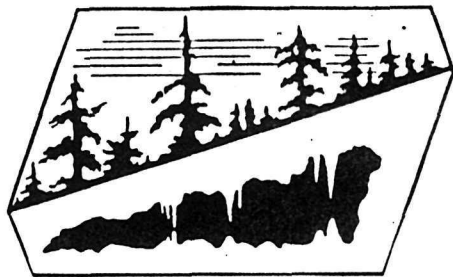


Jewel Cave

National Monument
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Custer, South Dakota 57730

Spelunking Tour



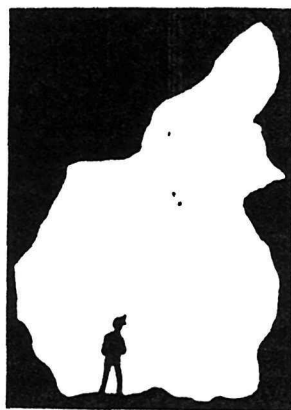
You have to be a little brave to go inside a cave. But if you find you like it, chum, you have to be a little dumb. Herb & Jan Conn



The Jewel Cave spelunking tour provides visitors a more in-depth cave experience than the other park cave tours provide and affords visitors the chance to increase their understanding, enjoyment, and respect for the underground world by encountering and experiencing the cave in its wild and natural state.

During the tour approximately 3,000 feet of cave is "explored". Techniques for safe, low impact caving are demonstrated and stressed throughout the tour. Cave formation, geology, and conservation are discussed along the trail and during rest stops.

Those who take this tour will not be experienced cavers at the end of the tour as a result of this brief caving experience.



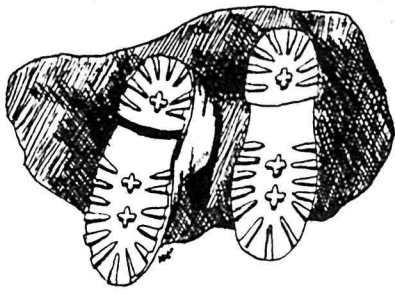
The spelunking tour is conducted daily, late May - early September. Reservations are required for this 4 hour tour and can be made up to 60 days in advance on a first-come, first-served basis. Tour size is limited to a minimum of 2 visitors and a maximum of 10 visitors. All reservations must be confirmed by telephone, letter, or in person 2 days prior to the day of the tour. A list of up to 10 alternates will be kept in case of cancellation. Tours may be cancelled due to lack of required number of participants or due to emergencies at the park.

The fee for this tour is \$5.00, payable on the day of the tour. No advance payment will be accepted. The spelunking tour is limited to visitors 16 years old and older. All tour participants will be required to provide proof of age upon request and to sign a waiver of responsibility prior to entering the cave; a parent or legal guardian must be present at the park on the day of the tour to sign the waiver of responsibility for any 16 or 17 year old participant.



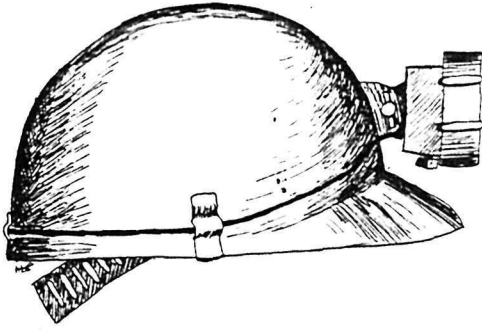
Tours begin and end at the park Visitor Center. Each participant must check in at the Visitor Center

Information Desk by 12:30 MDT or their space will be assigned to an alternate.



The spelunking tour is strenuous and limited to those visitors who are in good physical shape. Stooping, climbing and crawling are all required to negotiate the spelunking trail. Because several tight crawlways are encountered, each participant will be required to pass through a 8½ inch by 24 inch practice squeeze prior to entering the cave.

Anyone having claustrophobia (the fear of closed or narrow spaces) or a history of heart or respiratory problems, asthma, diabetes or other serious illness, or anyone suffering from chronic physical impairment should not attempt to take this tour.



The park provides a hardhat and light. Tour participants are required to provide all other equipment, including:

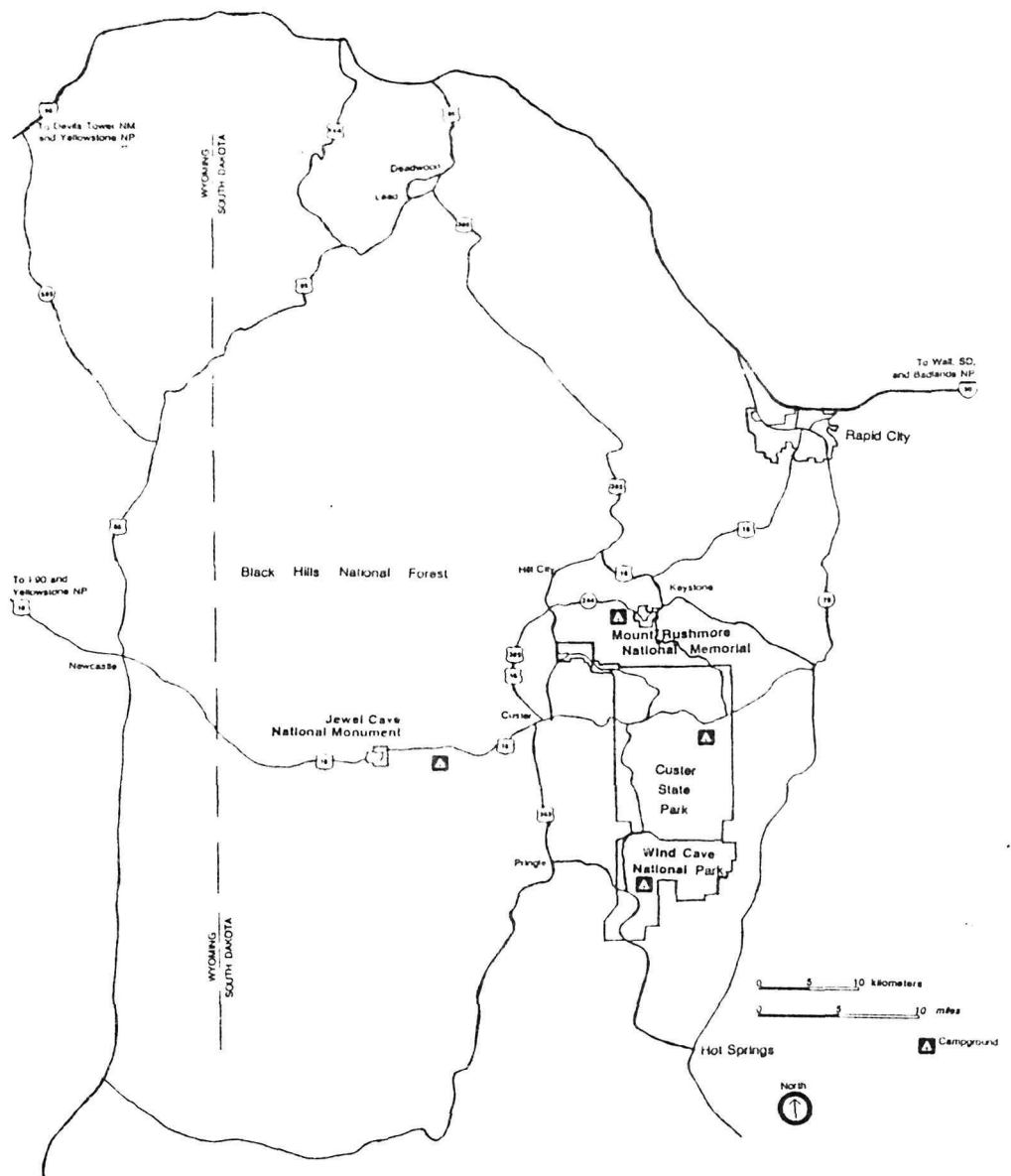
Sturdy, ankle high, rubber lug sole, lace up leather boots,

Warm, light clothing, long pants and long sleeved shirt, or coveralls,

Change of clothing for after the tour,

and other optional equipment, including;

Gloves, knee pads, elbow pads, small pack for water or candy.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Jewel Cave National Monument is located 13 miles west of Custer, South Dakota and 25 miles east of Newcastle, Wyoming on U.S. Highway 16.

Please call (605) 673-2288 or write: Unit Manager, Jewel Cave National Monument, RR 1, Box 60AA, Custer, South Dakota 57730.