Cumberland Caverns

TENNESSEE'S OLDEST AND LARGEST UNDERGROUND CLASSROOM

1437 Cumberland Caverns Road, McMinnville, TN 37110
Phone: 931-668-4396 • E-mail: info@cumberlandcaverns.com • Website: www.CumberlandCaverns.com

Educational Field Trips

There is a lot to explore and learn about inside Cumberland Caverns. You may be looking to sharpen up your class on some Test Practice Items in geology, science, or history. Or, you could be looking for a fun curriculum based field trip. Below you will find descriptions of the tour options available for school groups, and homeschools.

History & Geology Tour: This tour is part of all our educational field trips. Students will see artifacts from the Civil War. They will learn about salt peter mining and the manufacturing of gun powder. Our cave wildlife is described and you may even see a blind, albino crawfish or a cave cricket. Students are shown and taught the names of various cave formations while observing how the water cycle and rock cycle combine to create the caverns. This tour usually last 45 minutes to 1 hour.

Lunch in the Volcano Room: This is a favorite part of all field trips to Cumberland Caverns. Students bring their own sack-lunches and dine on picnic tables under our beautiful 3/4 ton crystal chandelier. During lunch your tour guide will share with your class an educational video about caves to further emphasize the lessons they have learned from their tour. We usually allow about 30 minutes for lunch.

Mountain Room & Light Show: Many groups say this is their favorite part of the tour. If you have time, the trip across the mountain room is well worth the effort. Your class will see some of the largest formations Cumberland Caverns has to offer. And you will be treated to a unique sound and light show that includes a poetic retelling of the creation story. This has been a favorite of many school groups for years. Crossing the Mountain Room will take approximately 30 to 45 minutes.

Candle-Lit Ghost Story: If you want to give your class something to really remember, try the “Spirits of the Caverns” tour. Your tour guide will lead the group through an unlit portion of the cave with only candles lighting the way. The group will then hear one of the sad tales of the ghosts that haunt our cave. This tour is fun at any time of the year. The ghost story portion of the tour will normally take about 30 minutes.

Gem & Fossil Mining: Rock, mineral, and fossil identification becomes a fun activity for your students. This program includes one bag of pre-seeded gem-mix for each student. The students go to our mining sluice to find out what is hidden in their bag. Each bag has several different varieties of gems and comes with an identification card to identify the various gems and minerals they will find.

And for something completely different: Adventure Trips: Cumberland Caverns offers wild-caving for your class or homeschool group. Adventure trips take you off the lit trails into the deepest, darkest parts of the cave. Your helmet and your flashlight will be your best friends when you start crawling, climbing, and squeezing through the “Wild Tour.” Adventure Trips are offered during the day or for a real treat, you can spend the night in the cave! Call for more details.
Help inspire your class to “take only memories and leave only footprints” by getting them out of the classroom and into nature!

A visit to the cave is not only visually stimulating, but entertaining and educational as well. The Daily Walking Tour is designed to educate kids and adults alike with explanations behind the forming of the cave, how to tell the difference between stalagmites and stalactites, identifying cave critters, and tales of our place in Civil War history.

**CATHEDRAL TOUR**
The Cathedral School Tour is the full tour of the lit portions of Cumberland Caverns. Your students will hear the History and Geology Tour. You will also cross over the Mountain Room to experience our famous light and sound show.

**GEOLOGY & MORE**
This is a shorter cave tour in which you will hear and see the History and Geology tour of the caverns and also have lunch in the Volcano Room. This tour does not include crossing the Mountain Room or the light and sound show.

**SPIRITS OF THE CAVERNS**
Not only will you experience the History and Geology Tour of the cave, but you will be treated to a candle-lit tour into the unlit portions of the cave and hear the story of a famous Cumberland Caverns ghost. Spooky fun for everyone!

**GEMS TOUR**
This tour includes the history and geology tour of the cave and lunch in the cave. Additionally, each student will receive one bag of gem-mine dirt which has several different varieties of gems and minerals.

**FOSSILS TOUR**
Just like the Gems Tour, this tour includes History and Geology. However, instead of gems, your students will find in their mining several fossils including corals, shark teeth, amber, and petrified wood.

**DAY AT THE CAVE TOUR**
If you can’t decide which tour, why not do it all! For the first time, we are offering all our educational field trip options in one, super-big, double-decker, extra-large tour.

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### 2017 CUMBERLAND CAVERNS EDUCATIONAL FIELD TRIPS

Pricing is good for 2017. 1 free teacher/staff for every 10 children. Bus Drivers always free. Please call at least 10 days in advance of planned field trip. We gladly accept PO’s from your school system. Call today: 931-668-4396. Times listed are approximate and allow for unloading and loading busses, bathroom break, check-in, etc.

### DON’T FORGET THE GIFT SHOP
What trip to Cumberland Caverns would be complete without visiting our gift shop? Over 1,000 unique items from boxed minerals for you classroom or rock collection to T-shirts, magnets, games, books, jewelry, and everyone’s favorite: Rock Candy!

### THINGS TO NOTE

Cumberland Caverns where adventures run deep! www.cumberlandcaverns.com