

GUIDELINES FOR VISITING ROCK ART SITES

The following guidelines are offered for those who value the unique natural and cultural resources that grace our region. Adhering to these guidelines can help ensure that the sites we most enjoy today will be preserved for the benefit of future generations.

DON'T:

- Don't touch the images with your hands or any other object. The images are delicate and can easily be damaged.
- Don't trace images with sticks, stones, chalk, or other objects. This, too, will damage the rock art.
- Don't engrave or mark the rock surface with any foreign object or material. This will have to be removed and the removal process will cause further damage to the rock art.
- Don't throw sticks, stones, dirt, or other objects. These may damage the rock art and disturb archeological deposits.
- Don't build campfires. Billowing smoke will add layers of organic materials to rockshelter walls and ceilings, obscuring images and harming the potential for scientific radiocarbon dating.

DO:

- Do stay on the trail to avoid kicking excessive dust into the air. Dust will damage the rock art and make it harder for everyone to see.
- Do take photographs or make sketches, but without touching the art itself.
- Do enjoy the site and the local scenery, and think about what it must have been like to live in the area hundreds or thousands of years ago.
- Do remember that the site may be considered a Native American Sacred Place. Please act accordingly to show respect for the cultural and religious heritage of others.
- Do be a good steward. If you observe behavior that may damage the rock art, please report it to the nearest park employee or law enforcement official.

From:

Rock Art in Arkansas, edited by George Sabo III and Deborah Sabo, Popular Series 5, Arkansas Archeological Survey, Fayetteville, Ark., 2005.