

Bracken Bat Cave Viewing Experience

Bat Conservation International and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies invites you to join us for an evening at the internationally famous Bracken Bat Cave, summer home to over 20 million Mexican free-tailed bats.



When: Sunday, September 13, 2009, 5:00-11:00 p.m.

Where: Bracken Cave (bus departs from the Hyatt at 5:00 p.m.)

Cost: \$60 per person (includes bus transportation, catered dinner, and beverages)

About Bracken Cave

Bracken Cave is located 20 miles north of San Antonio and a 1 hour and 15 minute drive from the Austin area. Bat Conservation International has acquired nearly 700 acres of land including and surrounding Bracken Cave, home to the largest community of mammals in the world. This colony, which sometimes can exceed 20 million Brazilian free-tailed bats in late summer, is a priceless resource. Its evening emergences are awe-inspiring. First, a few bold bats fly up from the cave's dark entrance. The trickle becomes a flood as more high-speed flyers corkscrew upwards. The vortex of bats looks almost like a single organism as it gains speed on its way upward. Countless wings spread a whispered flutter and the hint of a breeze over the landscape. By dawn, Bracken's colony alone will have consumed some 200 tons of flying insects, many of them pests that wreak millions of dollars in damage on the region's corn and cotton crops. Witnessing an evening emergence of the Bracken bat colony is an unforgettable experience. Nothing compares for demonstrating the magic of bats!