

The Underground Tour

During the season conducted tours start every hour on the hour from the Cave entrance from 10am to 4pm and at busier times every half hour. The Cave entrance gives little hint of the sights and colours which await the visitor. Almost an hour long one kilometer journey through large natural passages full of features and curiosities revealing an awesome sequence of events stretching back in time some 350 million years. The Witches Fingers drip on the unwary! Queen Victoria's Bloomers are displayed for all to see and mysterious potholes swallow the water to disappear into deeper caves. The Ice Ages have left their mark with vast deposits of boulder clay in which the remains of woolly rhinoceros were discovered in 2001. An unforgettable experience for all the family, from toddlers in push chairs to senior citizens!



How to Find Us

To reach the Cave visitors walk from the National Park car park in Clapham Village (sat. nav. LA2 8EA). Clapham is on the A65 Leeds - Skipton - Kendal trunk road. The signed route follows the river, which comes from the Cave, up the village passing the church and waterfall to reach the entrance to the Ingleborough Estate's Nature Trail. A small charge is made for the trail and leaflets are available at the start to help interpret the many features to be seen along the route. This is a very popular 1.3 mile walk with people of all ages, passing the lake and up through the wooded valley to the open dale and the imposing entrance to the Cave. Allow a minimum of half an hour for this walk along a gravel path, slightly uneven here and there and with some uphill gradients (10° max.). Grid Reference SD 754 711.

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discovery

for all the

family!

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Ingleborough

At Clapham in the Yorkshire Dales

The management reserve the right to refuse entry to the cave

if they consider the safety or enjoyment o

a tour may be compromised







About the Cave

Ingleborough Mountain, one of the famous Three Peaks of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, is renowned for its caves and potholes. The area contains a labryinth of underground passages and watercourses hollowed out of the limestone rock over thousands of years. The glaciers of the Ice Ages advanced over the area leaving behind a unique and picturesque landscape and on the South side of Ingleborough Mountain, near to Clapham Village, there are the most famous caves in the British Isles and some of the most spectacular scenery in the National Park. High on the mountain Fell Beck drops 98 metres into Gaping Gill pothole with Britain's highest waterfall into one of the largest underground chambers in the British Isles. Fell

A visit to Clapham has a great deal to offer. It encapsulates some of the very best of the Yorkshire Dales National Park so allow yourself time and really enjoy it!

In the Cave there is a steady temperature (9°C), concrete paths, no steps and normal walking attire is suitable for a visit. Hard hats are provided, access for toddlers in single width pushchairs and dogs on leads. It is very rarely affected by wet weather and visits can be arranged in confidence. In fact the wetter the weather the more spectacular the Cave! There is some slight stooping for short distances in two areas of the Cave (minimum height 55in. / 1400mm) so 'baby' rucksack frames need to be carried! Natural underground features mean the Cave is not suitable for many wheelchair users. Please ring to discuss before arranging a visit.

At the Cave a shop with the usual amenities sells confectionary, hot and cold drinks, ice cream, fossils, minerals and souvenir postcards, along with tickets for the Cave tours which depart from the shop at regular intervals.



There's More!

After your visit, if you wish, there is more exploring to do. A short distance further up the valley (10 minutes from the Cave) is Trow Gill, an impressive limestone gorge carved out by melt water from the Ice Age glacier. Beyond the gorge the going is more energetic following the path up on to the open fell to Gaping Gill pothole (45 minutes from the Cave) where Fell Beck drops vertically 98 metres into the Main Chamber of Gaping Gill... so beware! Hardier souls carry on up to the 2372ft, summit of Ingleborough Mountain (2 hours from the Cave).

Adventure tours of two / three hour activity and exploration going beyond the usual Show Cave tour into further reaches of the Cave can be arranged. Please call or email us for more details.

Prices, Times etc.

Open daily February half-term through to the end of October 10 a.m. through to 4 p.m. (5 p.m. holiday periods). During winter months the Cave is open at weekends (last tour 3 p.m.) and midweek visits by groups can be made by appointment.

ADMISSION CHARGES.

Adults - £9.00, Children - £4.50 Seniors/Students - £7.50, Family - £25.00 Children under school age free.