

## Mercer Caverns Tours

Things have changed since Walter J. Mercer discovered the cave in 1885. Today visitors enjoy the convenience of walkways and electric lighting. Cave tours last about 45 minutes. The cavern temperature is 55 degrees year-round. The tour covers about a quarter mile on walkways and stairs. There are a total of 440 steps, 208 down into the caverns and 232 up out of the caverns. Visitors descend a total of 160 vertical feet below the entrance. Flash photography is permitted on tours. For safety reasons no tripods or video cameras are allowed on the tour.

### Hours of Operation

#### Summer Hours

Beginning Memorial Day Weekend and lasting through Labor Day, Mercer Caverns opens daily at 9:00 a.m. The first tour departs at 9:30 a.m., and the last tour departs at 5:00 p.m.

#### Winter Hours

The rest of the year Mercer Caverns opens daily at 10:00 a.m., the first tour departs at 10:30 a.m., and the last tour departs at 4:30 p.m. Mercer Caverns is closed on Christmas Day.

#### Reservations

School and other group reservations may be made in advance by calling the caverns directly at (209) 728-2101 or 728-2378.

#### Contact Us

The most up to date information on tours can be obtained by calling us at one of the above numbers or by visiting our web site:

[www.mercercaverns.com](http://www.mercercaverns.com)

## Mercer Caverns Mining Company

In addition to cave tours, you can experience what it was like to mine for minerals in the 1800s at the Mercer Caverns Mining Company. Several kinds of "mining rough" may be purchased so guests may experience firsthand what it is like

to mine for minerals in a mining sluice. As you wash away the mining rough you will discover a variety of mineral or fossil treasures in each bag.

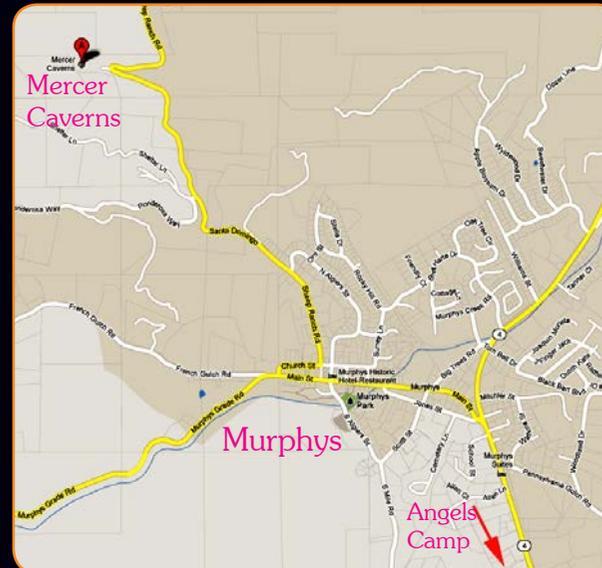


# Discover the Wonders of MERCER CAVERNS



### Finding the Caverns

Mercer Caverns is located at 1665 Sheep Ranch Road, one mile from the town of Murphys, CA, which is just off Highway 4 in the Mother Lode country. Coming from Highway 4 eastbound, turn left into the Murphys Business District, which is Main Street. In half a mile look for a sign indicating the right turn from Main Street on to Sheep Ranch Road. There is a sign for the cave, and the Murphys Old Timers Museum is on the same corner.



(209) 728-2101 [www.mercercaverns.com](http://www.mercercaverns.com)

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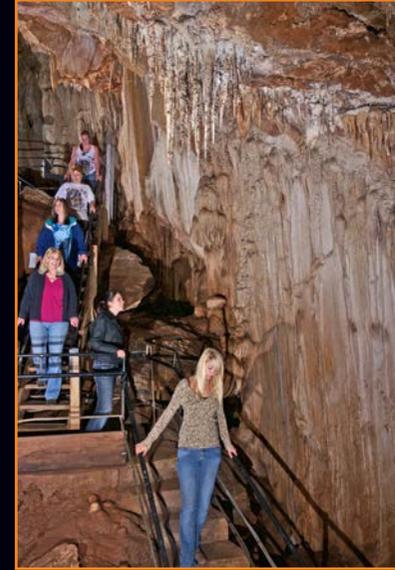
Murphys, California  
(209) 728-2101

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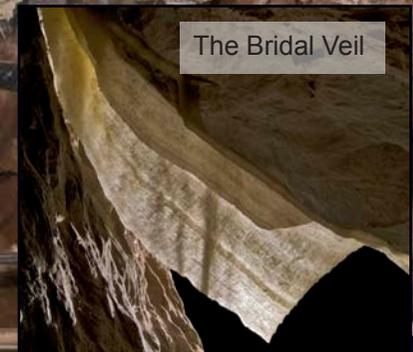
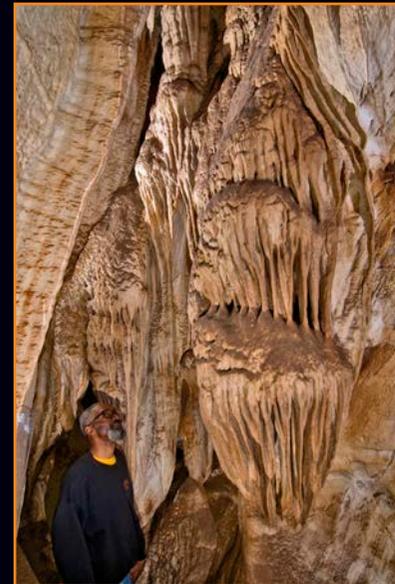
Discover beauty hidden beneath the Mother Lode



Aragonite crystals



Descending into the caverns reveals rare and unique underground treasures.



The Bridal Veil



Simon's Thumb

