

the ozarks /1/ silver dollar city

I **used to go to school** in the Ozarks. The Ozarks is very **hilly** and **rocky**. It looks kind of like the Black Hills of South Dakota **except there are** more lakes and rivers in the Ozarks **than there are** in the Black Hills. And caves, **there are** a lot of caves there, **too**.

Almost everyone who goes to see the Ozarks **ends up** in Branson, which is **the tourist town**. **There is an** amusement park **called** Silver Dollar City in Branson that **gets visited by huge numbers of** people every day. If the **entry price** wasn't so **ridiculous** I might **pay it** and go for a ride but I think I **would have to be** really rich to pay that kind of money for that sort of **entertainment**.

But I won a **free ticket** to Silver Dollar City from **a** radio station **once**. They **were having** some sort of a **contest** and I was the first **person to call** and **tell** them the name of the cave **at** Silver Dollar City **is** Marvel Cave; I **had never seen** Marvel Cave and **figured** maybe I **should**, so I took my free ticket and **hitch hiked** to Branson.

I thought Marvel Cave was **incredible**. The biggest room **is called** the Devil's Cathedral, and it **does look** like the **inside** of a **giant** underground cathedral. I also saw bats **hanging upside down** in the tunnels. I **could have touched** the bats but the **tour guide** asked us **not to disturb** them.