

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Jewel Cave National Monument



# Jewel Cave's Wild Caving Tour

*"The excitement of discovery,  
the elation and despair,  
the thrill of pushing forward,  
to discover what is there ..."*

- Jan Conn  
Early Jewel Cave Explorer



**D**oes crawling, climbing, and squeezing through cave passages sound like an adventure? The Wild Caving Tour provides an off-trail exploration opportunity beyond the daily guided tours. Participants discover the silent wilderness of Jewel Cave through an extremely strenuous trek within a complex cave system.

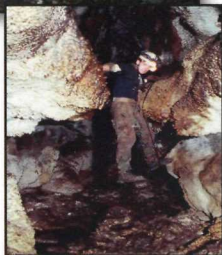
Following a Park Ranger, this caving tour lasts three to four hours and witnesses 2/3-mile of passageways. This tour requires physical endurance as each caver is exposed to a rugged underground terrain.

***Reservations are required.***

***Tours are offered on a seasonal basis.***

***For more information please call (605)***

***673-8300 or visit: [www.nps.gov/jeca](http://www.nps.gov/jeca)***



### Logistical Requirements

- Participants must be able to fit through a 24 inch by 8 1/2 inch opening.
- Cost: \$45.00 / Adult
- Group Max. is 5 Participants
- Group Min. is 2 Participants
- Age: Must be 16 yrs. or older
  - *A parent or legal guardian is required to sign a waiver of responsibility on the day of the tour, for a 16 or 17-year old participant.*

### Equipment Requirements

Participants must bring the following:

- Boots (good tread; no tennis shoes)
- Gloves
- Elbow Pads (soft)
- Knee Pads (soft)

*Jewel Cave National Monument provides participants with helmets and lights.*



### Clean-Up Requirements

Participants must bring the following:

- Second set of clean shoes
- Clean clothes to wear after the tour



*Note: Caving clothes from Jewel Cave cannot be worn in Wind Cave.*

*The Wild Caving Tour is often regarded as being one of the most challenging and rigorous public tours in the National Park Service. Anyone having claustrophobia (fear of closed spaces) or acrophobia (fear of heights), should not attempt this tour.*