



A3.CC

Cliefden Caves—a cave system threatened with flooding.

New South Wales

With over 60 recorded caves, all on private property, Cliefden Caves is one of the most cavernous limestone areas in New South Wales.



Photo: Philip Maynard

The caves are extremely well decorated and contain rare blue stalactites.

Cliefden Caves have been ranked among the 70 most significant fossil sites in Australia.

A proposed dam on the Belubula River would flood most of the known caves, which currently have no statutory

protection. This is a real threat and there is currently a prominent conservation campaign to Save Cliefden Caves.

Summary:

Starting place, date and time.	End place, date and approximate time.	Number of participants.	Sleeping bags required.	Camping gear (tents) required.	Included meals.	SRT required.	Cost A\$ (Incl. GST)
Penrith railway station. 31 July 7.30 a.m.	Central Railway Sydney. 7 August 8.44 p.m.	Min: 4 Max: 10	Yes	No	All meals included.	No	\$420



Details:

Name of excursion.	A3.CC Cliefden Caves—a cave system threatened with flooding.
Contact person.	Denis Marsh denis.marsh@hotmail.com or Glen Griffith ggriffith2798@yahoo.co.uk
Overview of excursion.	All horizontal caves with possible option for a vertical trip. Some squeezing and mud. Day visits to other local karst areas and caves at Walli and Borenore. Day trip to Age of Fishes Museum, Canowindra. Field excursion to Cliefden Caves can be extended to 10 days on demand for an extra \$70 (Full cost for 10 days: \$490) to conclude Wednesday 9 August, or could also negotiate shorter trip on demand.
Starting place, date and time.	Meet at Penrith Railway Station 7.30 a.m. Monday 31 July for 8.06 a.m. train to Bathurst. Change at Bathurst to coach and arrive Mandurama 12.01 p.m. Private cars will transfer the group to Cliefden Caves. Arrive at accommodation hut 12.30 p.m.
Finishing place, date and time.	Depart Cliefden Caves Monday 7 August 3.20 p.m. Arrive Central railway station at 8.44 p.m. Alternative option of travel to Canberra: Depart Cliefden Caves Monday 17 July 9.45 a.m. Arrive Canberra (West Row, Civic) 5.22 p.m.
Min and max no of participants.	Minimum: 4 People Maximum: 10 People

Cost of excursion and what is included.	A\$420 per person for eight days. Includes all transport costs from Sydney (Central Station) to caves and return to either Sydney or Canberra. Includes all accommodation, meals and admission to fossil museum.			
Transport.	Train and bus services to and from Cliefden Caves. Transport in private vehicles during field excursion.			
Accommodation type.	Very basic hut accommodation used by local cavers on private property. Dormitory-style rooms and shared bathroom and kitchen facilities.			
Bedding requirements.	Own sleeping bag, pillow and towel required. Hire of pillow/s optional extra.			
What meals are included?	Breakfast: cereals and toast. Lunch: sandwiches (bread and fillings supplied to make own preference). Dinner. Special dietary needs by prior arrangement. Alcoholic beverages can be arranged at participant's own expense.			
Arrangements for meals not covered and anticipated costs.	Please bring your own snack food requirements.			
Is SRT required?	SRT not required. Optional laddering in one or two caves.			
Clothing requirements.	Basic caving gear: boots, helmet, light & cotton overalls.			
Average weather details for August (Orange).	Min temp 0.9° C	Max temp 11.3° C	Rainfall 86 mm	Daylight hours 10.5hrs
Travel considerations: remote area, phone coverage, medical access, money access, local quarantine issues.	Rural area with mobile phone reception available in most of area. Medical, personal supplies and money access 30 kilometres away. All caving equipment must be clean and disinfected.			