

# Natural STONE BRIDGE & CAVES PARK

- ★ REMEMBER YOUR CAMERA
- ★ PICNICKING AREAS AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE
- ★ RESTROOMS LOCATED BY #2 & PICNIC / PLAYGROUND
- ★ REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE
- ★ LUNCH/DINNER & SOFT ICE CREAM AVAILABLE AT CAFÉ, CORNER OF RT 9 AND STONE BRIDGE RD



- ★ STAY ON TRAIL / NO SMOKING
- ★ TRAILS CAN BE SLIPPERY WHEN WET— WALK SLOWLY
- ★ WEAR SAFE RUBBER SOLED SHOES (RENTALS AVAILABLE)
- ★ PLEASE DON'T DISTURB THE NATURAL ROCKS & PLANTS
- ★ SEASON PASS AVAILABLE
- ★ TOUR IS KEPT NATURAL SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Thank you,  
The Becklers

Exit 26 Interstate 87  
Pottersville, NY  
518-494-2283

## GUIDE POINTS ★ Follow the numbers located on the top of the Green Interpretive Signs ★

1. **An Adirondack Natural Wonder.** Welcome to the only cave attraction in the Adirondacks. Your adventure begins on trails kept natural, so go slowly and be careful of rocks and tree roots. This map is numbered, **follow the numbers on the green signs, not** the Frisbee golf course numbered flags.
2. **Petrified Wood Display.** Marvel at these large museum grade specimens of ancient timber now preserved as solid rock.
3. **Caveman Adventure Park.** For kids of all ages. Try finding gold or crystals in the **Gold Rush** and **Crystal Quest mines**. Try our 9 “hole” **Frisbee Golf Challenge** or your hand at the two **Climbing Walls**. There is a separate fee for these activities that you can purchase at the main entrance/gift shop when you return from your tour.
4. **Trout Brook.** At the end of the last ice age the melting Wisconsin Glacier produced this once mighty river that formed the Natural Stone Bridge and Caves. The brook is now a usually tranquil waterway filled with many brook and rainbow trout, snapping turtles and the occasional beaver.
5. **Sawmill Waterfall Site.** The waterfalls of Trout Brook provided the water wheel power for early Dutch pioneers to cut lumber and grind grain (1750—1910). The very last old beam and some stonework at your feet are all that remain.
6. **Mediation Isle.** Your first spectacular view of the Natural Stone Bridge, discovered by Portuguese Explorers in the 1600s.
7. **Lookout Point.** Wow! The Bridge certainly feels higher from here. Where does all that water go?
8. **The Giant’s Slide.** Stand right next to the arrow to peer down this steep cave and see the water flowing under the Stone Bridge.
9. **The Natural Stone Bridge.** Cavers have been mapping the caves (2003-2008) and have determined the Stone Bridge is the largest cave entrance in the East. It is one of two main cave systems located at Natural Stone Bridge and Caves Park.
10. **Noisy Cave.** Loud! It is easy to see where the name comes from. At the start of the second main cave system, the water disappears at your feet and continues on to the **Whirlpool**, the **Lost Pool Cave**, under the **Potholes** and on to **Echo** and **Garnet Cave** and finally into **Artist ‘s Gorge**. Before **Arch Rock** – STOP. Turn around and try to find the **Piggy-Back Turtles** at your feet. Hint – the baby is about 4’ long and the mother is about 8’ long.
11. **Peter Pan’s Peephole.** Proceed down the stairs to the platform (holds about 4 people) then one at a time, carefully go down and peek down one of the older cave passages into Noisy Cave. Please accompany any youngsters.
12. **Photo Spot.** Sit back and enjoy the beauty. If you are adventurous, continue on to #13 and then return here.
13. **Serenity Point.** Probably the most peaceful spot on the tour. Enjoy Mother Nature, then return to #14.
14. **Upper Nature Trail.** Turn right to follow this path overlooking the cave systems.
15. **Inspiration Point.** Step up among these hemlock roots and see if you feel grounded in your connection to the earth.
16. **Indian Maidens Kettle.** One of the largest potholes in NY at over 20 feet across, it was formed by swirling waters from the ancient raging river. In front of you is **Echo Cave**, a large cave that connects to **Garnet Cave**, named for the gemstones embedded in the ceiling. You may see “Adventure Tour” participants floating through these caves during the afternoon.
17. **Oyster Shell.** This large 20’ high formation is positioned right above the exit for the water that flowed under the Stone Bridge. The variety of shapes carved into the marble is endless. As you retrace your steps, look across the gorge for **George Washington’s Profile** (nose pointing downstream),
18. **High Water Mark.** Trout Brook floods every spring during the snow melts and after unusually heavy rains. Look up to see the height of the river when the cave systems can no longer handle the volume of water as it spills over the pothole area. Each fall, stairs/ramps/railings must be removed, then rebuilt in late spring (or when the occasional June/July flood destroys them). See picture of these floods in the **Adirondack Memories Building**.
19. **The Potholes.** An outstanding example of pothole formation. Proceed down the stairs and observe **The Whirlpool** (on your left) as water from Noisy Cave drains down 20’ and connects with water from the Lost Pool Cave.
20. **Lost Pool Cave.** Sometimes water pours down at the left end, and at other times a mirrored surface looks like you could walk right onto it, but don’t, the water is 30’ deep! This is the end of the tour. Proceed up the wood stairs, read the **Kayak story**, name **U-Name-It Grotto**, go up the rock stairway. Keep to the right to **EXIT**. Explore the **History Pavilion with a PBS Video Show** and visit the **Adventure Park** for more fun activities.