

# SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

## & SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST/GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT

# SUMMER 2007 GUIDE



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## Sequoia road delays

With a little planning, you can avoid much of a wait at a construction area on the Generals Highway. A 1-1/2 mile section of the old road is being reconstructed in Sequoia National Park between Hospital Rock Picnic Area and the Giant Forest.

Planned work schedule: Monday-Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Traffic can pass once per hour, at the top of the hour. Uphill traffic goes through first, then downhill traffic.

Try to get to the work zone at about 10 minutes before the hour (see drive-time chart below). *Slow down* as you approach the area; traffic may be stopped just around a curve. If night work is needed, signs and notices will be posted.

Last restrooms before the construction are at Hospital Rock and Giant Forest Museum. Be sure to use them, as none are available near the construction zone!

Follow instructions from flaggers and pilot cars. No stopping in the construction zone; Amphitheater Point and other overlooks in that stretch are closed. Go slow, give workers plenty of room, but keep up with traffic. After hours, automatic lights control traffic where the road narrows to one lane. Wait for the green light, or you'll get trapped by oncoming traffic!

While waiting, *put the car in park, turn it off, and keep your foot off the brakes* or they won't cool off. Overheated brakes fail, and cause most of the accidents and fires on this steep road.

During the July 4th week, the only delay will be an automated traffic light (20 minutes max) from noon on Tuesday, July 3, to 6 a.m. on Thursday, July 5. Thanks for your patience!

### DRIVE TIME TO CONSTRUCTION ZONE FROM:

- Sequoia Entrance / Hwy 198 - 35 minutes
- Foothills Visitor Center - 30 minutes
- Potwisha Campground - 21 minutes
- Hospital Rock Picnic Area - 15 minutes
- Giant Forest Museum - 15 minutes
- Grant Grove Village - 1-1/4 hours

## Do the Sequoia Shuttle!



A new shuttle bus system is serving the Giant Forest from late May to September 3!

Two free routes run in Sequoia National Park. One, the Giant Forest Route, goes from the Giant Forest Museum to the Sherman Tree, Lodgepole Village, and Wuk-sachi Lodge. The second leaves Giant Forest Museum for Moro Rock and Crescent Meadow.

See page 6 for details. Park in one of the large lots; the Lodgepole Campground (go past the campground entrance) or main Sherman Tree Parking are best.

The City of Visalia also runs a shuttle from Visalia to Three Rivers and up to the Giant Forest Museum — all for \$10 round trip (including entrance fee). Riders can use it to connect to the free in-park shuttles.

Shuttles reduce traffic, air pollution, and parking hassles. You can park once, take the shuttle to another spot, then stroll a trail through the sequoias back to your car. Or ride it to get an overview of the area before deciding where to get off and visit.

This shuttle results from perseverance and partnerships. It represents one of the last steps in a decades-long effort to better preserve the Giant Forest and serve the visitors to the sequoia grove.

The park, working with the City of Visalia, has three years to make this pilot project permanent. We must show that enough visitors will ride the shuttles to continue the service. Try it; we hope you'll like it (the environment will thank you). Please pass on your suggestions and enjoy the ride!

# WELCOME TO SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON

## Get to know these parks!



Given the names of these parks, you expect giant trees and huge canyons — and you won't be disappointed. Yet the whole of them is even greater than the sum of their famous parts.

Rising from 1300' to 14,494', these parks protect a spectacular elevational range. This span from low to high means dramatic shifts from hot foothills to shady forests to the cold High Sierra. It means extraordinarily 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.

There is diversity, too, in the caretakers of this landscape. Bordering these two national parks is a national monument, which is part of a national forest. A U.S. Geological Survey Field Station conducts research here. The Sequoia Natural History Association sells books and maps at visitor centers and contributes to education and research. The Sequoia Parks Foundation supports significant park projects.

Other partners, public and private, cooperate with the Park Service to meet a challenging mission — providing for public enjoyment while keeping the parks unimpaired for future generations. You are an equally important partner! Experience these parks fully: Learn all you can and join in preserving them. Together we can meet this inspiring goal:

*The National Park Service  
cares for special places  
saved by the American people  
so that all may experience  
our heritage.*

### PHONE NUMBERS

**EMERGENCY — DIAL 911**  
No coins needed.

**24-Hour Park Information**  
1-559-565-3341 (NPS)  
[www.nps.gov/seki](http://www.nps.gov/seki)

**National Forest Information**  
1-559-338-2251 (USFS)  
[www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia)

**Yosemite Information (NPS)**  
1-209-372-0200  
[www.nps.gov/yose](http://www.nps.gov/yose)

**California Road Conditions**  
1-800-427-7623 (Caltrans)

### Partners in the Parks

The following organizations work together to provide this guide, first published in 1974 as the Sequoia Bark. It is published by the Sequoia Natural History Association (SNHA) and printed by the Selma Enterprise:

**National Park Service (NPS)**

Malinee Crapsey, Editor

1-559-565-3341

[www.nps.gov/seki](http://www.nps.gov/seki)

**Sequoia Natural History Association (SNHA)**

1-559-565-3759

[www.sequoiahistory.org](http://www.sequoiahistory.org)

**Sequoia Parks Foundation**

1-559-739-1668

[www.sequoiafund.org](http://www.sequoiafund.org)

**U.S. Forest Service (USFS)**

1-559-784-1500

[www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia)

**Delaware North Companies  
Parks & Resorts (DNCPR)**

1-888-252-5757

[www.visitsequoia.com](http://www.visitsequoia.com)

**Kings Canyon Park Services (KCPS)**

1-866-KCANYON (522-6966)

[www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com](http://www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com)

**U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)**

1-559-565-3171

[www.werc.usgs.gov](http://www.werc.usgs.gov)

Page 1 illustrations ©SNHA by Rick Wheeler

### WELCOME

You may borrow the park map & guide in Braille at visitor centers.

### BIENVENUE

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

### BIENVENIDOS

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

### WILKOMMEN

Eine Landkarte ist auch in deutscher sprache im Besucherzentrum erhältlich.

### BENVENUTI

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

## PARK, FOREST, OR MONUMENT?

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Sequoia National Forest, and Giant Sequoia National Monument... What is the difference between them?

Each is on federal land. Each exists to benefit society. Yet each has a different history and purpose. Together they provide a wide spectrum of uses.



National parks strive to keep landscapes unimpaired for future generations. They protect natural and historic features while offering light-on-the-land recreation. Park rangers work for the National Park Service, part of the Department of the Interior.

National forests, managed under a "multiple use" concept, provide services and commodities that may include lumber, cattle grazing, minerals, and recreation with and without vehicles. Forest rangers work for the U.S. Forest Service, an agency in the Department of Agriculture.

Both agencies manage wilderness and other areas where they strive for maximum protection of natural resources. For example, part of Sequoia National Forest has been designated Giant Sequoia National Monument to emphasize protection of sequoias.

Parks, forests, and monuments may have different rules in order to meet their goals. Read "Where can I..." on the next page to learn what activities are permitted where. Despite confusion over names, we get a wide range of benefits from these diverse areas.



## FEES HELP YOUR PARKS!

Most of your entrance and camping fees stay here. The parks use them to invest in projects that enhance visitor facilities and protect park resources. In the past few years, fees have paid for repairing and improving roads, campgrounds, trails, picnic areas, and restrooms. They have improved visitor centers, updated exhibits, and modernized naturalist slide programs.

### ENTRANCE FEE OPTIONS

- **7-day pass for Sequoia & Kings Canyon, and for Hume Lake District of Sequoia National Forest/Giant Sequoia National Monument (GSNM):** \$20 per vehicle (private, non-commercial) or \$10 per person on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or bus.
- **12-Month Pass for Sequoia & Kings Canyon, & for Hume Lake District of Sequoia National Forest/GSNM:** \$30 admits all passengers in a private vehicle for one year from month of purchase.
- **12-Month: America the Beautiful Interagency Annual Pass:** Cost \$80. Valid for entrance fees at Federal recreation sites including National Parks, National Forests, FWS, BLM, & Bureau of Reclamation. Admits all passengers in a single private non-commercial vehicle where per-vehicle fees are charged, OR the passholder plus up to 3 persons (age 16 & older) for per-person fee areas, for 12 months. Not valid at Crystal Cave.
- **Seniors: America the Beautiful Interagency Pass:** \$10 one-time fee buys a lifetime pass for entrance fees for U.S. citizens & permanent residents 62 or over. (Previously issued Golden Age passes remain valid.)
- **Accessibility: America the Beautiful Interagency Access Pass:** Free to blind or permanently disabled U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Take appropriate documentation to any park visitor center. (Previously issued Golden Access passes remain valid.)

# Crystal Cave Rocks!



Explore these fabulous cave formations!

No tickets are sold at the cave, only at Lodgepole and Foothills visitor centers. Buy them at least 2 hours before the tour.

Crystal Cave Road is 15 miles (24 km) from the Sequoia Park entrance on Hwy 198, and 3 miles (5 km) south of the General Sherman Tree (see page 12 map). Maximum vehicle length is 22' (6.7 m) on the road to the cave.

Use parking-lot restrooms; the cave has none. Wear sturdy shoes and bring a jacket; the 1/2-mile trail (.8 km) to the cave is steep and it's 50°F (10°C) inside.

No strollers, tripods, or baby backpacks. Not wheelchair accessible. Ask about Wild Cave Tours and group reservations! Tours by SNHA.

## 45-minute Cave Tours daily

Schedule through 9/3 (schedule reduced starting 9/4):

Weekdays: 10:30 am to 4:30 pm every half hour.

Saturdays & July 4th holiday (6/30-7/4): every half hour 10 am to 5 pm.

Sundays: 10:30 am to 5 pm.

Fees: Ages 6-12 \$6; age 13-61 \$11; age 62 & up \$10; under 6 free.

National Park, Interagency, & Golden Age passes do not apply. SNHA members get a discount!

## 1-1/2 hour Discovery Tours

Weekdays only through 8/31 (no tours 7/2-4), starting at 4:15 pm.

Enjoy an in-depth tour of this fabulous cave! Limited to 16 people aged 13 & up. Fee: \$18.95 each (SNHA members \$16.95).

# Free Activities

**WALKS & TALKS** Free ranger-led talks or walks are offered at Giant Forest, Lodgepole, Grant Grove, Cedar Grove, and the Foothills, usually on weekends. Check bulletin boards and visitor centers to see what is scheduled.

## JR. RANGER PROGRAM

People of all ages earn a badge while learning to protect resources. Those 5 to 8 years old earn the Jay Award. If you are 9 to 12 years old, work for a Raven Award. Ages 13 to 103 earn an Arrowhead Award. Pick up a Jr. Ranger booklet in any visitor center or ask a ranger. Follow the instructions and have fun!

**BEETLE ROCK FAMILY NATURE CENTER** Programs, activities, and exhibits for all ages. Open June 30 through August 18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Next to the main Giant Forest Museum parking lot across the Generals Highway from the museum.

**VISITOR CENTERS & PARK STORES** Each center offers different exhibits to enjoy. The park stores in each visitor center sell a wide variety of books, maps, postcards, posters, and other items. Remember: All your purchases there help to support the parks! See pages 8 and 9 for hours and locations.

## TEACHERS: BRING YOUR CLASS TO THE PARKS!

Rangers offer fun, curriculum-based programs for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>-grade classes in spring and fall. Topics include geology, sequoias, Native Americans, and other cultural history. For details or to reserve a date for your class, call 1-559-565-4303.



# WHERE CAN I...

You are visiting two different areas - a National Park (NPS) and a National Forest and Monument (USFS). Some activities that are illegal in the Park may be legal in the Forest (see page 2 to learn more). Use a map to know where you are!

### • WALK A PET?

*In the Parks:* Not on trails but it's ok 100 feet from roads in developed areas (picnic areas, campgrounds, roads). *In National Forest:* Pets can go on trails. *In both areas:* Pets must be on a leash less than 6 feet (1.8m) long. Don't leave pets in hot cars.

### • GO CAMPING?

*In the Parks:* Only in numbered sites in designated campgrounds. *In National Forest:* In campgrounds or, unless posted otherwise, near roadsides. Pull safely off the road, no further.

• **HAVE A FIRE?** Fire danger is serious; restrictions may increase. Check bulletin boards for limitations before starting any fires. *In the Parks:* Only in fire grills in campgrounds & some picnic areas. *In National Forest:* Free fire permits are required, even for gas stoves and lanterns. Some areas are more restricted than others. Get permits at Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center (in Grant Grove) or USFS office in Dunlap on Hwy 180.

### • RIDE A BICYCLE?

*In the Parks:* Keep bikes on roads only, not on any trail. *In National Forest:* Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles. *In both areas:* Be careful & courteous near pedestrians & horses. People under 18 must wear a helmet.

### • CUT WOOD?

*Not in the Parks.* *In National Forest:* Call Hume Lake Ranger District for permit & guidelines: 559-338-2251.

• **DRIVE OFF-ROAD?** *Not in either area. Stay on roads.*

• **GO PICNICKING?** See picnic symbols on map (back page). *Never leave food unattended!* Check bulletin boards for fire restrictions. Most sites have tables, restrooms & fire grills, except: No fire grills at Foothills & Sandy Cove. No fires permitted at Lodgepole & Crescent Meadow. No water at Grizzly Falls, Halstead, & Powdercan. Big Stump Picnic Area is closed temporarily; it is serving as entrance station.

• **COLLECT THINGS?** *Not in Parks: Leave everything to play its natural role in the ecosystem.* *In National Forest:* Keeping a few cones or rocks for personal use is permitted. *In both areas:* Archeological sites & artifacts are protected by law.

• **HUNT?** *Not in the Parks. Firearms must be unloaded, inoperable & stored in way that prevents ready use prior to entering national parks.* *In National Forest:*

Only during the season with a license. Call 1-559-243-4005.

• **GO FISHING?** *In both areas: Permitted during the season; California fishing licenses required for ages 16 & up. Ask for copies of park regulations.*

## • RIDE HORSEBACK

From late spring or early summer into fall. Hourly rides, backcountry spot trips, & guided trips.

• **Cedar Grove**  
1-559-565-3464 summer  
1-559-337-2314 off season

• **Grant Grove**  
1-559-335-9292 summer  
1-559-337-2314 off season

• **Horse Corral**  
at Big Meadows in Sequoia National Forest south of Grant Grove  
1-559-565-3404 summer  
1-559-564-6429 off season  
1-559-679-3573 cell

# 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.



Fire in the Sierra usually hugs the ground. Its low flames clear dangerous built-up fuels. Without it, these fuels would feed intense, hard-to-control wildfires. The natural burn pattern includes occasional hot spots. These leave important openings in the forest — the sunny, bare places where sequoia trees regenerate best.  
©NPS Photo

## 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 20 years.

As time passed, we saw unanticipated consequences from this. Fire suppression blocked important ecological processes and caused many problems. Two problems were glaring:

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

Second, dead wood and small, dense white fir trees increased tremendously. Natural fires used to burn these away frequently. Now, after fire's long absence, these fuels feed bigger blazes that are more dangerous for people, plants, and wildlife. They burn hotter and are harder to put out.

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 gain the benefits it brings.

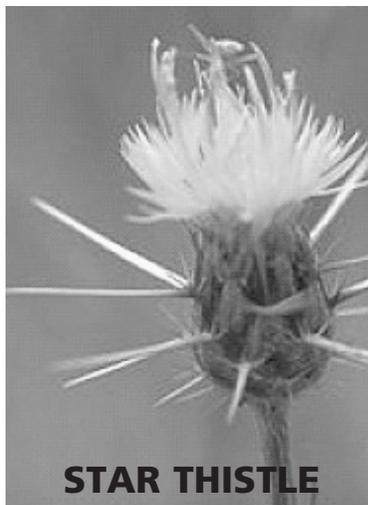
When and where it's appropriate, we may ignite prescribed fires or allow lightning-caused fires to spread naturally, reducing fuels and improving resource conditions. Strong evidence shows that we are succeeding.

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 since the competitors, predators and diseases they evolved with in their home communities are not here. They break links in the local web of life, badly disrupting species that depend on each other. Sometimes they completely replace native 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!



STAR THISTLE

Two immediate threats:

**Star thistle** is one of the most damaging non-natives in the state. Dense, thorny patches completely exclude native plants, and limit wildlife movements. Not yet established here! If you recognize it from your home or travels, make sure not to bring it in.

**New Zealand Mud Snails** take over waterways that they invade, eating most of the food. Due to their biology, just one snail can start a huge population! They stick on gear; check boots & waders thoroughly for this tiny invader. Common just east of the parks. Could easily be carried into the High Sierra.



NEW ZEALAND MUD SNAIL

## WILDERNESS OVERNIGHTS

Each park trail has a daily entry quota for overnight trips. A wilderness camping fee of \$15 is also required between late May and late September. The quota and fee are used to help protect the wilderness environment and your experience. (Quotas and fees are not required for day hikes or for overnights in the adjacent Monarch and Jennie Lakes wildernesses on US Forest Service land. However, a free fire permit is required for any open flame on USFS land.)

A permit is required for each overnight trip. Reserved and first-come, first-served permits are issued the morning of your trip or after 1pm the day before at the park permit station/visitor center nearest your trailhead (see pages 8 & 9). If the quota for your desired trail is full, you can choose another trail or another day to start. Permits are not issued after mid-afternoon as minimum distances must be reached before you camp.

Requests to reserve a permit for a certain date are accepted beginning March 1 and at least 2 weeks before your trip's start date.

Reserved permits must be picked up between the afternoon before and 9am of your day of departure. If delayed, call the Wilderness Office or you may forfeit your reservation.

Camping in the park's "front-country" is permitted only in campgrounds. Camping or sleeping in vehicles is not allowed in parking lots, pull-outs, picnic areas, or trailheads in the park.

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

For more details, visit Wilderness Information at [www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/wilderness.htm](http://www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/wilderness.htm) or get a free copy of *Backcountry Basics*.

## HIGH SIERRA LODGE

• **BEARPAW MEADOW CAMP** (DNCP) [www.visitsequoia.com](http://www.visitsequoia.com)  
Reservations (required) taken starting January 2: 1-888-252-5757. Open June 8 to September 15. This tent hotel is at 7800' on the High Sierra Trail, an 11-mile hike from Giant Forest.

## YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR SAFETY!

Natural areas present hazards. Rocks roll, trees topple, and limbs drop without warning. Wild animals, uneven ground, and changing weather can pose dangers. People may create other hazards through campfires, traffic, snowplay, and poor decisions.

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

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

# Be Safe!

**DROWNING:** is the #1 cause of death in national parks! Be extra careful along rivers and streams; 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.

**PLAGUE:** Please do not feed or touch ANY park animals. Fleas on rodents can carry plague. Deer mice feces can carry hantavirus.

**POISON OAK:** This common shrub grows in the foothills up to 5000 feet elevation. Red in fall with whitish berries, bare in winter, in spring its shiny green leaves grow in groups of three. If you touch any part of the plant, wash skin and clothes right away.



**TICKS:** Common in foothill 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.

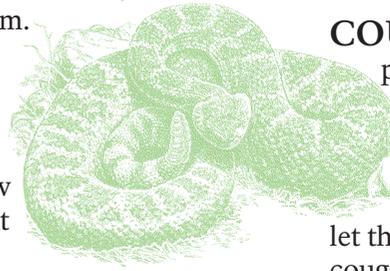


**GIARDIA IN WATER:** This protozoan in lakes and streams can cause intestinal distress. Iodine and other chemicals may not be as reliable as heat in killing bacteria or Giardia, but can be effective if used properly. Boil drinking water at least 3 minutes.

**HYPOTHERMIA:** This life-threatening condition can occur year-round. Stay dry and 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** are especially common in the foothills. Watch where you put your hands and feet! They are protected here; do not kill them.

Most bites result from teasing or handling them. Very few people die, but tissue damage can be severe. If bitten, avoid panic; call a ranger or 911.



**LIGHTNING:** If you see dark clouds or lightning or 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 the surrounding landscape 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.

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

**CARBON MONOXIDE:** This odorless, colorless gas can be fatal. Never burn charcoal in closed spaces such as a tent, camper, or RV.

**OZONE POLLUTION:** See air-quality index 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. These peaks sometimes reach "unhealthy" state and federal standards and can affect respiratory systems. Ozone forms from gases in car and factory exhaust.

**CELL PHONES** rarely work well in these mountains; don't rely on them. Note where pay phones are available (see pages 8 & 9).

**COUGARS** roam throughout the parks, but chances of seeing one are very small. They rarely attack people and pets, but be aware. Avoid hiking alone. Watch children closely; never let them run ahead. If you see a cougar, the goal is to convince it that you are not prey and may be dangerous to it:

- Don't run. Cougars associate running with prey and give chase.
- Try to appear as large as possible. Don't crouch or try to hide.
- Hold your ground or back away slowly while facing the lion.
- Pick up children.
- If the lion acts aggressively, wave your hands, shout, and throw stones or sticks at it.
- If attacked, fight back!
- Report any cougar sightings.

**EXPLORE SAFELY:** Avoid going alone. Tell someone your plans and return time. Beware of uneven or slippery surfaces. Wear sunglasses and sunscreen. Share roads and trails with people and wildlife.

**SAFE DRINKING WATER:** The parks' 13 water systems are tested to ensure that they meet state and federal standards. Annual Consumer Confidence Reports are available at visitor centers.

### OPERATION NO-GROW

- Prevent illegal marijuana growing.
  - Protect visitor & employee safety.
  - Preserve your natural resources.
- Keep your parks safe and free from illegal activities! Report suspicious activities to 1-888-NPS-CRIME.

## Rules of the road

### GO SLOW FOR WILDLIFE!

#### 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.

#### LET OTHERS PASS BUT STAY ON PAVEMENT

Slower vehicles *must* use paved turnouts to let traffic pass. Park and drive only on pavement to protect plants and soils and to avoid fires.

#### EMERGENCY CAR REPAIRS

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

### FINDING GASOLINE

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

- Stony Creek Village 1-559-565-3909: Open until early October, if weather permits. Available 24 hours with credit card. Between Wuksachi and Grant Grove on the Generals Hwy.
- Hume Lake Christian Camp 559-335-2000: Year-round 24 hours with credit card. 11 miles (18 km) north of Grant Grove via Hwy 180.
- Kings Canyon Lodge 1-559-335-2405: Gas sales usually 9am-dark. 17 miles (27 km) north from Grant Grove on Hwy 180. Open summer.

### BICYCLES

Ride only on roads (not trails), single file, with traffic, and wear light colors after dark. People under 18 must wear a helmet.

### LENGTH ADVISORY

On 12 narrow miles from Potwisha Campground to Giant Forest Museum in Sequoia Park, advised maximum vehicle length is 22 feet (6.7m). Maximum limit on the Generals Highway is 40 feet (12 m) for single vehicles, 50 feet (15 m) for vehicles plus a towed unit. Alternatives: Hwy 180 from Fresno is straighter, less steep, and wider. If towing a car, camp in the foothills and use the car to explore.

### PREVENT FIRES

Hot brakes & mufflers start fires in dry grass. Do not stop in grassy areas; use paved turnouts only. Don't throw cigarette butts or matches out the window.

### MOTORCYCLES

Avoid oil buildup on pavement.

### SIGNAL YOUR INTENTIONS

Use blinkers when you plan to turn or pull over. Use flashers if you must stop in the roadway.

### NARROW, WINDING ROADS

IN KINGS CANYON & NATIONAL FOREST/ SEQUOIA MONUMENT –

- Panoramic Point Road
- Redwood Mountain Road (NPS) & Big Meadows, Quail Flat/Ten Mile, Converse Basin (FS): Unpaved.

IN SEQUOIA –

- Crystal Cave Road: Maximum vehicle length 22' (6.7m).
- Moro Rock/Crescent

Meadow Road: From 5/25 through 9/3 (shuttle season), single vehicles more than 22 feet long and combination vehicles are prohibited (exception: those with valid disabled-parking placards displayed).

- Mineral King Road: RVs & trailers not recommended (not permitted in campgrounds).
- South Fork Road: Partially unpaved. Slippery when wet.

**SHUTTLES HAVE RIGHT OF WAY** Please do not delay park shuttle buses. Pull over to let them pass.

## GIANT FOREST SHUTTLE ROUTES — through 9/3/07

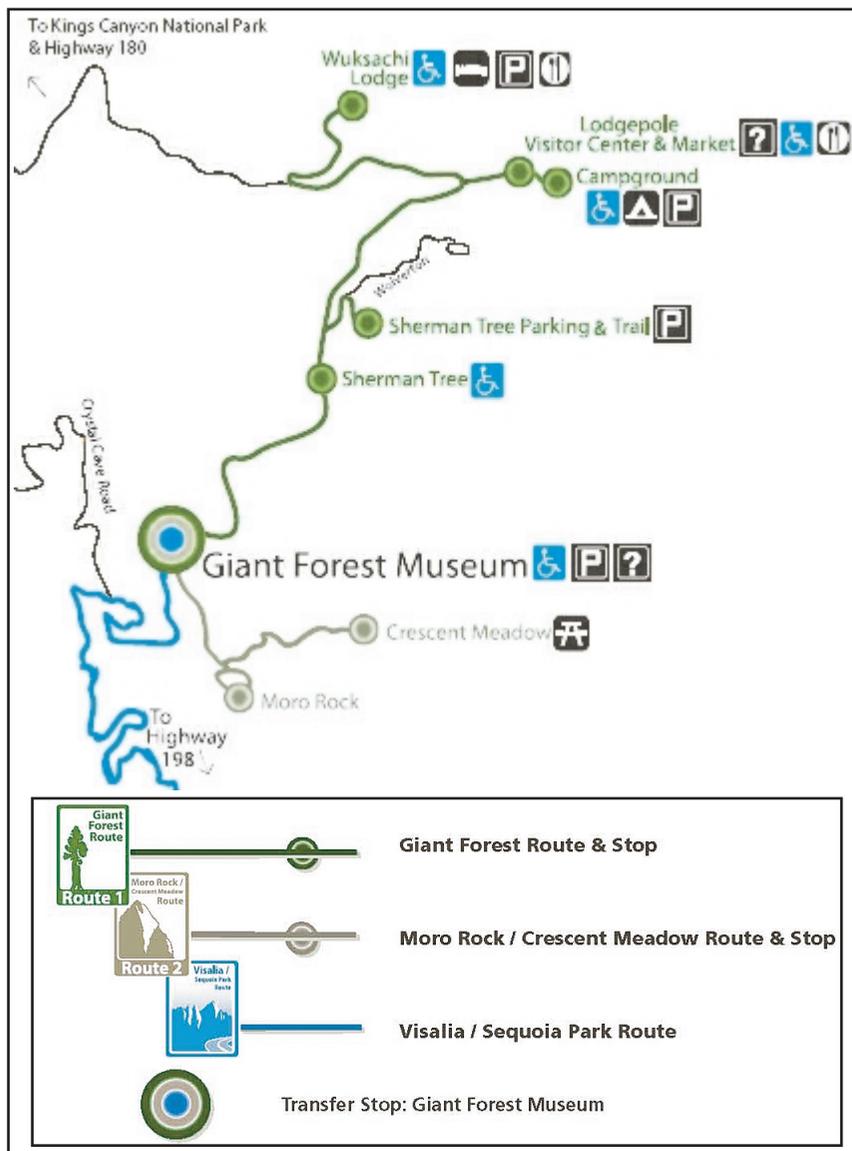
**#1 GIANT FOREST ROUTE (green):** Free. Runs on the Generals Highway from Giant Forest Museum to Lodgepole and back, stopping each way at the General Sherman Tree. About 25 minutes' ride one way. Every other northbound bus continues on to Wuksachi from Lodgepole. Buses depart most stops every 15-20 minutes.

STOPS	HEADING TO GIANT FOREST	HEADING TO WUKSACHI
• <b>Giant Forest Museum &amp; All-Shuttle Transfer Point</b>	-	-
• <b>Sherman Tree accessible trail</b> Parking with disabled-placard only	1st bus: 9:21 am Last bus: 6:05 pm	1st bus: 9:07 am Last bus: 6:07 pm
• <b>Sherman Tree Trail &amp; Parking</b> aka Upper Sherman	1st bus: 9:16 am Last bus: 6:00 pm	1st bus: 9:12 am Last bus: 6:12 pm
• <b>Lodgepole Visitor Center &amp; Market</b> <b>Lodgepole Campground</b> (2 stops)	1st bus: 9:07 am Last bus: 5:37 pm	1st bus: 9:21 am Last bus: 6:21 pm
• <b>Wuksachi Lodge &amp; Restaurant</b> Bus departs every 1/2 hour	1st bus: 9 am Last bus: 5:29 pm	-

**#2 MORO ROCK / CRESCENT MEADOW ROUTE (gray):** Free. Leaves Giant Forest Museum every 15 minutes or so for Moro Rock then Crescent Meadow. About 15 minutes' ride one way:

STOPS	HEADING TO CRESCENT MDW	HEADING TO GIANT FOREST
• <b>Giant Forest Museum &amp; All-Shuttle Transfer Point</b>	1st bus: 9:00 am Last bus: 6:00 pm	-
• <b>Moro Rock</b> Description below.	1st bus: 9:07 am Last bus: 6:07 pm Last bus to connect to Wuksachi: 5:37 pm	-
• <b>Crescent Meadow</b> Description below.	-	1st bus: 9:13 am Last bus: 6:13 pm Last bus to connect to Wuksachi: 5:43 pm

**GIANT FOREST-TO-VISALIA ROUTE** - \$10. Make reservations via 1-877-BUS-HIKE (287-4453).



### GIANT FOREST

Review safety tips on page 5. Take a map, warm clothes, sunglasses, and water. Orient yourself before heading out and tell someone where you are going. You are on your own in the woods — be safe and enjoy! Use the Sequoia Shuttle system to visit many of these sights (above).

**GIANT FOREST MUSEUM** is the best place to learn about sequoias. Shuttle stop.

**BIG TREES TRAIL**, 2/3 mile (1 km), has colorful trailside panels describing sequoia ecology. Start at Giant Forest Museum. A paved, accessible trail is available. Allow 1 hour round trip.

**GENERAL SHERMAN TREE: MAIN TRAIL & PARKING**  
Two miles (3.2 km) north of Giant Forest Museum (past the first Sherman Tree access which

is for those with disabled parking placards only), turn on Wolverton Road, then right to the parking lot. Walk down to the world's largest tree. From the tree, you can walk down to the shuttle stop below, and ride back to your car.

**ACCESSIBLE TRAIL** Shuttle stop and parking with disabled-parking placards only, for the Sherman Tree area. You need a permit to park there (ask at visitor centers if you need one) or, in summer, take the shuttle.

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

**MORO ROCK / CRESCENT MEADOW**  
This 3-mile (5 km), dead-end road begins at Giant Forest Museum. From 5/25 through 9/3, single vehicles more than 22 feet long

and those towing something are prohibited — except those with valid disabled-parking placards displayed. Highlights are:

**MORO ROCK:** A granite dome with a steep 1/4-mile (.4 km) staircase to the summit (300 foot / 91 m elevation gain). A spectacular view of peaks and canyons. Two miles (3.2 km) from the Generals Highway. Shuttle stop.

**TUNNEL LOG:** A fallen sequoia that was tunneled through. The only "tree you can drive through" in these parks. A by-pass is available for larger vehicles. 2.7 miles (4.3 km) from the Museum.

**CRESCENT MEADOW** Summer wildflowers in a fragile meadow. Stay on designated trails; walk only on fallen logs into meadows. Try the 1-mile (1.6 km) route to Tharp's Log, a cabin in a fallen sequoia, or the High Sierra Trail, which runs 71 miles (114 km) to Mt. Whitney (14,494 feet / 4417 m; highest peak in the lower 48 states). Shuttle stop.

### NEARBY TRAILS

**TOKOPAH FALLS:** 1.7 miles (2.7 km) along the Marble Fork of the Kaweah River, ending below granite cliffs and the waterfall. Be careful around the water! Start in Lodgepole Campground; 500 foot / 152 m elevation gain. Allow 2-1/2 to 3 hours. Shuttle stop at Lodgepole Campground.

### THE FOOTHILLS

The Sierra's lower elevations offer more biological diversity — different kinds of plants and animals — than the conifer forests or highcountry. Watch for ticks and poison oak on foothills trails (see page 5 for tips).

### HOSPITAL ROCK PICNIC AREA:

Exhibits about the Western Mono people who once lived here and a very short trail built by the Civilian Conservation Corps leads to a waterfall. Be careful! Drownings often occur here. Also store food from bears.

### MARBLE FALLS TRAIL

climbs 3.9 miles (6 km) through chaparral to a lovely cascade. Park near site #14 at Potwisha Campground. Follow the dirt road across the concrete ditch. The trail starts along the steep bank to the right.

### PARADISE CREEK:

Park at Hospital Rock and walk to Buckeye Flat Campground. Follow the footpath across from site #26; cross the footbridge over the Middle Fork. The trail follows Paradise Creek, not the Middle Fork, for just over 1-1/2 mile (1.6 km) before growing faint.

### MINERAL KING

A winding, narrow road (the parks' highest) to a beautiful sub-alpine valley. See page 8 for details on facilities, and ask at visitor centers for information about trails and road limitations.

# Highlights

## KINGS CANYON



@ R. Mazur

### GRANT GROVE

Before taking to the trail, review safety advice on page 5. Carry a map, warm clothes, and water. Orient yourself before going and tell someone where you are headed.



**GENERAL GRANT TREE:** One of the world's three largest trees and a National Shrine, the only living memorial to those who died in war. President Coolidge proclaimed it the

Nation's Christmas Tree in 1926. Also visit historic Gamlin Cabin and the Fallen Monarch along this 1/3-mile (.5 km) paved trail. A trail guide is sold at the visitor center. Northwest of the visitor center 1 mile (1.6 km).

**NORTH GROVE LOOP:** This lightly traveled, 1-1/2 mile (2.4 km) trail provides a close look at the Big Trees and a quiet walk through conifer forest. Starts at lower Grant Tree parking area.

**DEAD GIANT LOOP:** Along this trail, guess at what killed this sequoia and view an historic mill pond. Follow the old road from the lower Grant Tree parking area for about a mile. The trail branches off, creating a 1-1/2 mile (2.4 km) round trip.

### NEARBY TRAILS & VIEWPOINTS

**PANORAMIC POINT ROAD** leads to a spectacular vista of the High Sierra. Go east through the visitor center parking lot, left around the meadow, then right at the intersection signed "Panoramic Point, 2.3 miles (3.7 km)." Walk 1/4 mile (.4 km) up to the view. Trailers and RVs not recommended on this steep, narrow road. Park Ridge Trail (4-mile / 6.4 km round-trip) begins here.

**REDWOOD MOUNTAIN OVERLOOK:** Six miles (9.6 km) south of Grant Grove, across the Generals Highway from Quail Flat junction, it looks west over one of the world's largest sequoia groves. Studies here proved the positive relationship between fire and sequoia reproduction.

**REDWOOD CANYON** is the world's largest uncut sequoia grove. Acres of rejuvenating forest result from 30 years of prescribed fires, showing the positive relationship between fire and sequoias. Across the Generals Highway from the Quail Flat/ Hume Lake junction (7 miles/11.2 km south of Grant Grove), turn southwest at Redwood Saddle. Go right for 2 miles (3.2 km) on a bumpy dirt road (not plowed).

**KINGS CANYON OVERLOOK:** For a view to the northeast of the high Sierra wilderness, stop at this overlook about 7 miles (11.2 km) south of Grant Grove.

**BUENA VISTA PEAK:** Begin just south of Kings Canyon Overlook on Generals Highway, miles (11 km) south of Grant Grove. 360° vista of Redwood Canyon, Buck Rock Lookout, and High Sierra. 2 miles (3.2 km) round trip.

**BIG BALDY:** Great views and a look down into Redwood Canyon from this ridge. The trail winds 2 miles (3.2 km) to the summit at 8,209 feet (2502 m). From Grant Grove, go 8 miles (13 km) south on the Generals Highway to Big Baldy Trailhead. Elevation gain 600 feet (183 m); round trip 4 miles (6.4 km).

### KINGS CANYON & CEDAR GROVE

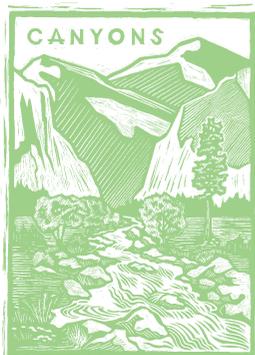
Take time to see at least part of this spectacular gorge. Be very careful around the water! The road to it closes in mid-November.

**CANYON VIEW:** The "U" shape of Kings Canyon, apparent from this viewpoint, reveals its glacial history. 1 mile (1.6 km) east of Cedar Grove Village turnoff.

**KNAPP'S CABIN:** During the Roaring '20s, Santa Barbara businessman George Knapp commissioned lavish fishing expeditions here, using this small cabin to store gear. A short walk from a turnout 2 miles (3.2 km) east of Cedar Grove Village road.

**ROARING RIVER FALLS:** A shady five-minute walk to a powerful waterfall rushing through a narrow granite chute. Three miles (4.8 km) east of the Village turnoff. Paved, relatively accessible.

**ZUMWALT MEADOW:** This 1.5-mile (2.4 km) trail offers high granite walls, a lush meadow, and the meandering Kings River. Park at trailhead 4-1/2 miles (7.2 km) east of the Cedar Grove Village turnoff. Purchase a trail guide at the trailhead or visitor center. Allow 1 hour.



**ROAD'S END:** Here where the pavement ends are high granite walls and trails to the river, Muir Rock, and the High Sierra. East of the Village turnoff 5-1/2 miles (8.8 km).

### TAKE A HIKE!

**MIST FALLS:** One of the park's largest waterfalls. Allow 4-5 hours; 9 miles (14.4 km) round trip. Fairly flat at first; 600-foot elevation gain in the last 2 miles (3.2 km). Park at Road's End.

**DON CECIL TRAIL:** The main route into the canyon prior to the 1939 completion of Highway 180. It starts .2 miles (.3 km) east of the village, climbs a north-facing slope past Sheep Creek Cascade (1 mile/1.6 km up) to good views. Lookout Peak (13-mile/21-km round trip, 4000 foot/ 1220 m elevation gain) has a great panorama. Strenuous; allow all day.

**HOTEL CREEK TRAIL:** Starts .2 mile (.3 km) 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.

### USFS NATIONAL FOREST

Explore Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest (see page 2).

**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 to see a monarch they spared (6 miles north of Grant Grove), or the 1/2-mile (.8 km) loop to the Chicago Stump, a tree cut for exhibit at the 1893 World's Fair (2 miles north of Grant Grove).

**INDIAN BASIN:** A one-mile accessible trail and one-mile unpaved trail offer a look at how this meadow and forest are recovering after logging a century ago. Take Highway 180 7 miles north of Grant Grove; turn into Princess Campground. Trail begins by the host's site.

**HUME LAKE,** formed by a rare, historic, multiple-arch dam, 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 Hume Lake 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 Forest Road 13S04.

# FACILITIES IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

## Giant Forest Area

### GIANT FOREST SEQUOIA GROVE

6400' (1950m) elevation. Home of the world's biggest trees, it offers 40 miles (64 km) of walking trails. See highlights on page 6, and page 3 for information on road delays between Giant Forest and Three Rivers.

- **Giant Forest Museum (NPS):** Daily 9am-6pm through 6/29, then 9am - 7pm. Reduced hours starting 9/3. Exhibits about the Big Trees. Books, maps, first aid. 1-559-565-4480. No payphone; closest phones are at Lodgepole & Wolverton.
- **Family Nature Center at Beetle Rock (NPS):** Daily 6/30 through 8/19, 10am - 4pm. Across the Generals Highway from the Giant Forest Museum. Stop in, one and all!
- **Picnic Areas (NPS):** See the map on page 12; details on page 3.

### CRYSTAL CAVE - Daily tours

This cavern is one of the highlights of the park! Tickets are not sold at the cave; see page 3 for details and schedule.

## Lodgepole Area

### LODGEPOLE VILLAGE

6700' (2040 m) elevation. A few miles north of Giant Forest, in beautiful Tokopah Canyon along the Marble Fork of the Kaweah River. For nearby picnic areas see page 3 and your map. Lodgepole Village offers:

#### INFORMATION (NPS)

- **Visitor Center:** Daily 7am-6pm through 9/2 then reduced hours. Crystal Cave tickets sold 8am - 4pm. Exhibits on geology & forest life; books, maps, first aid. Pay phone. New "Bears of the Sierra" movie. 1-559-565-4436.
- **Wilderness Permits:** Required for backcountry overnight trips. See page 4 for details. In the visitor center daily 7am-11am & noon-3:45pm. 1-559-565-4408.

#### FOOD & SHOPS (DNCPR)

- **Lodgepole Market & Gift Shop:** Daily 8am-8pm through 9/2, then 9am-6pm. Supplies, bear canisters, gifts, premade sandwiches, ice cream.
- **Harrison Grill:** Daily 8am-7:45pm through 9/3, then weekends only. Breakfast, hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza.
- **Watchtower Deli:** Daily 11am-6pm through 9/2. Sandwiches, salads.

#### OTHER SERVICES

- **Lodgepole Campground (NPS):** Open all year. Details on page 11.
- **Laundry (DNCPR):** Daily 8am-8pm.
- **Showers & Laundry (DNCPR):** Daily 8am-7:45pm through 9/2 then 9am - 5:45pm. Showers closed daily 1-3pm for cleaning. Last load of laundry in 1 hour before closing.
- **Post Office:** Weekdays 8am-1pm & 2-4pm. 1-559-565-3678. Lobby with stamp machine open 24 hours. Address mail to visitors: c/o General Delivery, Sequoia National Park, CA 93262.
- **Picnic Areas (NPS):** See the map on page 12; details on page 3.
- **Pay Telephones:** Outside visitor center & market buildings.

### WUKSACHI LODGE & DINING ROOM

7200' (2160 m) elevation. Open year-round 4 miles (6.4 km) north of the Sherman Tree. The center for lodging & food services in Sequoia.

#### FOOD, SHOPS & LODGING (DNCPR)

- **Dining Room:** Breakfast 7-10am; lunch 11:30am-2:30pm; dinner 5-10pm through 9/2, then slightly reduced hours. Dinner reservations required. Box lunches available. 559-565-4070. Lounge daily 4:30-10pm; reduced hours starting 9/3. Pay telephones downstairs.
- **Gift Shop:** Daily 8am-8. Film, souvenirs, crafts, clothing, art, snacks.
- **Lodging:** Year-round. See page 10 for details.

Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts and the National Park Foundation have made it easy for Wuksachi Lodge guests to contribute to Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Ask about the Guest Donation Program when you check in!

### WOLVERTON MEADOWS

7200' (2160 m) elevation. Two miles (3.2km) north of the Sherman Tree. **Wolverton BBQ (DNCPR):** Nightly through 9/2 daily, weather permitting. All-you-can-eat barbeque, served outdoors starting around 6pm.

This list is not complete; check bulletin boards for more!  
**Note: No evening programs available on Thursday, August 9.**

### GIANT FOREST, LODGEPOLE, DORST & WUKSACHI Programs 6/29 - 8/18; some continue into September.

- **Daily 10:30 am & 4:30 pm - Sherman Tree Talk:** Tales about the largest tree in the world! Meet at base of the tree. Plan at least 20 minutes to walk from parking lot. 30 minutes.
- **Daily 11 am - Moro Vistas:** Meet a ranger on top of Moro Rock. Plan at least 15 minutes to climb the historic staircase! 30 minutes.
- **Daily 1 pm - Beetle Rock Rollick:** Kids! Discover a secret about Sequoia. Activities vary daily. At Beetle Rock Education Center, next to the main Giant Forest Museum parking lot. 1 hour.
- **Daily 1:30 pm - Critters of the Sierra:** Discover the animals that call Sequoia Park home. In front of Lodgepole Visitor Center. 30 minutes.
- **Daily 2:30 pm - Realm of Giants:** Explore the world's largest trees. Meet in front of Giant Forest Museum. 2 hours.
- **Lodgepole Evening Campfire:** Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, & Wednesday. Learn more about the park! While Lodgepole Campground Amphitheater is being renovated, look for us in the small campfire circle in the campground parking lot. 1 hour.

### THE FOOTHILLS - Programs given through 9/3

- **Daily 10am - Bears!** Meet at Foothills Visitor Center. 15 minutes.
- **Saturday/Sunday 10am - River Critters of the Kaweah:** Check visitor center or bulletin boards for location; wear shoes that can get wet.
- **Daily noon - Hospital Rock Talk:** Meet at this cultural feature to learn more about it and the foothills area. 1 hour.
- **Wednesday, Friday & Saturday - Potwisha Campfire:** Meet at the campground amphitheater for family fun. 1 hour. Check for times.
- **Friday & Saturday- Twilight Walk:** A walk along the Kaweah. Locations & times vary; check with the Foothills Visitor Center. Meet at Potwisha Campfire Circle & bring a flashlight. 1-1/4 hour.

### MINERAL KING

Check bulletin boards for times, locations, & other details.

## FREE NATURE PROGRAMS

### Foothills Area

500-3500' (457-1067 m) elevation. Oaks, chaparral, & river canyons; hot summers & snow-free winters; & the greatest biological diversity in these parks. Park headquarters is at Ash Mountain.

- **Visitor Center (NPS):** Daily 8am-4:30pm (6pm starting 6/15). Exhibits, books, maps, bear canisters, first aid, local wilderness permits (8am-4pm). Starting 5/11, Crystal Cave tickets sold until 3:45pm. 1-559-565-3135.
- **Potwisha Campground (NPS):** Year-round. Details on page 11.
- **Pay Telephones:** Foothills Visitor Center (by front door), Potwisha Campground, Hospital Rock Picnic Area (on restroom wall).

### Mineral King Area

See page 6 for more details. Be aware: In spring & early summer, marmots chew on hoses and wiring in parked cars in the valley.

7800' (2380 m) elevation. A subalpine valley at the end of a steep, narrow, difficult road (no RVs, buses, or trailers, please). No electricity or gas.

- **Ranger Station (NPS):** Daily 8am-4pm (register for wilderness permits on the porch until then). Maps, books, local wilderness permits (8am-4pm), first aid, & bear canisters. 559-565-3768.
- **Pay Telephones:** Cold Springs Campground, Sawtooth parking area.
- **Silver City Mountain Resort:** Cabins, chalets, showers, small store (gifts, limited supplies & ice; no gas or fishing licenses). Restaurant/bakery/store: Through 9/15; Thursday-Monday 8am-8pm, Tuesday-Wednesday bakery & store only, 8am-3pm. Summer 559-561-3223; winter 805-461-3223; www.silvercityresort.com.
- **Camping (NPS):** No RVs or trailers. Details: page 11.

# FACILITIES IN KINGS CANYON PARK & USFS

## Grant Grove Area

### GRANT GROVE VILLAGE

6600' (2008 m) elevation. This was originally General Grant National Park, created in 1890 to protect sequoias from logging. Here you can see both a pristine grove & one that was logged in the 1800s.

#### INFORMATION

• **Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center (NPS):** Daily 8am- 6pm through 9/3, then 8am- 5pm. Exhibits & 15-minute movie in English & Spanish. Books, maps, first aid. Local wilderness permits issued 8am- 4pm. 1-559-565-4307.

#### FOOD & SHOPS (KCPS)

- **Restaurant:** Daily 7am- 2pm & 5-9pm.
- **Gift Shop:** Daily 8am-9pm through 9/2, then reduced hours. Souvenirs, film, clothing. ATM in lobby.
- **Market:** Same hours as Gift Shop (above). Supplies, sandwiches, bear canisters, emergency gasoline.

#### OTHER SERVICES

- **Camping & Lodging:** See page 10-11. Hotel desk 7am-midnight.
- **Showers (KCPS):** 11am - 4pm. Ask at registration desk.
- **Post Office:** Hours may change without notice. Monday-Tuesday & Thursday-Friday 9am - 4:30pm. Saturday & Wednesday 10 -11:45am. Lobby open 24 hours. Send mail for visitors to: c/o General Delivery, Kings Canyon NP, CA 93633. 1-559-335-2499.
- **Pay Telephones:** Available 24 hours at Kings Canyon Visitor Center (booth by front door); & outside gift shop, market, & post office.
- **Picnicking & Horseback Riding:** See page 3 & the page-12 map.

## In the Kings Canyon

### CEDAR GROVE VILLAGE

4600' (1410 m) elevation. This glaciated valley features towering granite cliffs, tumbling waterfalls, and the powerful Kings River — “a rival to the Yosemite,” according to John Muir.

#### INFORMATION & CAMPING (NPS)

- **Visitor Center:** Daily 9am-5pm until early September. 559-565-3793.
- **Wilderness permits (\$15):** At Road's End, 6 miles (9.6 km) east of the village, 7am-3pm daily. No permits issued after 2:45pm.
- **Camping (NPS):** Details on page 11.

#### FOOD, LODGING, SHOPS, & OTHER SERVICES (KCPS)

Open mid-May until Saturday, October 13.

- **Restaurant:** Counter-service meals & snack bar (not a full-service restaurant). Daily 7am-2pm & 5-9pm. Picnic supplies at the market.
- **Gift Shop & Market:** Salads, sandwiches, supplies, bear canisters, souvenirs, film. Daily 7am-9pm. Reduced hours starting 9/3.
- **Lodging:** Open daily. Last night is 10/13. Page 10 has details.
- **Showers & Laundry:** Daily 7am-7pm (shower closed 1-3pm for cleaning). Last laundry load in by 1 hour before closing. Purchase shower tokens at market. Reduced hours starting 9/3.
- **Picnicking & Horseback Riding:** See page 3 & the page-12 map.
- **Pay Telephones:** Outside visitor center & restaurant/market.

## CELEBRATE SEQUOIAS!

Join us on September 8 for the 9th Annual Celebrate Sequoias Festival. Enjoy walks, music, kid's activities and crafts at Princess Campground in Sequoia National Forest.

## USFS: National Forest & Monument

### HUME LAKE & BIG MEADOWS AREAS (FS)

Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest, borders much of the western edge of these National Parks. You are in National Forest when you drive between the park areas of Lodgepole and Grant Grove, and between Grant Grove and Cedar Grove (see page 2 for more on Parks and Forests). It was sold to the government as a Forest Reserve in 1935. It is an excellent place to see sequoias recovering from intensive logging in the late 1800s.

#### PAY TELEPHONES

- **Between Wuksachi Village & Grant Grove:** Summer only at Stony Creek Resort & Big Meadows trailhead.
- **Between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove:** Hume Lake (year round); Kings Canyon Resort (summer only).

#### INFORMATION

• **USFS Hume Lake District Office (FS):** 35860 Kings Canyon Road (Hwy 180) in Dunlap, 19 miles (31 km) west of Kings Canyon Park entrance at Big Stump. Weekdays 8am- 4:30pm & Saturday, 9/2. Maps & books sold. 1-559-338-2251; www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia.

#### OTHER SERVICES

- **Camping (FS) & Lodging (private):** See pages 10 & 11 for details.
- **Picnic Areas & Horseback Riding:** See page 3 & the map.
- **Boyden Cavern:** On Hwy 180 between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove. Tours on the hour 10am-5pm. \$11 ages 14 & up; \$6 ages 3-13; under 3 free. AAA discounts. 209-736-2708.
- **Stony Creek Village (FS):** On Generals Highway between Grant Grove & Lodgepole. Lodging. Restaurant 11am -7pm Sunday-Thursday, 8pm on Friday-Saturday. Market 8am-7pm Sunday-Thursday, 8pm Friday-Saturday. Showers same as market. Gasoline 24 hours with credit card. 1-866-KCANYON or 1-559-565-3909.
- **Montecito Lake Resort (formerly Montecito-Sequoia) (FS):** A permitted resort on public land open all year. On Generals Highway 9 miles (14.5km) south of Grant Grove. Breakfast 7:30-9am, lunch 12-1:30pm, dinner 5:30- 7pm. Cabins, hotel, children's activities. 1-800-227-9900 or 559-565-3388.
- **Big Meadows Cabin - historic guard station (FS):** Details page 10.
- **Boat & Bicycle Rentals, Swimming, Fishing:** Private facilities open to public at Hume Lake, 8 miles (13km) north of Grant Grove on Hwy 180 then 3 miles (5 km) south on Hume Lake Road. 24-hour laundry (coin operated) & gas station (with credit card). Store open Sunday-Thursday 7am- 11pm; Friday 7am- 9pm; Saturday 7am -7pm. Snack shop 11am- 11pm daily. 1-559-335-2000.

#### GASOLINE SALES

At Hume Lake, Stony Creek, and Kings Canyon Lodge. See page 5, *Rules of the Road - Finding Gasoline* for hours.

## FREE NATURE PROGRAMS

This list is not complete! Check bulletin boards and visitor centers for schedules and additional activities.

Note: No evening programs available on Thursday, August 9.

### CEDAR GROVE, IN THE KINGS CANYON

Daily walks through August. Some may continue until September 3.

- **Daily Zumwalt Meadow Walk:** Join us in exploring the natural and cultural wonders of the canyon. 1 1/2 hours, 1 1/2 miles.
- **Friday, Saturday, & Sunday Evening Campfires.** Through August. Enjoy an hour together at the amphitheater near Cedar Grove Visitor Center.

### GRANT GROVE

Daily programs through mid-August, then weekends & some weekdays through September 3.

- **Daily Grant Tree Walk:** Stroll this paved trail beneath the giant trees. Meet at Grant Tree parking lot. 1 hour, 1/3 mile.
- **Daily Ranger's Choice:** 1/2-hour talk outside Kings Canyon Visitor Center.
- **Nightly Evening Campfire:** Meet under the stars and learn about these parks. Meet at campground amphitheater.

# Staying Overnight

## CAMPING DOs & DON'Ts: These rules protect the park & you!

**NOTE: Rules may vary between the Park to the National Forest. Check page 3 for details.**

### KEEP FOOD FROM BEARS!

It's required all year! Learn how to do it correctly — see below.

### CAMPFIRE RESTRICTIONS

Check bulletin boards for restrictions before you start any fire! Gather only dead & down wood; do not cut limbs from trees. Better yet, bring wood or buy it at a market. Fires must be out cold before you leave.

In the national forest & monument you must get a free campfire permit from the Hume Lake District Office, Kings Canyon Visitor Center (Grant Grove), or a Forest Service ranger.

### ROADSIDE CAMPING?

It's not permitted in the park. Camp only in designated sites in campgrounds. In the National Forest & Monument, roadside camping is permitted unless posted otherwise. Ask a ranger for possible locations.

### NO HOLDING CAMPSITES

You may not hold a site for someone who has not arrived. Sites not occupied for 24 hours are considered abandoned; property may be impounded.

### GROUP SITES & MAXIMUM GROUP SIZES

**UP TO 6:** Many campgrounds allow only one vehicle & six people per site. Check locally for slight variations in these limits & parking locations for extra vehicles.

**7 TO 19:** In summer, Crystal Springs in Grant Grove has first-come, first-served sites for groups of 7-15 & Canyon View in Cedar Grove has sites for 7-19, for \$35.

**LARGER:** Call in advance for information on reserving group tent-camping areas in the parks: For Sunset or Canyon View - 1-559-565-4335 (5/1-10/31: 565-3792 for Canyon View). To reserve a group site in Dorst or in the national forest/monument: call 877-444-6777 or go to [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).

### TIME LIMITS ON CAMPING

Camping is limited to 14 days between June 14-September 14, with 30 days total per year.

### QUIET HOURS

10pm-6am. At Lodgepole & Dorst use generators only 8-11am & 5-8pm. At other campgrounds 9am-9pm only. Music should be audible in your campsite only.

### RVS & TRAILERS

No hookups are available. Dump stations: See chart on page 11. Trailers are permitted in all but four park campgrounds; check the chart on page 11. Many sites are not suitable for trailers or RVs. Vehicles over 30 feet long can fit in a small number of sites. Length advisory: On Generals Highway in Sequoia Park, from Potwisha Campground to Giant Forest Museum, a vehicle length limit of 22 feet is advised. See page 5 for other limitations & warnings.

### PROPANE CANISTERS

Do not throw propane or other fuel canisters in park trash cans or leave them in the parks. Take them with you when you leave.

### BE A VOLUNTEER HOST!

Live in the park, take care of campgrounds & resources, & meet great people! Learn about volunteer opportunities; contact the Park Volunteer Coordinator, 47050 Generals Highway, Three Rivers, CA 93271-9651.



## save a bear!

*Sales from the Save-a-Bear Kit & color pin (above) directly support bear management. See the pins at visitor centers.*

## LODGING

### SEQUOIA PARK

• **Wuksachi Village** (DNCPR)  
Reservations: 1-888-252-5757  
Front Desk: 1-559-565-4070  
[www.visitsequoia.com](http://www.visitsequoia.com). All year.  
North of Giant Forest Museum 6 miles (9.6 km). Lodge, restaurant, lounge, gifts.

### \* Silver City Mountain Resort \*

Summer: 1-559-561-3223  
Winter: 1-805-528-2730  
[www.silvercityresort.com](http://www.silvercityresort.com). Open late May to mid-October. Cabins, chalets, supplies, restaurant, gifts, bakery, showers. No gas.

### KINGS CANYON PARK

• **Grant Grove Lodge & John Muir Lodge** (KCPS)  
Reservations: 1-866-522-6966  
Front Desk: 1-559-335-5500  
[www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com](http://www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com). All year. In Grant Grove. Cabins, hotel, restaurant, gifts, showers.

• **Cedar Grove Lodge** (KCPS)  
Reservations: 1-866-522-6966  
Front Desk: 1-559-565-0100  
[www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com](http://www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com). Opens mid-May; last night 10/13. In the Kings Canyon. Motel, restaurant, public showers, restaurant, laundry.

### SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST/MONUMENT

• **Montecito Lake Resort** (formerly Montecito-Sequoia Lodge)  
Reservations: 1-800-227-9900  
Front Desk: 1-559-565-3388  
[www.mslodge.com](http://www.mslodge.com). All year. On Generals Hwy 9 miles (14.5 km) south of Grant Grove. Cabins, restaurant, hotel, lodge, swimming, seasonal & children's activities.

• **Stony Creek Lodge** (KCPS)  
Reservations: 1-866-522-6966  
Front Desk: 1-559-565-3909.  
[www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com](http://www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com). Open mid-May through 10/9. On Generals Highway between Grant Grove & Lodgepole. Hotel, restaurant, market, showers, gas.

• **Big Meadows Cabin** (FS)  
Reservations: 1-877-444-6777 or [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)  
Opens mid-June into October, if weather permits. An historic guard station in the National Monument between Grant Grove & Lodgepole.

\* **Kings Canyon Lodge** (Private\*)  
Reservations: 1-559-335-2405  
Open mid-April through mid-November. On Hwy 180, 13 miles (21 km) east of Grant Grove.

\* **Note:** These two facilities on private land are not evaluated or regulated by the Park or Forest.

### NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Three Rivers, Lemon Cove, Squaw Valley & others offer year-round lodging, camping, & services. Ask at visitor centers or go to the park website ([www.nps.gov/seki](http://www.nps.gov/seki)), click "Plan your visit," then link to "Lodging."

**WILDERNESS LODGE & PERMITS** See page 4 for details.

## YOU MUST STORE ALL FOOD!

**B**EARS quickly learn to get food from cars, picnic tables, and backpacks. They then become destructive and sometimes aggressive. They want our food, not us, but people can get hurt. Too often these bears must be killed. This is why you may be fined if you do not store food properly.

• **DRIVERS:** Never leave any food or scented item in cars. Take infant seats out of cars; the smells they absorb may attract bears.

• **CAMPERS:** Store food day and night in the metal boxes provided (see page 11 for box sizes; avoid bringing coolers that won't fit).

Store ALL food, coolers, related items, and anything with an odor (even if it's not food) -- including unopened cans and bottles. Latch the box completely. Food not stored properly will be impounded. Where boxes are not provided, store food in the car trunk (seal food to reduce odors). If the car has no trunk, put everything on the floor, cover it well, and close the windows. Keep a clean campsite. Deposit garbage immediately in bear-proof containers or store it like food.

• **PICKNICKERS:** Guard your food at all times.

• **LODGE GUESTS:** Keep cabin doors closed any time you leave.

• **BACKPACKERS:** 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 backcountry locations offer backup storage. Rent or buy a canister at park visitor centers or markets. Bears defeat most attempts to hang food in trees.

• **EVERYONE:** Don't let bears approach you or your food. Wave your arms, make loud noises, and throw small rocks in their direction (avoid hitting the face or head). Keep a safe distance but be persistent. If a bear does get food, never try to take it back.

Each campsite has a table & fire ring with grill; no hook-ups.

**Food-storage regulations:** Always read & follow instructions on bulletin boards to help save a bear!

**Summer reservations** for Dorst & Lodgepole (in Sequoia NP) & for reservable campgrounds (marked \* below) in the National Forest (USFS) may be made up to 6 months in advance of the date desired.

Contact [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or 1-877-444-6777 (7am -9pm PST from 3/1-10/31. Customer service: 888-448-1474.

# CAMP GROUNDS

## KEY TO SYMBOLS

"Nearby"-Within 2 miles/ 3.2

- ✓ -Year-round
- ☀ -Summer only

## FOOD STORAGE

Avoid bringing items that won't fit. Symbols on the chart tell the size of bear-proof food-storage boxes available in each campground:

- # One small box per site (47" long x 17" deep x 16" high);
- ◆ One large box per site (at least 47" long x 33" deep x 28" high);
- ☒ A mix of box sizes;
- + Additional boxes available for sites to share.

## IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK (NPS)

FOOTHILLS AREA		Elevation 2100'-3600'. Lowest in elevation, therefore hottest and usually snowfree.										
# of sites	Daily Fee	Rest-rooms	Food within 2 miles	Showers within 2 miles	Laundry within 2 miles	Dump Station Nearby	Nature Programs Nearby	Pay Phone	Riding within 2 miles	River within 2 miles	Sequoias within 2 miles	
#	\$											
Potwisha ◆	- Open all year.	42	\$18	Flush				✓		✓		
Buckeye Flat ◆	- 4/6-9/28. No trailers or RVs.	28	\$18	Flush				at Potwisha		✓		
South Fork #	- Open all year. Non-potable water on 5/11-10/11.	10	\$12 May -Sept.	Vault						✓		

MINERAL KING AREA		Elevation 6650' - 7500'. No RVs or trailers.										
Atwell Mill #	- Water on 5/25-10/10.	21	\$12	Vault	☀	☀			☀		✓	✓
Cold Springs #	- Water on 5/25-10/10.	40	\$12	Vault	Silver City	Silver City			☀	✓	✓	

LODGEPOLE AREA		Elevation 6700'. *Summer reservations up to 6 months in advance (see Reservations above.)											
*Lodgepole ☒ +	- Open all year. Reservation period: 5/25-10/9.	214	\$20/18	Flush	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	✓	☀	✓	✓
*Dorst ☒ +	- 6/28-9/6 (last night)	204	\$20	Flush					☀	☀	☀	✓	✓

## IN KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK (NPS)

GRANT GROVE AREA		Elevation 6500'.										
Azalea ◆	- Open all year	110	\$18/10	Flush	✓	☀			✓	at village	☀	✓
Crystal Springs ◆	- 5/18-9/12. Sites for groups of 7-15 (see page 10):	36	\$18	Flush	✓	☀			✓	"	☀	✓
Sunset ◆	- Open 6/26-10/6.	157	\$18	Flush	✓	☀			✓	"	☀	✓

CEDAR GROVE AREA (ON THE FLOOR OF THE KINGS CANYON)		Elevation 4600'.										
Sentinel ◆ +	- 5/21-10/9.	82	\$18	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	at visitor center	☀	✓
Sheep Creek ◆ +	- 4/27-11/13.	111	\$18	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	"	☀	✓
Canyon View ◆	- 5/21-10/9. No RVs or trailers. Sites for groups of 7-19	23	\$18	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	"	☀	✓
Moraine ◆	- Open as needed.	120	\$18	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	"	☀	✓

## SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST/GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT (FS)

HUME LAKE AREA		Elevation 4000' - 5900'. *Reservable in summer.											
*Princess		88	\$17 single	Vault				☀ \$7	☀			✓	✓
Dump station not recommended for vehicles over 30 feet long.													
*Hume Lake +		74	\$19 "	Flush	✓		✓		☀	✓		✓	
Tenmile	No water	13	\$15	Vault								✓	✓
Landslide		9	\$15	Vault								✓	✓
Convict Flat	No water.	5		Vault								✓	

BIG MEADOWS & STONY CREEK AREAS		*Reservable in summer. Elevation 6400-7500'.											
*Stony Creek #		49	\$19 single	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	at lodge		✓	✓
Upper Stony #		18	\$15	Vault	☀	☀	☀		☀	at lodge		✓	✓
Horse Camp	No water	5+		Vault								✓	
Buck Rock	No water	11		Vault								✓	
Big Meadow	No water	40		Vault						by trailhead	✓	✓	

## PARK ROADS

-  Campground
-  Picnic Area
-  Lodging
-  Horses/riding
-  Gas station

 Major paved road

 Minor paved road

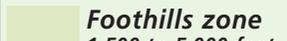
 Unpaved road

 Park boundary

## LIFE ZONES:

 **High Sierra**  
9,000 to 14,500 feet.  
Summer: Warm to chilly days; nights down to low 30s. Winter: frigid.

 **Conifer zone**  
5,000 to 9,000 feet.  
Summer: Warm days & cool nights. Winter: deep snow.

 **Foothills zone**  
1,500 to 5,000 feet.  
Mild, wet winters; hot, dry summers. Cedar Grove is cooler than the foothills, hotter than Grant Grove.

## STEEP ROADS:

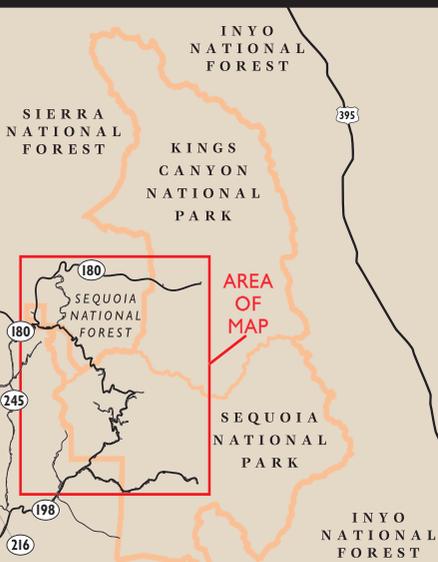
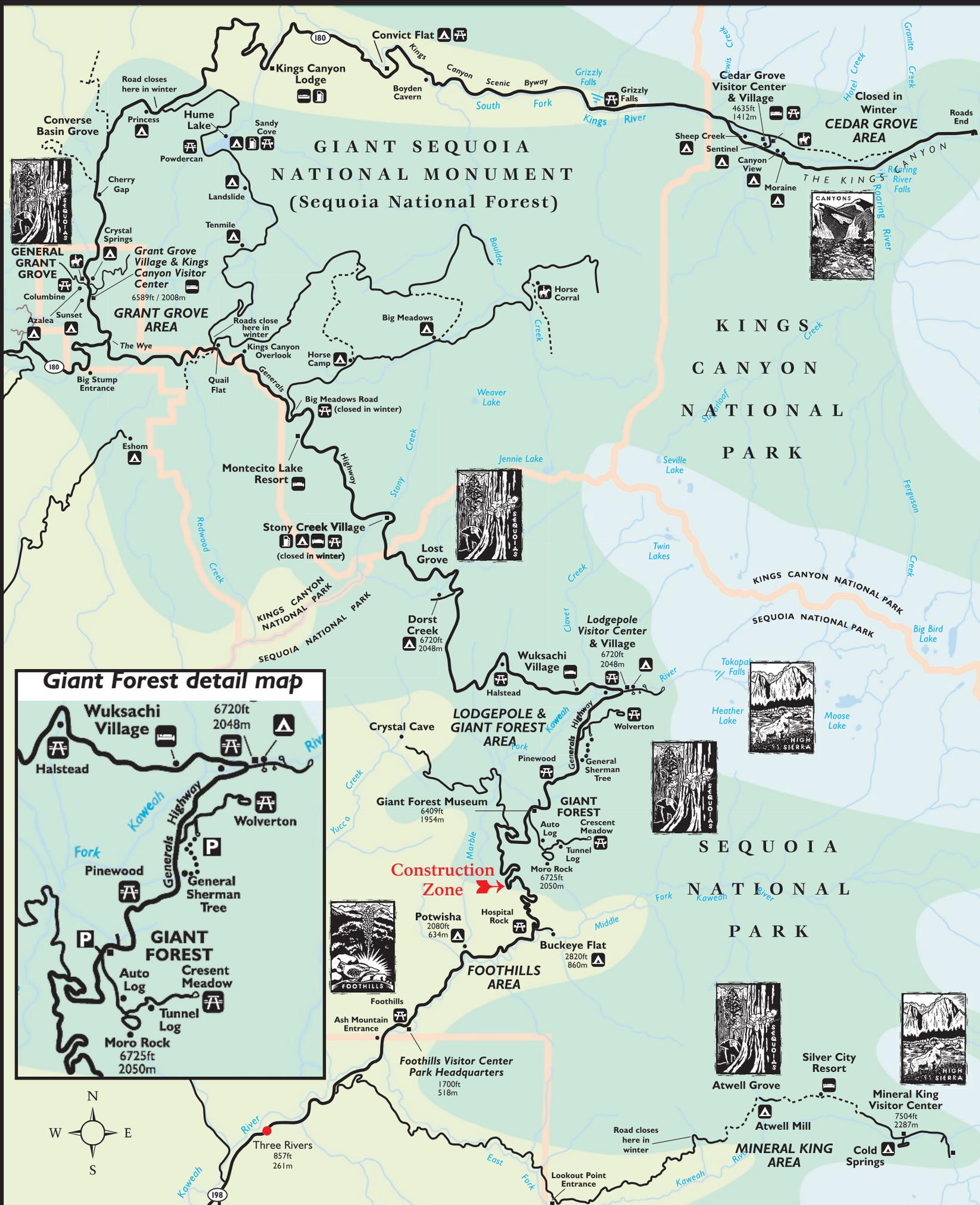
Grades of 5-8%.  
Downshift to avoid overheated or failed brakes. See page 5.

## DRIVING TIME IN GOOD WEATHER:

FROM FOOTHILLS TO:  
-Giant Forest - 1 hour  
-Lodgepole - 1 hour  
-Visalia - 1 hour  
-Mineral King - 1-1/4 hours. Road closed Nov 1 to late May.

FROM GIANT FOREST TO  
-Grant Grove - 1 hour

FROM GRANT GROVE TO:  
-Cedar Grove - 1 hour. Road open mid-April to Nov. 13.  
-Fresno - 1-1/2 hours.  
-Yosemite south entry via Hwy 41 - 3 hours.



**LATE SUMMER 2007**  
**SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS**  
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