

Caper Company Tours LLC "Haunt Spots" Tours presents...



GHOST HUNTING 101

Basic Equipment

Before you set out on your Haunt Spots tour, you'll listen to an audio welcome that helps you make the most of your experience. Until you are absolutely certain that you want to include regular ghost hunting in your life, we don't suggest that you invest in any specialized equipment. There are a number of items that are in general use, however, that you may easily incorporate into your Haunt Spots exploration.

If you do decide to add equipment, it's a good idea for everyone in your party to agree on what you're going to bring and who's going to use it. Remember, you only have 2 hands, and juggling several pieces of equipment can get cumbersome. Bring a bag / backpack or wear something with big pockets to safely stow your equipment when not in use.

The number one most important piece of equipment to take when ghost hunting is a partner. For both support and corroboration, never go alone. Two people minimum to four people maximum is good. Everyone's senses are different, so with two or more people, you're more likely to notice things and tune into activity. A maximum of four people will keep you from overpowering the energy flow of the entities you are trying to make contact with.

In addition to a partner, you might consider the following pieces of equipment:

Equipment: DIGITAL CAMERA

Goal: Spirit photography.

Use: Focus on taking pictures in areas where paranormal activity has been visually reported. Also snap photos any and everywhere you feel drawn.

Why: Cameras are one of the easiest ways to add an element of ghost hunting to your explorations. Spirits will sometimes manifest in a way that cannot be seen by the naked eye, but can be captured by camera. Professional ghost hunters report that spirits sometimes drain batteries in an effort to gain enough energy to communicate. Camera batteries seem to be especially susceptible, so be sure to carry extras.

Analysis: After your Haunt Spots tour, download your photos onto your computer so that you can view the images on a large screen. As you view each image, scan it for anything out of the ordinary. *Photos taken by Caper Company Researchers have captured unexplainable lights and orbs.*

Equipment: FLASHLIGHT

Goal: Finding your way in the dark.

Use: Illuminate the path and for you and your friends. Find times to turn the flashlight off and experience the darkness as well.

Why: Haunt Spots are frequently outdoors and traverse uneven terrain. A flashlight is important for making your way safely. Always carry extra batteries.

Analysis: None

Equipment: DIGITAL VOICE RECORDER

Goal: Capturing Electronic Voice Phenomena – aka EVP's.

Use: You can either turn the recorder on and leave it on during your entire exploration or turn it on for specific question and (hopefully!) answer EVP sessions. Select the setting that keeps the recorder on, versus only recording when voice activated.

Why: It's said that ghosts will sometimes communicate at a level that cannot be heard by the human ear, but can be recorded. Ask questions and pause for responses. A series of several questions asked aloud may yield better results than one or two. If you hear any peripheral noises when conducting an EVP session, say so into the recorder.

Analysis: Set aside time to listen carefully to all of the recordings. Minimize distractions and use headphones if possible. Listen for your recorded verbal cues to identify unusual noises. *Caper Company researchers have picked up unexplained sounds and even words on their digital voice recorders.*

Equipment: COMPASS

Goal: Identifying magnetic field fluctuations.

Use: Take readings on a regular basis as you explore different areas. Watch for the needle to fluctuate away from magnetic north.

Why: There's a theory that spirits will disrupt the normal magnetic patterns in the surrounding atmosphere. Most ghost hunters will use an electromagnetic field detector to highlight anomalies, but a regular compass is more commonly available. In order for the compass to tell you if you're in the presence of anything paranormal, you need to be continually aware of magnetic north and watch for any fluctuations in the needle's direction.

Analysis: None

Equipment: VIDEO CAMERA

Goal: Capturing images of paranormal entities.

Use: When moving, use a steady, slow sweep. You'll need to watch the images you capture closely later and you need to minimize rapid movements. If you film when moving, be sure to work with a partner

who will help you watch out for tripping hazards. If you have a tripod, set it up to film you and your partner's EVP sessions and other investigations.

Why: There is a theory that energies associated with paranormal phenomena cannot be seen by the naked eye but can be captured on a camera. Again, bring extra batteries. Many video cameras have special settings for recording in darkness or low light.

Analysis: Set aside sufficient time with no distractions. Maintain a continual sweep and scan of the screen when reviewing video footage. Look for shadows, mists or other images out of the ordinary.

THE NEXT LEVEL

When you're ready to graduate to more sophisticated equipment, there are a number of pieces you might consider. Equipment found in more extensive ghost hunting kits includes:

- Walkie Talkies
- Electromagnetic Field Detector
- Night Vision Camera
- Motion Sensor
- Infrared Thermometer
- Ion Counter
- Geiger Counter

These pieces of equipment are simply more sophisticated ways to detect and record energy fluctuations that may be spirit manifestations.

Personal instruction on the use of your equipment will help make your investment more worthwhile. We suggest making contact with a local paranormal investigation group to see if there are any members who would be interested in working with you. If you're interested in a group recommendation, Caper Company will be happy to help.

HAVE A GREAT GHOST HUNT!