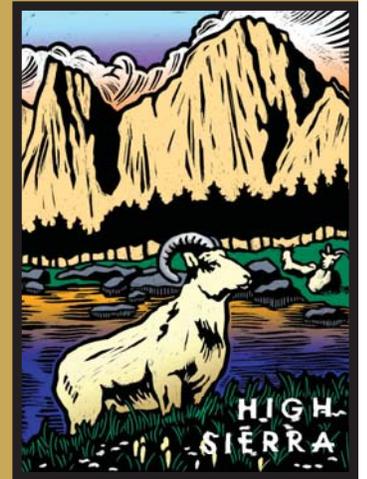
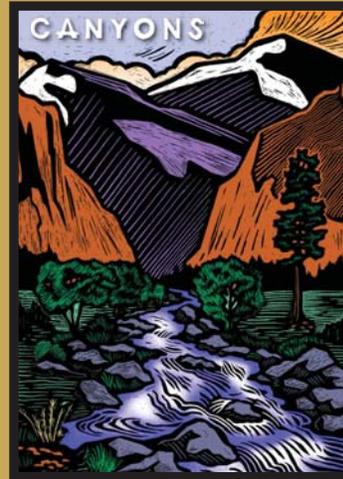




Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks & Sequoia National Forest/Giant Sequoia National Monument



Welcome to the Land of Giants

YOU EXPECT GIANT TREES and huge canyons—and you won't be disappointed. What may surprise you, however, is that the whole of these parks is even greater than the sum of their famous parts.

Rising from 1300' to 14,494' (the highest elevation in the lower 48 states), these parks protect a spectacular elevational range. This span from low to high means dramatic shifts from warm foothills to cool forests to the cold High Sierra. It means diverse plants and animals living in extremely varied conditions. It means steep roads and trails that climb mountains, and cold rivers that plunge down from their heights.

The caretakers of this landscape are also diverse. This is not one, but two national parks—Sequoia and Kings Canyon—managed by the National Park Service as one. A national monument, which is part of a national forest, borders the two parks. Researchers

with the U.S. Geological Survey conduct scientific studies on park resources here. The Sequoia Natural History Association runs bookstores at visitor centers, then plows those funds into park education and research efforts. Another non-profit, the Sequoia Parks Foundation, supports important projects, from outreach to trails.

A RARE GREAT gray owl died on a Sierran roadway recently. Biologists knew her as an unusually successful mother. These large birds do not nest often, and these parks lie at the southernmost end of their range.

Too often cars kill birds and other wildlife; 17 bears—that we know of—have been hit here in a single year. For their safety and your own, please slow down.



PHOTO BY ARNE LIST

All park partners, public and private, cooperate to meet a challenging mission—providing for public enjoyment while keeping the parks unimpaired for future generations. *You* are the most important partner! Experience these parks (and do it safely—see page 10). Your help is needed to preserve and share these treasured landscapes.

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Telephone & Internet

911 EMERGENCY — DIAL 911
No coins needed in payphones.

Limited Cell Signals & Service
See pay-phone locations, pages 8-9.

Sequoia & Kings Canyon (NPS)
1-559-565-3341 (24 hour): Press 1 for an information menu, then road/weather/fire, press 1; camping/lodging 2; wilderness 4; and more.

Web & Social Media
The only official park information sources online:



Website:
nps.gov/seki



Facebook:
Sequoia and Kings
Canyon National Parks



Twitter:
SequoiaKingsNPS

Sequoia National Forest/Monument (FS)
1-559-338-2251, fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia

Yosemite National Park (NPS)
1-209-372-0200, nps.gov/yose

California Road Conditions (CalTrans)
1-800-427-7623, dot.ca.gov

Wi-Fi
At lobbies in Wuksachi and John Muir lodges, Grant Grove Restaurant, and at Montecito Lake and Stony Creek resorts (see *Lodging* page 5).

Translations

Welcome - You may borrow a Braille copy of the park map & guide at visitor centers.

Bienvenidos - Hay un folleto en Español disponible en los centros de visita.

Bienvenue - Une guide officielle est disponible dans les centres d'information.

Willkommen - Eine Landkarte ist auch in deutscher sprache im Besucher-zentrum erhältlich.

Benvenuti - La traduzione in lingua Italiana della mappa e' disponibile in tutti i centri di informazioni.

Visitor Centers

Each offers different exhibits and films. They sell many items including books, maps, and postcards. All purchases support the parks!

IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK:

Foothills Visitor Center
(NPS) Daily 8am-4:30pm. Exhibits on the diverse foothills area. Book store. Crystal Cave tickets sold only here & at Lodgepole Visitor Center (details on page 5). 1-559-565-4212. Self-issue local wilderness permits outside the visitor center.

Giant Forest Museum
(NPS) Daily 9am-5pm through 10/8, then closed. Exhibits on the Big Trees. Book store. No pay-phone; closest are at Lodgepole & Wolverton.

Lodgepole Visitor Center
(NPS) Daily 8am-4:30pm through mid-October, then 9am-4:30pm. Movie about bears; exhibits on geology & park life. Book store. Crystal Cave tickets sold only here & at Foothills Visitor Center (details on page 5). Self-issue local wilderness permits outside the visitor center. Pay phone. 1-559-565-4436.

Mineral King Ranger Station
(NPS) Daily 8am-4pm through 9/27. Once closed for the season, self-issue wilderness permits on the porch. 1-559-565-3768. Road to area closes 10/31.

IN KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK:

Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center
(NPS) In Grant Grove. Daily 8am-5pm through 10/7, then 9am-4:30pm. Exhibits & movie in English & Spanish. Book store. Local wilderness permits issued up to 1/2 hour before closing. 1-559-565-4307.

Cedar Grove Visitor Center
(NPS) Closed for the season. 1-559-565-3793. Local wilderness permits available at Road's End.

IN USFS NATIONAL FOREST/MONUMENT:

Hume Lake District Office
(FS) 35860 Kings Canyon Road (Hwy 180) in Dunlap, 19 miles west of Kings Canyon park entrance at Big Stump. Weekdays 8am-4:30pm. Maps, books. 1-559-338-2251.



Partners in the Parks

The following organizations work together to protect these lands, provide services, and publish this guide, first printed in 1974 as the *Sequoia Bark*. Editor: NPS - Malinee Crapsey. Publisher: SNHA. Printer: Willems Commercial Printing, Inc.

National Park Service (NPS) - federal agency
1-559-565-3341, nps.gov/seki

Forest Service (FS) - federal agency
1-559-784-1500, fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia

Geological Survey (USGS) - federal agency
1-559-565-3171, werc.usgs.gov

Sequoia Natural History Association (SNHA) - non-profit
1-559-565-3759, sequoiyahistory.org

Sequoia Parks Foundation (SPF) - non-profit
1-559-739-1668, sequoiaparksfoundation.org

DNC Parks and Resorts @ Sequoia (DNC) - concessioner
1-888-252-5757, visitsequoia.com

Kings Canyon Park Services (KCPS) - concessioner
1-866-KCANYON (522-6966), sequoia-kingscanyon.com



Make connections to your national park with SNHA

The Sequoia Natural History Association commits itself to enriching visitor experiences and promoting awareness of public lands through educational programs, publications, and financial support. This non-profit funds education, interpretation, research, and preservation of the natural and cultural history at Sequoia and Kings Canyon, Devils Postpile National Monument, and Lake Kaweah.

The SNHA:

- Provides the Park Partnership program
- Operates visitor center stores
- Provides free & low-cost school programs
- Purchases supplies for ranger programs
- Operates Beetle Rock Education Center
- Funds exhibits & research projects
- Manages Pear Lake Backcountry Ski Hut
- Provides visitor information
- Rents bear-resistant food canisters
- Publishes park books & maps
- Supports protection of black bears
- Provides volunteer opportunities for park projects
- Offers EdVenture & SFI courses plus guide services
- Publishes this guide



Change: Natural & Unnatural

We often think of parks as outdoor museums. Caretaking a living ecosystem, however, is very different than protecting unchanging objects.

Both natural features and human facilities may be different each time you visit. Both are changing all the time. How we take care of those features and facilities may also affect your visit. You won't notice the ozone monitor that works 24 hours a day, but you will see other activities such as revegetation, road work, painting, or trail maintenance. Some activities may unavoidably affect you, such as smoke from a prescribed fire, campsite closures due to revegetation, or bear management.

The park staff uses such actions as tools to maintain the landscape and protect its inhabitants and visitors. Your visit gives you but a snapshot of this process; Nature decides the timing of many of these actions. They all share one goal: preservation of these parks for us all, now and in the future.



Prescribed fire in a sequoia grove

Fire: A Natural Change

Years ago, we tried to banish fire from the landscape, believing it was destructive. In sequoia groves, that meant putting out lightning-caused fires that naturally start as frequently as every 5 to 15 years.

As time passed, we saw unanticipated consequences from this. Fire suppression blocked important natural processes. Two of these resulted in big problems:

First, sequoias were not reproducing. We learned that fires create the conditions that sequoias need to regenerate: Fires leave behind a seedbed fertilized with ash and they open the forest canopy, allowing sunlight to reach the seedlings.

Second, the amount of dead wood and dense growth of small white-fir trees increased tremendously. Natural fires used to burn these away frequently. Now, after fire's long absence, these fuels feed bigger, hotter blazes that are more dangerous

for people, plants, and wildlife.

For over 40 years at Sequoia and Kings Canyon, we have studied fire and its effects on the land. Now, to protect human safety and benefit giant sequoia trees, the National Park Service works with fire to restore the benefits it brings.

We still put out fires that threaten life and property but, when and where it's appropriate, we ignite prescribed fires or allow lightning fires to spread naturally, reducing fuels and improving resource conditions. Strong evidence shows that we are succeeding.

Why is this important? The National Park System exists to conserve resources "unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." We once thought that aggressive fire suppression met this goal. A more complete understanding of fire tells us that excluding this important natural agent of change only hurts what we are trying to protect.

Unnatural Change: Alien Invaders

Plants and animals evolve together in communities over time. Often, they keep each other in check.

When species get brought in from other places, the newcomers may multiply wildly. This is because the competitors, predators, and diseases that keep them in check in their home communities are not here. This imbalance breaks links in the local web of life, badly disrupting native species that depend on each other. Sometimes the non-native aliens completely replace local plants and animals.

Practice alien hygiene! Look for seeds and tiny animals attached to shoes, clothes, waders, equipment, tires, and pet fur. Wash mud from under cars and on tires before coming into the parks.

The natives will thank you!

Imminent Alien Threats!

Star thistle is one of the most damaging non-natives in the state. Dense, thorny growth completely excludes native plants and limits wildlife movements. It is not yet established in these parks, but it is close!



If you recognize its yellow flower and thorny spines from your home or travels, make sure not to bring it in. If you see it here, tell a ranger.

New Zealand mud snails completely



take over and change waterways that they invade. Due to their biology, just one snail can start a huge population! These tiny light-brown animals—less than 1/8-inch long—stick on gear. Check boots & waders thoroughly for this little invader. Common just east of the parks, they could easily be carried into the High Sierra.

Check regulations at each campground. Rules vary between the Park & the National Forest (see details on page 9). Each standard campsite has a table & fire ring with grill. No hook-ups in the park.

Food storage must be done correctly all year, due to black bears. See page 11.

Summer reservations for Lodgepole & Dorst (in Sequoia NP) & reservable campgrounds (* on chart to the right) in National Forest (FS) are available up to 6 months in advance of date desired: www.recreation.gov; 1-877-444-6777 (7am -9pm PST, 3/1-10/31). Customer service: 1-888-448-1474.

Group Sites & Maximum Group Sizes

Up to 6 people: Many campgrounds limit a site to 1 vehicle & 6 people. Check locally for variations in these limits & parking locations for extra vehicles.

7 to 19 people: Summer only, first-come/first-served sites: groups of 7-15 at Crystal Springs; groups 7-19 at Canyon View, \$35/site.

Larger groups: Call ahead to request summer group tent sites. For Sunset or Canyon View: 1-559-565-3792 (extension 4335 in winter). Group-site reservations in Dorst or national forest: 1-877-444-6777; www.recreation.gov.

Fire Restrictions

Always check bulletin boards at each area.

- Gather only dead & down wood; do not cut limbs off trees.
- Firewood: Please don't transport it. It can carry insects/diseases that threaten living trees. Find or buy wood close to where you will use it. If you brought wood, please burn it.
- Fires must be out before you leave.
- The national forest (FS) requires free campfire permits from Hume Lake Office, Kings Canyon Visitor Center (Grant Grove), or a FS ranger.

Propane Canisters

Do not put propane or fuel canisters in park trash-cans or leave them here. Recycle them at home.

Roadside Camping?

Not permitted in the park. Camp only in designated sites in campgrounds. In National Forest & Monument: Permitted unless posted otherwise.

Quiet & Generator Hours

Music should be audible in your site only.

Use generators 9am-9pm only. At Lodgepole & Dorst use them 8-11am & 5-8pm only.

RV & Trailer Length Limits

Check limits & advisories on back page. There are limited spaces for RVs over 30 feet.

Campgrounds in Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks (NPS)

Footfalls Area	Elevation 2100' - 3600'	Low elevation.
Potwisha - 40 sites Open all year	\$18	River nearby. Pay phone, flush toilets, dump station. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high. Join in summer nature programs.
Buckeye Flat - 28 sites Last night 9/27	\$18 No RVs or trailers	River nearby. Flush toilets. Other facilities nearby at Potwisha. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
South Fork - 10 sites Open all year	\$12 May - October No RVs or trailers, no water.	River nearby. Vault toilets. No drinking water; non-potable water available through 10/9. Bear boxes ~47"long x 17"deep x 16"high.
Mineral King Area closes 10/31	Elevation 6650' - 7500'	No RVs or trailers. No electricity or gasoline.
Atwell Mill - 21 sites Last night 10/30	\$12 No water starting 10/10	No RVs or trailers. River, sequoias. Vault toilets. Food & showers nearby at Silver City (into October). Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
Cold Springs - 40 sites Last night 10/30	\$12 No water starting 10/10	No RVs or trailers. Pay phone. River. Vault toilets. Food & showers at Silver City (into October). Bear boxes in varied sizes.
Lodgepole Area	Elevation 6700'	*Reservations recommended in summer
*Lodgepole - 205 sites Closes in winter.	\$20 during reservation period, then \$18	Pay phone, flush toilets, dump station. Showers, laundry, food nearby. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28" high. Summer nature programs.
*Dorst - 210 sites Closed	\$20	Flush toilets, dump station, pay phone. Last day of free shuttle to Wuksachi / Lodgepole 9/5. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28" high.
Grant Grove Area	Elevation 6500'	
Azalea - 110 sites Open all year	\$18 (\$10 when snow limits services)	Nature programs. Flush toilets. Village nearby with food, seasonal showers. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
Crystal Springs - 50 sites Closed	Tent/RV sites \$18 Group sites \$35	Nature programs. Flush toilets. Village nearby with food, showers in summer. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
Sunset - 157 sites Closed	\$18	Nature programs. Flush toilets. Village nearby with food, showers in summer. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
Cedar Grove Area closes 10/29	Elevation 4600'	Closing dates may vary.
Sentinel - 83 sites Last night 9/25	\$18	Nature programs (summer). Flush toilets. Food, showers & laundry nearby. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
Sheep Creek - 111 sites Last night 10/28	\$18	Nature programs (summer). Flush toilets. Food, showers & laundry nearby. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
Canyon View - 12 sites Last night 10/9	\$35, No RVs or trailers. Groups of 7-19 only	Nature programs (summer). Flush toilets. Food, showers & laundry nearby. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
Moraine - 120 sites Closed	\$18	Nature programs (summer). Flush toilets. Food, showers & laundry nearby. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.

Campgrounds in Sequoia National Forest (FS)

Hume Lake Area	Elevation 4000' - 5900'	Between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove. *Reservable in summer.
*Princess - 88 sites Last night 9/28	\$18 single Reservable in summer.	River, sequoias. Nature programs (summer). Vault toilets. Dump station \$10. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
*Hume Lake - 74 sites Last night 9/28	\$20 single Reservable in summer.	Nature programs (summer). Flush toilets. Lake, food, pay phone, & laundry nearby. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
Tenmile - 13 sites Closes with snow	\$16 No drinking water.	River & sequoias nearby. Vault toilets. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high. No services after 10/1.
Landslide - 9 sites Last night 9/28	\$16	River & sequoias nearby. Vault toilets. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
Convict Flat - 5 sites Last night 11/12	Free. No water.	Vault toilets. River nearby.
Big Meadows & Stony Creek	Elevation 6400 - 7500'	*Reservable in summer.
*Stony Creek - 49 sites Last night 9/28	\$20 single Reservable in summer.	Nature programs (summer). Flush toilets. Pay phone, food, laundry, & showers nearby at lodge. Bear boxes ~47"long x 17"deep x 16"high.
*Upper Stony - 18 sites Last night 9/28	\$16 Reservable in summer.	Nature programs (summer). Flush toilets. Food, laundry, & showers nearby. Bear boxes ~47"long x 17"deep x 16"high.
Horse Camp - 5, Buck Rock - 11, Big Meadow - 45 sites Close with snow.	Free. No water.	Vault toilets. Big Meadow has bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.

For facility hours, see pages 8-9.

Sequoia National Park

Wuksachi Village

(DNC) All year. Reservations 1-888-252-5757; www.visitsequoia.com. North of Lodgepole two miles. Lodge, restaurant, lounge, gifts.

Kings Canyon National Park

Grant Grove Lodge & John Muir Lodge

(KCPS) All year. Reservations 1-866-522-6966; www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com. Hotel, cabins, restaurant, market, gifts, showers.

Cedar Grove Lodge in Kings Canyon

(KCPS) Mid-May through 10/13. Reservations 1-866-522-6966; www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com. Motel, restaurant, laundry, market, showers.

Sequoia National Forest

Montecito Lake Resort (FS permittee)

All year. Reservations 1-800-227-9900; desk 1-559-565-3388; www.mslodge.com. On Generals Hwy 9 miles (14.5 km) south of Grant Grove. Cabins, restaurant, hotel, seasonal/children's activities.

Stony Creek Lodge (FS permittee)

(KCPS) Early May to 10/6. Reservations 1-866-522-6966; www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com. On Generals Highway south of Grant Grove. Hotel, restaurant, market, showers, gasoline, laundry.

Big Meadows Cabin (FS)

July to mid-October. 1-877-444-6777; www.recreation.gov. Historic station south of Grant Grove.

Private Land within National Park/Forest

* **Note:** These two facilities on private land cannot be evaluated, regulated, or endorsed by the National Park or National Forest.

* Silver City Mountain Resort (private)

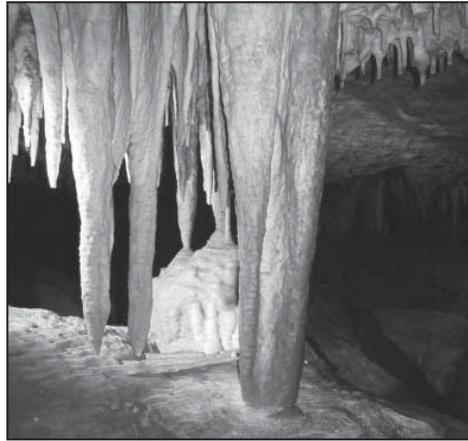
Late May to mid-October. Summer: 1-559-561-3223; Winter: 1-805-528-2730; www.silvercityresort.com. Cabins, chalets, store, restaurant, bakery, gifts, showers. No gasoline.

* Kings Canyon Lodge (private)

Open mid-April to mid-November. Reservations: 1-559-335-2405. On Hwy 180, 13 miles (21 km) east of Grant Grove. Lodge, food, gasoline.

Neighboring Towns

Three Rivers, Lemon Cove, Squaw Valley & others offer year-round lodging & camping. Ask at visitor centers or see www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit.



Crystal Cave Tours

Go underground! Tickets sold *only* at Lodgepole & Foothills visitor centers from 8am - 4pm, not at the cave. Buy tickets at least 1½ hours in advance (see traffic-delay details on back page).

Crystal Cave Road is 15 miles from the Sequoia Park entrance at Hwy 198; 3 miles south of Sherman Tree (map, page 8). Maximum vehicle length on the road is 22'. Use parking-lot restrooms; the cave has none. Wear sturdy shoes; the ½-mile trail (.8 km) to the cave is steep. Wear a jacket; it's 50°F (10°C) inside. No baby backpacks, strollers, or tripods. Not wheelchair accessible. Ask about group reservations, wild cave tours, snool tours, and other special options: 1-559-565-3759. *Note:* Tours are weather-dependent and subject to change.

45-minute Cave Tours

Through 10/21:

- Weekdays 11am, 1pm, 2pm (closed 10/22-26, 10/29-31).
- Saturdays 11am, noon, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm.
- Sundays 11am, noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm.

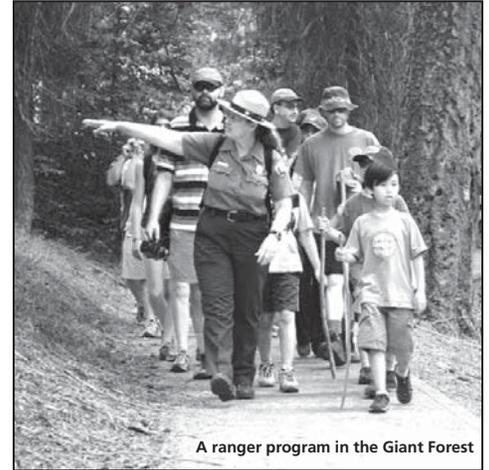
November 1-25:

- Thursday-Friday 1pm, 2pm, 3pm (Thanksgiving 11/22-23 additional tours at noon & 2:30pm).
- Saturday-Sunday noon, 1pm, 2pm, 2:30pm, 3pm. Closed Monday-Wednesday.

Fees: Age 5-12 \$7; age 13-61 \$13; age 4 & under \$2; Golden Age (age 62 & up) & Golden Access pass-holders \$12. Ask about military and SNHA member discounts! National Park and Interagency passes do not apply.

Halloween Historic Tours: 10/27-28

Tours with a spooky twist! 11am, 1pm, 3pm. For ages 8 & older. \$20.



A ranger program in the Giant Forest

Free Ranger Walks, Talks & Snowshoe Walks

Check bulletin boards and visitor centers for information on walks or talks that may be scheduled. When enough snow has fallen, we provide snowshoes for walks at Lodgepole and Grant Grove.

Junior Ranger Program - Free

For all ages - Be a Junior Ranger! To earn your badge, pick up a free booklet at any visitor center and complete the activities for your age group.

Sequoia Field Institute (SFI)

Over 50,000 visitors yearly explore this area with SFI guides. Guides help you observe, paint, photograph, or write as you walk, ski, snowshoe, boat, and enjoy! SNHA members receive discounts on many of these programs and activities: 1-559-565-4251; sfi@sequoiahistory.org.

Touring on Horseback



Closed for the season: Hourly rides, backcountry spot trips, guided trips.

Cedar Grove

May to late September. 1-559-565-3464 summer, 1-559-337-2314 off season.

Grant Grove

Early June to September. 1-559-335-9292 summer. Rides 1-2 hours only.

Horse Corral

Late May through September. At Big Meadows in Sequoia National Forest. 1-559-565-3404 summer, 1-559-679-3573 cell.

Review safety tips on page 10. Be extra careful near rivers. Bring a map or trail guide (sold at visitor centers). You are on your own—be safe!

The Foothills

The low elevations host more different plants and animals than the rest of these parks combined!

Foothills Visitor Center

Exhibits on the diverse foothills. Hours on page 2.

Hospital Rock Picnic Area

Exhibits about the Western Mono people who once lived here. A short trail built by the Civilian Conservation Corps leads to a cascade. Careful; drownings often occur here! Always store food to keep it away from bears.

Marble Falls Trail climbs 3.7 miles (6 km) through chaparral to a waterfall. Park across the highway from Potwisha (no non-camper parking in campground). Near site #14, follow the dirt road across the concrete ditch; the trail starts along the steep bank to the right.

Paradise Creek

At Buckeye Flat Campground, take the path across from site #28 across the footbridge over the Middle Fork. Follow Paradise Creek (not the Middle Fork) for 1½ miles (1.6 km) until the trail grows faint.

Mineral King

Open late May until noon, October 31 (weather permitting). The winding, steep road to this valley ends at 7800', the park's highest road. Trails there lead to the High Sierra and excellent summer hiking. Weather can be severe on the passes; ask

for a weather report. No gasoline or electricity in the area. Until spring, the road is gated at the park boundary (about 9 miles from Hwy 198); for a pass through this gate, ask at Foothills Visitor Center.

Giant Forest

Giant Forest Museum

Closed until spring. Restrooms at Big Trees Trail, General Sherman Tree, Lodgepole, and Wolverton.

Big Trees Trail

A level, 2/3-mile (1km) loop with colorful trailside panels describing sequoia ecology. Start at Giant Forest Museum; parking at the trail is only for cars with placards. 1 hour round trip. Restroom.

General Sherman Tree

Two trails lead to the world's largest tree:

- **Main Trail** - This trail, which has some stairs, runs 1/2 mile down to the tree, making the walk back to your car uphill. Its large parking lot closes by mid-November. Drive two miles north of Giant Forest Museum (past the small Sherman Tree parking lot on the Generals Highway for those with disabled placards only). Turn right on Wolverton Road and follow signs.

 **Wheelchair-accessible trail** from Generals Highway to the Sherman Tree has parking for those with disabled placards only. If you have no placard but can't make the walk on the main trail, ask at any visitor center for a temporary permit. When the upper lot closes for winter, anyone can park here.

Congress Trail

A fairly level 2-mile loop (3.2 km) through the heart of the grove. Begins at the Sherman Tree.



The General Sherman Tree

Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road

No drinking water is available along this 3-mile dead-end road that begins at Giant Forest Museum. This road closes mid-November, unless it snows sooner. Page 5 has road details. Highlights:

- **Moro Rock** - A granite dome with a steep 1/4-mile staircase to the top (300-foot elevation gain). Spectacular view of the Great Western Divide. Two miles from Generals Highway. Do not climb if steps are icy/snowy.
- **Tunnel Log** - A fallen sequoia that was tunneled through, and the only "tree you can drive through" in these parks. Bypass for larger vehicles. 2.7 miles from the Museum.
- **Crescent Meadow** - Towering sequoias around a fragile meadow. Stay on designated trails; use only fallen logs to walk into meadows. Several trails start here. Try the 1-mile (1.6 km) route to Sharp's Log, a cabin in a fallen sequoia, or the High Sierra Trail (60 miles/97 km to Mt. Whitney, at 14,494 feet /4417 m, the highest peak in the lower 48 states).
- **Auto Log** - Once you could drive a car onto this fallen giant sequoia, but rot in the log has put an end to the tradition.

Free Winter Holiday Shuttle

Shuttle Schedule

- November 22-25 (Thursday-Sunday)
- December 26-January 1 (Wednesday-Tuesday)

Shuttles run every 15 minutes between the Sherman Tree parking area along the Generals Highway, Lodgepole Village, and Wuksachi Lodge from 10am - 3:30pm daily. Additional stops may be offered. Restrooms available at each stop.



Lodgepole

Lodgepole Visitor Center

Film about park bears; exhibits on geology & park life. Hours on page 2.

Tokopah Falls

1.7 miles (2.7 km) along a river, ending at cliffs & a waterfall. Be careful by the water! Start in Lodgepole Campground. For the 500-foot/152-meter elevation gain, allow 2-1/2 to 3 hours.

Little Baldy

Ascends 700 vertical feet in 1.7 miles (2.7 km) to a rocky summit and grand view. Start at Little Baldy Saddle, on the Generals Hwy 9 miles north of General Sherman Tree. Allow 3 to 4 hours round trip.

Review safety tips on page 10. Be extra careful near rivers. Bring a map or trail guide (sold at visitor centers). You are on your own—be safe!

Grant Grove

Kings Canyon Visitor Center (NPS)

Exhibits/film in English & Spanish. Details, page 2.

Grant Tree Trail

This 1/3-mile (.5 km) paved trail visits one of the world's five largest living trees. President Coolidge named it the Nation's Christmas Tree in 1926. Trail guides sold at visitor center. North then west of the visitor center 1 mile (1.6 km).

North Grove Loop

This lightly traveled, 1/2-mile (2.4 km) trail offers a close look at Big Trees and a quiet forest walk. Start at Grant Tree overflow-parking area.

Panoramic Point Road

A steep, narrow road to a High Sierra vista until snow closes it; then it's a ski trail. Trailers/RVs not recommended. Go east through visitor-center parking and follow signs. Park Ridge Trail (4 miles/6.4 km round-trip) begins here.

Redwood Canyon Sequoia Grove

One of the world's largest; road closes with snow. Research here revealed the positive link between sequoias and fire. Across Generals Highway from Quail Flat/Hume Lake junction (7 miles south of Grant Grove). Turn right (west) at Redwood Saddle; go 2 miles to parking lot.

Big Baldy Ridge

Great views over Redwood Canyon from the top (8209 feet); elevation gain 600 feet (183m). Round trip 4 miles (6.4km). From Grant Grove, go 8 miles (13km) south on Generals Highway to trailhead.

Kings Canyon & Cedar Grove

The road into this area closes every November to mid-April due to rockfall.

Canyon View

The "U" shape of this canyon, apparent from this viewpoint, reveals its glacial history. 1 mile (1.6 km) east of Cedar Grove Village Road.

Knapp's Cabin

During the Roaring '20s, a California businessman stored gear in this small cabin for lavish fishing trips. Two miles east of the village road.

Roaring River Falls

A very short, shady walk to a powerful waterfall rushing through a granite chute. East of the Village 3 miles. Paved, accessible with assistance.

Zumwalt Meadow

This 1.5-mile (2.4 km) loop passes high granite walls, lush meadows, and the Kings River. Parking is 4 1/2 miles east of Cedar Grove Village road. Buy a trail guide at the visitor center. Allow 1 hour.

Mist Falls

One of the park's largest waterfalls. Allow 4 - 5 hours; 9 miles (14.4 km) round trip from Road's End. 600-foot elevation gain in the last 2 miles.

Hotel Creek Trail

Starts .2 mile north of the market at the intersection with the pack station road. Climbs through chaparral to forest and views from Cedar Grove Overlook. 5 miles (8 km) round trip; 1200-foot/365 m elevation gain. Strenuous; allow 3 -4 hours. Return via Lewis Creek Trail for an 8-mile (12.9 km) loop.

National Forest (USFS)

Explore Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest.

Converse Basin

Virtually every mature sequoia in this huge grove was felled early in the 1900s. Walk the 2-mile (3.2 km) Boole Tree loop, 6 miles north of Grant Grove to a monarch they spared, or the 1/2-mile (.8 km) loop to the Chicago Stump, cut for exhibit at the 1893 World's Fair (2 miles north of Grant Grove).

Indian Basin

A one-mile accessible trail & one-mile unpaved trail. Take Highway 180 7 miles north of Grant Grove; turn into Princess Campground. Turn left past the dump station to trailhead parking area.

Hume Lake

Formed by a rare, historic dam, the lake supplied water to a flume that floated lumber 67 miles (108km) to Sanger. An easy 2 1/2-mile (4 km) trail circles it. Page 9 lists facilities. Eight miles (12.8 km) north of Grant Grove on Highway 180; 3 miles (4.8 km) south on HumeLake Road.

Buck Rock Lookout

A 1916 tower, still used for spotting fires, offers 360° views. Approximately 6 miles (9.6 km) off Big Meadows Road 14S11, then take Forest Road 13S04.



The Kings Canyon

The Generals Highway

Driving this 80-year-old roadway is part of the experience of these parks. It carries you up almost a mile in elevation, and connects the General Sherman Tree to the General Grant Tree, thereby earning its name.

An intense effort to upgrade the highway is underway. For decades, a skin of pavement barely improved the original wagon road. Today's work is building a route that can handle today's large numbers of modern vehicles, without losing the joys of a mountain road.

Wayside exhibits at overlooks along this historic road offer insight into these parks. Stop, read, and enjoy the views at these and other overlooks:

Kings Canyon Overlook

View the High Sierra wilderness from this overlook about 6 miles (9.5km) south of Grant Grove.

Redwood Mountain Overlook

Six miles (9.6 km) south of Grant Grove on the southwest side of the Generals Highway. Views of one of the world's largest sequoia groves.

Eleven Range Overlook

South of the Giant Forest, this turnout offers views to the west over the foothills and the distant valley.



The Generals Highway in Giant Forest

Giant Forest Sequoia Grove

6400' elevation. Home of the world's biggest trees.

Giant Forest Museum (NPS)

Hours & details on page 2. Closed as of 10/9, then closest restrooms at Big Trees Trail & Sherman Tree. No pay phone.

Crystal Cave (NPS)

Details on page 5. Closed starting 11/25.

Lodgepole

6700' elevation. North of Giant Forest.

Lodgepole Visitor Center (NPS)

Hours & details on page 2.

Village Center (DNC) - Closed 10/22

- Market, Gift Shop, & Laundry: Daily 10am-4pm through 10/21, then closed. Last laundry in 1 hour before closing.
- Snack Bar & Deli: Closed.
- Showers: Daily 9am-1pm & 3-4pm through 10/21, then closed.

U.S. Post Office

Year-round. Weekdays 8am-1pm & 2-4pm. 1-559-565-3678. Lobby open 24 hours. Address mail to visitors: c/o General Delivery, Sequoia National Park, CA 93262.

Pay Telephones

Pay telephones are located outside visitor center & market. Cell phones rarely work.

Wuksachi Lodge & Dining

7200' elevation. (DNC) Year-round lodging & food service in Sequoia, 4 miles north of Sherman Tree.

Dining Room

Daily 7:30-9:30am, 11:30am-2:30pm, 5-8:30pm. Dinner reservations required. Box lunches available. Lounge 5-8:30pm. 1-559-565-4070.

Wuksachi Lodge

Details on page 5. Desk 1-559-565-4070. Pay telephones at main lodge.

Gift Shop

Daily 8am-8pm. Souvenirs, clothing, crafts. Grocery items available 10/23-11/12.

Alta Market & Ski Shop

11/15-March 2013. 10am-6pm (9am when snow is deep enough).



Wolverton

7200' elevation. North of Sherman Tree 2 miles. Winter snow play area. (See page 6.)

Foothills Area

1300-3500' elevation. Oaks, chaparral, & river canyons; hot summers & snow-free winters. Park headquarters is at Ash Mountain.

Foothills Visitor Center (NPS)

8am-4:30pm. Phone & details on page 2.

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)

Foothills Visitor Center near front door; Potwisha Campground; Hospital Rock Picnic Area (on restroom wall).

Mineral King Area

Road closed at noon, 10/31, until late May. 7800' elevation. A steep, narrow, twisting road to a sub-alpine valley. No electricity or gasoline. See page 6.

Ranger Station (NPS)

Closed for the season. Details: page 2.

Pay Telephones

Cold Springs Campground, Sawtooth parking area.

Silver City Mountain Resort (private)

Pay telephone. Store, cabins, bakery, showers Friday-Sunday 8am-8pm. Restaurant closed Tuesday-Wednesday & at 5pm Monday & Thursday. 1-559-561-3223; ww.silvercityresort.com.

Grant Grove

6600' elevation. Near a pristine sequoia grove & one that was logged in the 1800s.

Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center (NPS)

Hours & details on page 2.

Village Center (KCPS)

- Restaurant: Daily 9am-2pm & 5-7pm (8pm Friday-Saturday).
- Gift Shop & Market: Daily 9am-7pm (8pm Friday-Saturday). Souvenirs, clothing, ATM. Food, supplies, sandwiches, bear canisters, emergency gasoline.
- Showers: Daily 11am-4pm through 11/24.

Lodging (KCPS)

Desk 7am-10pm. 1-559-335-5500. Details on page 5.

U.S. Post Office

Hours may vary. Monday-Friday 9am-4pm. 24-hour lobby. Send visitor mail to: c/o General Delivery, Kings Canyon NP, CA 93633. 1-559-335-2499.

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)

Kings Canyon Visitor Center (booth by front door); outside gift shop & market.

Cedar Grove

4600' elevation. A glaciated valley with towering cliffs, waterfalls, and the Kings River. Area closes October 29.

Cedar Grove Visitor Center (NPS)

Closed for the season. Details on page 2.

Wilderness Permits (NPS)

At Road's End, 6 miles east of the village. Daily 7am-3pm through 9/22 then self-issue.

Village Center (KCPS): Last full day 10/13

- Restaurant: Counter-service meals, snack bar; not full service. Through 10/13 weekdays 8-10:30am & 5-7pm; weekends 8am-2pm & 5-7pm through noon on 10/13, then closed.
- Gift Shop/Market: Daily 8am-7pm. Sandwiches, supplies, gifts. Last day 10/13.
- Showers: Closed.
- Lodging: Details on page 5. Last night 10/13. Front desk 8am-7pm.

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)

Outside lodge & ranger station.

Horseback Riding: Details on page 5.

National Forest & Monument

Hume Lake & Big Meadows Areas: You enter Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest, between Lodgepole and Grant Grove and between Grant Grove and Cedar Grove.

USFS Hume Lake District Office (FS)

35860 Kings Canyon Road (Hwy 180) 19 miles west of park entrance. Weekdays 8am-4:30pm. Maps, books. 1-559-338-2251; www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)

- Between Wuksachi Village & Grant Grove: Summer only at Big Meadows trailhead.
- Between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove: Hume Lake (year round; see Hume Lake below); Kings Canyon Lodge (summer only).

Lodging

Details on page 5.

Hume Lake (on private land)

All year. Open to the public: 24-hour laundry (coin operated) & gas station (with credit card). Market & snack shop. On public land north of Grant Grove 8 miles on Hwy 180, then right on Hume Lake Road 3 miles. 1-559-305-7770.

Boyden Cavern Tours (FS permittee)

On Hwy 180 between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove. Daily tours on the hour 11am-4pm through 11/13. Gift shop. Ages 13 & up \$13; 4-12 \$8; 3 & younger free. AAA discount. Senior/ access pass discounts do not apply. Ask about other adventures. School/group reservations: 888-965-8243.

Stony Creek Resort (FS permittee)

On Generals Hwy south of Grant Grove. Last night open 10/6. Gasoline 24 hours with credit card. Market, showers & laundry 8am-7pm Sunday-Thursday (8pm Friday-Saturday). Pizza restaurant Monday-Thursday 3-7pm; Friday 3-8pm; Saturday 11am-8pm; Sunday 11am-7pm. 1-866-KCANYON; 1-559-565-3909.

Montecito Lake Resort (FS permittee)

All year. On public land. On Generals Highway 9 miles south of Grant Grove. Meals 8am-9am, 12-1pm, 6-7pm. Cabins, hotel, winter & children's activities. 1-800-227-9900; 1-559-565-3388.

Horseback Riding

Details on page 5.

Gasoline Sales

All year at Hume Lake; into October at Stony Creek & Kings Canyon Lodge. Hours on page 12.

Your visit may include both a National Park (NPS) and a National Forest (USFS). Some activities that are illegal in the Park may be legal in the Forest. Know which one you are in!

Where can I...	In National Parks 	In National Forest 
Walk my leashed pets?	Not on any trails but o.k. 100 feet from roads in developed areas (picnic areas, campgrounds, roads).	Pets can go on trails. In both areas: Pets must be on a leash less than 6 feet (1.8m) long.
Collect things to take home?	Leave things where you find them to play their natural role in the ecosystem.	Keeping a few cones or rocks for personal use is permitted. In both areas: Archeological sites and artifacts are protected by law.
Hunt?	Not in the Parks. Visitors are responsible for understanding & complying with all applicable state, local, and federal firearms laws before entering this park.	Only during the season with a license: 1-559-243-4005.
Drive off-road?	Not in the parks. Stay on roads.	Get specific information on off-highway-vehicle (OHV) routes at USFS Hume Lake office in Dunlap or Kings Canyon Visitor Center.
Cut wood?	Not in the Parks.	Call Hume Lake Ranger District for permit & guidelines: 559-338-2251.
Build fires?	Only in fire grills in campgrounds & some picnic areas. Restrictions change; always check first. Ask why bringing firewood in from far away is not advised.	Free fire permits are required, even for gas stoves & lanterns. Get permits at visitor center in Grant Grove or USFS in Dunlap.
Go fishing?	In both areas: Permitted during fishing season. California fishing licenses are required for ages 16 & up. Ask for copies of park regulations.	
Ride a bicycle?	Keep bikes on roads only, not on any trail (other than the designated bike trail in Cedar Grove). In both areas: Be careful & courteous near people & horses.	Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles. In both areas: Under 18 years old must wear helmets.

You are Responsible for Your Safety

Natural areas present hazards. Icy or uneven ground, wild animals, and changing weather pose dangers. Rocks roll, trees topple, and limbs drop without warning. People create other hazards via campfires, traffic, snowplay, and poor decisions.

Water is the main cause of death here. Many drowning victims just walking or climbing near rivers unexpectedly fell in.

The National Park Service works to reduce risks, but your safety is in your own hands. Keep alert. Read warnings and ask a ranger for advice.

DROWNING

The #1 cause of death in national parks! Be extra careful around water; falling in is as dangerous as swimming. Once in a river, getting out can be nearly impossible: Rocks are smooth and slippery; swift, cold water rapidly saps your strength. Currents are always stronger than they appear.

DISEASE CAUTIONS

Do not feed or touch ANY wild animals. Avoid areas of rodent activity, as fleas on rodents can carry plague and deer mice feces can carry hantavirus.

TICKS are common in foothill and Kings Canyon grasses; check yourself after a walk. Their bite is painless, but a small percentage carry Lyme disease. Remove them carefully with tweezers; seek a doctor's advice.



WEST NILE VIRUS is passed by bites from infected mosquitos. Human illness is not common, but take steps to avoid mosquito bites.

GIARDIA

This protozoan in lakes and streams causes intestinal upset. Iodine and other chemicals may not be as reliable as heat in killing bacteria and Giardia, but can be effective if used properly. Boil drinking water from waterways for at least 3 minutes.

POISON OAK

A common shrub up to 5000 feet elevation. Red leaves and whitish berries in fall; bare in winter; shiny green leaves in groups of three in spring. If you touch any part of it, wash skin and clothes right away.



HYPOTHERMIA

This life-threatening condition can occur year-round. Stay dry; snack often. If others don't respond to the need for warmer clothes or are stumbling, forgetful, or extremely tired and drowsy, get warm sugary drinks into them immediately. Get them into dry clothing, sleeping bags, and shelter.

RATTLESNAKES

Found in much of these parks; especially common in the foothills and near water. Watch where you put your hands and feet! Do not harass or kill them; this is when most bites occur. Bites are rarely lethal, but tissue damage can be severe. If bitten, avoid panic; call a ranger or 911.



LIGHTNING

See dark clouds or lightning? Hear thunder? Get inside a large building or a vehicle (not convertible), if possible. Do not stand under trees or in shallow caves. Avoid projecting above your surroundings, such as standing on a ridge, on Moro Rock, or in open meadows. Stay away from open water, wire fences, and metal railings, which can carry lightning from a distance.

CARBON MONOXIDE

This odorless, colorless gas can be fatal. Never burn charcoal in closed spaces, e.g. a tent or RV.

OZONE POLLUTION

See air-quality forecasts in visitor centers. Most ozone rises into the Sierra on warm winds. Levels of this colorless gas are highest May to October, peaking in late afternoon. The peaks sometimes reach "unhealthy" state/federal standards, and can affect respiratory systems. Ozone forms from gases in car and factory exhaust.

WEAK CELL SIGNALS

Cell phones rarely work here; don't rely on them. Note location of pay telephones (pages 8 & 9).

MOUNTAIN LIONS

Cougars roam throughout the parks, but you are unlikely to see one. Attacks are rare, but be aware. Watch children closely; never let them run ahead. Cautiously move away if you find a partially buried animal carcass. If you see a cougar, convince it that you are not prey:

- Don't run; that may trigger pursuit.
- Pick up children.
- Try to appear as large as possible. Don't crouch or try to hide.
- Hold your ground or back away slowly while facing the cougar.
- If the cougar acts aggressively, wave your hands, shout, and throw stones or sticks at it.
- If attacked, fight back! Report any sightings.



DRINKING WATER

We test the 13 park water systems to ensure that they meet federal and state standards. Annual Consumer Confidence Reports are available.

ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

Keep parks safe, natural, and free from illegal activities! Prevent illegal marijuana growing. Report any suspicious activities: 1-888-NPS-CRIME.

KEEP ANIMALS SAFE

Pets are vulnerable to wildlife, ticks, and overheating in vehicles. Keep wildlife safe from pets, too.

TREE HAZARDS

Branches may fall, whether or not they appear dead. When under trees, stay aware. Run if you hear cracks or snapping overhead. Don't linger under dead, cracked, or broken branches. Report falling branches or trees to a ranger.

Explore Safely

- Avoid going alone, and tell someone your plans and return time.
- Take a map and a jacket.
- Watch and listen for potential hazards above, around, and on the ground.
- Beware of trails and sidewalks slippery with sand, water, ice, or leaves.
- Slow down. Share the road with people and wildlife.

Bear Habitat: Proper Food Storage is the Law!

Bears can grab unattended food or easily break into cars that have food in them. They become bold and sometimes aggressive in attempts to get more. Too often these bears must be killed.

This is why you may be fined if you do not store food properly. Follow the rules below to reduce (but not eliminate) the risk of a bear break-in.

Drivers

Never leave any food or scented item in cars where food-storage boxes (or "lockers") are provided.

Picnickers

Never move away from coolers and tables when food is out. Stay within arm's length of food.

Lodge Guests

Keep cabin doors closed any time you leave.



Campers

Store food day and night in the metal boxes provided (avoid bringing coolers that won't fit; most boxes are 47" long x 33" deep x 28" high. Store ALL food, coolers, related items, and anything with an odor (even non-food) — including unopened cans and bottles. Latch the box completely. Food not stored properly will be impounded. Where boxes are not provided, seal food to reduce odors, cover it well, and close the windows. Keep a clean campsite. Deposit garbage immediately in bear-proof containers or store it like food. Take baby seats out of cars; the smells they absorb may attract bears.

Backpackers

Hanging food often fails! Store all food in a portable canister. Less than 3 pounds, it holds up to 5-day's food for one and fits in a pack. Metal boxes in a few wilderness locations offer backup storage. Rent or buy a canister at visitor centers or markets.

Everyone

Don't let bears approach you or your food. Wave your arms, make loud noises, and throw small rocks toward them (avoid hitting the face or head). Keep a safe distance but be persistent. Abandoning your food teaches bears that approaching humans is acceptable. However, if a bear does get food, never try to take it back.

Wilderness

11

Wilderness Overnights

Wild places are hazardous and help may not be available. Be prepared to be fully self-reliant. Know and follow restrictions, as they protect both the environment and your experience.

Permits

Required for overnights (not day hikes). Issued in summer (reservations available) and self-issued the rest of the year at trailhead locations near where you are hiking or riding.

Quotas & Permits: Each trail has a daily entry quota and a required wilderness camping fee (\$15) from late May through September 22. Requests to reserve a permit for a certain date within the quota season are accepted starting March 1 and at least 2 weeks before your trip's start date. Permits must be picked up the afternoon before (starting at 1pm) or by 7am on the day of departure at the park permit station/visitor center nearest your trailhead (see page 2 for hours). If delayed, call the Wilderness Office or you may lose the permit.

If you don't have a reservation and the quota for your preferred trail is full, choose another trail for that day or another day to start. Permits are not issued after mid-afternoon as minimum distances must be reached before you camp.

Jennie Lakes & Monarch wildernesses in the National Forest (FS): Permits not required but the FS requires free fire permits for any open flame.

Camping in the park's "frontcountry" is permitted only in campgrounds. Camping or sleeping in vehicles is not allowed in parking lots, pullouts, picnic areas, or trailheads in the park.

See www.nps.gov/seki or contact:

Wilderness Permit Reservations
Sequoia & Kings Canyon N.P.
47050 Generals Highway #60
Three Rivers, CA 93271
Telephone: 1-559-565-3766
Fax 565-4239

Pear Lake Ski Hut

Operated by SNHA 12/17-4/29, it sits in a granite basin high above Lodgepole. At 9,200 feet elevation, in winter it is surrounded by glistening snowfields and icy rock walls. Six strenuous miles on skis or snowshoes get you to its ten bunkbeds and wood-pellet stove. A great opportunity to experience winter in the High Sierra: 1-559-565-3759 (reservations required). Also check www.sequoia-history.org for SNHA's winter-travel seminars.

Your Fees Help the Parks & the Forest!

Most fees get invested right here, improving and protecting these parks: They repair roads, campgrounds, trails, picnic areas, and restrooms. They update visitor centers, exhibits, and slide programs. For more on these and commercial fees, ask park staff or search www.nps.gov/seki for "fees."

Passes to Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks plus Hume Lake District of Sequoia National Forest):

• **7-day pass:** \$20 per vehicle (private, non-commercial) or \$10 per person on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or bus.

• **12-Month Pass:** \$30 admits all passengers in a private vehicle. Not valid at Crystal Cave.

Passes to National Parks & Interagency Federal Recreational Lands Nationwide:

• **Annual:** \$80. Valid for entrance fees nationwide (not valid at Crystal Cave).

• **Annual Military:** Free to active-duty members and their dependents with a CAC or DD173.

• **Seniors:** \$10 one-time fee buys lifetime entrance for U.S. citizens & permanent residents 62 or over (not valid at Crystal Cave).

• **Accessibility:** Free to blind or permanently disabled U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Take appropriate documents to entrance stations (not valid at Crystal Cave).

Rules & Recommendations

Gasoline Stations

No gas stations within the park boundaries. Only Grant Grove market sells cans of emergency gas. Fill up in Three Rivers, Clingan's Junction, or at:

- Hume Lake Christian Camp: 559-305-7770.
Year-round 24 hours with credit card. 11 miles (18 km) north of Grant Grove via Hwy 180.
- Stony Creek Village: 1-559-565-3909. Open through 10/6. Available 24 hours with credit card, summer only. Between Wuksachi & Grant Grove on the Generals Hwy.
- Kings Canyon Lodge: 1-559-335-2405. Closes no later than 11/26. Gas sold 9am-dark, usually. 17 miles (27 km) from Grant Grove on Hwy 180.

Icy Roads & Trails

Cold fall temperatures can mean slippery areas, especially in the morning and in the shade. If it snows, watch out for plows. Recorded road information: 1-559-565-3341.

Don't Lose Your Brakes

Frequent braking causes overheating and brake failure. Instead, always downshift when going downhill. In automatic vehicles, put the gearshift on 1, 2 or L. The engine gets louder, but it will save your brakes.

Emergency Car Repairs

For a tow: 565-3341 then press zero (24 hours). In Sequoia Park only, 24-hour AAA for lock outs, jump starts, out-of-gas, minor repairs: 565-4070.

Prevent Car Fires

Hot brakes & mufflers can easily start fires. Stop only on paved areas, not on grasses.

Use Turnouts; Let Others Pass

Bicycles

Ride on roads, not trails. Obey traffic rules. Wear light colors at night. Under 18: helmet required.

Go Slow for Wildlife!

Never feed animals by the road. Cars often hit them as they wait for handouts on roadsides.



The Generals Highway

Narrow Winding Roads & Winter Closures

Vehicle Length Limits

Hospital Rock Picnic Area to Giant Forest Museum on Generals Highway: Maximum is 22 feet cumulative length due to Federal Highways limits; long vehicles cannot make the tight curves in the construction zone. Alternatives: Hwy 180 from Fresno is straighter, wider, and less steep. If towing a car, camp in the foothills and use the car.

Potwisha Campground to Hospital Rock Picnic Area: Advised maximum vehicle length is 22 feet.

Maximum limit on other parts of the Generals Hwy is 40 feet for single vehicles, 50 feet for vehicle + towed unit.

Plowing Snow

Other than closures (below), snowplows clear roads in priority order, starting with the Generals Hwy from Hwy 198 entrance to Wuksachi, and from Hwy 180 entrance to Hume Lake and Montecito. All roads may close at unscheduled times, depending on conditions.

Generals Highway

Between Sequoia and Kings Canyon (Wuksachi Lodge to Montecito Resort near Hwy 180) may be closed by snow for weeks.

Road Closures in Kings Canyon Area

- Hwy 180 East into Cedar Grove closes in three sections: east of Boyden Cavern closes at noon on 10/29; east of Kings Canyon Lodge near Yucca Point trailhead on 11/13; east of Hume Lake Road junction on 11/26.
- Panoramic Point & unpaved Redwood Mountain roads (NPS), & Big Meadows, Quail Flat/Ten Mile, Converse Basin (USFS, unpaved) close with snow.

Road Closures in Sequoia

- Crystal Cave Road: Closed when cave tours not offered (see page 5). Maximum vehicle length 22' (6.7m). Closes for winter 11/25 at the latest.
- Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow: Vehicle-length limit 22'. No trailers/towed units. Closes with snow or by 11/14.
- Mineral King Road: Closes 10/31 at noon. RVs & trailers not recommended (not permitted in campgrounds).
- South Fork & Middle Fork roads: Partially unpaved. Slippery when wet. Middle Fork closes in winter.

Construction Delays



See bulletin boards at visitor centers for updates and details. Thank you for your patience.

Generals Highway Reconstruction

Amphitheater Point to Deer Ridge (1.5 miles between Hospital Rock & Giant Forest). Delays through 11/2012. Schedules may change; check locally for updates. See *Vehicle Length Limits* below:

- **Monday-Thursday, some Fridays:** Delays up to 1 hour 8am-5pm; 20-minute delays 6-7am & 5-9pm. **Night closures:** Road closed Sunday through Thursday nights 9pm-6am with one opportunity to pass through at 11:30pm.
- **Saturday, Sunday, holidays:** 20-minute delays on weekends and other non-working hours.

New Cedar Grove Bridge

Bridge between Hwy 180 and the village/market closed through 2012. Access the village and lodge via detour on Northside Road. Large vehicles & trailers use Lewis Creek Trailhead as a turnaround.

Bridge Repairs

Expect delays up to 15 minutes on weekdays in Cedar Grove at Granite Creek & Lewis Creek), Lodgepole Campground's Log Bridge, and Mineral King's Cold Springs Bridge. On the Generals Highway at Stony Creek, expect five-minute delays.

Be Careful

Beware of narrow, rough roads in construction areas. Slow down. Use low gear on downhills.

Driving Times in good weather

From Foothills to:

Giant Forest	1½ hour minimum
Lodgepole	1½ hour minimum
Visalia	1 hour
Mineral King	1½ hours
(MK Road closed Oct. 31 - late May)	

From Giant Forest to:

Grant Grove via Generals Hwy	1 hour
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From Grant Grove to:

Cedar Grove	1 hour
(Road open mid-May to October 29)	
Fresno	1½ hours
Yosemite south entry	3 hours
(via Hwy 41)	