



Overlook Chamber

Column, referring to its popularity as a wedding site.

One of the most anticipated parts of the tour is the the Great Stalacpipe Organ, which is located in the Cathedral. This organ was created by a Springfield, Virginia, man named Leland Sprinkle, who spent three years on his project, completing it in 1957. This organ has appeared in the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the largest musical instrument in the world. Unlike a normal organ, Sprinkle's instrument produces sound using solenoids, electromagnets that generate controlled magnetic fields. These solenoids are positioned beside stalactites throughout three-and-a-half acres of Luray Caverns. When a key is pressed on the organ, electricity is sent to a corresponding solenoid, producing a melodic vibration.

It is the magnet attracting the vibration from metal that transports the sound of the note back to the Cathedral. The Stalacpipe Organ can be set to play on its own, and guests are serenaded by Sprinkle's favorite hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God."

The tour concludes with a lovely tribute to the veterans of Page County. The Veterans Memorial Plaque was once inside the courthouse in Luray but was relocated inside the caverns to give more people the chance to pay their respects. Visitors also pass by the Wishing Well. Unlike Dream Lake, which looks deep but is actually shallow, the Wishing Well is an unassuming six feet deep and has collected over one million dollars since its origination in the 1950s. It's pretty incredible to think of the generations of people who have



Great Stalacpipe Organ

 Learn more about Luray Caverns by checking out our video feature at [americanlifestylemag.com/video](https://americanlifestylemag.com/video)

traipsed through these caverns, from the nineteenth century to present day. Luckily, some detrimental practices have been stopped, like permitting visitors to take home a piece of stalactite—seems like a perfect souvenir, but it is actually quite destructive to the caverns. Well-lit pathways make touring the caverns an approachable activity for all ages, but

take the stairs back up slowly. What a breathless end to a fantastic tour.

For more info, visit [luraycaverns.com](https://luraycaverns.com)