

Going on the Incline Rail Tram – Mine Tour

Social script for schools





When I come to Sovereign Hill my class might go underground on a mine tour.
To go underground I will ride on a big tram called the Incline Rail.
My whole class will be able to go underground together on the tram.



A Mine Guide will take us underground.

The Mine Guide will sit up the back of the tram to operate it. The Mine Guide will stay with us the whole time we are in the mine.



The Mine Guide will explain what to expect when the tram starts to move.

I will listen to the Mine Guide and follow their instructions.

Some people feel nervous about going on the tram. I know that the Mine Guide will keep us safe.

I might like to sit next to my teacher or another adult on the tram.



When everyone is sitting down on the tram, the Mine Guide will close the gates.

The tram will slowly start to move down into the mine. It is very exciting.

The tram makes a lot of noise, but I know that I am safe. I can put my fingers in my ears if I don't like the noise.



As the tram moves further underground it will get darker and darker, until it goes completely dark, and I won't even see my hands.

My eyes will adjust to the darkness and lights underground. Some people don't like the dark, but I know that I am safe.

If it is too dark for me, I can close my eyes and count to 100.

I might feel some air from a fan, but it only lasts a second.



I will feel the tram start to slow down. As it slows down the lights will come on.

The Mine Guide will tell me when and how to get off the tram. It is important that I listen carefully to their instructions.

I am safe in the mine. If I am not sure how I feel about the mine, I can walk with my teacher or the Mine Guide.

Arriving underground



When we get off the Incline Rail Tram, we will be in an open room. This is known as “Plat 1”.

The guide will count us, and check that we are all feeling ok.

The guide will keep us safe. I can walk with the guide, or my teacher during the tour. It is important that I stay with the group.

Walking through the Mine



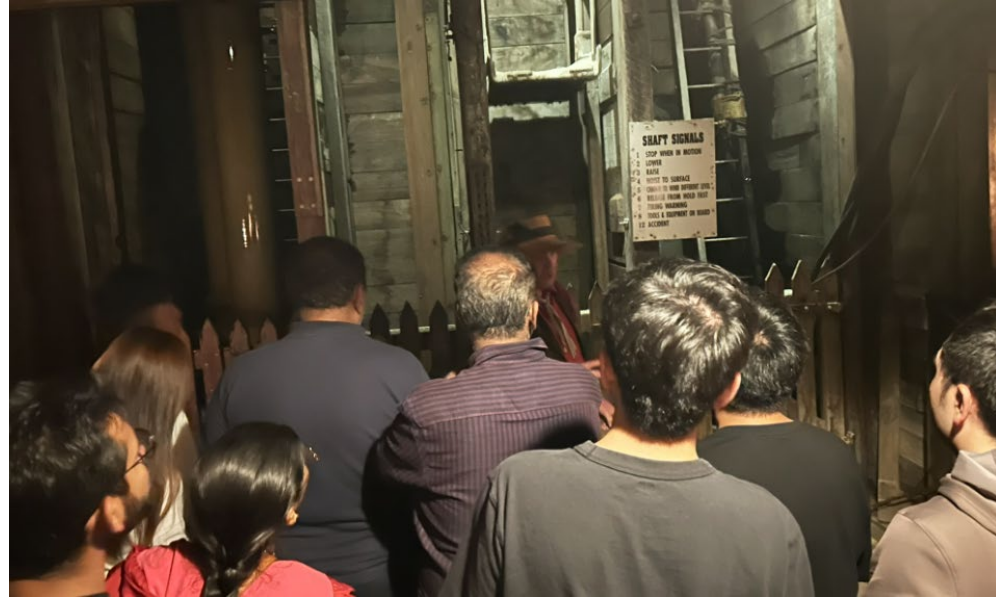
The Mine is made of tunnels called drives.

There are lights all the way along, and enough space around me to walk.

I will walk quietly with my group.

I will walk through a self-closing gate, I will need to hold this open for anyone coming behind me, and it will close automatically behind the last person in the group. This keeps the mine safe.

Displays in the Mine



There are different displays in the Mine. The guide will stop at some of these and tell us stories.

We will not stop at every display as some displays do not belong in the story I am being told.

I need to listen carefully to the guide.

I might hear some audio recordings in the background, these recordings are not real but will help me to imagine what the Mine might have sounded like in the olden days.

Labyrinth of Gold Tour

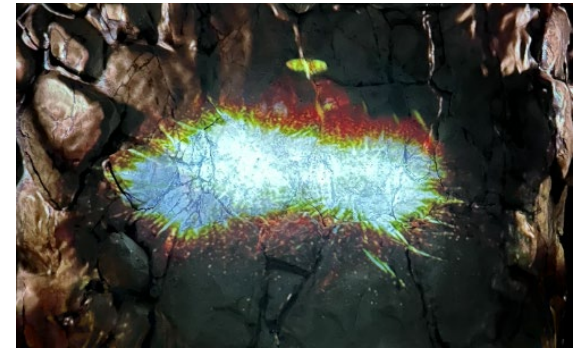


On the Labyrinth of Gold tour there is a Rock Drill, this is real from the 1800s.

The guide may choose to turn the drill on as part of the tour. They will warn us if they do.

I need to put my fingers in my ears. It will only be turned on for 5 seconds, but it will be very loud.

Secret Chamber Tour

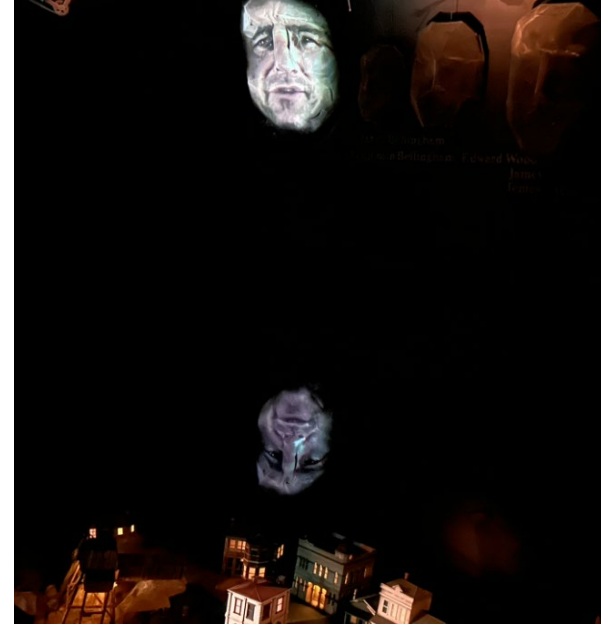


On the Secret Chamber tour, I will watch a 10-minute video when I am underground.

The film is projected onto rocks inside the Mine and tells the story of two Chinese brothers coming to find their fortune during the Gold Rush.

During the video there will be some loud sounds, like Chinese crackers and explosives and a pretend rock fall in the story. These are not real, if I feel scared I can stand with my teacher.

Trapped Tour



Trapped is about a mining disaster that happened in a small town called Creswick in 1882.

This story is very sad, as it tells us about miners who died when their Mine flooded in an accident.

This story is told using sounds and lights, and I will hear noises like a Mine accident happening. This is not real, but it might sound scary.

Faces are projected onto the wall as part of the story telling. These are not real.

I know the Mine Guide will keep me safe, and I can stay close to my teacher if I feel scared.

Finishing the tour



At the end of the tour, we will need to walk back down the drives to get back onto the inclined rail tram. I need to walk with my group. I can walk with the Mine Guide, my teacher or a classmate. If I have a question for the guide, I can put up my hand or ask the guide when we are walking together. My questions need to be relevant to what we have learnt on the tour.



We will get back on the tram to go to the surface.

This is the same as when I came down underground, except this time the tram will go backwards!

It will get lighter and lighter until we are back on the surface. It might take a few moments for my eyes to adjust to the light.

Accessibility in the Gold Mine tours



There is an accessible pathway to access the Gold Mine tour. When booking in your school group, please let the Education Bookings team know in advance, if any students have any mobility requirements like a wheelchair, walker, etc.

Inside the Mine our Labyrinth of Gold and Secret Chamber tours are wheelchair accessible. The Trapped tour has 15 stairs in the middle of the tour.

The inclined rail does have steps to board top and bottom, we can transfer you to your own wheelchair once underground if desired, please pre-book this where possible as it is subject to availability.

Important things to remember when I visit Sovereign Hill museum:

- Follow the teacher /adult who is leading my group
- Stay close to my group
- Walk and not run
- Speak with my quiet voice, even though it may be noisy
- Take turns with other children
- Wait patiently when lining up
- Only touch things I am told that I am allowed to touch
- Look both ways to cross the road



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