



Getting the Most Out of Your Dark-Sky Visit

The night sky has defined our place in the universe since time immemorial. Today's urban light domes overwhelm the faint light from thousands of stars and deep-sky wonders, necessitating travel to dark-sky sites to appreciate the beauty of the starry sky.

One simple rule and common courtesy will go a long way to ensuring that you and those around you benefit fully from your dark-sky site visit.

The Rule: no “white light” during the night—no flashlights, cellphones, or car lights!

Avoid white light in all its forms!

Dim red lighting preserves your night vision, as well as the night vision of the people around you, allowing you to see much more in the night sky and in your surroundings.

A single exposure to white light will disrupt your night vision, requiring 20 – 25 minutes of darkness to be regained.

Common courtesy can help you and others have an uncommonly inspiring visit:

When possible, arrive before dark and park facing the road so you don't disturb others' night vision when leaving.

Car lights that cannot be turned off (trunk, licence plate) should be covered in red plastic sheeting.

Care should be taken when walking around in the dark and running should be avoided. Small children should be kept close to ensure their safety and security. It is best to leave pets at home.

Excessive noise of any type detracts from others' enjoyment.