

# Yosemite

NATIONAL PARK • CALIFORNIA

**THIS IS YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK**—a 1,200-square mile geological wonderland with sculptured peaks and domes; waterfalls tumbling from hanging valleys down the faces of shining granite cliffs; groves of giant sequoias and extensive forests of pine, fir, and oak; wildflowers in alpine meadows; hundreds of species of birds and mammals; and scenic drives and trails to areas of high-country grandeur with sparkling, trout-bearing glacial lakes. It is an outdoor paradise holding special charms in every season.

## HOW TO ENJOY THE PARK

We urge that you stop at the visitor center in Yosemite Valley for further information and orientation before starting your tour of the park.

**Hiking.** More than 700 miles of trails await you if you would know the park intimately. Try one of the shorter trails from the valley or an overnight trip into the high country. Be sure to get a fire permit for the latter. A visit to the Happy Isles Nature Center in the valley will help you plan your hiking.

**Riding.** In summer, saddle and pack animals are available at the stables in Yosemite Valley, at White Wolf, Tuolumne Meadows, Wawona, and Mather, on the road to Hetch Hetchy.

**Driving.** Yosemite has more than 200 miles of public roads for scenic drives. For your safety, stay on surfaced roads.

**Fishing.** Trout can be found in most park streams and lakes. A California license is required, and State rules on catch and season apply.

**Swimming.** Pools at several of the lodging units, the Merced River, and several lakes offer swimming.

**Skiing.** There are ski trails at Badger Pass and slopes for every degree of skill. The season is usually mid-December to mid-April. Write Yosemite Park and Curry Co. for details.

**Miscellaneous.** Naturalist-guided walks; campfire programs; junior rangers. Audio-visual interpretation and orientation. For details, check bulletin boards or inquire at the visitor center.

## YOU WILL WANT TO KNOW

**Assistance.** Park headquarters is open 24 hours a day. In emergencies call 372-4466.

**Motor Vehicles.** Speed limit 35 miles unless otherwise posted. Commercial trucking on park business only; commercial buses need prior written approval. Vehicles must stay on public roads.

**Camping.** Limited to 14 days in any calendar year

(7 days in Yosemite Valley in June, July, and August). Restricted in designated areas.

**Pets.** Visitors must keep pets on leash. They may not be taken on trails or beaches or into public buildings. Campers with pets restricted to Camp 4 in Yosemite Valley and to designated sections elsewhere. Dogs may be boarded in kennels.

**Fires.** Report fires immediately to nearest ranger station. Campfire permits required except in public automobile camps. Never leave fires unattended, and extinguish with water before leaving.

**Trails.** Stay on designated trails. Do not shortcut between zigzags or switchbacks. Never hike alone; tell someone where you are going and when you will return. Horses have right-of-way; stand quietly at trailside until they pass. Motorcycles, jeeps, and bicycles are prohibited on trails.

**Preserving Natural Features.** The destruction, defacing, or removal of trees or rocks is prohibited, as are the picking of wildflowers and other plants and the killing, capturing, or injuring of wildlife.

**Wildlife.** All park animals are wild. **DO NOT TOUCH OR FEED THEM.**

**Firearms.** Hunting with any kind of weapon is prohibited. Firearms must be declared and made inoperative at entrance stations.

## NATURAL FEATURES

**Flora And Fauna.** Elevations within the park range from 2,000 to more than 13,000 feet above sea level. In that range are five plant belts, each with its related community of animals. Conifers are the predominant trees, but there are a number of hardwoods, especially black oak and canyon live oak. Flowering trees and shrubs include dogwood and azalea, and there are meadows colorful with seasonal wildflowers at almost every elevation. Of the 220 bird and 75 mammal species known to live in Yosemite, many stay within their accustomed zones, but others, like the California mule deer, migrate between high and low elevations with the seasons. Illustrated books describing plants and animals of the park are on sale.

**Geology.** Nature's handiwork in the Yosemite region, as you now see it, began with an enormous granite intrusion into existing rock. Then followed an uplift of this granite block and its wearing down, first by stream erosion, then by glacial erosion. It was the glacial action that created the broad, U-shaped valleys, the hills, lakes and streams, and polished granite domes, and peaks.

A more graphic account of how the mountains and Yosemite Valley, with its towering cliffs and

waterfalls, were formed is told by naturalists and exhibits at the main visitor center and in publications on sale there.

### ACCOMMODATIONS, SERVICES

Public campgrounds (first-come, first-served) are maintained in Yosemite Valley and throughout the park. Camp 4 in the valley is open all year. There are no utility connections for house trailers except on private property at Wawona. All campgrounds are near water and restrooms. Showers are available for a small fee in Yosemite Valley and at Tuolumne Meadows.

Reservations are advised at all times for accommodations in hotels, lodges, and cabins operated by the Yosemite Park and Curry Co. There are restaurants, cafeterias, stores, and lodging in Yosemite Valley and at Wawona, El Portal, and Tuolumne Meadows.

Camping equipment may be rented at the Housekeeping Camp in Yosemite Valley; ski equipment, at Badger Pass in winter.

Medical and dental services are available all year at Lewis Memorial Hospital in Yosemite Valley.

A schedule of religious services is posted on bulletin boards in summer; services in Yosemite Valley only in winter.

Mail should be addressed to you in care of general delivery at the main post office, or at the lodging unit where you are staying. Post offices at Yosemite Lodge and at Wawona are open all year; Camp Curry and Tuolumne Meadows post offices summer only.

A telegraph office at Yosemite Lodge is open all year. Telephones are located throughout the park.

Messages of extreme emergency will be delivered to you in campgrounds, if you have registered, and at regular lodging units.

A self-service laundry is available to summer campers at Housekeeping Camp, Yosemite Valley.

Filling stations with towing service are located throughout the park; garage and repair service is available in Yosemite Valley and at El Portal.

### YOU WILL WANT TO SEE

- *Yosemite Valley*, with its sheer cliffs and waterfalls, reaching their maximum flow in May and June; some have no water from about mid-August through early autumn. (Valley open all year.)
- *Principal scenic features of the valley*—Yosemite Falls, Bridalveil and Nevada Falls, Mirror Lake, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Sentinel Dome, and El Capitan.
- *Giant sequoias* in three important groves. The largest is Mariposa Grove, 35 miles from the valley near the South Entrance; here you will see the Grizzly Giant and the Wawona (tunnel) tree. Other sequoias are at Tuolumne and Merced Groves near Crane Flat.
- *Glacier Point*, one of the best high views of Yosemite Valley and of the crest of the lofty Sierra Nevada. (Closed in winter.)
- *Pioneer Yosemite History Center* at Wawona—a collection of historic buildings and horse-drawn vehicles associated with the history of the park.
- *Tuolumne Meadows* (8,600 feet), the largest sub-alpine meadow in the High Sierra. This area is 55 miles from the valley by way of the highly scenic Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads, and is the starting point for hiking and pack trips into the high country. National Park Service operates a large campground and conducts a full-scale naturalist program in summer. (Closed in winter.)
- *El Portal Museum*, where exhibits tell the story of early-day railroad and auto transportation in the Yosemite region.

### ADMINISTRATION

Yosemite National Park, administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, is a unit of the National Park System, which is dedicated to conserving the natural, historical, and recreational places of the United States for the benefit and enjoyment of all the people.

A superintendent, whose address is Yosemite National Park, Calif. 95389, is in immediate charge of the park.



# YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

CALIFORNIA



STANISLAUS  
NATIONAL FOREST

TOIYABE  
NATIONAL FOREST

INYO  
NATIONAL FOREST

TIOGA PASS  
ENTRANCE

BIG OAK FLAT  
ENTRANCE

YOSEMITE  
VILLAGE

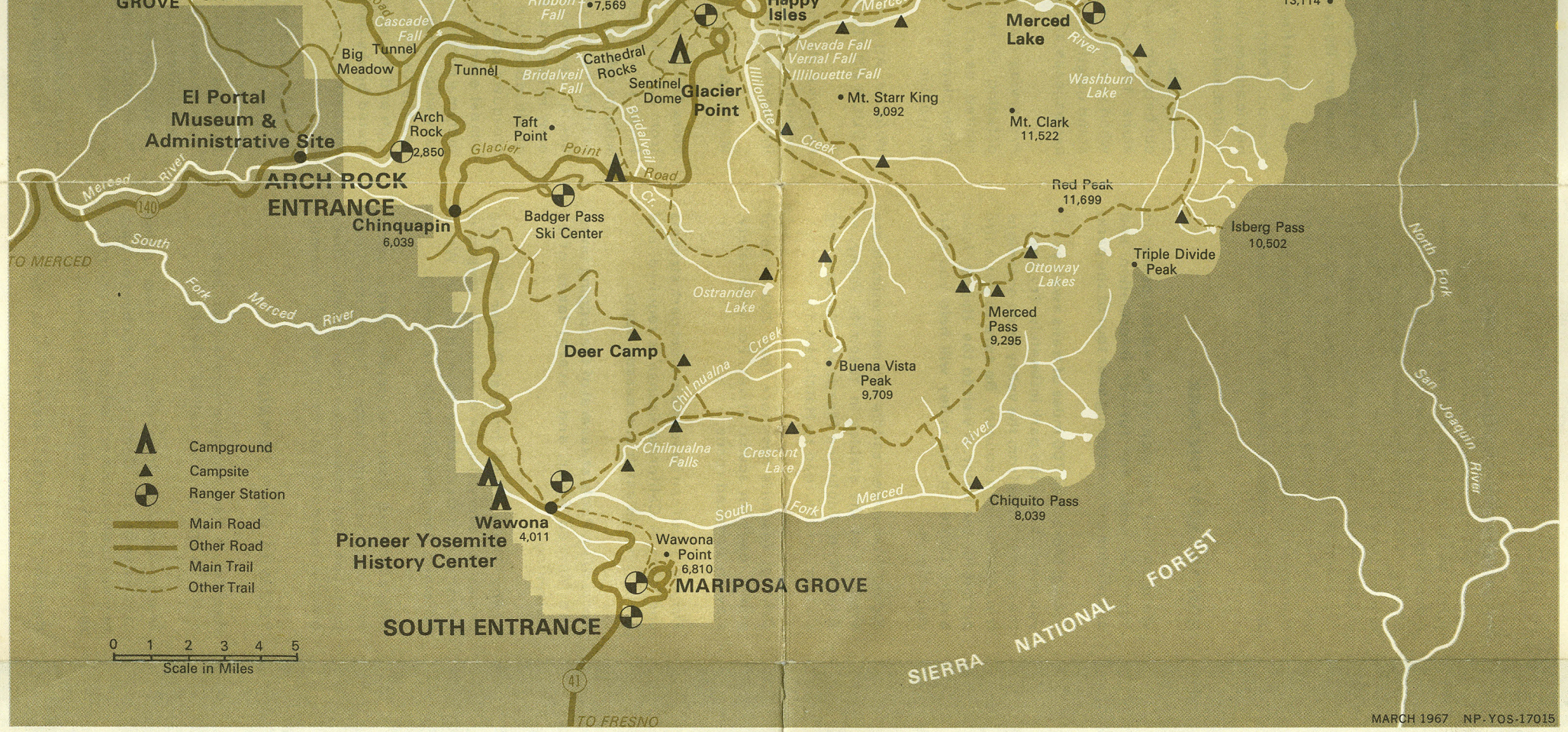
TUOLUMNE  
MEADOWS

MERCED GROVE

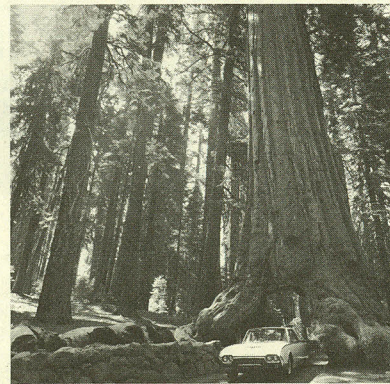
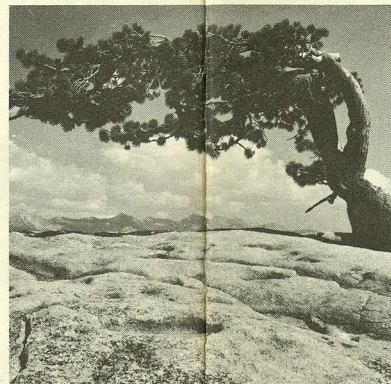
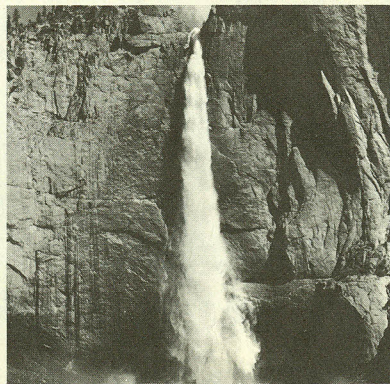
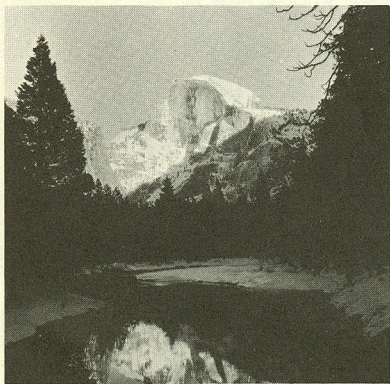
TUOLUMNE  
GROVE

MERCED

DONOHUE  
PASS



MARCH 1967 NP-YOS-17015



**THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR** — the Nation's principal natural resource agency— has a special obligation to assure that our expendable resources are conserved, that our renewable resources are managed to produce optimum benefits, and that all resources contribute to the progress and prosperity of the United States, now and in the future.

**U. S. Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

