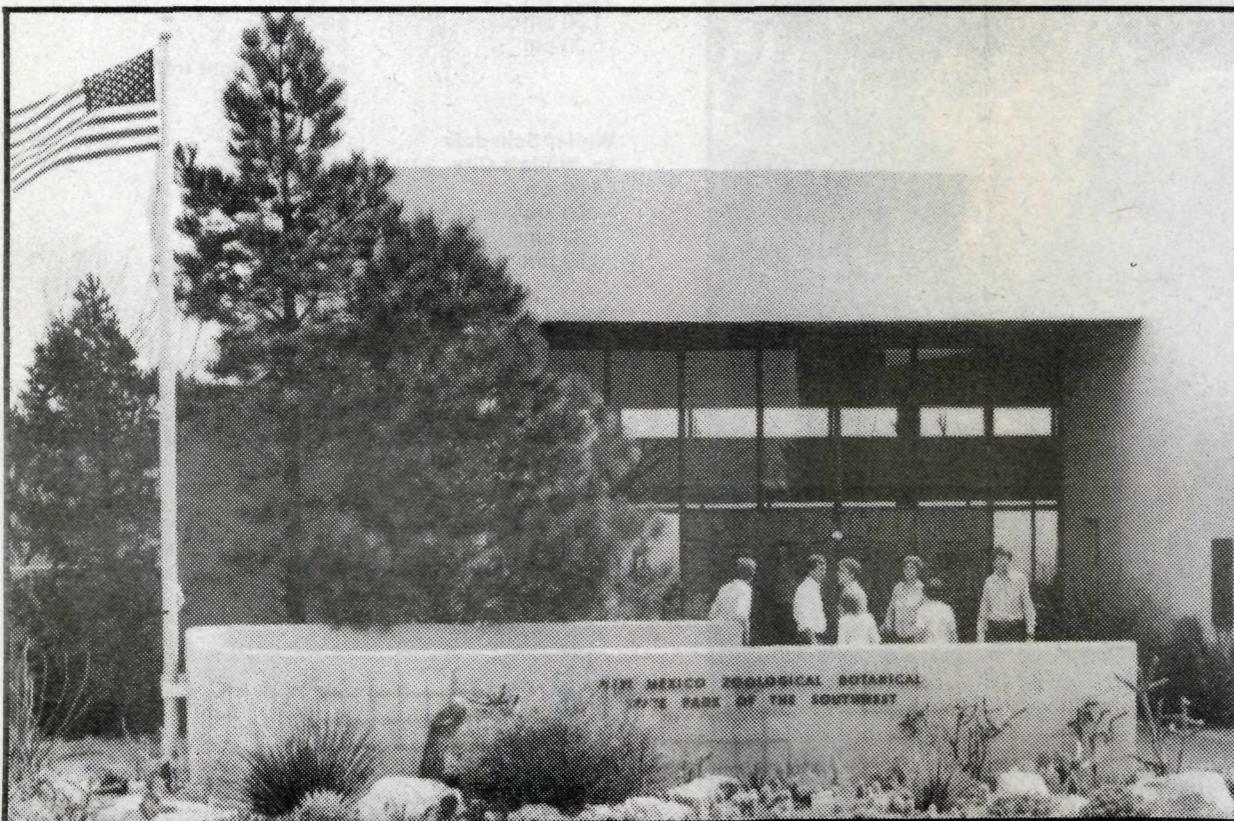
Telephone: 505/887-5516

Parque Zoologico y Botánico del Estado

El proposito de este parque es preservar una parte original y hermosa del Desierto Chihuahuense para que lo disfruten nuestros ciudadanos y visitantes - tambien para la exposicion de animales y plantas en su ambiente natural - para explicar las adaptaciones poco comun por cuales estos prosperan en el desierto - para perpetuar animales del desierto de esta region los cuales son poco conocidos y estan en peligro de extincion y - para tener una experiencia instructiva y placentera.

Las diversiones incluyen el edificio de entrada que tiene exhibiciones arqueologicas y de minerales, y un puesto de antojitos, refrescos y regalos, una averia con aves del desierto, ademas pumas, gatos montes, y estan por aumentar una exhibicion del desierto de sonora donde se puede andar; el jardin botanico del desierto y la casa nocturna con animales elusivos y de la noche, incluyendo zorras, ratas canguaras, coatis y muchos mas. Los perritos llaneros y osos negros estan cerca.

Tambien hay una exhibicion de reptiles, con viboras y lagartijos que forman una parte importante de la vida del desierto; la exhibicion de animales con cascos incluye ciervos-mula, ciervos de cola blanca, alce, jabalina, y bufalo; la exhibicion de lobos Mexicanos, y las casa de propagacion donde se pueden ver las plantas hermosas y extraordinarias de los desiertos del mundo.



Soap Tree Yucca, Torrey Yucca

Visitor Center

Lincoln National Forest

Guadalupe Ranger District

The Guadalupe Ranger District of the Lincoln National Forest encompasses 285,000 acres, and extends from the New Mexico-Texas state line in a northwesterly direction for 41 miles. The Guadalupe district is bordered on the south by Guadalupe Mountains National Park, and partially on the southeast by Carlsbad Caverns National Park.

In 1907, President Theodore Roosevelt issued a proclamation reserving certain land in the Territory of New Mexico from settlement or entry, and set them apart as a public reservation for the use and benefit of the people. A part of this reservation became the Guadalupe National Forest and later the Guadalupe District of the Lincoln National Forest.

Elevations on the Guadalupe District range from 3,500 to 7,600 feet. Due to this wide range, a large variety of plant and animal life exists. In the lower elevations, vegetation typical of the Chihuahuan Desert may be found, with common plants being creosote bush, lechugilla, mescal agave, yucca, and sotol.

The areas with elevations from 5,000 feet to 6,500 feet are characterized by pinyon-juniper vegetation. Elevations above 6,500 feet contain ponderosa pine and alligator juniper vegetation. Within the canyons bigtooth maple, walnut, and Texas madrone may be found.

The forest is managed under the multiple use-sustained yield concept. The major resources are wood, water, wildlife, forage, and recreation. Multiple use means that resources management is coordinated so that the land produces a combination of values that best serve the public. Sustained yield means that resources are managed so as to provide services and products at a level as high as can be sustained without harming the land's ability to produce.

Recreation

The Guadalupe District offers a wide variety of recreational activities. These include hiking, caving, camping, picnicking, horseback riding, hunting, and sightseeing. Two major attractions readily accessible to visitors are Sitting Bull Falls Picnic Area and Five Points Vista along FR-540.

Dispersed camping is allowed throughout the District. Please keep your vehicles on the developed roads and be courteous to the private landowners within the Forest boundary.

Guadalupe District recreation maps are available for \$1.00 each from the Forest Service, Federal Building, Room 159, Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220.

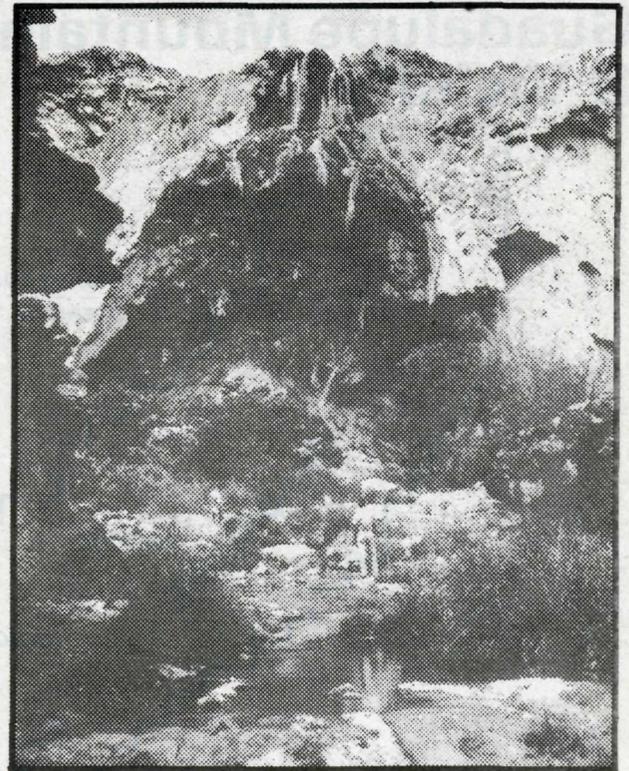
Wood

Of the many species of trees found on the Guadalupe Ranger District, only one, ponderosa pine, is considered of commercial value. Due to the distance from any active sawmill and the low volume of this species growing in the district, it is not harvested for lumber.

The predominant tree species on the district are pinyon pine, one-seed juniper, and alligator juniper. While these are not commercial species, they make excellent firewood, for which there is a great demand. Firewood permits are required for cutting firewood and can be obtained at the Forest Service office or by calling 505/885-4181.

Water

The Guadalupe District was set aside as a Forest Reserve in 1907 for the protection of the watershed of the lower Pecos River valley. The quality of the watershed in the Guadalupe has been protected by maintaining an adequate soil cover of native grasses and limiting cattle and sheep grazing to numbers that will maintain this grass cover. This action has reduced erosion, rapid runoff, and downstream flooding.



Sitting Bull Falls, Lincoln National Forest.

Wildlife

The Guadalupe have a diversity of wildlife species. Browse vegetation of the mountains offers some of the finest deer habitat in New Mexico and the area is one of the most preferred hunting areas in the state. Other animals in the Guadalupe include elk, turkey, mountain lion, and bear.

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish has jurisdiction over the animal populations, and the U.S. Forest Service is charged with maintaining a healthy habitat for these animals. Monitoring animal populations, habitat improvement, and management strategies are cooperative efforts of the two agencies.

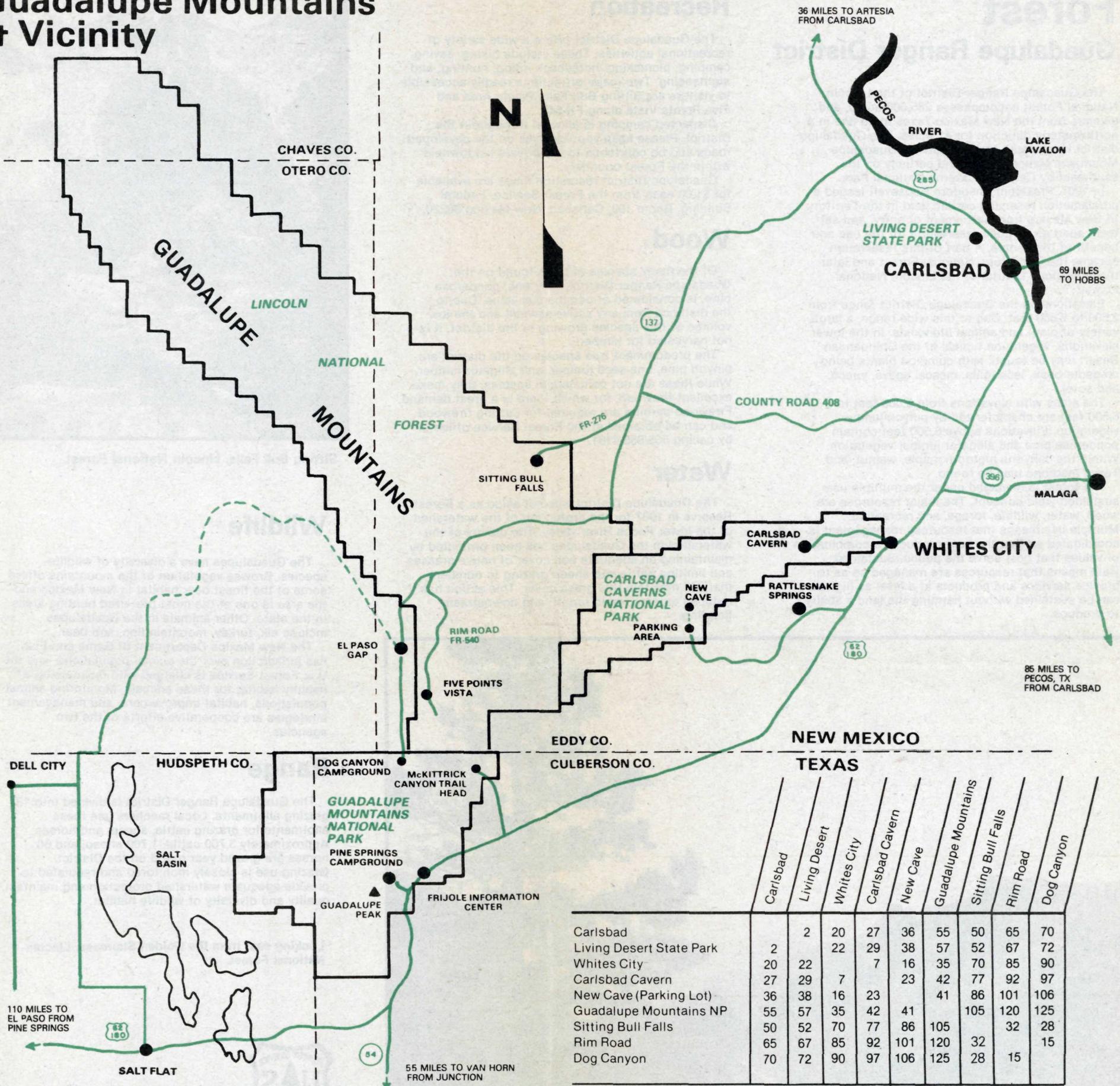
Range

The Guadalupe Ranger District is divided into 18 grazing allotments. Local ranchers use these allotments for grazing cattle, sheep, and horses. Approximately 3,700 cattle, 1,700 sheep, and 60 horses are grazed year round on the District. Grazing use is closely monitored and regulated to provide adequate watershed protection and maintain quality and diversity of wildlife habitat.

Looking east from the Golden Staircase, Lincoln National Forest.



Carlsbad, the Guadalupe Mountains & Vicinity



Carlsbad Cavern Hours	09/03/85 05/23/86	05/24/86 09/01/86
Mountain Time		
Visitor Center Opens	8:00 am	7:00 am
First Trip (Both Walk-In and Big Room)	8:30 am	7:30 am
Last Complete Walk-In Trip thru Natural Entrance	2:00 pm	4:30 pm
Last Elevator Down for Big Room Trip	3:30 pm	6:00 pm
Last Elevator from Cave to Surface	4:55 pm	7:25 pm
Visitor Center Closes	5:30 pm	7:30 pm

Trips are continuous and visitors may enter the cave anytime during hours listed.

Horario De La Caverna De Carlsbad	09/03/85 05/23/86	05/24/86 09/01/86
Mountain Time		
El Centro para Visitantes se Abre	0800	0700
Primera Entrada (Entrada Natural y Salon Grande)	0830	0730
Ultima Entrada por la Entrada Natural	1400	1630
Ultimo Elevador para el Salon Grande	1530	1800
Ultimo Elevador a la Superficie	1655	1925
El Centro para Visitantes se Cierra	1730	1930

Excursiones son continuas y se puede entrar a la cueva durante las horas indicadas.

For More Information

Carlsbad Caverns National Park
3225 National Parks Highway
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

505/785-2232

Guadalupe Mountains National Park
3225 National Parks Highway
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

915/828-3251

Lincoln National Forest
Guadalupe Ranger District
Federal Building, Room 159
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

505/885-4181

Living Desert State Park
P. O. Box 100
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

505/887-5516