

MOUNT WILSON OBSERVATORY SPECIAL TOURS

The beautiful setting and unequalled history of Mount Wilson Observatory provide opportunity for exceptional tours.

These specially-arranged tours can emphasize particular subjects of interest to the group, such as history, current projects, telescope construction, major discoveries, etc. Depending on several factors (visitors' ages, work in progress, etc.), some groups may be allowed inside telescope domes to see the instruments close-up. Tours typically last about two hours, and involve about a mile of walking and some stairs.

These tours may be scheduled for nearly any date during the year except major holidays (weather and road conditions permitting). Start times are by agreement and are generally set between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. (The main gate closes at 4:00 p.m.) Tours are held in the daytime only and do not include looking through a telescope.

Advance Notice

The docents are all volunteers, and advance notice of a firm date is needed to schedule their time:

<u>GROUP SIZE</u>	<u>NOTICE NEEDED</u>
1 to 20	3 weeks
21 to 40	4 weeks
41 to 60	6 weeks

Fees

There is a minimum charge of \$120 which covers up to ten visitors. The fee for additional members of the group is \$12 each. Children under 12 years old are admitted for \$10 each after the minimum charge is met.

After the date and time of the tour have been finalized with Mr. Gant (see below), payment (by check) may be sent to this address and must be received at least two weeks before the tour:

Mount Wilson Institute
Group Tours
P.O. Box 1909
Atlanta, Georgia 30301-1909

Children

There must be at least one adult for each ten children 16 years old or younger. Children under 12 are not allowed into certain areas that may be included on some tours. Bringing children under 6 is not encouraged.

Cancellation Policy

Weather and other conditions beyond anyone's control may force us to cancel your visit on short notice. If so, the tour fee will be refunded in full within three business days of the cancellation. Alternatively, the tour may be rescheduled, subject to the availability of docents, by consultation with Mr. Gant.

Should the tour group choose to cancel for any reason, the fee or a portion thereof will be refunded according to the following schedule:

2 weeks in advance	–	100%
1 week in advance	–	50%
2 days in advance	–	25%
Less than 2 days	–	0%

For more information on specially-scheduled docent-led group tours, contact Mr. Gale Gant at tours@mtwilson.edu.