

WHEN TO ARRIVE: Plan to arrive between 6:30pm and 6:45pm. If emergence times fluctuate and we anticipate an earlier or later emergence, we will notify you by email by 5pm the day prior to your visit. Please be on time. Once gates are closed no one else will be permitted to enter the property.

WHERE TO MEET: Look for the Bracken Cave Road Street sign and/ or “BCI Event” sign and drive in just past the gate. Staff and volunteers will be there to greet you.

DIRECTIONS:

Address- 26101 FM 3009, San Antonio, TX 78266

- From Interstate 35, take Exit 175 - Natural Bridge Caverns Road (Hwy 3009)
- Turn onto FM 3009 (heading west 7 miles)
- Turn left at Bracken Cave Road – look for a “BCI Event” sign and/or orange traffic cone

Important: Smartphone navigation systems directed to “Bracken Bat Cave” will take you to the wrong place. Look instead for “Bracken Cave Preserve” and ensure that the address is listed as 26101 FM 3009, San Antonio, Texas 78266. If you pass the entrance to Natural Bridge Caverns you missed us.

WHAT TO WEAR:

- Comfortable clothing for Texas hot summer temperatures.
- Close-toed shoes

WHAT TO BRING: Bottled water (there is no water or vending on site). You may also want to bring insect repellent, hand sanitizer, sunscreen, camera (no flash, please), and binoculars. Please eat dinner before you arrive. When registering with the Ticket Tailor app you will receive an email confirmation and ticket bring copy of ticket or save to your phone. If not, there is no need to print or bring a ticket.

WHAT NOT TO BRING: Pets, coolers, alcohol. No RVs or motorcycles.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Arrive at Bracken Cave Preserve main gate for check-in. Once your entire party has arrived you will be given directions to the cave.
- Please eat prior to arriving at the Preserve. The picnic area has been closed and no food is allowed in the viewing area.
- Drive to cave parking area. Once there look for the Pavilion.
- There will be a short orientation and educational talk schedule post and a docent to answer your questions before going to the cave viewing area.
- Enjoy the spectacle of millions of bats emerging from the cave!
- The preserve has a unisex port-a-potty with hand sanitizer just a short walk from the viewing area.
- Guests may leave at any time after the emergence has started.
- You may encounter various wildlife. This includes snakes, spiders, birds, bugs, raccoons, possums and more. Please be vigilant while at the preserve. And give our wildlife the right of way.

ACCESSIBILITY: There is a short ¼ mile walk over uneven surfaces from the closest parking to the viewing area.

If you or a guest have limited mobility or accessibility needs, please let the staff or docent at the main gate know this when you arrive so we can accommodate you. There is bench seating in the viewing area.

CANCELLATIONS DUE TO WEATHER OR OTHER FACTORS: If rain or other weather is an issue, we will assess the situation and decide if the event will be canceled by 3:00 PM the day of your visit. If the event is CANCELED, you will be notified by email. If the tour is NOT CANCELED, you will not be contacted and will be expected at the gate.

If local regulations regarding doing business during the COVID-19 pandemic cause us to close or cancel, we will let you know by email as soon as possible.

QUESTIONS? Check out the Bracken Visitation FAQs page at www.batcon.org/brackenfaq. Night of contact Fran Hutchins at 512-848-9404.