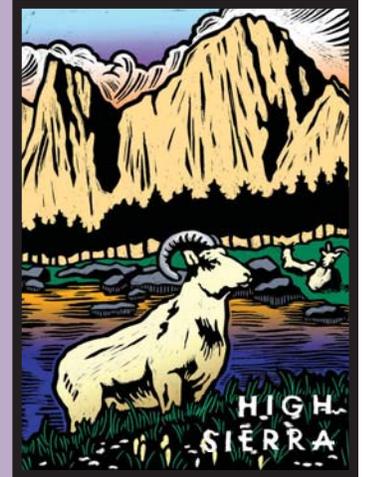
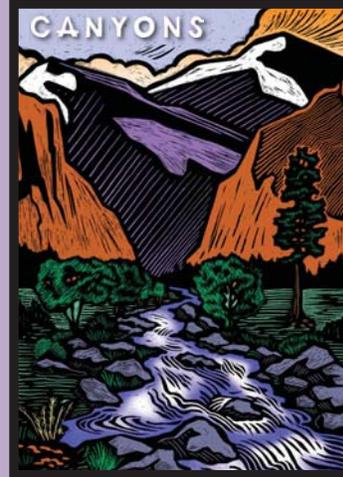




Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks & Sequoia National Forest/Giant Sequoia National Monument



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.

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 learn all you can. Your help is needed to preserve and share these treasured landscapes.



NEW ANNUAL MILITARY PASS! Are you an active-duty member of the U.S. military? If so, you and your dependents can get a free annual pass to national parks. The new pass covers entrance fees to all national park, Forest Service, Fish & Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) areas – more than 2000 federal recreation sites. Ask at entrance stations for details on how to get one.

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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 sources of park information:



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 all sell a variety of fun and educational items including books, maps, shirts, and postcards. All purchases support the parks!

Cedar Grove Visitor Center

(NPS) On the floor of the Kings Canyon. Daily 9am-5pm. Book store. 1-559-565-3793.

Foothills Visitor Center

(NPS) Daily 8am-6pm. Near the Hwy 198 park entrance. Exhibits on the foothills. Book store. Crystal Cave tickets sold only here & at Lodgepole Visitor Center (details, page 5). 1-559-565-4212. Get local wilderness permits at the Wilderness Office.

Giant Forest Museum

(NPS) Daily 9am-6pm through 9/2, then reduced hours. Exhibits on the world's largest trees. No payphone; closest are at Lodgepole & Wolverton.

Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center

(NPS) In Grant Grove. Daily 8am-6pm through 8/5 then 8am-5pm. Exhibits & movie in English & Spanish on the wonders of Kings Canyon park. Book store. Local wilderness permits issued until 1/2 hour before closing. 1-559-565-4307.

Lodgepole Visitor Center

(NPS) Daily 7am-6pm through 6/21, then 7am-7pm. Reduced hours starting 9/3. Movie on bears; exhibits on park human and natural history. Book store. Crystal Cave tickets sold only here & at Foothills Visitor Center (details page 5). 1-559-565-4436. Local wilderness permits.

Mineral King Ranger Station

(NPS) Daily 8am-4pm through 9/30. Book store, wilderness permits. 1-559-565-3768.

USFS 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, sequoiahistory.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.



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.



4

Camping

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)

Foothills Area	Elevation 2100' - 3600'	Low elevation, usually hot in summer
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. 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	River nearby. Vault toilets. No drinking water; non-potable water available during summer. Bear boxes ~47"long x 17"deep x 16"high.
Mineral King Area	Elevation 6650' - 7500'	No RVs or trailers. No electricity or gasoline.
Atwell Mill - 21 sites Last night 10/31	\$12 No water starting 10/19	River, sequoias. Vault toilets. Food & showers nearby at Silver City (summer). Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
Cold Springs - 40 sites Last night 10/31	\$12 No water starting 10/12	Pay phone. River. Vault toilets. Food & showers at Silver City. Bear boxes in varied sizes.
Lodgepole Area	Elevation 6700'	*Reservations recommended in summer
*Lodgepole - 205 sites Closes in winter	\$20 during reservation period, (5/24-9/24) 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 Closes early September	\$20 Reservable sites 6/24-9/4.	Flush toilets, dump station, pay phone. Free shuttle to Wuksachi & Lodgepole starts 6/22. 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	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	\$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	Elevation 4600'	
Sentinel - 82 sites Last night 9/27	\$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 11/13	\$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 9/26	\$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 - 121 sites Open as needed.	\$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 9/24	\$18 single Reservable sites.	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 9/24	\$20 single Reservable sites.	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.
Landslide - 8 sites Last night 9/24	\$16	River & sequoias nearby. Vault toilets. Bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.
Convict Flat - 5 sites Last night 11/14	Free. No water.	Vault toilets. River nearby.
Big Meadows & Stony Creek	Elevation 6400 - 7500'	*Reservable in summer.
*Stony Creek - 49 sites Last night 9/24	\$20 single Reservable sites.	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 9/24	\$16 Reservable sites.	Nature programs (summer). Flush toilets. Food, laundry, & showers nearby. Bear boxes ~47"long x 17"deep x 16"high.
Horse Camp - 5 sites, Buck Rock - 11, Big Meadow - 45 Close with snow.	Free. No water.	Vault toilets. Big Meadow has bear boxes ~47"long x 33"deep x 28"high.

Lodging

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. Ask about Bearpaw High Sierra Camp (see page 11).

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 to mid-October. Reservations 1-866-522-6966; www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com. Motel, restaurant, laundry, market, showers.

Sequoia National Forest

Montecito Lake Resort (FS permittee)

Year-round. Reservations 1-800-227-9900; desk 1-559-565-3388; 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 mid-October. Reservations 1-866-522-6966; sequoia-kingscanyon.com. On Generals Highway south of Grant Grove. Hotel, restaurant, market, showers, gas.

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

* *These facilities cannot be regulated, evaluated, or endorsed by National Park or National Forest.*

* Silver City Mountain Resort (private)

Through early October. Summer 1-559-561-3223; winter 1-805-528-2730; silvercityresort.com. Store, cabins, restaurant/bakery, showers. No gasoline.

* Kings Canyon Lodge (private)

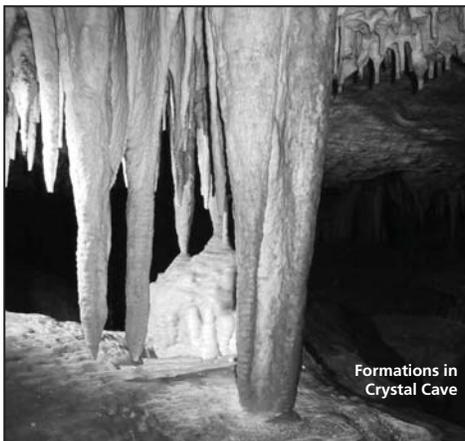
Open mid-April to mid-November. Reservations: 1-559-335-2405. On Hwy 180, 13 miles (21 km) east of Grant Grove. Lodge, food, gasoline.

Neighboring Towns

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

Programs & Tours

5



Formations in Crystal Cave

Crystal Cave Tours

Go underground! Tickets sold *only* at Lodgepole & Foothills visitor centers, not at the cave. Buy tickets at least 1½ hours in advance (see traffic-delay information 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 tri-pods. Not wheelchair accessible. Ask about group reservations, wild cave tours, school tours, and other special options: 1-559-565-3759. Note: Tours are weather-dependent and subject to change.

45-minute Cave Tours Daily

- Weekdays: 6/16-9/3, every 1/2 hour 10:30am-4:30pm. Reduced hours 9/4-10/22.
- Saturday/Sunday: 6/16-9/3, every 1/2 hour 10am-5pm. Reduced hours 9/4-10/22.
- July 4 through 7: every 1/2 hour 10:30am-6pm. (Historic and Discovery tours not offered).

Fees: Age 5-12 \$7; age 13-61 \$13; age 4 & under \$2; Golden Age (age 62 & up) & Golden Access passholders \$12. National Park & Interagency passes do not apply. SNHA member discount!

Historic Tours: 6/28-8/19

Thursday-Friday 5:30pm; Sat-Sunday 6pm.

Discovery Tours: 6/25-8/19

Weekdays 4:15pm.

Junior Caver Tours: 6/24-8/10

Tuesday-Wednesday 1pm (subject to change).

Adult Tours: starting 6/16

Friday-Sunday mornings, first tour of the day. Age 18 and up only.



A ranger program in the Giant Forest

Free Ranger Walks & Talks

Join in a walk, talk, or campfire program in the Foothills, Giant Forest, Lodgepole, Grant Grove, or Cedar Grove. Join in exploring sequoias, geology, wildlife, and more. Check bulletin boards and visitor centers for schedules.

Junior Ranger Program - Free

For all ages! From age 5 to 105, you can 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

Hourly rides, backcountry spot trips, guided trips.



Cedar Grove

May to mid-October. 1-559-565-3464 summer, 1-559-337-2314 off season

Grant Grove

Early June to September. 1-559-335-9292 summer, 1-559-799-7247 off season. 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. Carry a map or trail guide (sold at visitor centers). Ask about free ranger-led programs!

The Foothills

Foothills Visitor Center

Exhibits on the foothills, which host more different plants and animals than the rest of these parks combined! 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 1 mile (1.6 km) until the trail grows faint.

Giant Forest

Giant Forest Museum

Exhibits explore the giant sequoias and our history in the Giant Forest sequoia grove. Hours on page 2.

Big Trees Trail

A level, 1-mile (1km) paved loop with trailside exhibits about sequoias. Start at Giant Forest Museum. Parking at the trail is only for cars with placards. 1 hour round trip.

Congress Trail

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

General Sherman Tree

Two trails lead to the world's largest tree. A free shuttle stops at each one:

- **Main Trail** - This trail has some stairs. It runs 1/2 mile down to the tree; the walk back is uphill. Drive two miles north of Giant Forest Museum (past the small Sherman Tree parking lot on the Generals Hwy for those with disabled placards only). Turn right on-

Wolverton Road; follow signs.

 **Wheelchair-accessible trail** from Generals Hwy to Sherman Tree. Starting in May, parking there is for those with disabled placards only. If you have no placard but can't make the hill on the main trail, ask at a visitor centers for a temporary permit.

Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road

No drinking water is available along this 3-mile dead-end road that begins at Giant Forest Museum. See page 12 for details on weekend/holiday closure of this road. Highlights:

- **Moro Rock** - A granite dome with a steep 1/4-mile staircase to the top (300-foot elevation gain). Spectacular view of the towering Great Western Divide. Two miles from Generals Highway.
- **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** - Sequoias tower over this fragile meadow. Stay on designated trails; use only fallen logs to walk into meadows.

Several trails start here: including the 1-mile (1.6 km) route to Tharp's Log, a cabin in a fallen sequoia; and the High Sierra Trail (60 miles/97 km to Mt. Whitney (14,494 feet/4417 m), highest peak in the lower 48 states.

Lodgepole

Lodgepole Visitor Center

Exhibits, films, and Crystal Cave tour tickets. Daily 9am-4:30pm. Details, page 2.

Tokopah Falls Trail

1.7 miles (2.7 km) to cliffs & a waterfall. Be careful! Start in Lodgepole Campground. 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.

Mineral King

See page 8 for details.

See Sequoia By Shuttle

Lodgepole-Wuksachi-Dorst Route

Free. Hourly; leaves Lodgepole on the hour 9am - 6pm. Leaves Dorst hourly 9:30am - 6:30pm (9:30am, 10:30am, etc.).

Giant Forest Route

Free. Giant Forest Museum to Lodgepole, stopping at the Sherman Tree. Every 15 minutes 9am - 6pm. 1/2-hour ride one way.

Wolverton - Sherman Tree Route

Free. Stops at main trail & at accessible trail on Generals Hwy every 20 minutes from 9am - 6:30pm.

Moro Rock - Crescent Meadow Route

Free. Leaves Giant Forest Museum every 15 minutes 9am - 6pm. 15-minute round trip. Moro Rock stop only on outbound trip. Road closed to private vehicles on weekends & holidays (page 12).

Giant Forest - Visalia Route

\$15 round trip. No additional park entrance fee. Reservations required; call 1-877-BUS-HIKE or sequoiashuttle.com. 2-hour ride each way. Buses leave Visalia for Giant Forest every hour from 6am - 10am. Buses leave Giant Forest for Visalia every hour from 2:30pm - 6:30pm.



In-park shuttle questions: 559-565-4436.

All buses are wheelchair-accessible. 

Review safety tips on page 10. Be extra careful near rivers. Carry a map or trail guide (sold at visitor centers). Be safe! Ask about free ranger-led programs.

Grant Grove

Kings Canyon Visitor Center (NPS)

Exhibits/film in English & Spanish. Hours, 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 narrow road up to a Sierran vista. Motorhomes/trailers not permitted. Go east through visitor-center parking & follow signs. Park Ridge Trail (4 miles/6.4 km round-trip) begins here.

Redwood Mountain Sequoia Grove

One of the world's largest groves. Research here revealed the positive link between sequoias and fire. South of Grant Grove 7 miles, take dirt road across Generals Highway (south) from Quail Flat/Hume Lake junction; 2 miles to parking area.

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

Free ranger-led programs offered! Check locally for details. See page 12 for local road information.

Friends of the South Fork holds river cleanups 7/7 & 9/8. Drop-ins welcome. Ask at visitor centers.

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. Despite the similar name, the forest is managed separately from Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

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 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 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. See page 12 for road information.

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, page 2. Ask about ranger programs.

Crystal Cave (NPS)

A major park highlight! Tours daily. Buy tickets well in advance at Foothills or Lodgepole visitor centers. Details, page 3.

Giant Forest Shuttle (NPS): Runs 5/24-9/9, 9am to 6pm. Details page 6.

Lodgepole

6700' elevation. North of Giant Forest. In the canyon of the Marble Fork of the Kaweah River.

Lodgepole Visitor Center (NPS)

Hours/details, page 2. Ask about ranger programs.

Village Center Shops (DNC):

- Market, Gift Shop, & Laundry: Daily 8am-8pm through 9/2, then 9am-6pm. Last laundry in 1 hour before closing.
- Snack Bar: Daily 8am-7:45pm through 9/2, then weekends only 9am-6pm.
- Deli: Daily 11am-6pm through 9/2.
- Showers: Daily 8am-1pm & 3-7:45pm.

U.S. Post Office

Weekdays 8am-1pm & 2-3:30pm; lobby 24 hours. Address visitor mail: c/o General Delivery, Sequoia National Park, CA 93262. 1-559-565-3678.

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)

Outside visitor center & market.

Wuksachi Lodge & Dining

7200' elevation. (DNC) Year-round services, 4 miles north of Sherman Tree, surrounded by forest.

Dining Room: Daily 7-10am, 11:30am-2:30pm, 5-10pm. Dinner reservations required. Box lunches available. Lounge 5-10pm. 1-559-565-4070.

Wuksachi Lodge

Details on page 5. Pay telephones at main lodge.

Gift Shop

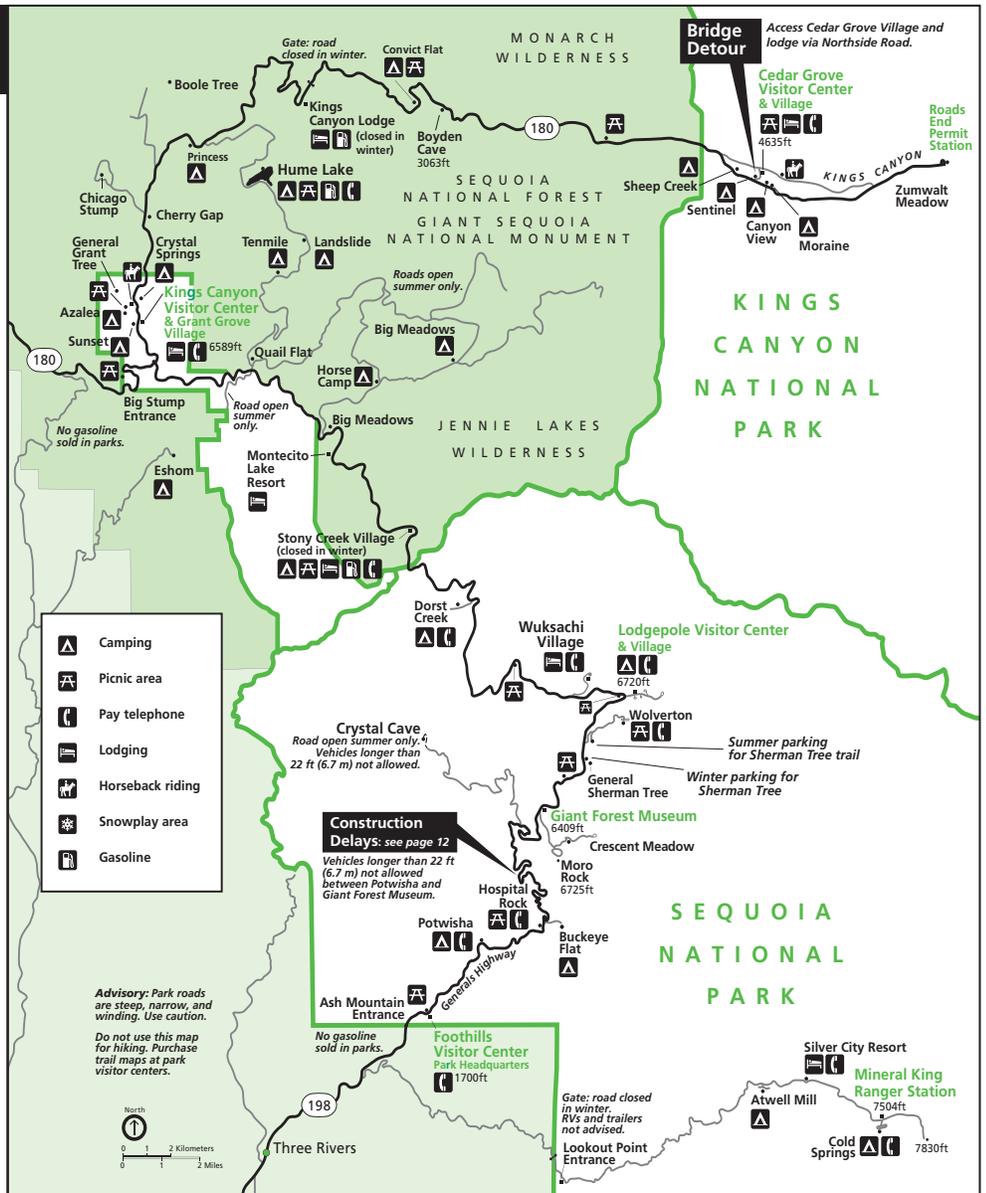
Daily 8am-8pm in main lodge.

Wolverton

7200' elevation. North of Sherman Tree 2 miles. Summer picnic area; winter snow-play area.

Wolverton BBQ & Dinner Theater (DNC):

Nightly through 9/2, weather permitting. Enjoy an all-you-can-eat outdoor dinner while you hear family-friendly tales of park history. Tickets at Lodgepole Market or Wuksachi Lodge.



Mineral King Area

7800' elevation. A steep, narrow, twisting road to a subalpine valley. No electricity or gasoline. Trailers & RVs not recommended.

Ranger Station (NPS)

Daily 8am-4pm. Details, page 2.

Pay Telephones

Cold Springs Campground, Sawtooth parking area. Cell phones rarely work.

Silver City Mountain Resort (private)

Pay telephone. 1-559-561-3223; silvercityresort.com. Daily: Store, cabins, bakery, showers. Restaurant open Thursday-Monday (Tuesday-Wednesday pie & drinks only). No gasoline.

Foothills Area

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

Foothills Visitor Center (NPS)

Daily 8am-6pm. See page 2. Ask about ranger-led programs.

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)

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

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 7am-3pm & 5-9pm; pizza 1-9pm. Starting 9/4, 9am-2pm & 5-7pm (8pm Friday-Saturday).
- Gift Shop & Market: Daily 8am-9pm; starting 9/4 9am-6pm (7pm Friday-Saturday). ATM, clothing, food, sandwiches, emergency gasoline.
- Lodging: Desk 7am-midnight (10pm starting 9/4). 1-559-335-5500. Details on page 5.
- Showers: Daily 11am-4pm through 11/26.

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 service is limited)

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

Cedar Grove

4600' elevation. A glaciated valley with cliffs, waterfalls, and the Kings River.

Cedar Grove Visitor Center (NPS)

Daily 9am-5pm. 1-559-565-3793. Details, page 2.

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)

Outside lodge & visitor center.

Village Center (KCPS): Through 10/13

- Restaurant: Counter-service meals & snack bar; not full service. Through 7/7 8-10:30am & 5-7pm (weekends 8am-2pm & 5-7pm). 7/8-8/12: 7am-2pm & 5-8pm; then hours reduced.
- Gift Shop/Market: Through 7/7 8am-7pm, then 7am-8pm through 8/12 (then hours reduced). Sandwiches, supplies, gifts.
- Showers: Daily 8am-1pm & 3-6pm through 7/7; then 7am-1pm & 3-7pm through 8/12.
- Lodging: Details page 5. Front desk 8am-7pm; 7am-8pm from 7/8-8/12 then reduced hours.

Horseback Riding: Details on page 5.

Wilderness Permits (NPS)

At Road's End, 6 miles east of the village. Daily 7am-3:30pm; maps, bear canisters.

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. Daily 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. 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)

Daily cave tours 11am-4pm. Gift shop. Ask about evening flashlight tours & other trips. On Hwy 180 between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove. Ages 13 & up \$13.50; 4-12 \$8.50; 3 and younger free. AAA discount. Senior/access pass discounts do not apply. School/group reservations: 888-965-8243.

Stony Creek Resort (FS)

On Generals Hwy south of Grant Grove. Open through mid-October. Gasoline 24 hours with credit card. Market daily 8am-7pm; restaurant 4-6:30pm (both open 1 hour later on Friday-Saturday). Hours increase 7/8-9/3 then reduce. Showers/laundry 9am-6pm. Wi-Fi. 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, children's activities, Wi-Fi. 1-800-227-9900; 1-559-565-3388.

Horseback Riding - Details on page 5.

Gasoline Sales

All year at Hume Lake; summer at Stony Creek & Kings Canyon Lodge. Hours on page 11.

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

Please do not feed or touch ANY park animals. Fleas on rodents can carry plague. 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; it 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 may be vulnerable to wildlife, ticks, and overheating in closed vehicles. Keep wildlife safe from pets, too.

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 you, around you, and on the ground.
- Beware of trails and sidewalks slippery with sand, water, or leaves.
- Slow down to safely share roads 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.



Your Fees Help the Parks & the Forest!

Most of 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.

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.

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 DD1173.

• 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).

Wilderness

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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 locations near your trailhead.

Quotas & Permits: From late May to late September each park trail has a daily entry quota and a required wilderness camping fee (\$15). Requests to reserve a permit for a certain date within this quota season are accepted starting March 1 and at least 2 weeks before your trip's start date. Permits must be picked up starting 1pm the afternoon before or by 9am the day of departure at the permit station/visitor center nearest your trailhead. Call the Wilderness Office if delayed 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 (US Forest Service): Permits not required but the USFS requires free fire permits for any open flame.

Camping in the park's "frontcountry": This 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 Unit 60
Three Rivers, CA 93271
Telephone: 1-559-565-3766; Fax 565-4239

Seasonal Wilderness Lodgings

• **Bearpaw Meadow High Sierra Camp (DNC):** Summer only. A tent hotel and restaurant at 7,800 feet, 11 miles out the High Sierra Trail. Reservations required: 1-888-252-5757; www.visitsequoia.com

• **Pear Lake Ski Hut:** Open winter only, it sits at 9,200 feet. Six strenuous miles on skis/snowshoes. Ten bunks; pellet stove. Operated by SNHA: 1-559-565-3759; reservations required. See www.sequoia-history.org for winter-travel seminars.

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. Through mid-Oct. 24 hours with credit card. Between Wuksachi & Grant Grove on Generals Hwy.
- Kings Canyon Lodge: 1-559-335-2405. Opens after 4/27. Gas sold 9am-dark, usually. 17 miles (27 km) from Grant Grove on Hwy 180.

Recommendations

Don't Lose Your Brakes

Frequent braking or keeping your foot on the brake pedal 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.

Avoid Overheated Engines

Keep an eye on your temperature gauge. If it starts to go up or the light comes on, especially on the uphill, turn off the air conditioner and turn on the fan. If the engine fails, pull into a paved area, lift the hood, and wait awhile for it to cool. If the problem is vapor lock, this may take care of it.

Go Slow for Wildlife!

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



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 Nov. 1 - late May)

From Giant Forest to:

Grant Grove via Generals Hwy	1 hour
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(Hwy opens April 1, conditions permitting)

From Grant Grove to:

Cedar Grove	1 hour
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(Road open May 4 to mid-November)

Fresno	1½ hours
Yosemite south entry	3 hours

(via Hwy 41)

Narrow Winding Roads

In Kings Canyon & National Forest:

- Panoramic Point Road: Motorhomes/trailers not permitted.
- Redwood Mountain (NPS), & Big Meadows, Quail Flat/Ten Mile, Converse Basin (USFS): unpaved.

In Sequoia:

- Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow: Vehicle-length limit 22'; no trailers or towed units. When shuttle operates (through 9/9; see page 6), single vehicles more than 22 feet long are prohibited. Closures: On weekends, holidays, & week of July 4th, private vehicles are prohibited on the road. Exception: those with valid disabled-parking placard.
- Crystal Cave Road: Maximum vehicle cumulative length 22' (6.7m).
- Mineral King Road: RVs & trailers not recommended (not permitted in campgrounds). Prohibited: single vehicles over 40 feet long, combination vehicles over 50 feet.
- South Fork & Middle Fork roads: Partially unpaved. Slippery when wet.

Rules of the Road

Use Turnouts to Let Others Pass

Bicycles

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

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 8/2012. Schedules may change:

- **Monday-Thursday, some Fridays:** Delays up to 1 hour 8am-5pm; 20-minute delays 6-7am & 5-9pm. Road closed 9pm-6am with one opportunity to pass through at 11:30pm.
- **Saturday, Sunday:** 20-minute delays on weekends and other non-working hours.
- **Wednesday, July 4th:** 20-minute delays.

Length limit: Vehicles longer than 22' cannot travel between Hospital Rock and Giant Forest Museum due to Federal Highways limits; long vehicles cannot make the tight curves in the one-lane construction zone.

New Cedar Grove Bridge

Bridge between Hwy 180 and Cedar Grove Village closed through 11/2012. Access the village and lodge via detour on Northside Road. Large vehicles & trailers use Lewis Creek Trailhead as a turnaround.

Other Road Repairs

Expect intermittent delays on weekdays through summer in several areas of the parks. North of Wuksachi at Halstead Meadow, expect 10-minute delays. Some areas may have brief closures.

Be Careful

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

Vehicle Length Limits

- Hospital Rock Picnic Area to Giant Forest Museum on Generals Highway: Maximum is 22 feet cumulative length due to a very narrow single-lane road in the construction zone.

Alternatives: Hwy 180 from Fresno is straighter, less steep, and wider. 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.

- See *Narrow Winding Roads*, above left, for additional restrictions and guidelines.