**Enhancing the Visitor Experience**

The visitor experience just got better at Jewel Cave National Monument. As park enthusiasts enter the visitor center in 2013, they will be greeted by new exhibits and displays. Working with Harpers Ferry Center of the National Park Service in West Virginia and Split Rock Studios of Minnesota, monument staff completed the two-year project in early May. Funded entirely from ticket revenue from cave tour participants, the overall project cost about $512,000.

Jewel Cave is visited by over 100,000 people each year and nearly all of them enter the visitor center. It is there that visitors access tour routes, get directions for a day hike, or ask other questions at the ranger-staffed area. Not only does the facility serve as a waypoint for incoming visitors, it is the main educational site to learn even more about Jewel Cave.

The original exhibits dated back to 1972 and mainly included metal frames that protected mineral samples. They certainly were not interactive by today’s standards. Furthermore, park audiences have changed over 41 years, and many visitors expect even more connections with the resource. Of course, monument staff updated a few exhibits over the years, yet the efforts created a mixture of thematic ideas.

The new exhibit experience engages visitors through a sense of self exploration and discovery. The rock formations and cave features peak human curiosity, making many people want to look around the corner or peer into small openings. One of the most popular exhibits is the crawl-through cave passage. Youth and adult alike seem captivated by the notion of safely “spelunking.” A touch screen monitor provides a live video feed from the Historic Entrance, where during the off-season hibernating bats are viewed. A large wall map shows the extent of the cave, and its maze-like passages highlight the cave’s complexity.

Not every visitor has the opportunity to view Jewel Cave. Because of this, the exhibit project stayed within accessibility standards. For instance, reading rails and display cases were placed at specific heights for someone using a wheelchair. Hand wands that narrate the interpretive stories within the exhibits are readily available at the front desk for those with hearing impairments. The large wall map offers an interactive touchscreen that zooms in and out of the cave passages. This allows visitors to read the map labels at an appropriate font size, versus placing the labels on the map that are difficult to read.

For Junior Rangers and Pee Wee Rangers, an exhibit scavenger hunt is planned for implementation in the late summer. An autumn workshop for teachers and educators is incorporating the exhibits into lesson plans and Earth Science curriculum. Like any solid exhibition, the interpretive panels and displays were designed to go beyond the typical visitor experience. The story that we wish to tell is one that we want visitors to walk away with and create memories that last a lifetime.

The project also complements the Call to Action Plan and Centennial Commemoration of the National Park Service. In order to advance the educational mission of the agency, Action Item #9 entitled Out with the Old, has the goal of replacing outdated, inaccurate, or substandard exhibits. The enhanced displays are meant to be fully accessible, immersive, and innovative. Monument staff are proud to be a part of this process and are thrilled to be exceeding visitor expectations.

What’s next for the visitor center? In partnership with the Black Hills Parks and Forests Association, monument staff are working on the design for a new park store. Staying within the footprint of the current building and patio area, the park store is planned to extend the visitor experience even further. Educational and interpretive products and other souvenirs will allow visitors to take home memories of the monument and their experience at one of the world’s longest caves. Visitors are invited back to see our progress.

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**166 Miles of Charted Passages**

Mile after mile of maze-like corridors make Jewel Cave the third longest cave in the world yet, the survey is far from complete. Volunteer teams continue to enter the cave each month to explore and map out uncharted passages. During your visit, ask a Park Ranger about the current known length.

**Surface Opportunities**

Jewel Cave National Monument is more than just an underground resource. Park Rangers offer daily programs covering wildlife, bats, and animal tracks. With ten miles of trails in or adjacent to the Monument, even more opportunities expand your experience of the surface features.

**Guided Tours of Jewel Cave**

Access to Jewel Cave is only available by our extremely popular ranger guided tours. A wide range of tour options are available to accommodate most any level of physical activity or adventurous spirit. Except for Wild Caving Tours, all other tour tickets are being sold on a first come, first serve basis.
Rules and Regulations

**PETS**
Do not leave your pet in your vehicle while visiting the cave or for any length of time during the summer. Temperatures in the vehicle can become extremely dangerous.

Pets are only permitted in the visitor center parking lot. They are not permitted on any trails or picnic areas. We ask that you abide by these rules to protect your pet and monument wildlife.

Kennel space is available in the nearby town of Custer.

**TRAVELING IN THE MONUMENT**
Off-road driving or bicycling is prohibited in the monument and on its trails.

Deer frequent monument roadways, be aware of their presence, as collisions are dangerous.

**UNDEVELOPED CAVES**
Entrance into undeveloped caves is not allowed without a special use permit. Untrained, ill-prepared, and ill-equipped exploration of caves can damage cave formations and is a major reason for cave-related injuries and deaths. These resources are protected by federal law for future visitors to view in their natural state.

**WILDLIFE, PLANTS, ARTIFACTS, AND OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES**
Please keep the monument in its natural state. Removing or disturbing any natural resources on the surface or in the cave is illegal. Please do not remove artifacts, bones, rocks, or cave formations. Each aspect of the cave plays an important role in the monument’s history.

Many surface features are fragile. Please do not disturb wildflowers, plants, or wildlife. Feeding of wildlife is not allowed. Furthermore, bats are common at Jewel Cave and can be found on the Historic Lantern Tour or in the surrounding forest. Please do not disturb any bats.

**WEAPONS**
Federal law allows people who can legally possess firearms under federal, state, and local laws to possess firearms while visiting Jewel Cave National Monument. However, firearms are not permitted in any monument facilities or on cave tours.

Hunting and trapping are not permitted in any part of Jewel Cave National Monument.

### THINGS TO REMEMBER
- Always inform someone of your whereabouts and hiking plans.
- Have water and food with you at all times when on trails.
- Stay on designated trails and do not cut switchbacks.
- Be aware of frequent thunderstorms and lightning during summer afternoons.
- Watch for poison ivy, rocks, roots, and other hazards along the trail.
- Pack out your trash, and if trash is found along the trail, please pick it up.
- Please do not feed the wildlife.
- Please do not pick the wildflowers.
- In summer, check your body and clothing frequently for ticks.
- Cell service is not available and nonexistent at the Monument. Do not rely on cell phones or GPS for directions or assistance.
- A trail map is available at the visitor center.

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A Park Ranger leads a guided trip along the Roof Trail (NPS Photo).

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**Hiking on the Cave**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail Name</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roof Trail</td>
<td>0.25 miles (30 minutes)</td>
<td>Moderate inclines</td>
<td>Explore the relationship between the surface and subsurface resources of Jewel Cave National Monument by walking this self-guided trail. The trail begins at the covered patio area outside the visitor center lobby and returns to the north end of the visitor center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canyons Trail</td>
<td>3.5 miles (2-4 hours)</td>
<td>Moderate to steep inclines</td>
<td>Explore the surface resources and geologic features of the Monument by hiking in the backcountry. The trail begins at the covered patio outside the visitor center lobby and winds its way down Lithograph Canyon, turning right at the fence, entering Hell Canyon, and strolling along a combination of unpaved roads and open meadows to a sign that leads to the Historic Entrance of Jewel Cave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hell Canyon Trail</td>
<td>5.5 miles (2-4 hours)</td>
<td>Easy to fairly strenuous inclines</td>
<td>Trail along limestone cliffs with outstanding views of Hell Canyon and the surrounding area. From Jewel Cave, the trailhead is approximately one mile west of the visitor center entrance on the north side of Highway 16. The trail begins just west of the parking area, and the first 1/2 mile climbs at a steep pitch. From there, grades are level to easy. The last two miles follow a two-track road along the bottom of Hell Canyon, returning to the trailhead.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Black Hills & Badlands of South Dakota Travel App**

**JEWEL CAVE NATIONAL MONUMENT** offers more than cave tours. Ranging from hiking trails to interpretive patio talks, to special events and unique family activities, expand your visit beyond a cave tour by downloading this free app.

This free app includes guiding with maps of all national parks and monuments, state parks and recreation areas, hiking trails, and world famous road trips, along with descriptions and contact information for over 450 businesses in the Black Hills. Find out about lodging, camping, dining, gaming, rock climbing, horse riding, shopping, fishing, and more!


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**JEWEL CAVE NATIONAL MONUMENT**

Website: http://www.nps.gov/jeca
Mailing Address: Jewel Cave National Monument
11149 US Highway 16
Building B12
Custer, SD 57730
E-mail: jeca_interpretation@nps.gov
Visitor Center Phone: 605-673-8300
Fax Number: 605-673-8397 - Visitor Center
Contact: Bradley Block
Chief of Interpretation: 605-673-8300
Newspaper Contributors: Tyler Devine, Park Guide
Lydia Austin, Park Ranger
BethAnn Herman, Park Ranger

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.
Surface Programs
ALTHOUGH OFTEN FORGOTTEN, THE SURFACE of Jewel Cave also provides a unique experience within the Black Hills. A guided hike along the monument’s trails or a chance to speak one-on-one with a park ranger will awaken a deeper understanding of the ponderosa pine forest and the open meadows of the Jasper Fire area. Guided ranger programs are offered throughout the summer months.

GUIDED ROOF TRAIL HIKES
A 90 minute guided hike along the Roof Trail departs daily. Rangers discuss the native flora, fauna, forestry, and the interconnection between the cave and surface resources.

PATIO TALKS
Join a park ranger on the visitor center patio for an interactive demonstration. Patio talks occur throughout the summer days, with topics ranging from caving techniques to animal tracks.

Volunteer Opportunities

NUMEROUS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES are available at Jewel Cave for people of all walks of life and age groups. Assist resource management by removing invasive plants, cleaning cave tour routes, and restoring historic sections of the cave. Groups are welcome to participate. Experienced cavers can contribute many volunteer hours to Jewel Cave as they assist with surveying, exploring, and performing resource management activities.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, visit nps.gov/jeca and click on Support Your Park. Volunteer opportunities may also be available on a requested basis. Group reservations are strongly advised to be made at least thirty days in advance. Interested groups or individuals can contact Jewel Cave’s Volunteer Coordinator, at (605) 673-8300.

Get started today! It’s easy, rewarding, and fun!

Become a Jr. Ranger

The National Junior Ranger Motto is “Explore. Learn. Protect.” These three words capture much of the history of the National Park Service, and our goal is to engage young people in the stories embodied in their national heritage. Guarded for kids ages 5 to 12, the program exposes participants to various learning opportunities that complement the significant features of Jewel Cave National Monument. Kids have the choice to work toward a certificate, badge, or embroidered patch. Each award offers a series of requirements, which include pages from the activity booklet or taking an active part in a ranger guided program. Monument staff are confident that successful participants make more meaningful connections to the resource. On a personal level, Junior Rangers often develop a sense of stewardship for the protection and preservation of other natural and cultural treasures.

NOTE: Limited quantities of patches are available each year.

The Pee Wee Ranger

The Pee Wee Program is for kids ages 3 to 4. With help from parents, families, and park staff, eager participants explore the monument through a fun and interactive booklet. Ranger guided activities also provide hands-on opportunities. Upon completion of the program requirements, participants earn a badge and embroidered patch. The program is informal, yet challenging. This unique partnership allows scouts to work alongside park staff in the field of resource management and interpretation. Dedicated scouts may also use their visitor experiences toward the completion of several merit badges. Reservations for this program are required and must be made at least three weeks in advance.

The Scout-Ranger Program

Boy Scouts and Venturing Scouts are welcome to visit Jewel Cave National Monument and take part in the ever-popular Scout Ranger Program. Through the completion of an activity booklet, taking part in a half-day volunteer service project, and participating in a guided cave tour, scouts can earn an embroidered patch. This unique partnership allows scouts to work alongside park staff in the field of resource management and interpretation. Dedicated scouts may also use their visitor experiences toward the completion of several merit badges. Reservations for this program are required and must be made at least three weeks in advance.

Great Days to Visit the Cave

NATIONAL PARK BIRTHDAY
August 25, 2013: Celebrate the 97th birthday of the National Park Service. Jewel Cave National Monument invites visitors to discover the significance of this incredible site. As we approach the National Park Service centennial in 2016, the importance of the NPS mission is still going strong focusing on the principles of conservation, preservation, and enjoyment. Come enjoy a free tour at Jewel Cave. All tours will be on a first come, first serve basis and will only include regularly scheduled tours.

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY
September 28, 2013: Help celebrate service and recreation on public lands by being a part of the 170,000 people who will make a difference at more than 2,900 public land sites. At Jewel Cave, a variety of volunteer assistance is appreciated. By helping remove invasive plants, maintain hiking trails, or assisting with cave restoration, volunteers on National Public Lands Day can help the National Park Service in the preservation of their cave. To learn more about other events, visit www.publiclandsday.org.

VETERANS DAY
November 9-11, 2013: The National Park Service honors active military personnel and veterans through waived entrance fees. To commemorate the dedication and sacrifice of our nation’s Armed Forces, Jewel Cave National Monument waives fees for all cave tours. Between participating in the cave tours and hiking the surface trails, military heroes and their families can enjoy and experience one of the longest caves in the world.

FEE-FREE DAYS
Fee Free days allow families to explore parks and monuments they have never visited before. All Jewel Cave tours will be free on these days. The tours will be on a first-come, first-serve basis and will only include regularly scheduled tours. Veterans Day in November is always a Fee Free day for active and retired service personnel, and National Public Lands Day in September is a Fee Free day for all visitors. Keep an eye out for announcements by the Secretary of the Interior for Fee-Free Days throughout the year.
White-Nose Syndrome

**Help Protect Our Bats!** Jewel Cave National Monument is home to nine different bat species, with up to 1600 bats hibernating in the cave during the winter months. For this reason, we are asking each visitor to help avoid spreading the fungus that causes white-nose syndrome, a disease fatal to bats.

White-nose syndrome (WNS) was first observed in bats in 2006 in a cave in New York. Infected bats show a white fungus on their muzzle, ears, and/or wings. Unfortunately, the cool, moist conditions in which bats often hibernate seem to provide an ideal environment for this fungus to grow. This disease has killed over five million bats in the eastern United States and Canada and is gradually spreading west.

White-nose syndrome has not been detected at Jewel Cave or any public or private cave in South Dakota. To ensure continued success, the monument is requesting assistance from visitors.

If you have been in a cave or mine in North America or Europe since 2005, there is a chance you could carry the fungus with you when you visit Jewel Cave. Research has found that spores from the fungus that causes white-nose syndrome can remain on clothing, caving gear, and footwear, even after they have been washed.

Clothing, footwear, personal articles, or caving gear that has been used in a cave or mine confirmed to harbor WNS will NOT be allowed inside Jewel Cave. Please leave such items at home or securely locked in your vehicle.

**WNSS Precaution Procedures**

- Personal items that have been in any cave or mine in North America or Europe since 2005 will need to be screened. Please note that items used on developed tour routes at nearby Wind Cave National Park and other commercial caves within the Black Hills are excluded from these actions.
- Casual clothing worn in caves or mines outside the Black Hills area must be washed. If clean clothing is not available, decontamination is required.
- Personal items, such as jewelry and cameras, that have been in caves or mines outside the Black Hills area should be left in your personal vehicle or thoroughly cleaned with disinfectant wipes.

- All footwear that has been worn in caves or mines outside the Black Hills area must be changed, covered, or decontaminated according to current US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) procedures.

**Wild-Caving Tour and Other Off-Trail Travel**

- Caving clothes and gear must be thoroughly cleaned and decontaminated following current USFWS procedures before being used within caves of the National Park Service. Prior to using any gear or clothing, users will need to certify that they have complied with this requirement.

**Recommendations**

- Avoid hibernating bats. Stay out of all bat sites during the winter. Bats appear to be most susceptible to white-nose syndrome while they are hibernating. They are also very sensitive to light and noise. If awakened, they needlessly use up stored energy that helps them survive the winter, a time when they have no food source.

- Report unusual bat deaths. If you observe unusual bat behavior or unexplained bat deaths within the Black Hills of South Dakota, call the Wildlife Health Hotline, 1-866-958-2600. In other states, contact your state wildlife agency.

- For more information about white-nose syndrome in the National Park Service, visit: [http://www.nature.nps.gov/biology/WNS/index.cfm](http://www.nature.nps.gov/biology/WNS/index.cfm).
Jewel Cave Proposes to Raise Cave Tour Fees in 2014

JEWEL CAVE NATIONAL MONUMENT HAS BEGUN SOLICITING PUBLIC opinion about implementing a cave tour ticket fee increase in 2014. If this proposal is approved by the Director of the National Park Service, ticket prices will increase on (or around) January 1.

However, before any increase is approved or implemented, monument staff will be conducting a series of public meetings in the local area to hear the thoughts and opinions of visitors, neighbors, and other interested parties. Public opinion will also be solicited on the National Park Service Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website: http://parkplanning.nps.gov/publicHome.cfm

Cave tour fees at Jewel Cave have been unchanged since 2000, yet the costs of doing business have steadily increased over time. Utility and electrical expenses have increased nearly every year. Contractual services, such as elevator maintenance, have also risen. And finally, visitors often express interest in higher quality publications, such as the park brochure and annual newspaper. Combined together, the operational expenses exceed our expected funding levels in the future.

The proposed fee increase would raise the ticket price from the current cost of $8 to $12 for adults on the Scenic and Historic Lantern Tours, which is a $4 increase. Youth ticket prices for those ages 6 to 16 on the same tours would increase from the current $4 to $8. Please visit our website, www.nps.gov/jeca, for a full listing of proposed fee increases.

Although fees for touring Jewel Cave are planned to increase, a cave tour ticket will still remain comparable with, or even less expensive, than many other cave attractions in the Black Hills and surrounding region. Fee increases are a balancing act between an expected level of visitor services (programs, activities, facilities, etc.), while maintaining affordable ticket prices for the general public.

The proposed fee increase will allow visitors to make advanced cave tour reservations online 24/7 and through a national call center with extended hours of operation. This service has been a common request by many visitors over past years.

For more information on the pending fee increases, visitors are welcome to review the Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/publicHome.cfm. Select Jewel Cave National Monument from the available documents or use the Search tab to search by keyword, park, state, document status, or document type.

The Jewel Cave website at www.nps.gov/jeca will also provide information within the Management link. Furthermore, interested visitors are also welcome to request information directly from monument staff by phone or mail, and informational packets will be made available according to the appropriate review periods.

Jewel Cave Has Gone Green, and So Can You!

JEWEL CAVE NATIONAL MONUMENT WAS RECENTLY RECOGNIZED as a “Climate Friendly Park.” The Climate Friendly Parks Program is a nationwide effort to green America’s national parks. The program’s rigorous criteria include the tracking of emissions, energy and water consumption, waste disposal, recycling, and chemical use. The park site also makes a commitment to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and waste by set amounts each year. At present, only “74” of the 402 national park sites have met the requirements to be certified as Climate Friendly, and Jewel Cave is honored to be recognized.

In 2010, the monument established an Environmental Management Team, or “Green Team.” It was tasked to promote sustainable practices at. Over the last three years, this interdivisional team successfully implemented a variety of environmental goals and met the requirements to achieve Climate Friendly status. During your visit to Jewel Cave, can you find evidence of the Green Team’s efforts?

Plastic waste is in abundance around the world, and disposable water bottles are often the main reason. You can do your part in the fight against plastic waste by purchasing and using a refillable water bottle. To assist with this goal, monument staff installed a water bottle filling station at the visitor center. The filling station comes equipped with a “Green Ticker” that displays the number of plastic bottles it has saved from landfills.

The Green Team has been busy with a variety of strategies to reduce the monument’s energy consumption. These efforts range from initiating a new recycling program and installing solar powered trash compactors, to having an expert use competition among staff. During the summer of 2012, Jewel Cave’s Green Team held an all-employee home energy usage contest. Energy usage was calculated for each person, the total kilowatt-hours used over a two-month period were divided by the number of occupants. The winning residents were awarded a reusable water bottle and solar phone charger. Since utilities are included in the rent for park housing, most employees were previously unaware of how much power they were using. The contest increased awareness, sparked some friendly competition, and caused employees to think about ways they could reduce their energy consumption. The winning apartment used only 388 kWh of electricity in a two-month period for all three residents. This is a fraction of the average residential US house hold usage, which is 1968 kWh over a two month period.

This type of competition can be adapted to any work place or neighborhood community. Everyday actions are where the green movement gains a lot of strength. Of the numerous ways to do your part, it all starts with awareness and sharing ideas. National Parks are doing their part, and now it’s time for you to do yours!

GREEN WAYS to VISIT JEWEL CAVE!

Jewel Cave National Monument encourages visitors to help preserve and protect Americas treasures by also becoming “green.” Here are a few simple ideas to foster this spirit:

- Use recycling bins when visiting the monument.
- Bring your own water bottle when hiking the trails.
- Recycle this newspaper by sharing it with family and friends.
- Reduce paper waste by taking only one of each brochure.

Top: Routine elevator maintenance occurs each year and ensures a safe cave entry for guided tours (NPS Photo).

Right: Ticket sales help fund various projects at Jewel Cave (NPS Photo).
Explore the “Wilderness” of Jewel Cave

Your Cave Tour

FEES AT WORK

Recreational fees started within the national park service in 1996. The effort was made to allow park sites the ability to collect fees for tours and visitor services. The added revenue assisted with decreased funding issues. Seventeen years later, the program continues at many sites and has enhanced the quality of visitor experiences and improved resource protection, through the implementation of the federal lands recreation enhancement act.

Fee revenues are often used toward visitor-related deferred maintenance projects, such as the upgrading of restrooms, paving roads, building trails, and repairing infrastructure. In 2012, the national park service spent between $80 to 100 million dollars of fee revenue toward various projects. Each site that collects fees is required to have a recreational fee spending plan that provides guidance toward the use of revenue. Rather than carry large balances, planned projects use fee revenue for their intended purpose, as required by law.

As an example of current fee revenue projects, monument staff are excited to unveil the new visitor center exhibits. The initial planning process began in 2011. The installation took place in the early spring of 2013. Visitors seem to be enjoying their time exploring the new displays.

Another completed project example was the successful transition of all to LED lanterns. The newer style lanterns not only save funds in the future, but they are safer to use by participants on the Historic Lantern Tours. Unknowingly to many visitors, fee revenue funds elevator maintenance, resource management projects, and cave restoration efforts. Each year, fee revenues also routinely pay the salaries of fee collectors and cave technicians at the monument.

In general, 100 percent of all fee revenue stays on site for use toward projects and staff salaries. Without fee revenue from cave tour ticket sales, many visitor services would not be available.

Taking care of the national parks and helping Americans take care of their communities is a job we love, and we need and welcome your help and support.
Travel Delays at Jewel Cave National Monument

Expect traffic and construction delays during the summer of 2013.

Monument staff are excited for another year of park visitors. Yet, construction projects are also expected to impact visitor services. For this reason, the monument will not be taking advanced ticket reservations in 2013. Except for Wild Caving Tours, all other tour tickets are being sold on a first come, first served basis.

We suggest the following:
- Drive carefully, and be prepared for construction crews.
- Plan to arrive early – allow an extra 45 minutes of travel time.
- Cave tour tickets are sold on a day of, first come, first-served basis.
- Be sure to allow enough time for your visit.

Road Construction on US Highway 16
Between Mile Markers 14 and 18, US Highway 16 will be under construction which may cause potential delays.

Jewel Cave Visitor Center Parking Lot
Beginning this summer, the visitor center parking lot will be under construction. At all times, parking will be available. However, visitors need to be aware of safety signage and personnel directing vehicles to particular spots.

Please contact the visitor center for updated information at 605-673-8300 or visit our website at www.nps.gov/jeca.

Cave Tour Safety

MONUMENT STAFF ENDORSE TO ENSURE ALL tours are conducted in a safe manner that protects both the visitor and the resource.
- All cave tours are ranger guided and require a minimum of 2 participants.
- The following items are NOT allowed on any cave tours: food, gum, candy, drinks, tobacco products, tripods, walking sticks, weapons, pets, and backpack baby carriers.
- Dimensions of all items (purses, handbags, cameras, etc.) carried on the Scenic and Discovery Tours must be less than 10” by 6” by 5”. Items carried on the Historic Lantern Tour must be smaller than 10” by 6” by 5”. Items carried on the Scenic and Discovery Tours: food, gum, candy, drinks, tobacco products, tripods, walking sticks, weapons, pets, and backpack baby carriers. Items carried on the Historic Lantern Tour must be smaller than 10” by 6” by 5”. Items carried on the Scenic and Discovery Tours: food, gum, candy, drinks, tobacco products, tripods, walking sticks, weapons, pets, and backpack baby carriers.
- The Scenic and Historic Lantern Tours are considered moderately strenuous. These tours are not recommended for anyone with heart, respiratory, or lower joint conditions.
  - The cave temperature is 49°F (9°C). A light jacket, sweater, or sweatshirt is recommended.
  - Low-heeled, closed-toed, rubber soled shoes are highly recommended on the Scenic and Discovery Tours.
  - Close-toed shoes are required for the Historic Lantern Tour.
  - Flash photography is only allowed on the Scenic and Discovery Tours. Photographers are asked to be respectful of their fellow visitors and avoid blinding flashes or delaying the tour group.
  - Service dogs trained to mitigate the effects of a disability are allowed on the Scenic and Discovery Tours.

Cave Tour Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tours</th>
<th>Fees</th>
<th>Tour Lengths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scenic Tour</td>
<td>$8 - Adult</td>
<td>1 hour and 20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$4 - Youth (6 - 16)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>free - Children (0 - 5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Lantern Tour</td>
<td>$8 - Adult</td>
<td>1 hour and 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$4 - Youth (6 - 16)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>free - Children (0 - 5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discovery Tour</td>
<td>$4 - Adult</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>free - Youth (6 - 16)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>free - Children (0 - 5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Caving Tour</td>
<td>$27 - Adult</td>
<td>3 - 4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minimum Age: 16 years old</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interagency Access Pass
Free
Valid for pass holder and 3 persons on the Discovery Tour Only

Interagency Senior Pass
$10
Valid for pass holder and 3 persons on the Discovery Tour Only

Interagency Annual Pass
$80
Valid for pass holder and 3 persons on the Discovery Tour Only

Cave Tour Program Schedule

Spring Tours : April 8 - May 5
Visitor Center Hrs. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Scenic Tour 10:00 a.m. 12:40 p.m. 2:40 p.m.
Discovery Tour 11:35 a.m. 1:35 p.m. 3:35 p.m.
Late Spring Tours : May 6 - May 24
Visitor Center Hrs. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Scenic Tour 9:20 a.m. 12:40 p.m. 2:40 p.m.
Discovery Tour 11:35 a.m. 1:35 p.m. 3:35 p.m.
Early Summer Tours : May 25 - June 8
Visitor Center Hrs. 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Scenic Tour 9:20 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:40 p.m.
Discovery Tour 11:20 a.m. 12:40 p.m. 2:40 p.m.
Historic Lantern Tour 9:35 a.m. 11:35 a.m. 1:35 p.m.
Summer Tours : June 9 - August 17
Visitor Center Hrs. 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Scenic Tour 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:40 p.m.
Discovery Tour 11:20 a.m. 12:40 p.m. 2:40 p.m.
Historic Lantern Tour 9:35 a.m. 11:35 a.m. 1:35 p.m.
Wild Caving Tour 11:30 a.m.; 4 days a week; please call for details
Reservations are required and can be made up to 28 days in advance.
Late Summer Tours : August 18 - September 7
Visitor Center Hrs. 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Scenic Tour 9:20 a.m. 11:20 a.m. 2:40 p.m.
Discovery Tour 9:35 a.m. 11:35 a.m. 1:35 p.m.
Historic Lantern Tour 9:45 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 2:45 p.m.
Wild Caving Tour 11:30 a.m.; 4 days a week; please call for details
Reservations are required and can be made up to 28 days in advance.
Early Fall Tours : September 8 - October 6
Visitor Center Hrs. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Scenic Tour 9:20 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:40 p.m.
Discovery Tour 9:35 a.m. 11:35 a.m. 1:35 p.m.
Historic Lantern Tour 9:45 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 2:45 p.m.
Wild Caving Tour May be offered through out the off-season depending on staff availability. Call ahead for scheduling and reservations.
Fall Tours : October 7 - October 20
Visitor Center Hrs. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Scenic Tour 10:00 a.m. 12:40 p.m. 2:40 p.m.
Discovery Tour 11:35 a.m. 1:35 p.m. 3:35 p.m.
Winter Tours : October 21, 2013 - April 6, 2014
Visitor Center Hrs. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Scenic Tour 10:00 a.m. 12:40 p.m. 2:40 p.m.
Discovery Tour 9:35 a.m. 11:35 a.m. 1:35 p.m.
For more information, call 605-673-8300 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time.

The program schedules listed above are subject to change due to emergency situations, weather conditions, staffing limitations, or other extenuating circumstances.

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Black Hills Parks and Forests Association

The Black Hills Parks and Forests Association cooperates with state and federal partner agencies in promoting public understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of the Black Hills natural and cultural heritage. The Association operates several sales outlets throughout the Black Hills, including the park stores at Jewel Cave National Monument, Wind Cave National Park, Buffalo Gap National Grassland, Custer State Park, and Black Hills National Forest.

The Association uses the proceeds from its sales to provide financial aid to its partner agencies. The monetary donations are used to print interpretive publications, fund internship positions, purchase educational supplies and equipment, serve as matching funds for grant requests, and provide assistance toward research projects.

Many different types of products are available in the park store, including Jewel Cave National Monument specific publications. These publications, maps, and items are available at the park store, by mail order, or from the Association web site www.blackhillsparks.org. Membership in the Black Hills Parks and Forests Association supports the organization and entitles members to discounts at many National Park Service sites. The membership is $29.95 per year. For more information, please ask park staff or call 605-745-7020.

South Dakota National Park Neighbors

Mount Rushmore National Memorial
Mount Rushmore is located approximately 35 miles from Jewel Cave. Carved from 1927-1941 by Gutzon Borglum, the memorial depicts the portraits of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln. Today, Mount Rushmore is host to almost three million visitors each year from around the world. Over the decades, Mount Rushmore has grown in fame as a symbol of America - an image of freedom and hope. (605) 574-2523, www.nps.gov/moru

Wind Cave National Park
Wind Cave is a 35 mile drive from Jewel Cave. It is one of the world's longest and most complex caves. It is famous for its boxwork, an unusual calcite cave formation resembling honeycomb. The park’s surface area contains 33,851 acres of mixed-grass prairie, ponderosa pine forest, and related wildlife. Numerous hiking trails offer visitors the opportunity to explore the surface environment of this unique national park. Bison, pronghorn antelope, and prairie dogs all make their home here. (605) 745-4600, www.nps.gov/wica

Badlands National Park
Badlands National Park is located approximately 118 miles from Jewel Cave. The park consists of 244,000 acres of sharply eroded buttes, pinacles, and spires. It protects the largest mixed-grass prairie in the United States. Its wilderness area covers 64,000 acres and is the site of the reintroduction of the black-footed ferret, the most endangered land mammal in North America. (605) 433-5361, www.nps.gov/badl

Enjoy the natural beauty, history, culture, attractions, and outdoor recreation of western South Dakota & eastern Wyoming on your Great American Road Trip. www.blackhillsparks.com