

# Showcave Spotlight – Englebrecht Cave, Mt Gambier, SA

Amanda Stevens, City of Mt Gambier

## Introduction by Katrina Wills



This section is another new feature in the journal for Showcave submissions. Contributors are asked to submit photographs and relevant information pertaining to their cave site. This may include visitor statistics, tour participation numbers, or descriptions of any distinctive features or experiences offered at the location. For example, your site may have hosted a recent special event or had a specialised photography tour, such as those pictured that were led by our editor Katrina Wills at Kelly Hill Caves, on Kangaroo Island.

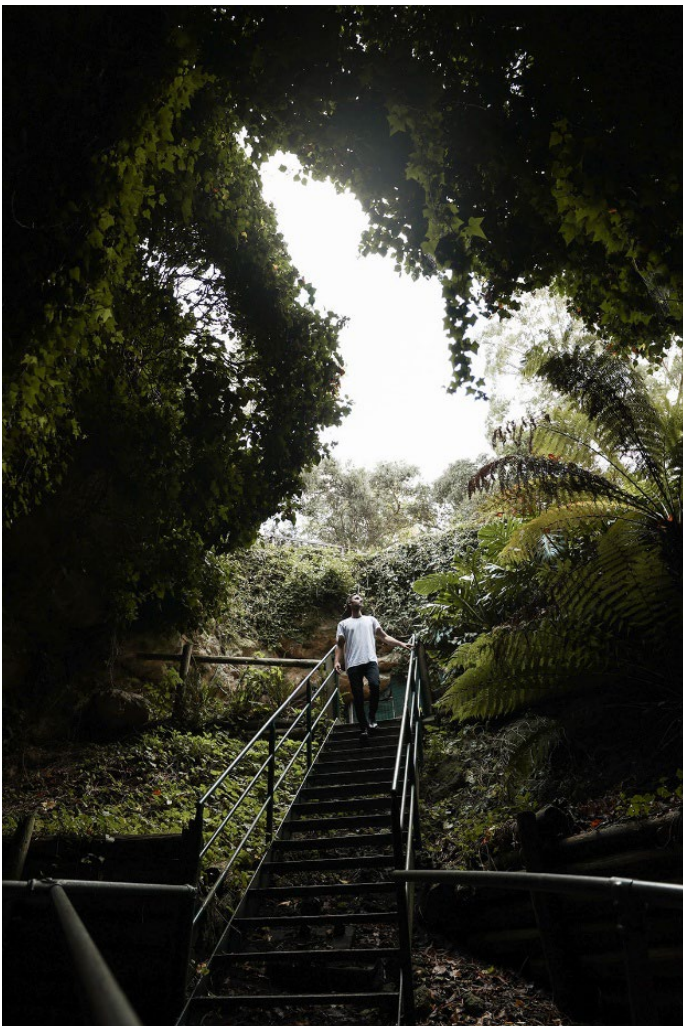
A huge thank you to Amanda Stevens from City of Mount Gambier for her Spotlight on Englebrecht Cave.

In the December issue we will read all about Mole Creek Caves in Tasmania.

If you are a cave guide or cave manager, please consider contributing an article for future editions by sending your article to [publications@ackma.org](mailto:publications@ackma.org).



## Englebrecht Cave, Mt Gambier, South Australia



The world-famous Englebrecht Cave is located in (and underneath) the city of Mount Gambier, South Australia. In 2019, this cave became the second largest in the Limestone Coast region, following a diving expedition discovery by Josh Richards and Matthew Aisbett, which uncovered an addition of 370 m to the cave. This is no surprise as Mount Gambier's landscape is predominantly one of the volcanoes, sinkholes, caves and crater lakes, making it a destination worth visiting.

In this regionally complex and diverse landscape, the Limestone Coast is known for significant caves with differing geological and paleontological features. Englebrecht Cave is an incredible limestone cave with marine fossils pointing to it being approximately 15 million years old. From the top of the cave, it just looks like a noticeable-sized sink hole, however, heading downwards the doline splits into an east and a west cavern, which both tourists and cave divers are able to explore. The City of Mount Gambier has just hit their first-year milestone in operating and offering guided tour experiences at Englebrecht Cave. Englebrecht Cave is accessible in two ways.

*Englebrecht Cave Entrance Image Credit: City of Mount Gambier, TUWY Media*

The cave is open daily with five tour guided experiences running on the 'quarter past the hour'. The tour guide takes a small group down to a maximum of 30 metres underground to discover the full sensory experience this show cave offers. The tour journeys through the history, the geology and the underground magic of Engelbrecht Cave, with views of crystal-clear waters that accredited divers enter to further explore the water-filled passages underneath the city.

Bookings are essential for this 30-minute guided experience of Mount Gambier's best show cave. Visit our website here for more information or to make a booking.

<https://visitmountgambier.com.au/travel/engelbrecht-cave-2/>

*Right: Inside Engelbrecht Cave. Image Credit: City of Mount Gambier, TUWY Media*

For accredited divers, Engelbrecht Cave has two main submerged cave passages with one running in an easterly direction and one running in a westerly direction. For those daring enough, and who hold a relevant cave diving licence, the West chamber extends over 300m and the East Cave extends over 400 m. For more information, site access requirements and to check the dive rating, contact the Cave Diving Association of Australia.

