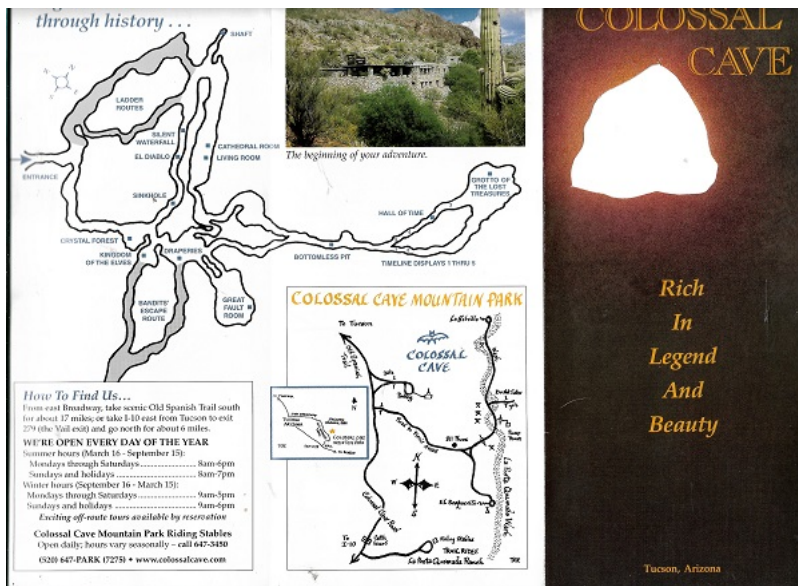


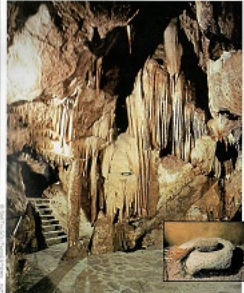
Vzpomínky (26)

Kolosální jeskyně - horský park, Vail, Arizona, USA



Colossal Cave

is called "DRY" or "dormant" which means that, due to a lack of water, the formations are not growing right now. This makes it different from any other cave you may visit in the United States -- and always a perfect 70°.



Colossal Cave is a crystal-filled hollow mountain.

The Jewel in the Desert . . .



Bondito's Hideout

COLOSSAL CAVE, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, had been used for centuries by prehistoric peoples when it was "discovered" in 1879. Since then it has been the object of interest and attention by people ranging from train robbers to a President of the University of Arizona.

The first tours were taken through the unimproved Cave in 1923, tours which involved ropes and lanterns.

Thanks to the Civilian Conservation Corps, who constructed the buildings, walkways, and wiring in the mid-1920s, today's tours are very comfortable. The hand-set flagstone walkways and handrails are exactly as installed by the CCC -- these days, however, Colossal Cave is wearing new lights and is more breathtakingly beautiful than ever before. (We're proud to say that the lights are energy-saving compact fluorescents.)

The tour route is a half mile long and takes about 45-50 minutes to complete. As your guide relates the Cave's history, legends, and geology, you walk down and back up about six and a half stories and see beautiful cave formations like stalactites,

is in a Spectacular Setting. .



stalagmites, flowstone, boxwork, and helictites.

Tours are given daily, year-round. They are not pre-scheduled, but you'll never wait longer than 30 minutes after you purchase your ticket. You need no special clothing in the Cave, which is always 70° and dry. You are welcome to take pictures inside -- you'll want to use high-speed film and a flash unit for cameras, or a condelight setting for videocams.

Outside, you will find a unique gift shop to browse in, a fresh-air snack bar, and a comfortable ramada framing one of the most spectacular views in southern Arizona.

And the Park offers much more... wooded picnic grounds, hiking and birding in a rare riparian area, Western trail rides along a historic stagecoach route, kids' birthday parties, and real Cowboy Cookouts -- all in pristine Sonoran desert.

