



FAQs About the Ark Encounter

What is the Ark Encounter?

The Ark Encounter is America's newest large theme park, opened on July 7, 2016. A one-of-a-kind historical themed attraction, a life-size Noah's Ark is the centerpiece, the largest free-standing timber-frame building in the world. Guests will be entertained, educated, and immersed in a number of biblical themes. The 510-foot-long Ark (standing about 80-feet high), Ararat Ridge Zoo and several zip lines make up the attraction's first stage.

In the future, Ark Encounter plans to add a Walled City, the Tower of Babel, a first-century Middle Eastern village, a journey in history from Abraham to the parting of the Red Sea, a walk-through aviary, and other attractions.

It is designed to be family friendly, historically authentic, and environmentally conscious.

The Ark Encounter also includes daily live mammal shows, live bird shows, an extensive interactive children's area, live entertainment, and themed restaurant, creative food outposts, and shopping.

The Ark Encounter is one of the largest "green" construction projects in the country, taking advantage of the latest environmental technologies to be good stewards of creation.

Did you build an actual Ark?

Yes, we constructed a full-scale Ark based on the dimensions provided in the Bible (Genesis 6), using the Hebrew long cubit, and in accordance with sound established nautical engineering practices of the ancient era.

The total amount of timber (not counting for the Ark exhibits inside) used in building this Ark is 3.3 million board feet. In board feet, the amount of timber used would be 612 miles, equivalent to the distance between Williamstown, Kentucky (about 40 miles south of Cincinnati) and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Why did you build the Ark?

Through the construction of a massive life-size Noah's Ark, the Ark Encounter is presenting America and other nations with a reminder about the Bible's account of the Ark - and the historicity of the entire Bible and its Gospel message.

Many of the same talented team members who built the successful, high-tech Creation Museum (45 minutes away) also worked on the Ark Encounter. This new attraction is positioned to become a major tourist draw that will capture the world's attention, and is estimated to draw between 1.4 - 2.2 million visitors a year.

Where is the Ark Encounter located?

Williamstown, Kentucky, a 40-mile interstate drive south of downtown Cincinnati, Ohio, and north of Lexington, Kentucky. Located right off I-75 at exit 154, it is a day's drive for almost 2/3 of Americans (190 million people) and millions of Canadians (the Canadian border is five hours away).

When did it open?

First phase (with a life-size Ark) opened July 7, 2016. Other attractions will follow.

How many visitors do you expect?

Based on two extensive independent feasibility studies conducted by America's Research Group, we expect up to two million guests our first year. In a bad economy, 1.4 million is a worse-case scenario. Creation Museum attendance is also likely to increase, perhaps doubling.

How many people will it employ?

When it is completed in a few years with all attractions, we anticipate employing several hundred full and part-time staff at the finished Ark Encounter, not to mention all of the jobs the Ark Encounter will generate in the local community and region. More staff is being added at the Creation Museum to support its expected jump in attendance.

How much did it cost to build?

In the first phase, \$91 million, and for all phases, over \$150 million when the entire Ark Encounter and its phases are finished. The Ark Encounter is owned and will be operated by a subsidiary of Answers in Genesis (the builders of the Creation Museum). The money is being raised through a combination of bonds, memberships (called "boarding passes"), and donations (AiG through its supporters has raised \$35 million

alone for the construction of the Ark structure itself).

Is this a non-profit endeavor?

In a sense, the Ark Encounter is both a for-profit and not-for-profit endeavor. The Ark Encounter is a for-profit operation but is allowed by law to be managed by a non-profit subsidiary ministry of Answers in Genesis.

Who built the Ark Encounter?

The Ark Encounter was built by Troyer Construction, a leader in sustainable design, headquartered in Mishawaka, Indiana.

Troyer Construction has expertise in architectural, engineering, interior design, landscape architecture, construction management, and construction administrative services. All of these services were used in the Ark Encounter project.

The Creation Museum's talented design director, Patrick Marsh, heads up design and theming of all of the attractions, to ensure that the quality mirrors that of the Creation Museum in every aspect.

Is it like typical theme parks with rides and live performances?

The Ark Encounter is an immersive, historically themed experience for the whole family focused on having fun while learning about history. It is not an amusement park. It features a number of daily live performances, as well as live special events. It also includes "edu-tainment" aspects - educational and entertaining experiences - within each attraction. More than 125,000 square feet of world-class exhibits can be explored along the Ark's three decks.

What is admission price?

There will be several categories of tickets, from single day to multi-day to season passes. The average one-day ticket price, at \$40 per adult, is comparable to other first-class regional attractions. A one-day ticket is \$28 for children and \$31 for seniors, with age 5 and under free. Parking will be \$10 per vehicle. A combo ticket, combined with admission to the nearby Creation Museum, is \$60 for adults, \$34 for children and \$45 for seniors. An unlimited 7-day combo ticket is good for 7 consecutive days at both the Ark Encounter - daytime or nighttime - and the Creation Museum, and includes free parking for the Ark Encounter.

Are there hotels and restaurants nearby?

There are numerous hotels and restaurants within a 30-minute drive of the Ark Encounter. Many more are currently being constructed close to the Ark Encounter to open during calendar year 2017. The restaurant at the Ark Encounter will

accommodate 1,500 guests.

Where can I find more information?

www.ArkEncounter.com

www.youtube.com/arkencounter

Our publicist, A. Larry Ross Communications, can be reached in Texas at: 972-267-1111
or melany@alarryross.com.