

ANSC ADVENTURE EXPERIENCES

GENERAL INFORMATION

WHAT IS AN ADVENTURE EXPERIENCE?

Is your group looking for **a unique view of our natural world** that few Austinites have experienced? From high atop a rock wall to deep underground, ANSC staff members will lead your group of adventurers on one of **four types of outdoor excursions in the Austin area**.

WHO CAN GO?

Ages 9–adult

Caving & Climbing: Maximum 12 participants/program (+1 more adult, if adventurers are under 18.)

Archery & Teambuilding: Maximum 24 participants/program (+1 more adult, if adventurers are under 18.)

WHERE WILL OUR ADVENTURE BE?

Adventure sites are located **in and around the Austin area**. See specific program information for details.

WHEN CAN WE GO?

We work with your schedule: **November through April**, we have available time slots from **Tuesday–Friday**.

WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM FEES?

Austin residents: **\$240/group**

Non-residents: **\$284/group**

HOW DO WE SIGN UP?

To reserve a date and time, please **call Visitor Services** (512-974-3888) beginning **October 10th**.

*Please note that adventure-related experiences are also available within our **camps** for registered campers.*



MENU OF PROGRAMS



[Archery](#)



[Caving](#)



[Rock climbing](#)



[Team building](#)

PROGRAM INFORMATION

WHY ARCHERY?

Have you ever wondered if you'd be able to survive and feed yourself as a prehistoric hunter?

Archaeologists believe **humans have been using bows and arrows for more than 70,000 years**. Now, it's your turn; learn how to handle one of humanity's oldest hunting tools and see if you can sharpen your survival skills!

WHAT WILL WE DO?

We will learn how to safely load and shoot arrows using **compound bows** (which are modern versions of the caveman tool). Then, we'll improve our marksmanship by aiming at targets on our archery range!

WHO WILL ENJOY THIS ADVENTURE?

- Fans of the *Hunger Games* trilogy
- Sidekicks-in-training for the superhero Green Arrow
- Future 2020 and 2024 Olympic archers



WHERE WILL WE GO?

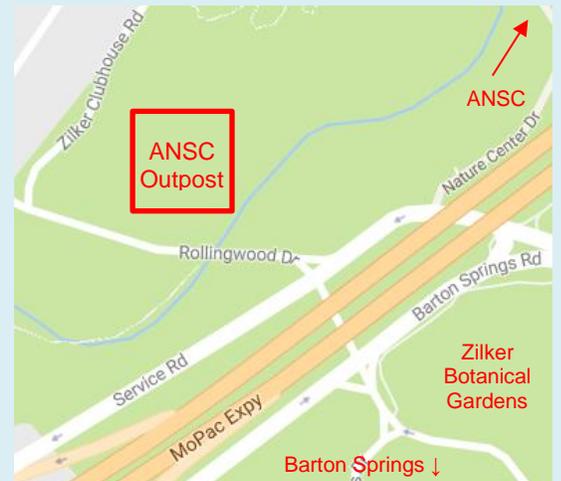
We will meet at the **ANSC Outpost**, located at 2400 Rollingwood Drive, Austin, TX, 78746 (see map to the right).

HOW LONG IS THIS ADVENTURE?

The archery program runs for approximately **2 hours**.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO BRING?

A refillable water bottle — ANSC provides everything else that you'll need for this adventure.



Parking is available within the Outpost compound, as well as across the street from the Outpost (along Rollingwood Drive).



PROGRAM INFORMATION

WHY CAVING?

When you explore caves, you peek into environments that have been gradually **built over millions of years**, drip by drip and drop by drop. Don't expect a walking tour — we crawl, slide, climb, and get muddy while exploring **wild caves** without handrails or walking paths. **When you go caving with ANSC, you can explore one of several caves, including:**



GOAT CAVE

Goat Cave is a wild **pit cave** (which means it looks like a sinkhole). Your group may enter the cave by rappelling or by going down a ladder.

Pros of Goat Cave:

- There are many ways to experience this cave: you can comfortably stand in some areas, and crawl elsewhere.
- Because this is an open pit cave, there is natural lighting throughout — better for photographers and participants who might be uncomfortable in the dark.
- If you aren't sure that you'll like being underground or in small, confined spaces, this is a great cave to try out.

Something to consider about Goat Cave:

- There are few extended passages that require crawling on hands and knees.

WHIRLPOOL CAVE

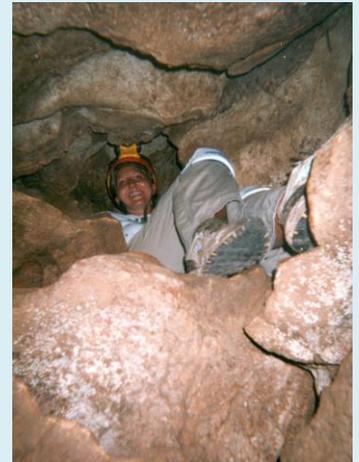
Whirlpool is a wild cave best experienced through crawling. A ladder takes you down from the surface into the first "room." From there, our headlamps light the way as we wiggle and crawl through the rest of the cave. You WILL get very dirty and spend most of the time horizontal.

Pros of Whirlpool Cave:

- Home to cave crickets and different rock formations
- Contains Travis County's largest underground room
- Your group may choose to experience complete darkness!

Something to consider about Whirlpool Cave:

- Unlike Goat Cave, there is only one way to explore Whirlpool Cave. If you don't feel comfortable crawling through dark, tight spaces, you must exit the cave and wait for your group.



WHERE WILL WE MEET? We will **meet at ANSC** and then vanpool to the cave site.

HOW LONG IS THIS ADVENTURE? Caving experiences take approximately **3-4 hours**. (This includes drive time to and from the cave.)

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BRING? **A medical waiver, refillable water bottle, long pants, and closed-toe shoes are required.** Keep in mind that caving can be hard on clothes. Gloves are optional. **ANSC will provide knee and elbow pads, headlamps, and helmets.**

WHO WILL ENJOY THIS ADVENTURE? Adventurers must be comfortable with small spaces, crawling on hands and knees, and moving in unique ways to maneuver through small openings.



PROGRAM INFORMATION

WHY ROCK CLIMBING?

Rock climbing is an intense challenge that builds physical and mental strength. We believe that climbing in an outdoor setting **heightens your adventure experience** by allowing you to closely interact with nature in a deeply rewarding, invigorating way.

WHAT WILL WE DO?

Your group will learn basic techniques and safely practice your **top-rope climbing** skills. In this climbing style, you wear a harness connected to a rope that runs through an anchor point in the wall high above you. The other end of your rope is connected to a belayer, a trained staff member on the ground who ensures your climb is safely supported.

WHERE DO WE CLIMB?

ANSC facilitates climbing adventures at **several sites**, such as **Seismic Wall** (see pictures), a natural limestone wall located within the Barton Creek Greenbelt routes range from 30 to 50 feet high, and are challenging, yet achievable, for beginning climbers. You can **ask about other site options** available for climbing programs.



WHERE WILL WE MEET?

We will **meet at ANSC** and then travel to the climbing site.

HOW LONG IS THIS ADVENTURE?

Climbing experiences will last for approximately **3½–4 hours**. (This includes drive time to and from the climbing location.)

WHAT DO WE NEED TO BRING?

A medical waiver and refillable water bottle are required. Your clothing should allow for a full range of motion, but loose-fitting clothing is NOT recommended. **ANSC will provide all climbing and safety equipment.**

WHO WILL ENJOY THIS ADVENTURE?

No climbing experience is necessary! However, adventurers should be comfortable moving their bodies in unique ways as they climb.

We welcome everyone, including:

- People who believe trees exist to be climbed
- People seeking to safely push past a fear of heights
- Adrenaline junkies & extreme sports aficionados



TEAM BUILDING

PROGRAM INFORMATION

WHY TEAM BUILDING?

Team building program builds and strengthens relationships, improve skills in communication, and encourage initiative at both the group and individual level. **Our activities encourage team members to take positive risks so that your group can achieve a shared success and leave with strengthened trust and confidence in one another.**

WHAT WILL WE DO?

Each team building program is customized to ensure that groups and their members feel **safe** and **successful**, no matter their past experience as a unit. Your group will begin the program with **field activities** that establish and solidify relationships within your group. We will progress to our **low ropes course**, where challenges require team problem-solving, communication, and strategy to achieve a shared goal. These challenges include different elements at **ANSC's Outpost**, such as the trolleys (top right) or Whale's Watch (below).



WHERE WILL WE GO?

We will meet at the **ANSC Outpost**, located at 2400 Rollingwood Drive, Austin, TX, 78746 (see map at the [bottom of page 2](#)).

HOW LONG IS THIS ADVENTURE?

Team-building programs run for **2 hours**.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO BRING?

A medical waiver and refillable water bottle are required. — ANSC provides everything else needed for this adventure.

WHO WILL ENJOY THIS ADVENTURE?

- Any group that studies, works, or plays together
- New groups that want to get to know one another better
- Old groups that know each other too well

Updated October 2016

The City of Austin is proud to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require assistance for participation in our programs or use of our facilities, please call (512) 974-3914.

