



*I'd rather wake up  
in the middle of nowhere  
than in any city on earth.*

Steve McQueen

**Yosemite National Park Wilderness**



# Backcountry camping in the Yosemite Wilderness

Visit [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm) for more information.



**Permits** are required for all overnight wilderness use. Pick up your wilderness permit the day before you leave at one of the following locations:

Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center, Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center, Big Oak Flat

Information Station, Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio, or Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station. Advance permit reservations may be made from 24 weeks (168 days) to two days in advance. Visit [www.nps.gov/yose/wilderness/permits.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/wilderness/permits.htm) or call 209/372-0740 for more information and reservations.

**Campsite Selection.** Plan your trip to allow plenty of time



CAMP ON DURABLE SURFACES SUCH AS SAND, GRAVEL, OR ROCK

for campsite selection. Choose an existing campsite at least 100 feet (30 meters; 50 steps) away from water and trail in an area that is not visible from the trail. Avoid places where vegetation is just beginning to be lost or bare earth is beginning to show. Using an existing campsite or camping on durable ground (rock, gravel, or

snow) improves wilderness quality because additional plants aren't impacted and soil isn't eroded.



DON'T LEAVE PERMANENT BLACKENED SCARS BY CREATING CAMPFIRES AT THE BASE OF ROCKS

**Campfires.** Campfires are prohibited above 9,600 feet to protect fragile high-elevation ecosystems. Campfires are allowed below 9,600 feet in elevation in existing fire rings only. Wildfires are a real risk in Yosemite, so keep your fire small. Use only dead wood that is on the ground and smaller than your wrist. Never

leave fires unattended, and make sure fires are cold and fully out before you leave. Do not burn or leave garbage in your campfire ring. Gas stoves are encouraged for cooking. Never build or use a fire ring placed against granite because it causes permanent blackened scars and may kill new vegetation.

Present this postcard for 10% off any purchase at any Yosemite Association bookstore in Yosemite National Park. Not combinable with other offers. Not applicable to bear canister rentals or memberships. Learn more about us at [www.yosemite.org](http://www.yosemite.org)!



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