

The NRAO wants visitors to have a safe and enjoyable visit to the GBT. This brochure was developed as a guide to aid visitors and insure their time at the GBT is both memorable and accident free.



Authorized Visitors

All visitors inside the GBT fenced area are subject to the following:

- All visitors must be escorted by an authorized Green Bank site employee (a person who has taken the GBT Safety Training Course), and their visit must be approved by either the Telescope Operations Supervisor or the Telescope Operations Division Head.
- The GBT on-duty operator has the ultimate authority to control access to the GBT site.
- There will be no visitor access to the structure while the GBT is in motion.
- The ratio of visitors to escort personnel is 8:1. That is, for every authorized escort, eight visitors are permitted. This allows the escort to adequately supervise access and maintain contact at all times with the visitors.
- There is no visitor access during inclement weather.
- No children under age 16 are permitted on the structure.
- Any visitor who fails to act in accordance with these requirements will risk removal from the structure and site.

Proper Attire for Telescope Visit

It is the responsibility of the escort to ensure that all visitors are wearing appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment. Visitors dressed inappropriately will not be allowed on the structure.

- Eye protection must be worn in and around all construction activities.

- A hard hat is required for all employees, visitors, and contractors inside the fenced area.
- Only footwear that completely covers your feet is permitted. Sandals, shoes with high heels, and open-toe shoes are prohibited.

Elevator Use

There are two elevators on the GBT. One travels from the track area to the elevation bearing (lower elevator). The second travels from the base of the vertical feed arm to the prime focus feed service area.

GBT Elevator Operation

Only trained personnel are authorized to operate the elevators. If you have not received training, do not attempt to operate the elevators. Things to remember:

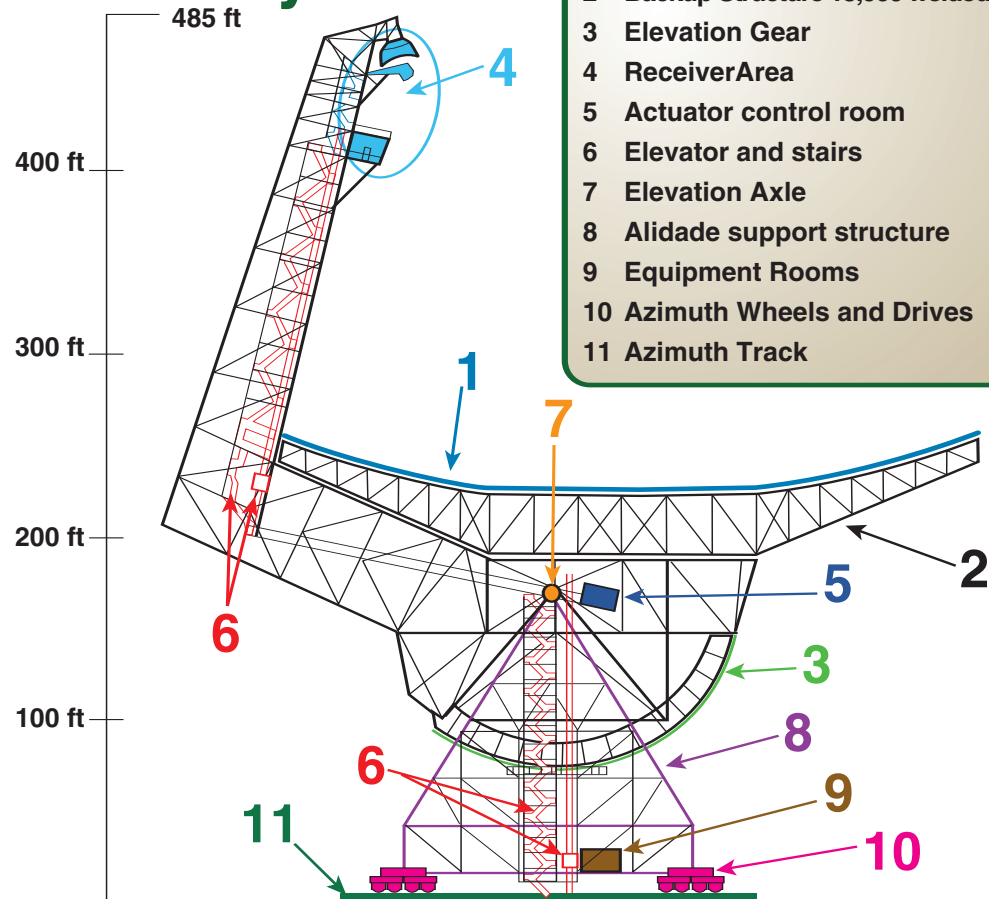
- The elevator has emergency lighting that comes on in the event of a power failure.
- Do not attempt to climb out of any stalled elevator.
- If the elevator stops unexpectedly, use the call phone in the elevator to contact the on duty operator.



Emergency Contact Numbers:

- 9 (for outside line) + 911
- GBT Warehouse Operator ex. 2187

GBT Anatomy



- 1 Reflector (dish) made of 2004 adjustable panels
- 2 Backup Structure 13,000 welded steel beams
- 3 Elevation Gear
- 4 Receiver Area
- 5 Actuator control room
- 6 Elevator and stairs
- 7 Elevation Axle
- 8 Alidade support structure
- 9 Equipment Rooms
- 10 Azimuth Wheels and Drives
- 11 Azimuth Track

GBT FAST FACTS

- The GBT stands 485 ft tall and weighs 17,000,000 lbs
- Active surface is made of 2,004 panels adjustable by actuators mounted in each corner
- 2.3 acre (7854 square meters) collecting area, the actual dimensions are 100 x 110 meters



- The azimuth track is 64 m (210 ft) diameter
- Despite its weight, the telescope can be pointed with an accuracy of one arcsecond



Please note: due to the unique design of the GBT, persons who are made uncomfortable by heights or enclosed spaces may not want to participate in a telescope tour.

Visiting Group Code of Conduct on the GBT

- Visiting groups must stay together and remain with an escort at all times while on the GBT. If a group member does not want to climb any higher, the group must stop climbing, and return to the warehouse. The ONLY exception being more than one escort is with the group. Then the 2 escorts may split the group, one taking some higher on the telescope and the other returning the group to the warehouse.
- Food and drink is not permitted on the GBT.
- Keep on designated walkways on the structure.



- No climbing permitted.
- Make sure all items are secure when on the GBT.
- Stay off the dish.
- No horseplay.
- Report all injuries to your escort.
- Obey all posted signs.
- Do not enter caution taped or barricaded areas.

Visitor Safety

