Cave City is back for 2019 and will run from 5 to 10 April

It's a celebration of all things cave with chances to see some spaces under the city you have never seen before as well as to try some events and activities you wouldn’t usually see in a cave.

We wanted to thank our many newsletter subscribers by letting you have a sneak peak and a chance to book on events before the information goes public.

We have worked with lots of local businesses to put on a great programme and you can build up a great itinerary over a number of days. Check out the full line up at the Cave City pages on Whats On Nottingham

Here are some cave highlights not to be missed...

Urban Rooms Hub

Saturday 6 April (12-4pm)
Sunday 7 - Tuesday 9 April 2019 (10am-4pm)
Urban Room, Carrington Street

Come along to the Caves Festival Hub to get all the info on events taking place across the city.

Stunning cave photography by local photographer Lamar Francois will be on display (example below), and there will even be a chance to enjoy a virtual reality tour of the Nottingham Castle Caves (there may be a wait for this).

This will also be a great opportunity to meet the team at Trent & Peak Archaeology who will be on hand at points over the Festival to talk about their work

Find out more about the Caves Festival Hub
Talk with Trent and Peak Archaeology (Free event but book online)
Access Archaeology drop ins
Lamar Francois Exhibition

A Lamar Francois photo of the Peel Street caves. There is another example below

Peel Street Cave Tours

The 'must see' event of last year's festival is back on this year's itinerary with a chance to experience Nottingham's largest cave system.

Nicknamed the Mammoth Cave because of its vast size and winding passages, this makes this cave system a labyrinth. This is a unique experience, unlike any other cave tour in the city.

Nottingham's City Archaeologist, Scott Lomax, will lead tours of this cave system and will provide a fascinating history of the caves, revealing many little-known facts and anecdotes.

Book tickets for the Peel Street tour

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Tour of Rock Cemetery Catacombs

Friday 5 to Tuesday 9 April 2019 | 11am & 1pm
£10 including booking fee

Brand new for this year is this unique opportunity to visit the fascinating catacombs beneath Rock Cemetery.

Church Cemetery is bounded by Mansfield Road, Forest Road and The Forest Recreation Ground. Known as Rock Cemetery because of the sandstone caves within, these caves comprise intriguing tunnels. Visitors can see these while hearing tales of their past and legend. This will include the story of Robin Hood's Cave, located on the eastern perimeter. In the mid-19th century, it was rumoured this area had been part of an ancient druid temple. Guided tours will provide an introduction and background to the Cemetery itself followed by a tour of the catacombs.

The meeting point for tours will be at the main entrance to the Cemetery adjacent to the Cemetery Lodge, junction of Forest Road East and Mansfield Road. The tours are not suitable for wheelchairs or prams/buggies, and sensible footwear must be worn. Those aged under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Book tickets for the Rock Cemetery tour

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Mortimer's Hole Cave Tours

Saturday 6 - Tuesday 9 April 2019 | 10am, 11am, 12 noon, 2pm, 3pm
Tickets: £5 including booking fee

Beneath Nottingham Castle, a labyrinth of man-made caves and tunnels continue to tell the turbulent story of this historic site. Enjoy a memorable tour discovering the secret passageway named Mortimer's Hole, and hear tales from the site's 1000 years of history. This is a unique opportunity to access some of the caves under Nottingham Castle, while it is closed for redevelopment.

Please be aware that the tour is strenuous with LOTs of steep steps. Access to Mortimer's Hole will be from Brewhouse Yard grounds only. The ascent up the tunnel to the top of Castle Rock is very strenuous and visitors will have to be physically fit to participate. Sensible footwear must also be worn.

N.B. For visitors who are unable to participate in this tour a Virtual Reality experience of Mortimer's Hole is available throughout the Caves Festival at the Urban Room, 38 Carrington Street. See above

Book tickets for the Mortimer's Hole tour

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People's Hall

Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 April 2019 | 11am, 2pm and 3pm
FREE (booking required)

A rare opportunity to take a tour of the Grade II* Listed People’s Hall in Nottingham's Lace Market. Learn about the colourful history of this wonderful building, and hear of the plans to transform it thanks to the National Lottery Heritage Fund. All under 16’s to be accompanied by an adult.

The building has stepped access throughout. The steps to the caves are very steep but this part of the tour can be avoided if necessary.

Book a space on the People's Hall tours

Cave Petanque in People's Hall
Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 April 2019 | 10am - 4pm (timed 30 minutes slots)
£20.00 per session including booking fee

Enjoy exclusive use of one of the People's Hall caves for a game of Pétanque! Groups of up to 6 people can access this unique space beneath the Grade II* listed People's Hall in Nottingham's Lace Market. Equipment will be provided.

Max 6 per booking. There are very steep steps down to the cave. Please wear sensible footwear and warm clothing.

Book a Cave Petanque session

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Other Festival Highlights

Cave Escape (Pictured)
City Of Caves Ghosts of the caves tour
Malt Cross Beer Tasting
Deckchair Barbers
Underground Wollaton
Ye Olde Trip To Jerusalem Tours
Yoga in the Tunnel
Fine Ales and Strange Tales (Story telling in the Salutation Caves)

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