



20+ FAQs ABOUT THE ARK ENCOUNTER

What is the Ark Encounter?

The Ark Encounter is a one-of-a-kind historical themed attraction. In an entertaining, educational, and immersive way, it presents a number of themes centered on a full-size, all-wood Ark, which should become the largest timber-frame structure in the USA. The Ark will be built during the attraction's first stage.

In the future, the attraction 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, a large petting zoo, and other attractions.

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

The Ark Encounter also plans to include daily live mammal shows, live bird shows, an extensive interactive children's area, live entertainment, and many themed restaurants, creative food outposts, and shopping.

The Ark Encounter will be one of the largest "green" construction projects in the country, taking advantage of the latest environmental technologies to be good stewards of creation. (See last page.)

Are you building an actual Ark?

Yes, we are constructing a full-scale, all-wood ark based on the dimensions provided in the Bible (Genesis 6), using the long cubit, and in accordance with sound established nautical engineering practices of the era. It should become the largest timber-frame structure in the USA.

Why are you building the Ark?

Through the construction of a massive full-scale Noah's Ark, the Ark Encounter will be presenting America and other nations with a reminder about the Bible's account of the Ark – and the historicity of the entire Bible.

Many of the same talented team members who built the successful, high-tech Creation Museum are returning for the Ark Encounter. This new project is positioned to become an attraction that will capture the world's attention.



Where will the Ark Encounter be located?

We are considering a site in Grant County within a 40-mile interstate drive of downtown Cincinnati, Ohio.

When will it be open?

We are projecting construction to begin in 2012 and, if the economy does not continue to falter, a grand opening of the Ark itself in 2014. Other attractions will follow.

How many visitors do you expect?

Based on an extensive independent feasibility study conducted by America's Research Group, we expect over 1,600,000 guests our first year. In a bad economy, 1.2 million is a worse-case scenario. A study commissioned by the state mirrors this estimate. Creation Museum attendance is also likely to increase by over 200,000 guests during the same year, to a total of about 500,000.

How many people will it employ?

When fully finished with all attractions, we anticipate employing up to 900 full and part-time staff at the fully opened Ark Encounter. It is also anticipated that additional staff will also be added at the Creation Museum to support its expected attendance increase.

How much will it cost to build?

The Ark Encounter will be built by a for-profit private LLC. Answers in Genesis (the builders of the Creation Museum) will contribute \$24,500,000 for the construction of Noah's Ark through donations.



How will it be funded?

The bulk of the Ark Encounter will be built by the limited liability company (LLC). The Ark structure itself will be funded through donations.

Individuals may make tax-deductible donations through the “Ark Pegs, Planks, & Beams” program, which gives everyone the opportunity to sponsor an actual peg, plank or beam that will be used to build the Ark. Sponsors will receive benefits that include a certificate of authenticity, and special invitations to behind-the-scenes tours and grand opening events. Through the Ark website of ArkEncounter.com, all sponsors will have the opportunity to see the general location where their sponsored peg, plank or beam is located in the Ark.

Will there be a charter membership-type program?

Yes. The Ark Encounter now offers a special Charter Boarding Pass program.

Details are on the Ark Encounter website.

Charter Boarding Passes are the top-of-the-line lifetime memberships (not donations) that provide access to both the Ark Encounter as well as the Creation Museum 45 minutes away.

Several additional unique benefits are provided with the Charter Boarding Pass program, like free parking, annual one-time use guest passes, discounts on food and merchandise, invitations to special behind-the-scenes events, and more.

Who owns the Ark Encounter?

A private Limited Liability Company (LLC) will own the Ark Encounter. A non-profit subsidiary of Answers in Genesis will be one of the members of the LLC, and AiG will also be the managing member responsible for day-to-day operations.

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 managed by a non-profit subsidiary ministry of Answers in Genesis. The LLC and its members will be responsible for all of the normal taxes required for pass-through business entities.



Who is building the Ark Encounter?

The Ark Encounter is going to be built by The Troyer Group, a leader in sustainable design, headquartered in Mishawaka, Indiana.

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

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

Will it open in stages or all at once?

Phase One (the full-size Ark) is projected to open in 2014 (dependent on a stronger economy). Then additional attractions will open, which will happen based on funding and Ark Encounter attendance.

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

The Ark Encounter will be an immersive, historically themed experience for the whole family focused on having fun while learning about history. It is not an amusement park. It will feature a number of daily live performances, as well as live special events. It will also include "edu-tainment" aspects—educational and entertaining experiences within each attraction.

What will admission be?

There will be several categories of tickets, from single day to multi-day to season passes. The average one-day ticket price is expected to be comparable to other regional attractions.



Will you charge for parking?

There will be a nominal fee for parking at the Ark Encounter. However, free parking will be provided year-round for those purchasing certain Charter and Annual Boarding Passes. For information on boarding pass programs, go to www.ArkEncounter.com.

How close is the Ark Encounter to the creation Museum?

With the land currently under consideration, the Ark Encounter would be about a 45-minute drive from the Creation Museum. It is a separate, distinct attraction. While the Ark Encounter will complement the Creation Museum, the Ark Encounter is a special destination; both attractions could hold the interest of guests for the better part of two days. Guests can conveniently plan their overnight stays between these two popular attractions and enjoy both over a long weekend or an extended vacation in the greater Cincinnati area.

Is the creation Museum moving to the Ark Encounter?

No. The Creation Museum is a special teaching ministry of Answers in Genesis and will continue to grow at its current location in Petersburg, Kentucky (west of the Cincinnati Airport). It will also go through its own expansion program to accommodate the anticipated increase in attendance expected from the Ark Encounter in the region. It has already included a new 1,000-seat auditorium and an observatory.

Are there hotels and restaurants nearby?

There are numerous hotels and restaurants within a 30-minute drive of the Ark Encounter. We expect many more to be built close to the Ark Encounter prior to our grand opening.

Will it be open year round?

Yes. The Ark Encounter, like several area attractions, will be a regional attraction designed for year-round operation, and will be open every day except Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.



Are you doing any non-conventional green building?

Yes. The Troyer Group in Mishawaka, Indiana heads our construction management team. It has one of the largest LEED certified (Leaders in Energy and Environmental Design) staffs in the mid-West. We intend to integrate: passive solar, solar panels, geothermal, water, and wind into our mechanical systems, as well as some other innovative sustainable technologies to maintain good stewardship during construction and for long-term operations.

We plan to use local companies and locally manufactured products as much as possible to reduce our carbon footprint, as well as enhance the local economy.

Where can I find more information?

www.ArkEncounter.com

www.youtube.com/arkencounter