

Caverns Stargazing Campout

On Friday, August 31, Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park will again host **Stargazing Under the Caverns Sky** with Tom Satterly. Satterly is one of our favorite presenters, and we are happy to have him back for our 12th annual stargazing campout. He will have a large reflecting telescope on hand to give everyone a chance to gaze upon some unique features of the night sky. Besides stargazing, Satterly will offer some wonderful interpretation on how people enjoy the night sky.

The program is \$6 per vehicle for nonresidents. Camping in the group use area is \$4 per person with advanced registration (kids 5 and under free) and includes a breakfast at the campground's pavilion the morning of Saturday, September 1. Campsites are limited for this wonderful family opportunity, so sign up as soon as possible. The programs begin at 8:30pm, and campers can start setting up their sites at 6:30pm.

Reservations are required for the special event campout & breakfast.
For more information call (406) 287-3541.

Classic Cave Tour:

May 1 – September 30

Tour times vary, ticket sale times below:

May 1 – June 14: 9:00am to 4:30pm

June 15 – Aug 19: 9:00am to 6:30pm

Aug 20 – Sept 30: 9:00am to 4:30pm

Tour Fees: Adults: \$12

Children 6–11: \$5 Children 5 and under: free

Paradise Tour

May 1 – September 30

Tour Times:

May 1 – June 14: 12:00pm and 2:00pm

June 15 – Sept 30: 10:30am, 12:00pm, 2:00pm

and 4:00pm

Tour Fees: Adults: \$12

Children 6–11: \$5 Children 5 and under: free

Wild Cave Tour

(By Reservation Only!)

June 17 – August 19

Sundays and Tuesdays only at 5:30pm

Tour Fee: \$30 (Pay at time of booking.

Cancellation fees apply.)

Must be 12 or older to participate.

Call us at (406) 287-3541 to book your Wild Cave Tour today!

Nonresidents are required to pay a \$6 day use fee, or be registered campers at the park, to enjoy our programs or take a cave tour.

Nonresidents may also purchase a \$35 annual state parks pass for camping discounts, access to interpretive programs and free entry into Montana state parks (does not include additional fees, such as cave tours).

2018 Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park Summer Events



Cave Tours offered daily

The park now offers 3 tour types:

Classic Cave Tour:

2-hour moderately rigorous tour

Paradise Tour:

70-minute easy cave tour

Wild Cave Tour:

3-hour difficult cave tour



MONTANA **FWP**

Friday Evening Programs

Our 2018 guest speaker lineup. All programs at 8:00pm in the campground amphitheater unless otherwise noted.

May 25 | Bighorn Sheep

Kelli Poole, Wild Sheep Foundation

June 1 | Rangeland Plants

Steve Saunders, Bridger AgVentures, LLC

June 8 | Recent Montana Earthquakes

Mike Stickney, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology

June 15 | Fungi of Lewis & Clark Caverns

Chance Noffsinger, Montana State University

June 22 | Brother, Can You Spare a Dime? Laughin' to Keep from Cryin' with Bill Rossiter

Bill Rossiter, Humanities Montana

June 29 | Eating with Lewis & Clark: Dutch Oven Cooking

Holly Moulton, Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park

July 6 | Montana Raptors

Riley Bell, Montana FWP

July 13 | Jefferson River Ecology

Kali Armstrong, Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park

July 20 | Montana Before Horses

Shane Doyle, Extreme History Project

July 27 | Botany Card Games (Main VC)

Thomas J. Elpel, author of Botany in a Day

August 3 | John Colter: Hunter, Trapper, and Long Distance Runner

John Russell, local broadcaster/historian

August 10 | Birds to Dinosaurs (Main VC)

Byron Butler, Audubon Society

Friday Programs (cont.)

August 17 | An Overview of Bats in Montana

Bryce Maxell, Montana Natural Heritage Program

August 24 | Wildlife Drama Tracked from the Air

Wendy Beye, Montana FWP

Other Special Programs

Special Owling Walk

Saturday, May 12 at 7:30pm. This is an easy night walk to search for the park owls. There is a \$4 charge per participant. Please call ahead to reserve a spot.

National Trails Day

This year we are offering a special hiking program to celebrate our trails in the park. Come join us and go for a hike! June 2, 9:00am

“Things That Go Bump”

We return our special night sounds walk on June 19 at 9:00pm, after the Bataptations program in the campground amphitheater.

Music by the Caverns

For a fourth straight year, this popular event is back. The park will again be hosting 2 full days of music this summer. Music by the Caverns days are July 29 and August 25. These music events will feature a diverse collection of local talent performing a variety of different musical styles suitable for all ages. These performances are free to Montana residents and registered campers.

Birding Days

This summer Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park will host our 8th annual birding day on Sunday, June 3, meeting at 7:30am. For this event we will be visiting the park's different bird habitats throughout the morning on several short hikes. This event offers great experiences for birders of all levels. Meet at the Main (lower) Visitor Center.

Saturday Naturalist Walks

Our naturalist-led walks feature the flora, fauna, history and geology of the park. The walks will be held at varying times, so please check times on our Facebook page or call Julia Smit at (406) 287-3541.

All Saturday programs meet at the park's Main Visitor Center east of the campground.

Ranger Talks

We are once again offering weekly Ranger Talks in 2018 on Tuesday evenings from June 12 to August 2. These will typically be offered at 8:00pm. Times may vary, so please call ahead!

Bat Week

Due to the success we've had the last few years, August 12 to August 18 will be our 8th Annual Bat Week at Lewis & Clark Caverns.

There will be two special tours, **The Misunderstood Bat** on Monday the 13th and Wednesday the 15th at 6:45pm.

\$12 for adults, \$5 for kids 6–11. Call to reserve a spot for these limited-engagement tours! Bat programs will be held daily, with

featured programs each night.

Unless stated otherwise, campground programs and naturalist walks are free to Montana residents and registered campers. Nonresidents are required to pay a \$6 park entry fee. For more information on our interpretive programs, contact Julia Smit at (406) 287-3541 or jsmit.fwp@gmail.com.



Tuesday Evening Ranger Talks

Join Park Ranger Julia Smit every Tuesday night for different presentations about Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park and beyond! Talks are free to Montana residents and registered campers. All talks meet at the campground amphitheater unless otherwise noted.

June 12 | Tuesday, 8:00pm

Cave Formations in a New Light

June 19 | Tuesday, 8:00pm

Bataptations

June 26 | Tuesday, 8:00pm

Living Cave

July 3 | Tuesday, 8:00pm

Fossils of Lewis & Clark Caverns

July 10 | Tuesday, 8:00pm

Cave Formations in a New Light

July 17 | Tuesday, 8:00pm

Bataptations

July 24 | Tuesday, 8:00pm

Living Cave

July 31 | Tuesday, 8:00pm

Fossils of Lewis & Clark Caverns

August 7 | Tuesday, 8:00pm

Cave Formations in a New Light

Saturday Naturalist Walks

Each Saturday, Park Ranger Julia Smit and other park staff will lead walks and present interactive talks on a variety of subjects that aim to expand our visitors' interests beyond the caverns! Saturday programs meet at the Main (lower) Visitor Center unless otherwise noted.

June 16 | Saturday, 9:00am

Lewis & Clark History Walk: A walk tracing the history of the expedition in the region

June 23 | Saturday, 9:00am

Can I eat this? A walk to find edible and medicinal plants

June 30 | Saturday, 9:00am

Wildflower Walk: A walk to learn about the wildflowers of the park

July 7 | Saturday, 7:00pm

Grabbing Life by the (Prong)horns: An activity diving into the adaptations of Pronghorns (meeting at the Amphitheater)

July 14 | Saturday, 7:00pm

The Amazing Atlatl: A hands-on activity taking us back to the early days of hunting



Saturday walks (cont.)

July 21 | Saturday, 9:00pm

Bat Walk: Hike/Drive to fishing access and walk along the river.

July 28 | Saturday, 9:00am

Lewis & Clark History Walk: A walk tracing the history of the expedition in the region

August 4 | Saturday, 8:00pm

Bats and Blooms Walk: Bats and Giant Evening Stars walk on the exit trail



August 11 | Saturday, 8:00pm

Can I eat this? A talk about edible, medicinal and toxic plants, meeting at the amphitheater

Please inquire about other programs, as the park sometimes has offerings not listed here. Others may become available late in the season.

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