

# Guided Group Tours

## At Historic Crown Hill Cemetery

Join the thousands who visit Crown Hill each year and experience the incredible beauty, history, and heritage of the nation's third largest cemetery on a guided walking or driving tour. Twice voted "**Best of Indy Walking Tour**" by *Indianapolis Monthly* magazine, our guided tours offer an interesting and detailed look into the lives of many of the famous, fascinating, and sometimes ordinary people buried and entombed here. Each life has a story and we welcome your tour as we honor the memory of those buried here by sharing their stories with you.



Located on "The Crown," the highest hill in Marion County (842 ft.), this monument for the famous Hoosier Poet **James Whitcomb Riley** is a popular tour stop. Groups can view the entire Indianapolis skyline from Mr. Riley's monument and arrange to see the sunset, if desired.

Established in 1863 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973, Crown Hill is the final resting place for over 195,000 people including President Benjamin Harrison, three U.S. Vice Presidents, 11 Indiana governors (and one Kentucky governor), poet James Whitcomb Riley, Col. Eli Lilly, Indy 500 racing personalities, public safety and military heroes, artists, musicians, authors, politicians, doctors, gangster John Dillinger, along with countless others who have impacted society and the lives of those who knew and loved them.

Crown Hill offers a variety of tours, each with a different theme. Our most popular tour is the "**Heritage Tour**," which captures highlights from many of our other tours and includes stops at the graves of a number of famous people buried here, along with some of our most popular monuments and statues. It also includes a brief history of Crown Hill, Indianapolis, and Indiana, with a stop at the historic Gothic Chapel (1875), and a visit to James Whitcomb Riley's grave, high atop Crown Hill.

A **Private** guided group tour can be scheduled for any day of the week, any time of day, and any day of the year except holidays (and at the availability of a tour guide). Most guided tours are **walking tours** that last 1½ hours and cover about one mile at a comfortable pace. **Driving tours** also typically last 1½ hours and can include additional stops throughout the cemetery. (Shorter or longer walking and driving tours can also be arranged.) Please note that Crown Hill does not provide transportation for driving tours.

Fees for **walking tours** are based on a per person rate with a minimum of \$50 per tour. The cost is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors (55+), and \$3 for school-age children.

Fees for **bus tours (driving)** are flat rates unless the above per person rates are less expensive for your group. A 1½-hour tour is \$150, a 1-hour tour is \$125, and a 30-minute tour is \$100. (Fees are charged per bus with one step-on tour guide provided per bus.)

Tours need to be scheduled one to two weeks in advance by calling or writing **Marty Davis at (317) 920-2644 or [mdavis@crownhill.org](mailto:mdavis@crownhill.org)**. If you plan to tour in the spring or the fall, and if a specific date and time are important to you, it is recommended that you schedule your tour much further in advance.

Crown Hill also offers guided walking **Public Tours** which are conducted from March through November. A large variety of our tours are featured as Public Tours and many are scheduled to see the sunset from Mr. Riley's monument on "The Crown." Reservations are **not** required and there is no minimum fee; only per person rates apply. For a complete listing of our **Public Tours & Events schedule**, please see our Calendar of Events. Brochures are also available at our offices.



*The Eastman Family angel, a popular statue included on many tours. A portion of the funds raised from tours helps restore statues and monuments like this — her hands were replaced after being broken years earlier.*

 **Crown Hill**

**Tour Info & Scheduling: (317) 920-2644**  
**Tours & Events Recording: (317) 920-2726**  
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