



HOW TO TOUR NSCL

NSCL.MSU.EDU

RESERVING YOUR TOUR

- Tours are free and typically last 90 minutes, but can be shortened or lengthened somewhat based on your needs.
- Please note that we cannot accept a tour that goes less than one hour, to ensure the quality of the tour experience.
- Tours can accommodate 10 - 50 visitors in a single day, with rare exceptions. Smaller groups are easier to accommodate; if your group is large, consider bringing the subset that is most interested.
- Tours are recommended for ages 10 and up, but younger guests are welcome.
- Tours are offered by appointment online (<https://enterprise.nscl.msu.edu/tours/>). In this form, you will provide your group/organization name, contact person, email address, and number of visitors (an accurate estimate). In the comments, you can note their approximate level of physics education and any special needs or requests.
- While planning your visit, you might also consider visiting other MSU attractions - contact the MSU Tour Coordinators for assistance through the tour.msu.edu website.
- Contact Zach Constan, NSCL Outreach Coordinator (517-908-7363, visits@nscl.msu.edu) with questions about scheduling your tour.



BEFORE COMING/SAFETY ISSUES

- Visit the NSCL Tour website (<http://www.nscl.msu.edu/public/tour>) for important information and linked files. There you will find the Minor Permission form that must be signed by the adult responsible for any guests under 18 on the day of the visit.
- The tour route is handicap-accessible and safe for guests with medical implants. The tour stays on level floors for the duration, and normally takes no stairs.
- Make sure you have enough adult chaperones; NSCL requires a minimum chaperone-to-child ratio of 1:7 for grades 4-6 and 1:10 for grades 7-8. Large groups of younger children are generally not recommended.

- High-heeled shoes and sandals are not recommended.
- Photography is not allowed while touring the research space. However, there is a "photo wall" if you want to take a group picture!
- Guides perform a safety survey before every tour to ensure that visitors will receive no excess radiation exposure (beyond the normal background) while in the vaults.
- If the number in your group changes significantly from your original estimate, email Zach (visits@nscl.msu.edu) at least 72 hours before your tour. Graduate students are recruited as tour guides for each group, and we must know the number of visitors enough in advance to ensure that there are enough guides available.
- Print out the next page, "Finding your way to NSCL", and bring it with you on the day of your tour. Visitors who don't carry these directions often become lost on campus or can't find the correct door to enter the building.
- Read about nuclear science beforehand on our website (<http://www.nscl.msu.edu/public/tour/primer.html>) if you or your group want to know more before the tour.



WHAT TO EXPECT ON YOUR TOUR

- Your tour guide will want to know the level of physics your group understands and whether you have any time limitations in case the tour runs over. Remember, a typical tour lasts 90 minutes, so plan accordingly.
- The tour typically begins with an extensive slideshow introduction with demonstrations in the Lecture Hall. Bathrooms are available next to that room.
- If your group has more than 12 people, it will likely be broken up into smaller groups of up to 12 for the tour.
- If there are young students among you, each smaller group must have at least one adult chaperone to follow them.
- The walking part of the tour lasts about 45 minutes.
- NSCL is a working laboratory. On the day of your tour, some areas may be inaccessible.
- Your group may be joined with another one that requested a tour in the same time period.



GETTING TO THE LAB

Our address (for online search and GPS):

[640 S. Shaw Lane, East Lansing, MI, 48824.](#)

- Allow extra travel time so you don't arrive late. Late groups may have their tour cut short or cancelled altogether.
- If you get lost or wish to update your arrival time, call the NSCL receptionist at 517-355-9671

PARKING CARS

We strongly recommend that you use the [parking ramp](#) north of our building, which is also closest to the lobby door. On weekdays, park in any metered space below ground level (at your expense - pay with credit card). On nights or weekends, the ramp is open to visitors: park in any non-metered/non-reserved space above ground level for free without a permit.

PARKING BUSES

Busses are welcome to stop briefly at the bus stop in front of the Chemistry building, from which it is just a few steps to the lobby entrance (marked with orange box in insert map and pink arrow on picture). Busses can park well south of NSCL in the ["commuter lot" #89](#) on the northwest corner of Farm Lane and Mt. Hope, then wait for a call to pick visitors up again.

ENTERING THE BUILDING

Enter the building in the curved glass section at the northwest corner of the building (next to Chemistry and across from the Shaw Lane Parking Ramp); you must enter this way because all other exterior doors are locked.

Depending on where you park, this may require a fairly indirect walk around the building to reach the correct door. Inside the lobby, tell the receptionist the purpose of your visit (tour, etc.) so he/she can page the appropriate person to come meet you.

When coming to visit NSCL, please print this page and bring it with you. Many visitors to our lab become lost and attempt to enter the wrong door!