

Hoover Dam to offer 'behind the scenes' tours

Nearly 31 million people have taken the standard Hoover Dam tour since 1937. They've looked at generators, gazed in awe at power transmission lines that carry electricity over the walls of Black Canyon to far-away destinations, and walked deep into the canyon walls to stand above 30-foot diameter pipes carrying Lake Mead water to the generators.

Now available are "hard hat" tours or modified standard tours

of the dam and powerplant for a more detailed look at the inner workings. The special tours will visit areas not part of the standard tour.

The hard hat tour—participants must wear hard hats—will visit the turbine gallery, the generator shaft gallery, the cable gallery, the sump room, and other behind-the-scenes locations, while modified standard tours will not enter areas where the hats are required.

Tours, available from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily, will last approximately one hour. There will be a group fee as well as an individual fee for these tours.

Fees are:

- \$65 group, plus \$5 per person, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., and from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- \$100 group, plus \$5 per person, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Arrangements for a hard hat tour must be made at least seven days in advance. A maximum of

15 people will be allowed in each hard hat group. Because of the areas explored, children under seven will not be permitted.

Modified standard tours will be available to groups of more than 15. Groups of more than 70 will be split into two sections, with an additional fee for a second guide.

To arrange a special tour, call the Hoover Dam Visitor Services office, 294-3521, or fax, 294-3585, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.