

# **THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING CUMBERLAND CAVERNS FOR YOUR ADVENTURE DESTINATION!**

We are excited to share with you the wonder & adventure of Cumberland Caverns! We want everyone to have fun, know what to expect, and how to prepare for their overnight adventure in the cave. Please make sure everyone receives a copy of this entire packet of information along with their release forms to fill out prior to arrival.

## **Important Things to Remember:**

- **Please double check your check-in time (we are located in the Central Time Zone), reservation date, and our address for the correct location.**
  - Again, if you arrive late we cannot guarantee you will make the tours because we do not want to inconvenience other groups that arrived on time.
- **Pack everything you will need for the overnight, but remember to pack light.** You will have to carry your own gear down into the cave. It is roughly 600 yards from the gift shop to the room where you will be sleeping. The trail through the cave is uneven, rocky, with steep uphill and downhill grades. Due to liability reasons, we cannot haul guests or any of their gear into or out of the cave. Prior to entering the cave, please make sure you have everything you will need for the entire night, including all gear, any medications, etc. After you have entered the cave, cave doors will be locked for the evening - this is for the safety of all of our guests.
- **Please make the overnight manager aware of any special medical conditions by calling or emailing us.**
- **Your group may have a late night, and therefore may be eating dinner late.** Please prepare for this by eating prior to arrival (since you cannot purchase snack bar food until after your tours are completed for the night).
- **“The Crawl Box”** – Everyone going on the Adventure Tour(s) included in the overnight packages must crawl through our test box before departing for the tour (dimensions for the box are 14-inches tall by 33-inches wide). This helps simulate the smallest crawl spaces on the adventure tours. Making it through this box is a must in order to go on the adventure tours. We will provide a helmet and headlamp for use on the adventure tours – you cannot bring your own helmet. The Walking Tour may be included in your overnight package, and does not require crawling through this box.
- **One Group Leader/Troop Leader will bring the following into the Gift Shop:**
  - **Release forms** –one form filled out for each attendee, and all forms separated ‘Adult’ from ‘Child’
  - **Tennessee Tax Exempt Form, or a Federal 501C3 Form for out of state organizations** (*if applicable*). These forms may be emailed prior to the date of your visit as well to [rsvp@cumberlandcaverns.com](mailto:rsvp@cumberlandcaverns.com). If we do not receive an exemption form by check-in, all taxes must be paid at check-in, before your overnight adventure can begin.
- **Your tour guide will assign the group/organization a campsite in the Ten Acre Room** – it is VERY important that your group stay within their specific lettered area to ensure there is enough room for all guests staying the night!
- **Final Payment & Final Headcounts**
  - **Participants may be added to a reservation until 10-days before the date of your visit, and as long as space is available. Space is only guaranteed for the participants that paid in advance.** During peak season, we book up quickly! With that being said, we recommend reserving your spaces sooner instead of waiting until 10 days prior.
  - **Unpaid participants or any participants added** less than 10 days prior to the reservation date will incur a late charge of **\$5.00 per person** in addition to the Overnight Adventure Package rate. We are not able to make any exceptions.
- **Vouchers**

If fewer participants attend than were paid for, the organization or group leader will receive a voucher for the difference after the reservation date. The voucher is valid for a 2 year period for that Overnight Adventure Package. We cannot issue vouchers to individual members of the group or organization, vouchers cannot be transferred to other groups/members/organizations, and we are not able to offer refunds.

## UNSURE OF WHAT TO BRING FOR YOUR OVERNIGHT ADVENTURE ?

Below are some of our recommendations:

### Things We Recommend Bringing:

- ✓ **Bedding:** sleeping bag, air mattress (we have outlets for your pump!), sleeping pad, or a cot.
- ✓ **Tarp** to put under sleeping bag, air mattress, etc.
- ✓ All explorers are required to wear lace up **closed-toe shoes** or boots. The more traction, the better!
- ✓ A change of **clean clothes** (you will get muddy & wet on the adventure tour)!
- ✓ **Light jacket** (cave is 56 degrees Fahrenheit)
- ✓ **Garbage bags** to put muddy/wet clothes in.
- ✓ **Personal toiletries**, such as wash rags, toothbrush, etc. There are no showers in the cave, but we do have sinks with hot/cold water and restrooms (not porta-potties!).
- ✓ **Knee pads** (Hint: Adults, you WILL want these.)
- ✓ **Gloves**
- ✓ **Flash light** (all lights are turned off at midnight, or when all groups have completed their tours and eaten).
- ✓ **Money/debit card** for snack bar & gift shop - **CASH** is preferred, if at all possible. (We are 333' underground and computer issues happen!)
- ✓ **CPAP devices are allowed** (let us know in advance, so we can accommodate).
- ✓ A **positive attitude**. You are going to have **FUN!**

### Things Not Allowed in the Cave:

- ✗ Tents
- ✗ Coolers
- ✗ Outside food or drinks (snack bar is located in the cave, please eat only in the designated area - Volcano Room)
- ✗ Fires
- ✗ Tobacco products
- ✗ Alcoholic Beverages
- ✗ Weapons (pocket knives are allowed)
- ✗ Fighting
- ✗ Horse play (Have fun, but safety first!)
- ✗ Excessive noise (please be considerate of your neighbors!)
- ✗ Entering or exiting the cave without a cave staff member present

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

**Address:** 1437 Cumberland Caverns Road  
McMinnville, TN 37110

**Phone:** 931-668-4396  
(In the event of an outside emergency, the snack bar cave line can be reached by calling the phone number above and following the prompts.)

**Website:**  
[www.cumberlandcaverns.com](http://www.cumberlandcaverns.com)

**Email:**  
[rsvp@cumberlandcaverns.com](mailto:rsvp@cumberlandcaverns.com)

The cave is 56 degrees Fahrenheit year round, with 99% humidity. A light jacket is recommended.

We do have an open WiFi network in the Volcano Room, however we ask that it be used sparingly – embrace the full Caveman Campout experience!

# CUMBERLAND CAVERNS

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

**Remember: Cave exploration can be a lot of fun, but we have some rules for everyone to follow to ensure the safety of everyone. Your Group Leader will go over these points with the group, as well. Both cave preservation and our guest's safety is extremely important to us at Cumberland Caverns.**

1. Discipline is to be maintained by the adults in the group. An unruly group can be very dangerous. Failure to comply with all rules could result in your expulsion from the cave.
2. Cave vandalism of any form will not be tolerated! It is a felony offence to damage the cave or harm any of the inhabitants. Violators will be prosecuted.
3. Outside food and drinks **CAN NOT** be taken into the cave except by person with medical reasons. Please make manager aware of such conditions in advance.
4. Water bottles are permitted. **DO NOT** pour any liquids onto the cave floor.
5. All food and drinks must be consumed in the dining area only (the Volcano Room).
6. No **running!**
7. Stay together, with your group, and behind your guide on the designated trails.
8. No rock climbing or rock collecting!!!
9. Use designated restrooms **ONLY!**
10. Each person on the spelunking/adventure trip **MUST** have a headlamp (these and helmets are provided by Cumberland Caverns for use on such tours).
11. Place all litter into trash cans.
12. No smoking or tobacco products of any kind inside the cave.
13. No drugs, alcohol, or weapons of any kind- this will not be tolerated!
14. No profanity.
15. **NO ONE** is permitted to leave the cave unescorted by a staff member after entering! Make sure each person in your group has **EVERYTHING** they need for their overnight stay before entering.
16. **While people can bring and use their own headlight, we DO NOT allow people to bring and use their own helmet. This can be a safety issue if it is not a proper helmet to wear in the cave. Bring extra batteries if you use your own personal headlamp (instead of ours) on the adventure tours.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN FOLLOWING AND HELPING US ENFORCE THESE RULES. WE HOPE YOU HAVE A GREAT TIME AT CUMBERLAND CAVERNS!**

*~Cavers Motto~  
Take nothing but pictures.  
Leave nothing but footprints.*

**-RELEASE FORM-  
THIS FORM IS MANDATORY FOR PARTICIPATION!!!!**

*One form per every participant in your group is required at check-in.*

**CUMBERLAND CAVERNS  
Adventure Trip Release Form**

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Activity Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Participant is a(n):      ADULT      CHILD**

**Participant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Participant's City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print your name if signing below for a minor:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

*Please read the following carefully:*

**\*\*WARNING\*\***

**Under Tennessee law, an adventure tourism professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in adventure tourism activities resulting from the inherent risks of such activities, pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, title 11, chapter 11.**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISKS**

**I, the undersigned person request and am granted permission to enter Cumberland Caverns to participate in a Spelunking Adventure Trip. I am aware I will be crawling in relatively small passages, climbing up and down ladders, walking and crawling over loose and slippery rocks and walking through muddy passageways. Furthermore, I understand that certain risks and dangers exist in this activity which may result in serious injury. I am aware that in signing this document on my behalf, or on behalf of my minor child and/or ward, for participation in Cumberland Caverns' Adventure Trip that certain elements of the activity are physically and mentally demanding.**

**EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**I confirm that I am physically and mentally capable of participating in the activity. I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown and assume full responsibility for my participation. I confirm that I will stay within permitted areas, within my group and in close contact with Cumberland Caverns guide and/or staff members during my time in the cave.**

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

**In consideration of the service and facilities provided, I, for myself; and for my minor child, do hereby release, waive, and discharge Cumberland Caverns, their officers, employees, principals, directors, agents, and volunteers from any and all liability to the undersigned's personal representatives, assigns, heirs and next of kin, for any of any and all injury, disability, death, or loss or damage, to personal property.**

**SCOPE OF RELEASE AND INDEMNITY**

**The undersigned expressly agrees that this release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the law of the State of Tennessee. Further, I give Cumberland Caverns permission to use photo and video taken at this facility in promotional materials.**

**I have read this document and I understand it is a release of all claims. I understand and assume all risk inherent. I voluntarily sign my name evidencing my acceptance of the above provisions.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date Signed:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

*(Adults should sign for themselves. A parent or guardian should sign for minors)*

**\*\*\*If you did not receive a copy of the overnight information packet, which tells you everything to expect on your overnight adventure, please see your group leader. \*\*\***