



United States Department of the Interior  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CARLSBAD CAVERNS NATIONAL PARK  
3225 National Parks Highway  
Carlsbad, NM 88220



## Carlsbad Caverns National Park News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 1, 2024

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### **Carlsbad Caverns National Park seeks public comment on proposed tour fees increase**

Carlsbad Caverns National Park is seeking public comments on proposed changes to tour fees. The last time tour fees were increased at Carlsbad Caverns was in 2012.

These proposed fee increases are based on comparable fees charged for similar tours at other sites that provide guided cave tours.

Below is a comparison of current and proposed tour fees:

Tour Current Fee - Proposed Fee:

King's Palace Tour \$8 adults / \$4 children to \$12 adults / \$7 children

Lower Cave Tour \$20 adults / \$10 children to \$30 adults / \$18 children

Slaughter Cave Tour \$15 adults/ \$10 children to \$30 adults / \$18 children

The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act is the legislation that allows the park to collect entrance and amenity fees, such as tours. This law allows parks like Carlsbad Caverns to retain 80% of the fees collected for use on projects that directly enhance the experience of park visitors. The remaining percent of all collected fees is distributed for use throughout the National Park System. Public engagement is an important part of the park's planning process. Carlsbad Caverns National Park is accepting public comments on the proposed fee increases. Please submit all comments through the National Park Service's Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/cavetours> from November 1, 2024, to November 30, 2024.

All public comments on the proposed tour fees increase will be accepted through November 30, 2024.

