



YOSEMITE GUIDE

YOUR KEY TO VISITING THE PARK



FALL

SEPTEMBER 5 – NOVEMBER 13, 2000

VOLUME XXIX, NO. 3



Back to School for Bears

by Kate McCurdy

The last hint of alpine glow is fading off Half Dome as Yosemite's bear management team heads to work each evening. During the summer and fall months, bears will keep us busy on our night shift until the sun again rises over the park. Working with black bears can at times be exciting, at other times serious. But it is never dull, and this season we have added a few new elements to our program. We're sending bears back to school in a mission to keep them not only alive, but wild.

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Members of Yosemite's bear management team ready for an evening's work (from left, Kate McCurdy, Joe Madison, Tori Seher).



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Continued from front cover

On this night, our first call takes us into a Yosemite Valley campground where a small yearling bear is tearing into a bag of potato chips, oblivious to a growing crowd of onlookers. While the bear's attention is on the ill-gotten snack from an unattended campsite, our rangers' technique to interrupt this destructive behavior is startling to both bear and witnesses.

First the bear is hit with a rubber plug that is fired from a shotgun. The bear immediately drops the bag of chips and turns toward the woods. Next a firecracker or "green weenie" screamer is launched from a starter pistol, causing the bear to flee in earnest. The bear management team sprints after the bear, tracking it with help from the park's bear dog until it is well clear of the area. These efforts may seem extreme, but they are effective in teaching bears to avoid humans, and provide a sign of hope for such bears.

BACK TO BASICS

There was an era, prior to the installation of food storage lockers, when bears obtained food from campsites and vehicles in campgrounds every night. Many of these bears became increasingly aggressive towards humans and had to be destroyed. Fortunately, bears in Yosemite have recently been granted much better protection. All overnight guests now have adequate access to bear-proof metal lockers for the safe storage of their food. The park no longer has trash cans that bears can get into. And rangers work around the clock to prevent human-bear conflicts through public education, law enforce-

ment, bear management, and trash removal. These measures have helped to improve the bear situation dramatically. By the end of 1999, the number of bear-human incidents was reduced by over half from the year before.

One concern remains. Even though bears now rarely get unnatural foods from humans in Yosemite, a handful of them have been slow to abandon campgrounds, picnic areas, and parking lots as foraging grounds. These bears, which may have been augmenting their diets with human food for years, appear to be unwilling to return to wholly natural diets.

RE-EDUCATING BEARS

Seeking solutions to this problem is what makes the job of a bear manager interesting. In May we were given unprecedented authority to try something that, although common in other national parks, has not been tried in Yosemite. It's called "bear hazing", and it's the act of instilling a fear of humans through the use of negative stimulus. Our goal is simple: provide an intense incentive for bears to leave developed areas and instead return to the park's abundant meadows, woodlands, and other prime feeding habitats.

The tools that we are employing to assist us in hazing are sometimes very basic. Many bears respond well to simply being yelled at and chased, or hit with an acorn fired from a slingshot. Other times we use a Karelian Bear Dog (see page 7) to aggressively chase and bark at bears. Depending on the bear and the circumstances, we also haze bears using rubber shotgun slugs, firecrackers, and other pyrotechnics to elicit a flight response.

A+ SUCCESS

We are encouraged by how well bears have responded. Even the most challenging bears have shown behavior changes after a hazing experience. The main reason for this success is simple. The bears we are working with are not "addicted" to human foods; they have simply been capitalizing on an easy source of calories in the park for a long time.

Through the use of hazing, we have in many cases been able to restore the natural fear of humans that has been lost through years of food conditioning. We are elated that many of these bears have abandoned developed areas in search of

food elsewhere, undoubtedly to areas where natural food sources are abundant and humans are not.

A LIFE-SAVING LESSON

Evidence that this effort would work was seen early on during our trials. A large bear, wearing both a radio collar and ear tags, was seen by a wildlife ranger peering into a car at 2:30 one morning in a Curry Village parking lot. He loaded a rubber slug and a firecracker round into a shotgun and fired both at the bear from a distance of twenty yards. The bear was one rangers knew well. On any other night she would have continued her pilgrimage to find food in a car, broken out its window, and eaten until satiated. But on this night, she was so frightened by the rubber bullet and the firecracker round that she leapt three feet in the air and fled with incredible speed from the area.

Since that night, our notorious bear has not been seen in a developed area. The signal from her radio collar now tells us that she has returned to the west end of Yosemite Valley, where she can forage for natural food and avoid humans, their vehicles, and future frightening encounters. We feel this learning experience, although unpleasant for her at the time, provided a lesson to the bear that very well could save her life.

So, if a loud report wakes you from your midnight slumber while you are staying in Yosemite, accept our apologies. It is not our intent to disrupt vacations; it is to keep bears alive. Please take a moment while you are awake to double-check your campsite to ensure that it is clean and your bear box is securely shut. Glance up at the stars, and marvel for a moment at how beautiful the park is at this time of night. And go back to sleep knowing that you just heard the sound of a bear's life being lengthened.

Kate McCurdy is the park's lead bear management ranger and has worked with black bears in Yosemite for nine years. She and her crew of technicians and interns spend countless nights patrolling campsites and educating visitors in order to protect Yosemite's bears.



The author with her Karelian Bear Dog, "Logan".
Photo by Lesley Gourley

TO LEARN MORE...

- Four afternoons per week you can go on a bear walk with a ranger. See pages 10 - 12 for schedule of activities.
- Read more about bears and proper food storage on page 3; "Logan," the park's Karelian Bear Dog, is featured on page 7.



An intelligent and adaptable animal, the black bear (*ursus americanus*) has learned how to obtain food from human sources, such as garbage cans, cars, and campsites.
Photo by Amber Bethel

YOSEMITE GUIDE

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PARK RULES

It's the Law

There are federal laws and regulations specific to national parks that protect Yosemite, its wildlife, historic and prehistoric sites and structures, and natural beauty. Protect your park by following these rules:

Camping or sleeping in vehicles is permitted only in designated campsites and is prohibited along roadsides, in turnouts, or in parking lots.



Bicycles (including mountain bikes), in-line skates, and strollers must remain on paved roads and designated paved bike paths. They are not allowed on hiking trails or anywhere off-pavement.



Motor vehicles must stay on established roads open to public travel. Vehicles are not permitted off-road.



Store your food properly, keeping it away from bears and other Yosemite animals (see page 3 for details). After dark, vehicles with food visible in them may be towed.



Pets frighten wildlife and disturb hikers. They must be leashed at all times and are not permitted on any park trails, with the exception of paved trails on the floor of Yosemite Valley.



Do not remove any objects from the park, including pine cones, rocks, leaves, obsidian, historic items, etc. If you find an object that may be prehistoric or historic, do not move it. Note its location and inform a ranger. If you must collect something, please pick up litter!



The use of metal detectors in the park is illegal. Please report possible violations to a park ranger.



Firearms and hunting are prohibited in Yosemite National Park. Report possible hunting violations to the park's tip line, 209/372-0214, or to the Department of Fish and Game's tip line, 888/DFG-CALTIP, 24 hours a day.



All public buildings are designated as non-smoking.



Bears are unbelievably strong, especially when it comes to getting food locked in a car. NPS Photo by Steve Thompson

HELP KEEP WILDLIFE WILD

Did you know that feeding or closely approaching any park wildlife is prohibited by federal law? Your food is a threat to the survival of park animals. It can damage their health, make them vulnerable to death from cars, or lead to dangerous behavior. Treat your food as if it were poison to animals, because the result is often the same. Even though animals may look tame—especially when searching for a hand-out—they are capable of inflicting serious injury, and in extreme cases, causing death. Never attempt to touch or closely approach any park wildlife. Instead, view wildlife through binoculars or telephoto lenses. A good rule-of-thumb: if an animal is aware of your presence, you're too close.



FISHING REGULATIONS



Special fishing regulations apply on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley from Happy Isles downstream through El Portal to the Foresta Road Bridge. In this stretch of the river, it is catch-and-release only for native rainbow trout. Only artificial lures or flies with barbless hooks may be used, and bait fishing is prohibited. Brown trout limits are five fish per day and ten in possession. It is the responsibility of the angler to identify fish species.

Trout season begins on the last Saturday in April and continues through November 15. The only exception is Frog Creek near Lake Eleanor, where fishing season does not open until June 15 in order to protect spawning rainbow trout. All lakes and reservoirs are open to fishing year-round.

A valid California sport fishing license must be displayed by all persons 16 years of age and older who are fishing in Yosemite National Park. Licenses must be plainly visible, attached to outer clothing, at or above the waistline. For more information about licenses and fishing, inquire at visitor centers.

TREE HAZARD ADVISORY

Winter storms with strong winds or heavy wet snow always cause some tree failures, sometimes with property damage or tragic injuries. Trees adjacent to developments such as residences, campgrounds, lodging, offices, parking lots, and some roads are surveyed for defects that may make them likely to fail and injure people or damage property. Yosemite forestry crews prune or remove identified high priority tree hazards.

Some trees without any visible defects fail during storms. To avoid injury or damage to your property, be aware of your surroundings and park in open areas when storms are blowing or forecast.



DRIVE SAFELY

In 1999, there were 381 motor vehicle accidents in Yosemite National Park. Sixteen bears were hit by vehicles. Speeding kills wildlife and people. Slow down and follow these driving tips to avoid accidents:

- Obey posted speed limits. Slow down when road conditions warrant. Be alert to rocks in the roadway, wildlife crossing, or other unexpected situations.
- California law requires that all vehicle occupants wear seat belts, and children 4 years of age (or under 40 lbs.) be restrained in an approved child safety seat.
- Do not stop in the roadway! Find a safe turnout if you wish to take a photo, consult a map, or enjoy park scenery or wildlife.
- Be courteous. Pull into turnouts to allow other vehicles to pass.
- Stay on your side of the road, especially on tight curves. Be aware of bicyclists and pedestrians.
- When roads are steep and slippery, shift down. Avoid excessive slowing on curves or your vehicle may slide.
- Don't drink and drive. It's a fatal combination.
- Obey lowered speed limits in the El Portal Road construction zone. Rough road conditions exist. No stopping or turning around in construction zone.

WILL I NEED TIRE CHAINS?

It is recommended that you carry tire chains in your vehicle (including rental cars) between November and April, as a sudden storm could make them mandatory at any time. Due to changing weather conditions, any vehicle entering a chain control area must carry chains under park regulations, even if their use is not mandatory at the time. Chains should be obtained in advance; several towns on highways leading into Yosemite rent them. Vehicles over 6,000 lbs. are required to use link-type chains, and on sets of dual tires, only one tire needs chains. Once in the park, tire chains are available at retail outlets for purchase, but not for rent.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Food storage guidelines, see page 3.
- Camping and campfires, see page 4.
- Wilderness regulations, see page 5.
- Fire safety guidelines, see page 7.
- Bicycling rules, see page 9.

BEARS

BEARS ARE NOT TO BLAME: STORE FOOD PROPERLY

Each year black bears are killed in Yosemite National Park as a direct result of human carelessness and improper food storage. Some call it a "bear problem," but bears are not to blame.

Driven by their powerful sense of smell, black bears are drawn to human food. Once they get it, they continue to seek it out—from backpacks, picnic tables, ice chests, and even cars. As their natural fear of people fades, they may become aggressive. When bears become too aggressive, they often have to be killed. In 1999, there were 768 incidents involving bears, resulting in over \$224,000 in damage and five human injuries. Four bears had to be killed. The only way to stop this devastating cycle is to make sure that all food and trash are stored properly.

NO FOOD IN CARS!

In 1999, over 318 cars were damaged by bears in the park, and most of these incidents were caused by improper food storage. If your car will be parked in Yosemite after dark, **it must not contain any food or related items.**

- Bears have damaged cars for as little as a stick of gum or an empty soda can, so thoroughly search your car and remove all potential bear attractants. Bears can clearly smell any food in a car, even when it's stored in the vehicle's trunk!
- Bears recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food-related containers. Such items, even when empty, have residual odors. Remove them from vehicles and store them securely. Also remove drinks, garbage, and scented articles such as soap, sunscreen, and toothpaste from vehicles. Don't forget to check the glove compartment!
- Clear your car's interior of clutter. This will reduce the chances of a bear mistaking an article for food, and increase the chances that you will find any stray french fries or other overlooked food. Child car seats should be removed from vehicles since they often have residual food smells.
- Remove all trash and place it in animal-resistant trash cans or dumpsters.

CAMPGROUNDS

- Federal regulations require that all food and related supplies be stored and secured at all times in the metal "bear boxes" in each campsite (except when food is being prepared and eaten). Each box measures 38"x48"x22". No food storage is allowed in vehicles.
- Keep bear boxes latched and secured with their clips at all times. Bears enter campsites during the day, even when people are present.
- Dispose of garbage frequently in animal-resistant dumpsters and cans. Don't leave any garbage in your campsite, especially at night.

LODGING

- Remove all food and food-related items from vehicles. Guests staying in hard-sided cabins must store such supplies indoors.
- Guests staying in canvas tent-cabins must store food and related items in lockers (ask at front desk for locker locations).
- Clean out trash, empty food containers, and scented articles from vehicles before leaving them parked overnight.

PICNIC AREAS

Stay close to your food and put it away as soon as you are finished eating. Bears may enter picnic areas, even when people are present, so be prepared to scare them away.

TRAILHEADS

It is highly recommended that no food or food-related supplies be left in vehicles parked overnight at trailheads. There are food storage boxes for backpackers at all major trailheads in the park. Ask for locations when acquiring a wilderness permit.

WILDERNESS

The National Park Service strongly encourages backpackers to carry and use bear-resistant food storage canisters. These portable containers are the most effective way for backpackers to store food in wilder-



Illustration by Lawrence Ormsby

ness areas. Backpackers staying in designated backpacker camps adjacent to High Sierra Camps or in Little Yosemite Valley are required to use metal food storage lockers provided or portable canisters. All food, garbage, toiletries, and other scented items must be stored properly. The counterbalance technique (either from a cable or a tree branch) **may not** be used where bear boxes exist. While legal, the counter balance method is generally not an effective means of food storage. Bear resistant canisters are required at 9,600 feet elevation and above. Plan ahead—All food, garbage, and toiletries must be contained within canisters. (See article below for rental locations and canister details.)

SAFETY

Never approach a bear, regardless of its size. If you encounter a bear, act immediately: throw small stones or sticks toward the bear from a safe distance. Yell, clap hands, bang pots together. If there is more than one person, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear. Use caution if you see cubs, as a mother may act aggressively to defend them.

When done immediately, these actions have been successful in scaring bears away. Never try to retrieve anything once a bear has it. Report all bear incidents to a park ranger (see hotline number below).

NOTE: These regulations and precautions help decrease the chance of personal injury or property damage. However, bear damage and confrontations are still possible, even when all the guidelines are followed.

USE BEAR-RESISTANT FOOD CANISTERS

In an effort to decrease incidents between bears and people, and to keep bears wild, the National Park Service strongly encourages backpackers to use bear-resistant food canisters. These containers are the most effective way for backpackers to store food in the wilderness. All other techniques are considered delaying tactics only, as bears are largely able to undo most well-known food storage methods. Each plastic canister weighs about 3 pounds, fits in a full-sized backpack, and is capable of holding a three to five days supply of food for one person.

Canisters may be rented for a flat fee of \$3 per trip plus a refundable security deposit. They may also be purchased for approximately \$75. They are available at the following locations: Year-round at the Yosemite Valley Sports Shop, Mountain Shop at Curry Village, Crane Flat Store, and Wawona Store. Seasonally at Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center, Wawona Information Station, Big Oak Flat Permit/Information Station, Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station, Tuolumne Meadows Store, Tuolumne Meadows Sport Shop, and Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center (see pages 14 and 15 for hours). Canisters can be picked

up and returned at any of the rental locations throughout the park. Increased availability of canisters parkwide and reduced rental fees are due to a cooperative agreement between the Yosemite Association and Yosemite Concession Services Corp.



Photo by Mike Floyd

SAVE-A-BEAR HOTLINE

To report trash problems, improper food storage, bear sightings, and other bear-related problems, leave a message for the Bear Management Team at 209/372-0200 (press 2, then 4). Your call can be made anonymously.

DONATE A CANISTER & SAVE A BEAR

Make a donation to the Yosemite Association's "Save a Bear" campaign and help eliminate food-related human/bear conflicts in the wilderness. Donations will be used to purchase bear-resistant food storage canisters for use in the distribution program described in the adjacent article. The program makes canisters easily available and encourages their use.

Help save a bear by donating a bear can! Call the Yosemite Association at 209/379-2646 for more information.

Mountain Lions

Mountain lions are a normal and very important part of the park ecosystem, helping to keep deer populations in check. They are attracted to areas with healthy deer populations, which includes many areas of the park. Although lion attacks are extremely rare, they are possible, as is injury from any wild animal. We offer the following recommendations for your safety:

Do not leave pets or pet food outside and unattended, especially at dawn and dusk. Pets can attract mountain lions into developed areas.



Avoid hiking alone. Watch children closely and never let them run ahead or lag behind on the trail. Talk to children about lions, and teach them what to do if they meet one.



What should you do if you meet a mountain lion?

Never approach one, especially if it is feeding or with kittens. Most mountain lions will try to avoid a confrontation. Always give them a way to escape.



Don't run. Stay calm. Hold your ground, or back away slowly. Face the lion and stand upright. Do all you can to appear larger. Raise your arms. If you have small children with you, pick them up.



If the lion behaves aggressively, wave your arms, shout, and throw objects at it. The goal is to convince it that you are not prey and may be dangerous yourself. If attacked, fight back!



Generally, mountain lions are calm, quiet, and elusive. Sightings are rare, so if you spot one, consider yourself privileged!

CAMPING

CAMPING RESERVATIONS

Reservations are required for Yosemite Valley's auto campgrounds year-round and summer through fall for Hodgdon Meadow, Crane Flat, Wawona, and half of Tuolumne Meadows. All other campgrounds (except group and stock campgrounds) are first-come, first-served.

Camping reservations will be available in blocks of 1 month at a time, up to 5 months in advance, on the 15th of each month through the National Park Reservation System (NPRS).

Thus, for:

CAMPING ARRIVAL DATE	FIRST DAY TO MAKE RESERVATION
All dates thru 12/14/00	7/15/00
12/15/00 thru 1/14/01	8/15/00
1/15/01 thru 2/14/01	9/15/00
2/15/01 thru 3/14/01	10/15/00
3/15/01 thru 4/14/01	11/15/00
4/15/01 thru 5/14/01	12/15/00, etc.

From May through September, campsites are in heavy demand and prospective campers are encouraged to call NPRS as early as possible in the period.

Written requests should be made to NPRS so they are received no sooner than 2 weeks before the 15th of the month that the desired camping arrival date goes on sale. Written requests will not be processed until the 15th of the month (at the same time telephone requests are being taken). Include desired location, type of equipment you will be camping in (i.e., tent, RV, etc.), as well as method of payment. Online reservations can be accessed through reservations.nps.gov from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Pacific time.

YOSEMITE VALLEY

Check-in/check-out time for Yosemite Valley campgrounds is 10:00 a.m. Campsites are assigned by NPRS at the time the reservation is made. Campers may request a specific campsite number if it is available at the time the reservation is made. All campsite assignments are final—you may not switch or change camp-

sites after you arrive in the park. Maximum length for recreational vehicles in Valley campgrounds is 40 feet.

Camp 4 (Sunnyside) Walk-in Campground is open all year on a first-come, first-served basis; these campsites are not wheelchair accessible. Sites are rented on a per-person basis, and six people will be placed in each campsite, regardless of the number of people in your party. Camp 4 (Sunnyside) often fills before 9:00 a.m. each day May through September.

There is a 30-day camping limit within Yosemite National Park in any calendar year; however, May 1-September 15, camping limit in Yosemite Valley is 7 days inclusive.

OUTSIDE YOSEMITE VALLEY

Check-in/check-out time for campgrounds outside the Valley is noon. Maximum length for recreational vehicles is 35 feet.

There is a 30-day camping limit within Yosemite National Park in any calendar year; however, from May 1 to September 15, the camping limit outside the Valley is limited to a total of 14 days, except for Wawona, which is limited to 7 days. Wawona and Hodgdon Meadow are open all year. Other campgrounds outside the Valley are open only during the summer months. See grid below for details.

CAMPING IN AREAS SURROUNDING YOSEMITE

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) operates a variety of campgrounds on a seasonal basis near Yosemite in the Inyo, Sierra, and Stanislaus National Forests. Many of these campgrounds are operated on a first-come, first-served basis; however, some may be reserved. Unlike Yosemite, the national forests allow dispersed camping in some areas (outside of designated campgrounds). Campfire permits are required. For additional information, contact the local USFS district offices: Highway 120 West, Groveland Ranger Station (Stanislaus NF) 209/962-7825; Highway 140, Mariposa Ranger Station (Sierra NF) 209/966-3638;

Highway 120 East, Mono Lake Ranger Station (Inyo NF) 760/647-3044; Highway 41, Oakhurst Ranger Station (Sierra NF) 559/683-4636. For private campgrounds and lodging outside Yosemite, call the respective chamber of commerce or visitor bureau listed on page 8.

GROUP CAMPGROUNDS

There are group campsites at Tuolumne Meadows, Hodgdon Meadow, Wawona, and Bridalveil Creek Campgrounds. Reservations can be made through NPRS; 13 to 30 people are allowed in each group campsite. Tent camping only. Pets are not permitted in group sites. Check-in/check-out time is noon.

SERVICES

There are no hookups in Yosemite campgrounds, but there are sanitary dump stations in Yosemite Valley (all year), and summer only in Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows. Shower and laundry facilities are available year-round in Yosemite Valley; see page 15 for locations and hours of service. Bear-proof food storage lockers are available in all Yosemite campgrounds (they measure 45" w x 18" h x 34" d). See *Bears Are Not To Blame* on page 3 for food storage guidelines.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Camping/sleeping in vehicles is permitted only in designated campsites.
- Maximum of 6 people (including children) and 2 vehicles per campsite.
- Pets are permitted only in specific campgrounds (check grid below). Pets must be on a leash at all times, are not allowed on any hiking trails, and may not be left unattended.
- Quiet hours are from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
- Generators may be used sparingly between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Camp waste water and sewage must be disposed of in designated utility drains.
- Electrical extension cords may not be connected to campground restroom outlets.

CAMPFIRE RULES

- To improve air quality in Yosemite Valley, campfires are permitted only between 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. from May 1 through October 15.
- Firewood collection is prohibited in Yosemite Valley. This includes "dead and down" wood.
- Outside the Valley, wood may not be gathered at elevations above 9,600 feet or in sequoia groves.
- Cutting standing trees or attached limbs, alive or dead, is prohibited, as is the use of chainsaws.
- Please start campfires with newspaper. Do not burn pine needles or cones, as they create unnecessary smoke.
- Campfires are permitted only in established fire rings.
- See fire safety information on page 7.

Reservations may be made from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Pacific time.

TOLL-FREE RESERVATIONS:
800/436-7275

ONLINE RESERVATIONS:
reservations.nps.gov
You may reserve only one campsite at a time.

INTERNATIONAL CALLERS:
301/722-1257

TDD (TOLL-FREE):
888/530-9796

MAIL-IN RESERVATIONS:
NPRS
P.O. Box 1600
Cumberland, MD 21502

Up to two campsites may be reserved at a time by mail or phone with Mastercard, Visa, Discover, personal check, or money order.

CAMPGROUND	ELEVATION	MILES FROM YOSEMITE VALLEY	# OF SITES/SPACES	DAILY FEE *	RV SPACE	TENT SPACE	TAP WATER	STREAM WATER (Bowl)	FLUSH TOILETS	PIT TOILETS	PICNIC TABLES	FIRE PITS OR GRILL	PETS ALLOWED	DUMP STATION	PARKING	SHOWERS NEARBY	LAUNDRY NEARBY	GROCERIES NEARBY	SWIMMING	FISHING	HORSEBACK RIDING	NOTES**
IN YOSEMITE VALLEY																						
NORTH PINES	4,000' 1,220 m	0	81	\$15/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open April-September Reservations required
UPPER PINES	4,000' 1,220 m	0	238	\$15/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open All Year Reservations required
LOWER PINES	4,000' 1,220 m	0	60	\$15/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open March-October Reservations required
CAMP 4 WALK-IN (Sunnyside)	4,000' 1,220 m	0	35	\$3/p	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open All Year/Walk-In First-come, first-served Limited parking
OUTSIDE YOSEMITE VALLEY																						
WAWONA Wawona Road (Highway 41) near Wawona	4,000' 1,220 m	27	93	\$15/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open All Year Reservations required May-Sept. (\$15); First-come, first-served Oct.-April (\$10)
BRIDALVEIL CREEK Glacier Point Road	7,200' 2,194 m	25	110	\$10/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open July-early Sept. First-come, first-served
HODGDON MEADOW Big Oak Flat Road (Hwy. 120 west near Big Oak Flat Entrance)	4,872' 1,484 m	25	105	\$15/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open All Year Reservations required May-Sept. (\$15); First-come, first-served Oct.-April (\$10)
CRANE FLAT Big Oak Flat Rd. near the Tioga Road turnoff	6,191' 1,886 m	17	166	\$15/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open June-September Reservations required
TAMARACK FLAT Tioga Road (Highway 120 east)	6,315' 1,924 m	23	52	\$6/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open June-early Sept. Three-mile access road not suitable for large RVs or trailers. First-come, first-served
WHITE WOLF Tioga Road (Highway 120 east)	8,000' 2,437 m	31	74	\$10/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open July-early Sept. First-come, first-served. Not suitable for RVs over 27'
YOSEMITE CREEK Tioga Road (Highway 120 east)	7,659' 2,333 m	35	75	\$6/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open July-early Sept. Five-mile access road not suitable for RVs over 24' or trailers. First-come, first-served
PORCUPINE FLAT Tioga Road (Highway 120 east)	8,100' 2,468 m	38	52	\$6/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open July-early Sept. RV access front section only. First-come, first-served
TUOLUMNE MEADOWS Tioga Road (Highway 120 east)	8,600' 2,620 m	55	304	\$15/s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Open July through Sept. ½ advanced reservations, ½ same-day reservations. 25 walk-in spaces available for backpackers/campers without vehicles

* /s = per site
/p = per person

**Dates approximate

HIKING & BACKPACKING

AUTUMN IN THE WILDERNESS

Fall is a pleasant time to backpack in Yosemite. Summer crowds begin to diminish, autumn colors the landscape, and animals are busy preparing for winter. While hiking conditions are often favorable during September and October, sudden storms are not uncommon and temperatures can drop dramatically, even at lower elevations. Temperatures are frequently below freezing at night, and snow can fall as early as September. Keep in mind that weather changes rapidly in the Sierra, and a beautiful clear morning can become a rainy (or snowy) afternoon.

Yosemite's wilderness is a wildlife preserve—pets and weapons are prohibited. Bicycles and strollers are not allowed on any trail.

Trail maps, hiking guides, and other literature may be obtained at visitor centers or ordered from the Yosemite Bookstore, P.O. Box 230, El Portal, CA 95318, 209/379-2648, fax 209/379-2486, www.yosemitestore.com/.

WILDERNESS PERMITS

Free wilderness permits are required year-round for all overnight trips into Yosemite's wilderness. They are not required for day hikes. Yosemite uses a trailhead quota system which limits the number of people who may begin overnight hikes from each trailhead, each day. This system is designed to avoid overcrowding and to reduce impacts to wilderness areas. At least 40% of each trailhead quota is available on a first-come, first-served basis the day of, or one day prior to, the beginning of your trip.

Permit stations are located at the Wilderness Center in Yosemite Valley, Wawona, Big Oak Flat, Hetch Hetchy, and Tuolumne Meadows. Call 209/372-0200 for permit station locations and hours. Permits are also available by advance reservation.



Fall is an active time for bears in the wilderness. Save Yosemite's bears — store your food properly.

After November 4, wilderness permits will be available at the Valley Visitor Center.

CAMPSITE SELECTION

Good campsite selection may be the most important decision you make in order to leave no trace of your wilderness trip. Established campsites at least 100 feet from water are usually "hardened"—they have lost some of their vegetative cover—and careful continued use causes little additional impact. Confining use to dirt areas in established campsites preserves the natural condition of the larger surrounding area.

PROTECT WATER QUALITY, WILDLIFE, AND FRAGILE TERRAIN

- Pack out all trash and use gas stoves rather than wood fires.
- Store all food, garbage, and toiletries properly (see page 3).
- Bring a container to carry water to your camp from lakes or streams.
- Purify all drinking water—boil for 5 minutes or use a Giardia-rated filter or iodine-based purifier (see page 7).
- Dispose of human waste in a small hole at least 100 feet from water and trail. Pack out all toilet paper and personal hygiene products.
- Do all washing at least 100 feet from any water source or trail.

For wilderness information, call 209/372-0200 or go to www.nps.gov/yose/wilderness

Watch Your Step!

In 1999, rangers in Yosemite worked on 158 search and rescue operations. Nine people died in the park due to accidents.

Tripping and falling are common accidents on park walkways and trails, especially in slippery conditions.

At night, artificial lighting is kept to a minimum; always carry a flashlight.

Rock climbing and scrambling are the leading causes of injury and death for unprepared and inexperienced hikers. Routes are often more difficult than they appear, and even a short fall can cause serious injury or death. Before you scramble or climb on Yosemite's rocks or walls, provide yourself with proper equipment and training.

Swift currents and wet, slippery rocks can cause you to fall and be swept over a waterfall. Never swim or wade in streams above waterfalls or in swiftly moving water.

Any unbridged stream crossing may be hazardous. If a bridge is not nearby and you must cross, do so at a wide, shallow spot that is not above rapids or waterfalls.

Supervise children closely when around all bodies of water.

WILDERNESS PERMIT RESERVATIONS

Wilderness users who plan to enjoy Yosemite's beautiful high country during the peak season (May through September) are encouraged to make permit reservations. Call 209/372-0200 for the latest information. Currently, reservations are available from 24 weeks to 2 days in advance of the trip start date, and can be made by writing to Wilderness Permits, P.O. Box 545, Yosemite, CA 95389, or by calling 209/372-0740.

Include the following in your request: name, address, daytime phone, number of people in the party, method of travel (i.e., ski, snowshoe, foot, horse), number of stock (if applicable), start and end dates, entry and exit trailheads, and principal destination. Include alternate dates and/or trailheads.

A \$5 per person non-refundable processing fee is charged for all reservation requests. Payment by check or money order should be made to the Yosemite Association. Credit card payments are accepted with valid card number and expiration date.

Reservation phone lines are often busy. We encourage you to make your request in writing. Mailed requests are processed simultaneously with phone requests.

YOSEMITE VALLEY DAY HIKES

DESTINATION / TRAIL	STARTING POINT	DISTANCE	DIFFICULTY/ ELEVATION GAIN	APPROXIMATE HIKING TIME	NOTES
BRIDALVEIL FALL	Bridalveil Fall Parking Area	1/2 mile round trip (0.8 km)	Easy	20 minutes round trip	♿ with assistance
MIRROR LAKE	Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #16	1 mile to lake (1.6 km)	Easy	1/2 hour to lake	♿ Vehicle access available with placard
LOWER YOSEMITE FALL	Yosemite Falls Shuttle Stop #4	1/2 mile round trip (0.8 km)	Easy	20 minutes round trip	♿ with assistance
UPPER YOSEMITE FALL TRAIL COLUMBIA ROCK	Camp 4 Shuttle Stop #5	2 miles round trip (3.2 km)	Strenuous 1,000' (300 m) elevation gain	2 to 3 hours round trip	Check conditions at Visitor Center in winter
TOP OF YOSEMITE FALL	Same as above	7.2 miles round trip (11.6 km)	Very Strenuous 2,700' (810 m) elevation gain	6 to 8 hours round trip	Check conditions at Visitor Center in winter
MIST TRAIL OR JOHN MUIR TRAIL					
VERNAL FALL FOOTBRIDGE	Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #15	1.4 miles round trip (2.0 km)	Moderate 400' (120 m) elevation gain	1 to 2 hours round trip	Check conditions at Visitor Center Winter route available
TOP OF VERNAL FALL	Same as above	3 miles round trip (4.8 km)	Strenuous 1,000' (300 m) elevation gain	2 to 4 hours round trip	Check conditions at Visitor Center Winter route available
TOP OF NEVADA FALL	Same as above	7 miles round trip (11.3 km)	Strenuous 1,900' (570 m) elevation gain	6 to 8 hours round trip	Check conditions at Visitor Center Winter route available
TOP OF HALF DOME	Same as above	17 miles round trip (27.4 km)	Extremely Strenuous 4,800' (1,463 m) elevation gain	10 to 12 hours round trip	Cables up from June to mid-October; otherwise cable route is closed
GLACIER POINT FOUR MILE TRAIL	Southside Drive	4.8 miles one way (7.6 km)	Very strenuous 3,200' (960 m) elevation gain	3 to 4 hours one way	Check conditions at Visitor Center Closed in winter
VALLEY FLOOR LOOP	Yosemite Falls Shuttle Stop #4	13 miles full loop (20.8 km) 6.5 miles half loop (10.4 km)	Moderate	5 to 7 hours full loop 2.5 to 3.5 hours half loop	Get full description from Visitor Center

YOSEMITE NEWS

On The Web

The official Yosemite NPS home page (www.nps.gov/yose/) contains the latest park information.



Camping reservations can now be made online from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Pacific time (reservations.nps.gov).



The Yosemite Association's Yosemite Online (www.yosemite.org) features visitor information, a bookstore, a listing of outdoor classes, membership news, the daily weather forecast, a live-camera view of Half Dome and Yosemite Valley, and even a 3-D QuickTime video of Yosemite Valley.



The Yosemite Fund home page (www.yosemitedfund.org) frequently has project updates with photographs online. The site currently features photos of the restoration work at Glacier Point. Other features include "Wild Card," "Waterfalls," and "Tips For Travelers," along with current donation information.



The Yosemite Concession Services home page (www.yosemitepark.com) features 200 pages of information on lodging, shopping, dining, and park activities with links to other Yosemite-related web sites. It also includes a live-camera view of Half Dome, online gift shop, and lodging reservations.



The Ansel Adams Gallery home page (www.anseladams.com) features fine art photography, gifts, calendar of events, and photos of Yosemite and Mono Lake.



Yosemite Area Traveller Information (www.yosemite.com), web site contains the latest information on the Yosemite region. Includes lodging information, travel advisories, and road and weather conditions.



The Yosemite Institute's home page (www.yni.org) describes its residential, in-park field-science program for elementary, middle, and high school students, and post-visit challenge units.

What were over 400 African American soldiers doing in Yosemite in 1899, 1903, and 1904? Find out at www.shadowsoldier.org.

ENJOY THE JOURNEY WITH YARTS!

If you prefer to enjoy the Yosemite area's magnificent scenery rather than watch the road, YARTS transit service to and from the park could be the option for you. The Yosemite Area Regional Transit System (YARTS) provides round-trip transit service from communities within Mariposa, Merced, and Mono Counties to Yosemite National Park.



Year-round:

- From Merced east along Highway 140 to Yosemite Valley (limited service only in fall and winter).

Summer only:

- From Coulterville along Highway 132 to Highway 120 West into the park via the Big Oak Flat Entrance (through September 17)
- From Mammoth Lakes and Lee Vining to Yosemite Valley on Highway 395 and 120 East.
- From Wawona

Fares for riding YARTS vary, but generally range between \$7 and \$20 round trip for an adult, including entrance to the park (except for the Wawona route). YARTS also offers discounts for children and seniors.

For fall and winter schedule information, check with YARTS web site at www.yosemite.com/yarts. For schedule information or questions by phone call toll free 877/98-YARTS (877/989-2787). For information for only the Highway 120 East service, please call 800/626-6684.



Illustration by Lawrence Ormsby



BECOME A JUNIOR OR SENIOR RANGER

You can become a Yosemite Junior or Senior Ranger by purchasing a self-guided booklet published by the Yosemite Association. This booklet is sold for \$3.50 at the Nature Center at Happy Isles, Yosemite Valley and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Centers, and Wawona and Big Oak Flat Information Stations. In order to earn a Junior/Senior Ranger patch, the booklet must be completed, a bag of trash collected, and a guided program attended.

LITTLE CUBS WANTED!

Are you between the ages of 3 and 6? Yosemite has a program for YOU! Little Cubs is a self-guided booklet that encourages our young visitors and their families to discover Yosemite's wonders and to earn a Little Cubs button. This booklet (published by the Yosemite Association) is sold for \$3.00 in the Nature Center at Happy Isles, Yosemite Valley and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Centers, and Wawona and Big Oak Flat Information Stations.

CLASSROOMS IN THE PARK

Yosemite National Park is the ideal outdoor classroom for exploring natural and cultural history. Yosemite's *Parks As Classrooms* program coordinates with the California State Curriculum Frameworks for elementary grades and offers ranger-led field trips for classes visiting the park. Each program lasts one to two hours. Park entrance fees are waived for the educational visit. These programs emphasize the National Park Service message of protection and preservation of natural and cultural resources. Fall visits feature a Miwok Indian theme.

Class size is limited to 35 students. For further information regarding this and other National Park Service education programs, contact the Education Office at 209/372-0642, or visit the web site at www.nps.gov/yose/teach.htm. For a fee waiver application, call 209/379-1876.

FREE ART CLASSES

Free, informal outdoor classes in various art mediums are available for adults through the Art Activity Center, located at the east end of Yosemite Village next to the Village Store. Supplies are available for purchase at the Center which is open daily 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closes for the season October 11). Classes begin at 10:00 a.m. and continue until 2:00 p.m.

Sept. 4 -10	Vivian Deland	Watercolor
Sept. 11-16	Anne Thiermann	Pastel/Sketching
Sept. 17-24	Ben Kudo	Watercolor
Sept. 25-Oct. 1	Alex Gonzales	Mixed Media/Sketching
Oct. 2-8	Janis Fogt	Journal Sketching

FALL HIKES AND CLASSES

There's still room on a few great fall seminars in Tuolumne Meadows, Wawona, and Yosemite Valley. The following is a list of some of these outdoor field courses offered by Yosemite Field Seminars, in association with the non-profit Yosemite Association.

- Hawks in Flight, September 7-10, Tuolumne Meadows
- The Bear Facts, September 8-10, Yosemite Valley
- Sketching Yosemite History, September 16-17, Yosemite Valley
- Loosening Up with Watermedia, October 6-8, Yosemite Valley
- Writing Wawona's Wonders, October 6-8
- Poetry Alive, October 13-15, Yosemite Valley
- Understanding the Chemistry of Plants, October 20-22, Yosemite Valley
- Yosemite Valley Fall Photography, October 26-29, Yosemite Valley

Let the Yosemite Association's top-notch instructors lead you on a learning adventure. All programs include free campground space, while those in Yosemite Valley and Wawona have rooms set aside for students at an additional cost.

For more information, call Penny or Lou at 209/379-2321, fax any requests to 209/379-2486, or e-mail: YOSE_Yosemite_Association@nps.gov. See a live web camera view of Yosemite Valley and Tuolumne Meadows along with the detailed descriptions of these and other seminars at www.yosemite.org.



NATURE NOTES

FIRE MANAGEMENT IN YOSEMITE

This last August marked the ten-year anniversary of the Steamboat and A-Rock fires. Blackened trees can be seen on the Wawona Road north of Chinquapin and on the Big Oak Flat Road near Foresta. Fire managers in Yosemite realize that fire has been an essential part of the ecosystem for thousands of years and have used two tools since the early 1970s to restore the benefits of this natural process: *wildland fire* and *prescribed fire*.

Wildland fires that are caused by lightning may be allowed to burn under strictly monitored conditions in certain park wilderness areas. Since 1972, 532 lightning fires have been successfully managed by Yosemite National Park's fire staff. Where it is not prudent to allow fires to burn, the park has a policy of fire suppression combined with a prescribed fire program.

Prescribed fires are ignited under approved conditions by qualified park fire staff to protect developed areas (like Yosemite Valley and Wawona) and in other areas with unnaturally high amounts of dead and down woody debris. Yosemite has safely conducted 188 prescribed burns since 1970.

All human caused wildland fires are immediately suppressed no matter where they occur within the park.

All managed burns are normally signed from vantage points or along the roadways. Please heed all warning signs posted in fire areas. Occasionally, trails that are within or adjacent to fires need to be closed for safety reasons. Trail closings will be posted in the Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center and at appropriate trailheads.

Currently, there is a moratorium on both types of burning in Yosemite National Park. To continue with fire hazard reduction in Yosemite, crews are manually clearing small trees and brush in Yosemite Valley, Mariposa Grove, and other park areas to prepare the areas for burning at a later date. Alternative methods for dealing with the debris, such as chipping, will be used as long as the moratorium lasts.

Visitors may obtain more information on Yosemite's Fire Management Program by visiting the exhibits in the Valley Visitor Center. Location and status of any wildland and prescribed fires will be displayed in the Visitor Center and on a status board inside the Wilderness Center in Yosemite Village.



sugar pine,
Pinus lambertiana
Illustration by Jane Gyer

Fire Safety

Each year campfires, cigarettes, and human carelessness cause unwanted fires in Yosemite. These fires can be prevented by following a few simple rules.

CAMPFIRES

Build small campfires using only established campfire rings. Be aware of conditions such as weather and items nearby that could accidentally catch fire. Never leave a fire unattended. Put out campfires by stirring with water a half hour before you leave the site, and remember to carefully feel charred material to make certain the fire is out. See page 4 for campfire rules.



PORTABLE CAMPING STOVES

Refuel stoves only when they are cold and in a well-ventilated area.



CHARCOAL BRIQUETTES

Because charcoal uses oxygen rapidly, you should never use it in confined spaces, such as tents or vehicles. After use, dunk charcoal briquettes in water until cold. Check them carefully. Never empty hot or warm briquettes in trash dumpsters.



CIGARETTES

Never smoke while walking or in an area with flammable materials. Crush butts completely before throwing them into a garbage can. Never throw cigarettes out of a car window.



Photo by Lesley Gourley

KARELIAN BEAR DOGS

Like many of the techniques that are now being used to re-educate bears, the park's Karelian Bear Dog, "Logan", has been a well-utilized addition to the Bear Management Team. Logan's ancestors were Finnish and were known for their tenacity and fearlessness around bears, as well as their gregarious nature with humans. True to his breed, he is fearless of bears, possesses an incredibly loud bark, and will tirelessly pursue them.

YOSEMITE'S WORLD CHAMPION TREES

In addition to the Merced, Tuolumne, and Mariposa Groves of Giant Sequoias, Yosemite National Park has some other prodigious trees. Check them out in your travels through the park:

The American Forestry Association (AFA) World Champion California red fir leans over the north shoulder of the Tioga Road 1.2 miles east of the White Wolf Junction. It is 9.68 feet in diameter, 172 feet tall, and has a 41-foot crown spread. Its age is estimated to be between 300 and 600 years. A grant from the Yosemite Fund will allow the National Park Service to install a small interpretive sign, reduce hazardous forest fire fuel accumulations in the vicinity, and build a low barrier around the base of the tree to avoid soil damage and erosion.

If you travel to Yosemite's wilderness, the AFA World Champion white fir stands near the northeast shore of Merced Lake. It is 7.32 feet in diameter, 217 feet tall, and has a 39-foot crown spread. Its age is estimated to be between 300 and 600 years.

A Yosemite Fund grant allowed the National Park Service to place a small sign at the Merced Lake High Sierra Camp and construct a stone causeway over the exposed roots in the popular trail.

Yosemite is also home to the tallest pine tree ever reported—a sugar pine that towers above Hodgdon Meadow. It is 268 feet tall, 9.23 feet in diameter, and has a 68-foot crown spread. The tree is believed to be between 200 and 300 years old. The same Yosemite Fund grant will allow the National Park Service to document and reduce hazardous forest fire fuel accumulations that threaten to incinerate the tree and its neighbors.

SAFE DRINKING WATER

Giardiasis is an intestinal disease caused by *Giardia lamblia*, a protozoan. Associated symptoms include chronic diarrhea, abdominal cramps, bloating, fatigue, and loss of weight. Treatment by a physician is necessary to kill the organism.

Giardia lamblia is carried by humans as well as some domestic and wild animals, and may contaminate lakes and streams. Whenever possible, only tap water should be used for drinking. If using surface water or melted snow, treat by boiling for 5 minutes or by using a Giardia-rated water filter. If used properly, an iodine-based purifier is another alternative.

The National Park Service is working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Health Services to develop a program to ensure that the drinking water in Yosemite is protected. The program, one of the first in California, will be based on an assessment of potential threats to water sources.



TICK-BORNE DISEASES

Be aware that ticks exist in the park, and consult your doctor if you believe you've been bitten. If you are diagnosed with Lyme disease or relapsing fever, and you believe you got it in Yosemite, have your doctor contact the Park Sanitarian at 209/379-1033.

What is the best way to visit Yosemite?

There is no "best way" to visit the park. Your experience in Yosemite depends on the time you have available and your interests. Many fine maps and books are sold in visitor centers and park stores to help plan your visit. Publications such as *Yosemite's Official Park Handbook*, published by the National Park Service, or *The Yosemite Visitor's Kit* are available at visitor centers, gift shops, or by mail from the Yosemite Association Bookstore, P.O. Box 230, El Portal, CA 95318, 209/379-2648, fax 209/379-2486, www.yosemitestore.com.

Remember that road and trail conditions and available services may change with the weather. **For current conditions and general information, call 209/372-0200.**

ENTRANCE FEES

THE PARK IS OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY, YEAR-ROUND.
(fees subject to change)

TYPE	PRICE	NOTES
Vehicle	\$20	Valid for 7 days.
Individual	\$10	In a bus, on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or horse. Valid for 7 days.
Yosemite Pass	\$40	Valid for 1 year in Yosemite.
National Parks Pass NEW	\$50	Valid for 1 year in all national park areas.
Golden Eagle Pass	\$65	Valid for 1 year in all federal fee areas.
Golden Age Pass (Lifetime)	\$10	For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.
Golden Access Pass (Lifetime)	Free	For blind or permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Eighty percent of your \$20 entrance fee remains in Yosemite. Thanks to the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, approved by Congress in 1995, entrance fees have been temporarily raised to help fund projects that improve the park and your visit. Projects currently underway include:

- Repairing the deteriorated sewer line that services all of Yosemite Valley
- Refurbishing the multi-purpose auditorium in Yosemite Valley

The park is awaiting approval on many other maintenance, visitor services, and natural and cultural restoration projects including:

- Replacing picnic tables, fire rings, and signs in campgrounds parkwide
- Refurbishing roads, trails, and utilities throughout the park
- Improving the shuttle bus service in Yosemite Valley

Yosemite anticipates earning \$51 million by 2001 and completing approved projects by 2004.



TRANSPORTATION

To and From Yosemite
VIA The Yosemite Connection / Gray Line 209/384-1315 or in CA 800/369-PARK www.via-adventures.com

FRESNO —
Service between Fresno/Yosemite International Airport and Fresno hotels to Yosemite Valley, seasonally. Wheelchair-lift equipped with advance notice. Schedule, prices, and reservations available by calling VIA or by visiting their web site.

MERCED —
Service from Merced Amtrak Station and Transpo Center to Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Yosemite Lodge. Deluxe coaches provide several round-trips daily between Merced and Yosemite. Wheelchair-lift equipped with advance notice. Schedules available at Yosemite Lodge tour desk, Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, or by calling VIA or visiting their web site. Tickets can be purchased from drivers.

The Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) gives park visitors a break from driving by providing transit service into Yosemite. This new voluntary operation provides scheduled round-trip transit service to Yosemite from outlying communities, including Merced, Mariposa, and Mammoth Lakes. Summer service operates through September 17 and will resume in the summer of 2001. For schedule and service information, visit the YARTS web site at www.yosemite.com/yarts or call toll free 877/98-YARTS (877/989-2787).

Within Yosemite
Free shuttle bus service is provided throughout the eastern portion of Yosemite Valley year-round. In summer, free shuttle buses run from **Wawona** to the **Mariposa Grove**, and from **Tioga Pass** to **Tenaya Lake**. Hikers' buses run daily to **Glacier Point** late spring through autumn and between **Tuolumne Meadows** and **Yosemite Valley** late June through Labor Day. Call 209/372-1240 for hikers' bus fee, schedule, and reservations, or stop by any tour desk.

LODGING

Reservations for all overnight lodging in Yosemite can be made by calling 559/252-4848, by writing to Central Reservations, Yosemite Concession Services, 5410 East Home, Fresno, CA 93727, or go to www.yosemitenationalpark.com on the internet. Lodging in Yosemite Valley includes **Curry Village**, **Housekeeping Camp**, **Yosemite Lodge**, and **The Ahwahnee**. Lodging outside Yosemite Valley includes the **Wawona Hotel**, and in summer, **White Wolf Lodge** and **Tuolumne Meadows Lodge**. Rates range from \$45 per night for a basic tent cabin with nearby bathroom, to \$265.50 per night for a room at The Ahwahnee (rates are subject to change). Reservations are highly recommended and may be made up to 1 year and 1 day in advance.

1 YOSEMITE VALLEY

Yosemite Valley is world famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. It is generally open year-round and may be reached via Highway 41 from Fresno, Highway 140 from Merced (see "Important Road Information" on page 9), Highway 120 from Manteca, and in late spring through late fall via the Tioga Road (Highway 120) from Lee Vining. Many activities and services are available in Yosemite Valley. Detailed information on Yosemite Valley is available at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center in Yosemite Village. See map on the back panel, and for scheduled Valley activities, see pages 10-11.

2 MARIPOSA GROVE AND WAWONA

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), 2 miles from the park's South Entrance Station. The road to the Mariposa Grove is not plowed in winter and is subject to closure for extended periods. Activities include hiking, ranger-led walks, and tram tours of the Grove (weather permitting) late spring through fall. Trail brochures, printed in English, French, Japanese, and Spanish are available at the Grove trailhead. **To reduce traffic congestion and avoid parking delays, ride the free shuttle bus (spring through fall) from Wawona to the Grove.**

The Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite. Interpretive signs and a brochure provide a self-guiding tour of the Center year-round. See page 11 for activities and additional information about Wawona and the Mariposa Grove.

3 GLACIER POINT

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the High Sierra, is located 30 miles (1 hour) from Yosemite Valley. The view from Glacier Point provides an opportunity to see Yosemite Valley from its rim. From Yosemite Valley, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41) 14 miles to the Chinquapin junction, then turn left onto the Glacier Point Road. The road ends at Glacier Point. The Glacier Point Road is generally open from late spring through late fall. In winter, the road is plowed only as far as the Badger Pass Ski Area; Glacier Point can then be reached via skis or snowshoes only. See page 12 for activities.

LODGING AND ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE THE PARK

West Highway 120
Highway 120 Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 1263
Hotel Charlotte, Suite B
Groveland, CA 95321
800/449-9120 or 209/962-0429

Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
P.O. Box 4020
542 Stockton Road
Sonora, CA 95370
800/446-1333 or 209/533-4420
www.thegreatunfenced.com

Highway 41
Yosemite Sierra Visitor Bureau
40637 Highway 41
Oakhurst, CA 93644
559/683-4636
www.sierranet.net/~ysvb

Highway 132/49
Coulterville Visitor Center
P.O. Box 333
5007 Main Street
Coulterville, CA 95311
209/878-3074
www.mariposa.yosemite.net/visitor

Highway 140/49
Mariposa County Visitor Center
(also info. for Fish Camp, Wawona, Yosemite West)
P.O. Box 425
5158 Highway 140
Mariposa, CA 95338
800/208-2434 or 209/966-2456
www.mariposa.yosemite.net/visitor

East Highway 120
Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce
and Mono Lake Visitor Center
P.O. Box 130
Highway 395 and 3rd Street
Lee Vining, CA 93541
760/647-6629
www.leevining.com

Yosemite Store and Visitor Center
5027 Highway 140
Mariposa, CA 95338
209/966-3888
www.yosemite.org

California Welcome Center, Merced
710 W. 16th Street
Merced, CA 95340
800/446-5353 or 209/384-2791
www.mercedvb@yosemite-gateway.org

YOUR VISIT

Yosemite National Park



4 CRANE FLAT

Crane Flat is a pleasant forest and meadow area located 16 miles from Yosemite Valley at the junction of the Big Oak Flat Road and the Tioga Road. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking area located on the Tioga Road (Highway 120), and walk 1 mile down to the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias. In winter, snowshoes or cross-country skis may be needed. For activities and area information, see page 12.

Or take a 4-mile round-trip hike or ski into the Merced Grove of Giant Sequoias, located 3.5 miles north of Crane Flat or 4.5 miles south of the Big Oak Flat entrance along the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). The trailhead is marked by a post labeled B-10 and a road sign.

5 TIOGA ROAD AND TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

The Tioga Road is generally open from late spring through late fall and offers a 39-mile scenic drive through forests and past meadows, lakes, and granite domes. The road's elevation ranges from 6,200 feet at Crane Flat to 9,900 feet at Tioga Pass. There are many scenic and recreational opportunities in these areas. Check visitor centers and park bulletin boards for updated information on available services and activities. From late fall through late spring, this area is only accessible by cross-country skis or snowshoes. See page 12 for activities.

6 HETCH HETCHY

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water for the city of San Francisco, is also home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many less-used wilderness trails. Towering cliffs and high waterfalls are easily seen from the walkway on top of O'Shaughnessy Dam. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley via Highway 120 and Evergreen and Hetch Hetchy Roads. Vehicles over 25 feet are prohibited on the road due to its narrowness.

TOURS

For a relaxing and informative experience, take a sightseeing tour on a bus or open-air tram (weather permitting). These tours, narrated by knowledgeable guides, operate daily to most points of interest in the park, including Yosemite Valley (year-round), Tuolumne Meadows (summer), Glacier Point, Wawona, and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias (spring through fall). Two-hour moonlight tours show Yosemite in a different light during summer months. In winter, tours are conducted on heated and enclosed motor coaches; stops are made at the best-known scenic locations in Yosemite Valley. There is a fee for all sightseeing tours. For reservations and more information, call 209/372-1240 or stop by any hotel tour desk.

RECREATION

Bicycling More than 12 miles of paved bikeways wind through the eastern end of Yosemite Valley. Weather permitting, rental bikes, baby jogging strollers, and bicycle child trailers are available at Yosemite Lodge (all seasons) and Curry Village (summer). Check with rental agent for restrictions on rental bike use.

Bike Rules

For your safety and to protect Yosemite National Park, please follow these rules:

- California law mandates bicyclists under 18 years of age wear helmets.
- Bikes are allowed only on paved bikeways and park roads (unless the road is closed to bicycle use).
- All bikes are prohibited from pedestrian and hiking trails and off roads.
- Bicyclists must obey all posted traffic signs and travel with the flow of traffic when on roadways used by automobiles.
- Bicycles are not allowed in the construction zone on the El Portal Road.

Horseback Riding Weather and trail conditions permitting, 2-hour and half-day rides depart from stables in Yosemite Valley, Tuolumne Meadows, and Wawona (spring through fall). Call 209/372-8348 for information or see page 15.

Hiking & Backpacking

Yosemite offers over 800 miles of hiking trails parkwide. For updated trail information, visit the Wilderness Center in Yosemite Valley or call 209/372-0200. Wilderness permits are required for overnight backcountry users. For wilderness permit information and reservations, call 209/372-0740. For some ideas on hiking, as well as information about backpacking, see page 5.

Rock Climbing Classes

The Yosemite Mountaineering School and Guide Service offers beginner through advanced classes in Yosemite Valley spring, summer, and fall, and in Tuolumne Meadows in summer only. See page 15 or call 209/372-8344 for information.

Get More Info...

- **Recorded General Park Information including: Road & Weather Conditions, Trip Planning Information, etc.** 209/372-0200
- **Western U.S. National Parks** 415/556-0560
- **On The Web** (see page 6)
 - Yosemite National Park www.nps.gov/yose/
 - Yosemite Concession Services www.yosemitepark.com
 - Camping Reservations reservations.nps.gov
 - Yosemite Area Traveller Info. www.yosemite.com
 - Yosemite Association yosemite.org
 - Yosemite Institute www.ymi.org
 - Yosemite Fund www.yosemitefund.org
 - The Ansel Adams Gallery www.anseladams.com
 - VIA/Gray Line www.via-adventures.com

RESERVATIONS

- **Lodging Reservations** 559/252-4848 TDD 559/255-8345
- **Campground Reservations** (callers from U.S. and Canada) 800/436-7275 TDD 888/530-9796
- **Campground Reservations** (International callers only) 301/722-1257

VISITOR CENTERS

The four visitor centers in Yosemite National Park are excellent resources for park information, wilderness permits, and park-related publications and handouts.

YOSEMITE VALLEY VISITOR CENTER

Open daily 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. through October 9; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. October 10 through November. See page 10 for more information.

BIG OAK FLAT INFORMATION STATION

Open daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed for lunch) through October 9; Thursday through Monday through November 1. See page 12 for more information.

WAWONA INFORMATION STATION AT HILL'S STUDIO

Open daily 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (closed for lunch) through October 9. Closed in winter. See page 11 for more information.

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS VISITOR CENTER

Open daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through October 9. Closed in winter. See page 12 for more information.

VISITOR ACTIVITIES

PROGRAMS AND EXHIBITS

Naturalist-guided walks and programs as well as self-guided walks are available. Cultural history demonstrations of basket-weaving, beadwork, or traditional games are offered at the Indian Cultural Exhibit in Yosemite Valley. Other exhibits are in the Valley Visitor Center, Yosemite Museum, Nature Center at Happy Isles (summer), LeConte Memorial Lodge (summer), Wilderness Center, and The Ansel Adams Gallery. Check park visitor centers and bulletin boards for additional information, and see activities listed on pages 10-12.

IMPORTANT ROAD INFORMATION

Construction and restoration projects will be ongoing in several locations throughout the park. The 6.4 mile section of the El Portal Road (Highway 140) between El Portal and the Big Oak Flat Road intersection was severely damaged by the January 1997 flood. This section of the road is closed to traffic from 10:30 p.m. to 6:30 a.m. every day until October 1, when reconstruction will be complete. All overnight parking and recreational use in the construction area is prohibited until October 1.

For current road information and access schedules, check at any ranger station or visitor center, or call 209/372-0200 (recorded information). For additional information on driving in Yosemite, see "Drive Safely" on page 2.



Yosemite's Deaf Services Program is offered full-time from June through Labor Day. Nanette Oswald, Yosemite's Deaf Services Coordinator, interprets ranger-led activities and provides park information for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. After Labor Day, a sign language interpreter may be available upon request, particularly if arrangements are made in advance. **For more information about the Deaf Services Program, come to the Valley Visitor Center information desk, or call 209/372-4726 (TDD) or 209/372-0296 (voice/TDD). The TDD number for lodging reservations is 559/255-8345; for camping reservations, call 888/530-9796.**

AVERAGE PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURES IN YOSEMITE VALLEY (4,000 FT/1,220 M)*

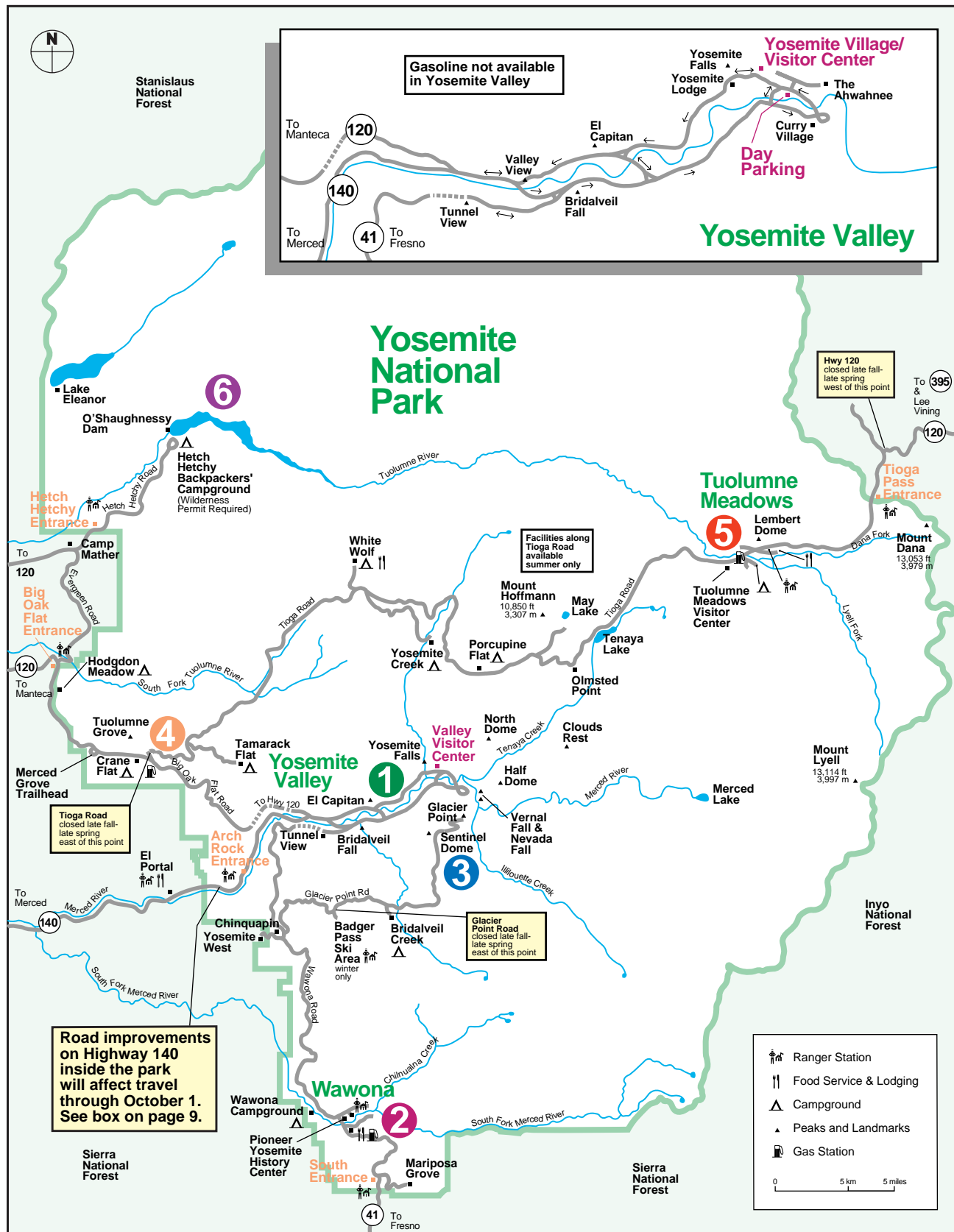
MONTH	PRECIPITATION (inches/cm)	MAXIMUM (F°/C°)	MINIMUM (F°/C°)
January	6.2/15.7	49/9	26/-3
February	6.1/15.5	55/13	28/-2
March	5.2/13.2	59/15	31/0
April	3.0/7.6	65/18	35/2
May	1.3/3.3	73/23	42/5
June	0.7/1.8	82/28	48/9
July	0.4/1.0	90/32	54/12
August	0.3/0.8	90/32	53/11
September	0.9/2.3	87/30	47/8
October	2.1/5.3	74/23	39/4
November	5.5/14	58/14	31/-0
December	5.6/14.2	48/9	26/-3

Annual 37.3/94.7

*For temperatures at 8,000 feet (2,440 m), subtract 10-20 degrees.

PLANNING YOUR VISIT

AREAS TO VISIT IN YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK



ACTIVITIES

YOSEMITE VALLEY

VISITOR CENTER

Open daily 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. through October 9; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. beginning October 10. Located in Yosemite Village just west of the main post office (shuttle bus stops #3 and #7). Information, maps, books, exhibits, and a multilingual *One Day in Yosemite* program. ☺

WILDERNESS CENTER

Open daily 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through November 4. Located in Yosemite Village between The Ansel Adams Gallery and the post office. One-stop resource for backpackers in need of wilderness permits, maps, bear canisters, and guidebooks. Displays and information on pre-trip planning, minimum impact camping techniques, and Yosemite wilderness. After November 4, wilderness permits will be available at the Valley Visitor Center. ☺

YOSEMITE MUSEUM

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Visitor Center. ☺

INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

Open daily 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Displays interpret the cultural history of Yosemite's native Miwok and Paiute people. Demonstrations of basketweaving, beadwork, and/or traditional games are presented.

MUSEUM GALLERY

Check museum door or Visitor Center for current schedule. Historic paintings from the Yosemite Museum Collection.

MUSEUM STORE

Open daily 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Offering traditional Indian arts and crafts, and books on related subjects.

THE INDIAN VILLAGE OF AHWAHNEE

Located behind the Yosemite Museum and always open. Sometimes Indian Cultural Program staff are available for demonstrations or programs about Ahwahneechee skills and culture. Inquire in the Indian Cultural Exhibit for schedule. ☺

THE ANSEL ADAMS GALLERY

Open daily 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. through October 15; 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. beginning October 16. Located in Yosemite Village next to the Visitor Center. The Gallery offers works of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other fine artists. In addition, a wide selection of handicrafts, gifts, books, and photography supplies are offered. For more information, call the Gallery at 209/372-4413 or visit their web site at www.anseladams.com. ☺

GALLERY EXHIBITS

Through October 5: Photography of Michael Frye in conjunction with the release of his new book, *Photographer's Guide to Yosemite*

October 6 to November 19: Photography of Keith Walklet and Annette Bottaro-Walklet

LECONTE MEMORIAL LODGE

Open Wednesday through Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (closes for the season September 28). Located at shuttle stop #11. LeConte Memorial Lodge, Yosemite's first public visitor center, is operated by the Sierra Club and features a children's corner, library, and a variety of environmental education and evening programs. For more information on programs, see activities scheduled below, bulletin boards at LeConte Memorial, campgrounds, Visitor Center, and post office. You may also call 209/372-4542.

NATURE CENTER AT HAPPY ISLES

Open daily 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (closed for lunch). Closes for the season September 30. This family-oriented nature center includes wildlife dioramas, tracking tips, interactive exhibits, and a bookstore. Nearby are short trails focusing on the area's four different environments: forest, river, talus, and fen. You can also see substantial evidence of the huge 1996 rockfall from the Glacier Point cliff far above the Nature Center. The Center is a short walk from shuttle bus stop #15. ☺

SELF-GUIDING TRAILS

There are four self-guiding trails in Yosemite Valley: two near the Visitor Center in the Yosemite Village area, one at the east end of the Valley near Mirror Lake, and one at Curry Village.

The Miwok in Yosemite is a short loop trail that winds through the Indian Village of Ahwahnee, a reconstructed Miwok-Paiute village. A booklet is available at the trailhead and in the Visitor Center. Large-print materials are available in the Visitor Center for the visually impaired. The trail begins behind the Yosemite Museum. ☺

Changing Yosemite is a 1-mile trail that begins in front of the Visitor Center, near shuttle bus stop #3. It winds through a nearby meadow and explores the changes that have led to the Yosemite we experience today. A booklet is available at the trailhead, and large-print materials are available for the visually impaired at the Visitor Center. ☺

Mirror Lake Interpretive Trail is a short loop adjacent to Mirror Lake, a seasonal lake on Tenaya Creek. Exhibits focus on the rich natural history of the area, Native American use, and history of this popular destination. To reach the start of the trail, walk 1 mile from shuttle bus stop #16 to the disabled parking spaces near the lake. The self-guiding trail begins here. ☺

Curry Centennial History Walk is an easy stroll commemorating the early days of Camp Curry. Pick up a map and guide at the Curry Village front desk or tour desk.

YOSEMITE CEMETERY

This historic cemetery is located across the street and just west of the Yosemite Museum. Galen Clark, the Guardian of Yosemite, is buried here along with other pioneer park visitors, Native Americans, and people who played important roles in the development of what is now Yosemite National Park. A *Guide to the Yosemite Cemetery* is available at the Visitor Center.

☺ Indicates programs for visitors in wheelchairs, with assistance.

EVENING PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Evening programs include talks, films, slide presentations, storytelling, and music about Yosemite's human and/or natural heritage. Offered by National Park Service rangers, or staff from Yosemite Concession Services, Sierra Club, Yosemite Institute, and The Ansel Adams Gallery, these programs last one hour and are held outdoors (weather permitting), unless otherwise noted.

Through mid October, YCS will take you on an *Autumn Twilight Stroll*; dress warmly and bring a flashlight. Beginning in late October, YCS invites you to sit by the fire in the Ahwahnee Great Lounge and enjoy an hour of *Fireside Storytelling*.



Come help Yosemite Theater celebrate its seventeenth season! The National Park Service recognizes Yosemite Theater as the best interpretive program of its type in the National Park System. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, or if seating is still available, at the time of performance. All shows are given at the Visitor Center auditoriums and are wheelchair accessible. See schedule below for days and times. ☺



JUST FOR KIDS

A variety of children's programs are offered through the Sierra Club's LeConte Memorial Lodge. See schedule below (kids' programs in color) for times and meeting locations. Space may be limited. Parents or guardians welcome.

Kids love the challenge of a scavenger hunt! Stop by the Curry Village front desk or tour desk to take part in a children's Curry Centennial Scavenger Hunt. Pick up a handout and upon completion, return it for a commemorative button.

Through mid October, bring the entire family to an *Old Fashioned Campfire and Sing-along*, brought to you by YCS. This program is offered for a fee; see schedule below.



JOHN MUIR IN YOSEMITE

Actor Lee Stetson's portrayal of John Muir has enthralled Yosemite visitors for the past 17 years. See him in three different performances. *Conversation With a Tramp* is a vibrant depiction of Muir with action surrounding his spirited defense of Hetch Hetchy Valley. *The Spirit of John Muir* details Muir's wild side, and *John Muir Among the Animals* is an exciting collection of animal stories including Stickeen, "the short-legged, bunch-bodied toy dog." Each show is 1½ hours. Tickets are \$7/adults, \$6/seniors (62+), and \$3/children (12 and under).

NO BARRIERS

Mark Wellman, a former Yosemite Park Ranger and the first paraplegic to climb Half Dome and El Capitan, will introduce a film he co-produced on extreme sports. After the film, he will be available to answer questions and autograph his book, *Climbing Back*. The show lasts 1 hour. Tickets are \$6/adults, \$5/seniors (62+), and \$3/children (12 and under).



MUSIC FOR ALL AGES

Come laugh, sing, dance, and listen to Gail Dreifus and Denise Ludington's Recycled String Band as their upbeat, educational programs celebrate Yosemite and the environment. *Wild Ecology Tunes* will take you on a musical adventure from Yosemite to the rain forest, while *Yosemite By Song and Story* weaves together many of Yosemite's highlights, from waterfalls to black bears. On Wednesday nights the band will be playing at the Happy Isles campfire circle...s'mores are included! Each show is one hour. Tickets are \$6/adult, \$5/senior (62+), and \$3/children (12 and under).



YCS = Yosemite Concession Services
NPS = National Park Service

AAG = Ansel Adams Gallery
YI = Yosemite Institute
\$ = Program offered for a fee

Yosemite Theater programs are in shaded boxes below and are offered for a fee. See prices above.

Programs listed below in color are especially for children and families.

MONDAY

8:30 a.m.
Camera Walk, 2 hours, sign up/meet at The Ahwahnee tour desk (YCS)

10:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk—Yosemite's Legacy (except October 16), 1 to 1½ hours
Front of Visitor Center ☺

3:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Plants Big & Small (except October 16; through October 30)
1 to 1½ hours, shuttle bus stop "A"

5:30 p.m.
Historic Ahwahnee Tour (begins October 16; except November 6), 1 hour
Sign up/meet at The Ahwahnee concierge desk (YCS)

7:30 p.m.
Evening Program, 1 hour, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater/Cliff Room (YCS) ☺
Evening Program (ends October 9), 1 hour
Curry Village Amphitheater (YCS/YI) ☺

TUESDAY

8:30 a.m.
Camera Walk, 2 hours, sign up/meet at Yosemite Lodge tour desk (YCS)

10:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk—When the Cavalry Rode in Yosemite, 1 to 1½ hours
Front of Visitor Center ☺

3:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Bear Facts (ends October 31), 1 to 1½ hours
Curry Village Amphitheater

5:30 p.m.
Autumn Twilight Stroll (through October 10), 1 hour
The Ahwahnee outdoor patio (YCS)

7:00 p.m.
Yosemite Theater—No Barriers (September 19 & 26 only), 1 hour
Visitor Center Auditorium \$ ☺

7:30 p.m.
Evening Program (through October 10), 1 hour
Curry Village Amphitheater (YCS/YI) ☺
Evening Program, 1 hour, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater/Cliff Room (YCS) ☺
Fireside Storytelling (begins October 17; except November 7), 1 hour
The Ahwahnee, Great Lounge fireplace (YCS) ☺

8:00 p.m.
Yosemite Theater—Conversation with a Tramp (September 5 & 12 only)
1½ hours, Visitor Center Auditorium \$ ☺

WEDNESDAY

9:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk—People of the Oak, 1 to 1½ hours, behind Visitor Center ☺

10:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk—Granite and Ice, 1 to 1½ hours, shuttle bus stop #4

1:00 p.m.
History Walk (September 20 only), 1½ hours
Shuttle bus stop #11 (Sierra Club)

3:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Changes in the Landscape (through October 25)
1 to 1½ hours, shuttle bus stop #10

5:30 p.m.
Autumn Twilight Stroll (through October 18), 1 hour
The Ahwahnee outdoor patio (YCS)

7:00 p.m.
Animals and Their Senses (September 27 only), 1 hour
LeConte Memorial Lodge, shuttle bus stop #11 (Sierra Club)

Yosemite Theatre—Old-fashioned Campfire & Sing-along with the Recycled String Band (through October 18), 1½ hours
Sign up/information at any lodge tour, takes place near Curry Village \$

7:30 p.m.
Fireside Storytelling (begins October 25), 1 hour
The Ahwahnee, Great Lounge fireplace (YCS) ☺
Evening Program, 1 hour
Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater/Cliff Room (YCS) ☺
Evening Program (ends October 11), 1 hour
Curry Village Amphitheater (YCS/YI) ☺

8:00 p.m.
Yosemite Theater—The Spirit of John Muir (September 6 & 13 only)
1½ hours, Visitor Center Auditorium \$ ☺

ACTIVITIES

YOSEMITE VALLEY

THURSDAY

10:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk—Edges and Open Places, 1 to 1½ hours, shuttle bus stop #5

All About Bears (September 28 only), 2 hours
Shuttle bus stop #11 (Sierra Club)

1:00 p.m.
History Walk (September 21 only), 1½ hours
Shuttle bus stop #11 (Sierra Club)

1:30 p.m.
Dynamic Moments in Nature (September 28 only), 2 hours
Shuttle bus stop #15 (Sierra Club)

2:00 p.m.
How Do You Catch A Fish In Yosemite? (ends October 12; except November 9)
2 hours, meet at the Village Sport Shop, near shuttle bus stop #2 (YCS)

3:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Ranger's Choice (ends October 26), 1 to 1½ hours
Shuttle bus stops #12 and #20

5:30 p.m.
Historic Ahwahnee Tour (begins October 19), 1 hour
Sign up at The Ahwahnee front desk

7:00 p.m.
Yosemite Theater—No Barriers (September 21 & 28 only), 1 hour
Visitor Center Auditorium \$ &

7:30 p.m.
Evening Program, 1 hour, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater/Cliff Room (YCS) &
Evening Program (ends October 12), 1 hour
Curry Village Amphitheater (YCS) &

8:00 p.m.
Yosemite Theater—Muir Among the Animals (September 7 & 14 only)
1½ hours, Visitor Center Auditorium \$ &

Starry Skies Over Yosemite Valley (ends October 12), 1 hour
Sign up/information at any lodge tour desk \$ (YCS)

Evening Program (September 14 only), 1 hour, LeConte Memorial Lodge
Shuttle bus stop #11 (Sierra Club)

FRIDAY

9:00 a.m.
Photo Walk & Class (color landscapes), 2 hours
Sign up/meet on Gallery porch, limited to 15, weather permitting (AAG)

Ranger Walk—Yosemite's First People, 1 to 1½ hours
Behind Visitor Center &

10:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk—Feathers, Fur, and Under the Log, 1 to 1½ hours
Front of Visitor Center &

3:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Bear Facts (ends October 20), 1 to 1½ hours
Shuttle bus stop #17

7:00 p.m.
Yosemite Theater—No Barriers (September 22 & 29 only), 1 hour
Visitor Center Auditorium \$ &

Old-fashioned Campfire & Sing-along (through October 20), 1½ hours
Sign up/information at any lodge tour, takes place near Curry Village \$ (YCS)

7:30 p.m.
Evening Program (ends October 13), 1 hour
Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) &

Evening Program, 1 hour
Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater/Cliff Room (YCS/NPS) &

8:00 p.m.
Yosemite Theater—Conversation with a Tramp (September 8 & 15 only)
1½ hours, Visitor Center Auditorium \$ &

Evening Program (ends September 22), 1 hour, LeConte Memorial Lodge,
Shuttle bus stop #11 (Sierra Club)

SATURDAY

9:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk—Ahwahneechee Stories and Games, 1 to 1½ hours
Behind Visitor Center &

Photo Walk & Class (color & digital), 2 hours
Sign up/meet on Gallery porch, limited to 15, weather permitting (AAG)

10:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk—Nature's Power, 1 to 1½ hours, shuttle bus stop #15
(meets at stop #13 beginning October 28)

10:30 a.m.
The Ansel Adams Gallery Fine Print Viewing, 1 hour
Space limited/sign up at Gallery &

3:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Bear Facts (ends October 28), 1 to 1½ hours
Curry Village Amphitheater &

7:00 p.m.
Yosemite Theater—No Barriers (September 23 & 30 only), 1 hour
Visitor Center Auditorium \$ &

7:30 p.m.
Evening Program (ends October 14), 1 hour
Curry Village Amphitheater (YCS) &

Evening Program, 1 hour, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater/Cliff Room (YCS) &

8:00 p.m.
Yosemite Theater—The Spirit of John Muir (September 9 & 16 only)
1½ hours, Visitor Center Auditorium \$ &

Evening Program (ends September 23), 1 hour, LeConte Memorial Lodge
Shuttle bus stop #11 (Sierra Club)

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk—Yosemite's First People, 1½ to 2 hours
Behind Visitor Center &

10:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk—Small Wonders, 1½ to 2 hours
Shuttle bus stop #10

3:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Bear Facts (ends October 22), 1 to 1½ hours
Shuttle bus stop #17

7:30 p.m.
Evening Program (ends October 8), 1 hour
Curry Village Amphitheater (YCS/YI) &

Film—Ansel Adams: Photographer, 1 hour
Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater/Cliff Room (AAG) &

8:00 p.m.
Evening Program (ends September 24), 1 hour
LeConte Memorial Lodge Shuttle bus stop #11 (Sierra Club)

WAWONA

WAWONA INFORMATION STATION AT HILL'S STUDIO

(formerly the Wawona Information Station)

Open daily 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (closed for lunch) through October 9. Bear canister rental, books, maps, art exhibits, and demonstrations. Located on the grounds of the Wawona Hotel, Hill's Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th century landscape painter Thomas Hill. Walk from the hotel or park at the Wawona Store/Pioneer Yosemite History Center parking area and follow the path up the hill. &

PIONEER YOSEMITE HISTORY CENTER

Walk across the covered bridge and visit historic buildings out of Yosemite's past. A visit to the Pioneer Yosemite History Center will explain how Yosemite was the inspiration for national parks across America and throughout the world. The Center is always open, and explanatory signs and brochures are available. &

PIONEER YOSEMITE HISTORY CENTER BOOKSTORE

Open daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed for lunch) through October 1. Offers books, maps, and information.

EVENING PROGRAMS

Share in a park tradition by joining a ranger around the campfire on Friday and Saturday nights (through October 6 and 7) for an hour of stories, legends, and fun. Meet at the amphitheater in the "B" loop of the Wawona Campground at 7:30 p.m. &

Discover Wawona's human and natural heritage in a 1-hour presentation offered by Yosemite Concession Services (YCS) interpreters at the Wawona Hotel.

Tom Bopp, pianist/singer at the Wawona Hotel since 1983, performs Tuesday through Saturday nights from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the hotel lounge, often including songs and stories from Yosemite's past. Tom also features presentations with slides, historic Yosemite music, or Wawona history on some Thursday and Saturday nights. (Schedule subject to change.) &



THURSDAY

8:30 p.m.
Evening Program, 1 hour, Wawona Hotel Sunroom (above Golf Shop) (YCS) &

FRIDAY

7:30 p.m.
Campfire (ends October 6), 1 hour, Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) &

SATURDAY

10:00 a.m.
Colorful Wawona Nature Walk (September 16 through October 7 only)
2 hours, Hill's Studio and Information Station (NPS)

7:30 p.m.
Campfire (ends October 7), 1 hour, Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) &

8:30 p.m.
Tom Bopp: Vintage Songs of Yosemite or History of Wawona
1 hour, Wawona Hotel Lounge (YCS) &

MARIPOSA GROVE

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias, located at the southernmost end of Yosemite, is the largest stand of giant sequoias in the park (nearly 500 trees).

TO GET TO THE GROVE

Allow 1¼ hours driving time to the Mariposa Grove from Yosemite Valley. Cars are prohibited beyond the parking area in the Grove, but several giant sequoias can be seen from there. Information about access for the disabled is available at the tram boarding area. Trailers are prohibited on the Mariposa Grove Road; motor homes are prohibited when the Mariposa Grove/Wawona shuttle bus is operating.

Please use the free shuttle service between Wawona and the Mariposa Grove (see below).

FREE MARIPOSA GROVE/ WAWONA SHUTTLE BUS

Due to narrow roads and very limited parking, visitors are strongly encouraged to use this free bus service to help alleviate congestion and lengthy parking delays. Shuttles operated daily through October 1 and weekends only through October 22. They stop at the Wawona Store, South Entrance, and Mariposa Grove beginning at 9:00 a.m. The last shuttle leaves Wawona at 4:30 p.m.; last shuttle leaves the Grove at 6:30 p.m. Visitors may park at the Wawona Store to board the shuttle bus.

WALKING

The trailhead for walking up through the Grove is located at the far end of the parking area. Interpretive signs between the trailhead and the California Tree provide a self-guiding tour. Written translations are available at the trailhead (Spanish, German, French, Japanese).

DISTANCE & ELEVATION

DESTINATION	DISTANCE FROM TRAILHEAD	ELEVATION GAIN
Grizzly Giant	0.8 mile/1.3 km	400 feet/122 m
Grove Museum	2.1 miles/3.5 km	800 feet/292 m
Fallen Tunnel Tree	2.5 miles/4.0 km	1,000 feet/305 m
Wawona Point	3.0 miles/4.8 km	1,200 feet/438 m

MARIPOSA GROVE MUSEUM

Open 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed for lunch) through October 9. Offers giant sequoia displays, books, maps, and information about the area.

TRAM SCHEDULE FOR THE MARIPOSA GROVE

Trams run daily in the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias for a 1-hour tour through the Lower and Upper Groves. Trams stop when Mariposa Road closes due to snow. The first tram is at 9:00 a.m. and the last tram is at 5:30 p.m., running every 15 to 20 minutes from the boarding area. \$8.50/adult, \$7.75/seniors (62 or older), \$4.50/children (5-12), \$25 maximum for a family (parents and their children under 16). Children under 5 ride free.

WALKS & TALKS

Every day at 10:00 a.m. (through October 9), join a ranger for an easy 90-minute walk through the lower portion of the Mariposa Grove to explore the forest and learn the secrets of the tree's survival. Meet at the Lower Grove trailhead.

At 2:00 p.m. on Fridays (through October 13), join a Yosemite Concession Services photographer for a 1½ to 2 hour photo walk through the Mariposa Grove. Meet at the gift shop.

There are times when the parking lot at the Mariposa Grove is full and closed to private vehicles. Allow plenty of time to take the free Mariposa Grove/Wawona Shuttle Bus. No programs will be given if the Mariposa Grove Road is closed due to snow.

ACTIVITIES

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS VISITOR CENTER

Open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily through October 9. Park orientation, trail information, books, maps, and displays. Phone 209/372-0263 ♿

EVENING ACTIVITIES

Come to a campfire program and take part in a tradition! Most evenings through September 25, join a ranger around a campfire at the Tuolumne Meadows Campground for singing, storytelling, and answers to some of your questions about Yosemite. Program topics vary and are posted at the campground, Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center.

Explore the stars with a ranger on Saturday evenings. Experience the magic and magnitude of the clear mountain sky. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. Programs will be canceled if the sky is overcast.

Programs are offered only through September 25.

MONDAY

2:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Animals, 2 hours, Lembert Dome parking area

7:00 p.m.
Campfire, 1 hour, Dana Circle, Tuolumne Meadows Campground ♿

TUESDAY

2:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk Along the River, 3-4 hours
Bring lunch, water, and raingear
Dog Lake parking area along Tuolumne Lodge Road

7:00 p.m.
Campfire, 1 hour, Dana Circle, Tuolumne Meadows Campground ♿

WEDNESDAY

10:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk—Geology, 2 hours, Pothole Dome road marker T-29

RANGER WALKS & TALKS

Through September 25, join a ranger to learn about a variety of subjects, such as geology, American Indian Culture, and park history. These walks are fairly easy, unless otherwise noted. Special programs, in addition to those listed below, may be offered when staffing allows; check for fliers at the campground, Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center.

PARSONS MEMORIAL LODGE AND SODA SPRINGS

Discover the natural and human history of Tuolumne Meadows and hike to the place where John Muir and Robert Underwood Johnson conceived the idea of establishing Yosemite National Park. This area is an easy 1-mile walk from Lembert Dome parking area or from the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center.

Come see the new exhibit—Place, People, Possibility—at Parsons Memorial Lodge. Staffed by park volunteers, the Lodge is usually open 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (through September 25).

2:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Hawks and Other Migrants, 2 hours
Pothole Dome road marker T-29

7:00 p.m.
Campfire, 1 hour, Dana Circle, Tuolumne Meadows Campground ♿

THURSDAY

2:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Indians, 2 hours, Lembert Dome parking area

7:00 p.m.
Campfire, 1 hour, Dana Circle, Tuolumne Meadows Campground ♿

FRIDAY

11:00 a.m.
Lunch Walk to Tuolumne Cascades, 3-4 hours
Bring lunch, water, and raingear, Pothole Dome road marker T-29

2:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—History, 2 hours, Lembert Dome parking area

7:00 p.m.
Campfire, 1 hour, Dana Circle, Tuolumne Meadows Campground ♿

♿ Indicates programs suitable for visitors in wheelchairs, with assistance



Illustration by Margaret Pettis

SATURDAY

2:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Bears, 2 hours, Tuolumne Campground entrance

7:00 p.m.
Campfire, 1 hour, Dana Circle, Tuolumne Meadows Campground ♿

8:30 p.m.
Star Program, 1 hour, Tuolumne Campground entrance
Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly!
Program will be canceled if the sky is 50% or more cloud-covered

SUNDAY

2:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk—Indians, 2 hours, Lembert Dome parking area

7:00 p.m.
Campfire, 1 hour, Dana Circle, Tuolumne Meadows Campground ♿

CRANE FLAT/BIG OAK FLAT

BIG OAK FLAT INFORMATION STATION

Open daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed for lunch) through October 9; Thursday to Monday through November 1. Station is located just inside the park at the Big Oak Flat (Highway 120 West) Entrance Station, and offers park orientation material, trail information, wilderness permits, books, and maps. Phone 209/379-1899 ♿

YOSEMITE'S OTHER SEQUOIA GROVES

TUOLUMNE GROVE

The Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias is near Crane Flat at the intersection of Highway 120 West and the Tioga Road. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from Crane Flat into the Tuolumne Grove, a cluster of about 25 sequoias. Now closed to cars, this 2-mile (3.2 km) round-trip hike has an elevation change of 500 feet (150 meters). The downhill walk is relatively easy, though it is moderately strenuous on the uphill return. Once in the Tuolumne Grove, there is an easy half-mile, self-guiding nature trail.

SATURDAY

1:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk (ends October 7), 2½ hours, Tuolumne Grove parking area

7:00 p.m.
Campfire (ends October 7), 1 hour, Crane Flat Campfire Circle ♿

MERCED GROVE

Yosemite's quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, accessible only on foot. It's a 2-mile hike into the grove from the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). Located 3.5 miles north of Crane Flat or 4.5 miles south of the Big Oak Flat entrance, the trailhead is marked by a post labeled B-10 and a road sign. Allow about 3 hours for the 4-mile round-trip hike to this small group of sequoias (about 20 trees).

SUNDAY

1:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk (ends October 8), 2½ hours, Tuolumne Grove parking area



FRIDAY

1:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk (ends October 6), 2½ hours, Tuolumne Grove parking area

7:00 p.m.
Campfire (ends October 6), 1 hour, Crane Flat Campfire Circle ♿

GLACIER POINT

RANGER WALKS

Join a ranger for a walk to discover Yosemite's unique, tucked-away places. Experience spectacular views from Taft Point and Sentinel Dome, or hike to a seldom-seen waterfall.

EVENING PROGRAMS

Meet a ranger to enjoy the lengthening shadows in Yosemite Valley and the alpenglow on the Sierra high country, or come for the sunset and stay for the moonrise. On some evenings, a stars program will be co-hosted by rangers and volunteers from astronomical societies. Bring warm clothing.



MONDAY

2:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk to Taft Point (except September 11; ends October 9), 2 hours
Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road

6:15 p.m.
Sunset Talk (September 25 to October 9), Glacier Point railing ♿

6:45 p.m.
Sunset Talk (September 18 only), Glacier Point railing ♿

TUESDAY

10:00 a.m.
Ranger Walk to Illilouette Fall (except September 12; ends October 10)
4 hours, Glacier Point Gift Shop

6:15 p.m.
Sunset Talk (September 26 to October 10), Glacier Point railing ♿

6:45 p.m.
Sunset Talk (September 19 only), Glacier Point railing ♿

SATURDAY

6:15 p.m.
Sunset Talk (September 23 to October 7; except September 9)
Glacier Point railing ♿

8:00 p.m.
Stars Over Yosemite (except September 9 & 16; ends October 7), 1 hour
Glacier Point Railing ♿

SUNDAY

2:00 p.m.
Ranger Walk to Sentinel Dome (except September 10; ends October 8)
2 hours, Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road

6:15 p.m.
Sunset Talk (September 24 to October 8), Glacier Point railing ♿

6:45 p.m.
Sunset Talk (September 17 only), Glacier Point railing ♿

HELP YOUR PARK



YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

JOIN THE YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

The Yosemite Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to the support of Yosemite National Park through a program of visitor services, publications, and membership activities. For over 70 years, the association has provided important financial support to the National Park Service, and has made possible the funding of many projects and purchases otherwise not affordable through normal government appropriations.

The Yosemite Association:

- Provides over \$300,000 annually to the National Park Service for its use in visitor information, educational, and interpretive programs.
- Publishes popular and award-winning books on Yosemite and operates bookstores in the park.
- Provides member-volunteers to work on meadows, trails, and other much-needed park restoration projects.
- Organizes over 60 outdoor classes and field seminars on natural history, Native American lifeways, art, and photography.
- Sponsors the Ostrander Ski Hut, Yosemite Theater, Art Activity Center, and other valuable programs.

Anyone who loves Yosemite and wishes to become more closely involved and affiliated with the park is encouraged to become a member of the Yosemite Association. Sign up for a membership through this *Yosemite Guide* and receive as a free gift *The Complete Guidebook to Yosemite National Park*. This book is informative and useful, lively and humorous, and earned the "Best National Park Guidebook" award from the National Park Service.

As a member, you will:

- Enjoy a 15% discount at Yosemite Association shops on all books, maps, and publications, as well as qualify for a discount on most field seminars.
- Have an opportunity to volunteer in Yosemite.
- Receive the quarterly journal, *Yosemite*, which features informative articles on both the natural and human history of the park.
- Have a chance to attend special members' events in the park.
- Have access to a members-only information line.
- Have the satisfaction of knowing that you are supporting significant projects in Yosemite National Park.

PLEASE ENROLL ME AS A MEMBER OF THE YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joint/Family \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> International \$40
(for members outside the U.S.) |

Yes, please send *The Complete Guidebook to Yosemite National Park*

Name (please print) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone Number _____

Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ _____ or charge to

Credit card # _____ Expiration Date _____

E-mail address _____



P.O. Box 230, El Portal, CA 95318
209/379-2646
www.yosemite.org



THE YOSEMITE FUND

PROVIDING FOR YOSEMITE'S FUTURE

Behind Yosemite's spectacular natural scenery lies another, far less obvious attraction—the park's excellent collection of museums and educational centers. Preserving the wealth of natural and human history found at these sites and making it more accessible for visitors is an important goal of The Yosemite Fund, which has provided over \$1 million to Yosemite Visitor Information center.

This fall, the Fund is completing a major restoration project at the Nature Center at Happy Isles, which was severely damaged by a 1996 rockfall and 1997 flood. The Center, popular with families, is now wheelchair accessible and features new wayside exhibits, a native species garden, a rockfall viewing area, and many hands-on exhibits about Yosemite's unique natural environment. The Fund has also sponsored improvements at many other hidden educational gems, including the Mariposa Grove Museum; the Yosemite Museum, Indian Village, and Wilderness Center in Yosemite Valley; and Parsons Lodge in Tuolumne Meadows.

Cultural and historical preservation is just one of many areas supported by The Yosemite Fund, a non-profit organization that raises money from Yosemite enthusiasts to protect and restore the park and enhance the visitor's experience. Now in its 12th year, the Fund has provided nearly \$12 million for more than 150 projects. Thanks to gifts from dedicated "Friends of Yosemite," the Fund has helped:

- Install 2,000 bear-proof food lockers throughout Yosemite
- Rehabilitate Cook's Meadow in the heart of Yosemite Valley
- Rebuild numerous sections of Yosemite's 800+ miles of trails

This year, the Fund is sponsoring many more projects including continued scientific research

on Yosemite's wildlife, educating school children about Yosemite and natural resource protection, and the production of a new visitor orientation film.

You can help by becoming a Friend of Yosemite through a donation to the Fund. All donors of \$25 or more receive:

- The 15-page full-color Yosemite Postcard Book, or other gift described below
- The Fund's semi-annual newsletter, *Approach*, featuring updates on the park and information about how your donation is helping Yosemite
- Acknowledgement at the Friends of Yosemite Honor Wall at the Valley Visitor Center

Please fill out the coupon below and become a Friend of Yosemite today.

YES, I WANT TO JOIN THE FRIENDS OF YOSEMITE WHO PROVIDE FOR YOSEMITE'S FUTURE!

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$____(Other) |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is my check or money order, or charge to my VISA/MasterCard/AmEx

Card # _____ Exp. date _____

Friends of Yosemite receive the full-color *Yosemite Postcard Book* (\$25), beautiful Yosemite note cards (\$50) or the photo book, *Cycle of the Seasons* (\$100).

John Muir Heritage Society members, giving \$1,000 or more, receive invitations to events at Yosemite, a park entrance pass and other Society benefits.



THE YOSEMITE FUND
Providing for Yosemite's Future

THE YOSEMITE FUND
P.O. Box 637
Yosemite, CA 95389
415/434-1782
www.yosemitefund.org

FACILITIES & SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 5 – NOVEMBER 13, 2000
ALL SERVICES AND HOURS OF OPERATION ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

EMERGENCY 911

**Fire – Police – Medical
Emergency: Dial 911,
24 hours a day
(from hotel room 9-911)**

MEDICAL

Yosemite Medical Clinic

Emergency care: 24 hours daily

Drop-in and Urgent Care:
Daily 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Scheduled appointments:
Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Located on Ahwahnee Drive in Yosemite Valley, the clinic provides routine and emergency medical care for park employees, residents, and visitors. Experienced nursing staff, emergency physicians, nurse practitioner, and support staff on duty. Services include a limited pharmacy, lab, x-ray, and physical therapy. 209/372-4637

Paramedic/Ambulance Service:
24 hours daily

Dental Services

Adjacent to Medical Clinic. For hours, call 209/372-4200. If no answer, call 209/372-4637.

ACCOMMODATIONS

For advanced reservations or information (rooms or activities), call 559/252-4848

(www.yosemitepark.com)

For availability on day of arrival, check at any front desk.

RESTAURANTS

These hours of operation are approximate. For current dining hours, call 209/372-1000, extension 8.

Food Service Price Key:

\$ = entrees under \$7
\$\$ = \$7-\$14 entrees
\$\$\$ = \$15-\$20 entrees
\$\$\$\$ = more than \$20 entrees

Yosemite Village

Breakfast – 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Lunch/Dinner – 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
(through September 30)
11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (beginning October 1)

Meals served daily in one or more of the following locations:

DEGNAN'S

DEGNAN'S DELICATESSEN
Sandwiches, snacks, soup and salad \$

DEGNAN'S FAST FOOD & ICE CREAM \$

THE VILLAGE GRILL

(closes last week of October)
Burgers, sandwiches, fries, chicken strips, soft-serve ice cream, and beverages \$

PASTA PLUS

(open Friday and Saturday until October 1)
Fresh pasta, salads, and dessert \$\$

Yosemite Lodge

Breakfast – 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Lunch – 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Light snacks – 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Dinner – 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Meals served daily in one or more of the following locations:

CAFETERIA

(closed for dinner Sunday through Thursday)
Complete breakfasts, hot entrees, sandwiches, and desserts \$

COFFEE CORNER

Freshly ground coffees, espressos, lattes, cappuccinos, fruit, baked goods, desserts, soft drinks, and boxed lunches \$

GARDEN TERRACE SALAD BUFFET

(closed for lunch mid-September)
All you can eat, self-serve salad bar featuring soups, pasta, dessert, and at dinner, carved-to-order meats \$-\$

THE MOUNTAIN ROOM

Spectacular views of Yosemite Falls featuring pasta, steak, fresh fish, and other specialties \$-\$\$\$\$

MOUNTAIN ROOM BAR & LOUNGE

Light snack service available \$

5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. weekdays
Noon to 10:00 p.m. weekends

The Ahwahnee

An elegant dining experience in one of America's premier dining rooms

Breakfast – 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. \$-\$
Sunday Brunch – 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. \$\$\$
Lunch – 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. \$\$
Dinner – 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. \$\$\$\$
Dinner reservations suggested,
call 209/372-1489

AHWAHNEE BAR

Classic cocktails, specialty drinks, light snacks

Noon to 10:00 p.m. \$-\$\$\$

Curry Village

Over 100 years of family-oriented dining experiences

Meals served daily in one or more of the following locations:

COFFEE AND ICE CREAM CORNER

Freshly ground coffees, espressos, lattes, cappuccinos, fruit, baked goods, dessert, soft drinks, boxed lunches, and ice cream \$

6:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

PAVILION

(closes November 5)

All you can eat buffet \$-\$

Breakfast – 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Lunch – 12:00 noon to 5:30 p.m.
(until mid October)
Dinner – 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

HAMBURGER STAND

(open weekends only through mid-September)

Burgers, chicken, fish sandwiches, chicken strips, salad, side orders, and soft drinks \$

PIZZA

Enjoy pizza, salad, and beverages under the stars \$-\$

Happy Isles

SNACK STAND

(closes late October)

Rewarding refreshments after a long hike. Soft drinks, ice cream, snacks, bottled water \$

11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuolumne Meadows

GRILL

(closes September 17)

A quick breakfast, lunch, or dinner before or after exploring \$

8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS LODGE

DINING ROOM

(closes after breakfast September 17)

Rustic, family-style dining adjacent to the Tuolumne River

Breakfast – 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. \$-\$
Dinner – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. \$\$-\$\$\$
Meals are served family style and dinner reservations are suggested,
call 209/372-8413

White Wolf Lodge

(closes after breakfast September 10)

A cozy dining room with outdoor seating

Breakfast – 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. \$-\$
Dinner – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. \$\$-\$\$\$
Dinner reservations advised,
call 209/372-8416

Wawona Hotel

Old world charm with a relaxing atmosphere

Breakfast – 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. \$-\$
Lunch – 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. \$-\$
Dinner – 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. \$\$-\$\$\$
Dinner reservations advised for 8 or more, 209/375-1425
Sunday Breakfast Buffet – 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. \$-\$
Sunday Brunch – 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. \$\$\$

Glacier Point

SNACK STAND

(closes late October)

Comfortable facility serves snacks to ease hunger after a hike or drive to the Point. Spectacular sunset views. \$

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

BEVERAGE SERVICES

YOSEMITE LODGE MOUNTAIN ROOM BAR & LOUNGE

5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. weekdays
Noon to 10:00 p.m. weekends

CURRY VILLAGE TERRACE

4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

AHWAHNEE BAR

Noon to 11:00 p.m. through mid-October, then 4:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

WAWONA HOTEL LOBBY LOUNGE

Service to lobby lounge and verandas
5:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

GROCERIES

YOSEMITE LODGE GIFT/GROCERY

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

VILLAGE STORE

Full service grocery store

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. through September
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. October and November

DEGNAN'S DELICATESSEN

8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

HOUSEKEEPING CAMP

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon,
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. through October 15

CURRY VILLAGE STORE

Camping supplies and prepackaged snacks
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

WAWONA STORE

Camping and fishing supplies, including fishing licenses and bear canister rental
9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

CRANE FLAT

Convenience store, bear canister rental
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS STORE

(closes September 26)

8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

EL PORTAL MARKET

9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

GIFTS, BOOKS & APPAREL

Yosemite Village

THE ANSEL ADAMS GALLERY

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. through October 15;
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. after October 16
Books, original photographs, cards, Native American crafts, photography supplies, camera rentals, and more. 209/372-4413
www.anseladams.com

YOSEMITE BOOKSTORE

8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. through October 9;
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from October 10
Located at the Valley Visitor Center. Books, maps, posters, and information.
www.yosemitestore.com

YOSEMITE MUSEUM SHOP

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through October 8;
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from October 9
Books, traditional Indian arts and crafts
209/372-0295

VILLAGE STORE

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Features signature Yosemite apparel, books, glassware, and signature postcards

HABITAT YOSEMITE

(closes October 17)

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Located in Degnan's building. Interpretive gifts and souvenirs inspired by nature

SPORT SHOP

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Camping and fishing supplies, bear canister rental, California fishing licenses

ART ACTIVITY CENTER

(closes October 10)

9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Located south of Village Store. Free art classes daily. Books, art supplies, and fine local art

WILDERNESS CENTER

(closes November 4)

Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Guidebooks, maps, wilderness permits, bear canister rental, and trip-planning displays.
www.nps.gov/yose/wilderness/

Nature Center at Happy Isles

(closes for season September 30)

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (closed for lunch)
Family-oriented bookstore and interpretive exhibits

Yosemite Lodge

GIFT/GROCERY

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Newly remodeled facility offers a wide selection of Yosemite apparel, books, souvenirs, and convenience items

NATURE SHOP

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Unique sculptures, distinctive apparel, music, and videos

The Ahwahnee

GIFT SHOP

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Features signature Ahwahnee apparel, china, jewelry, and Native American crafts

SWEET SHOP

7:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Magazines, newspapers, candies, cookies, and sundry items

Curry Village

MOUNTAIN SHOP

8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. through September 30
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from October 1
Climbing gear outfitter, hiking apparel, bear canister rental

GIFT/GROCERY

8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Snacks, souvenirs, film, and apparel

Tuolumne Meadows

GROCERY STORE

(closes September 24)

8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Apparel, last-minute food supplies for backpacking and high country picnics
209/372-8435

MOUNTAINEERING SCHOOL AND SPORT SHOP

(closes September 24)

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Climbing gear outfitter, maps, bear canister rental, dehydrated food, and backpacking supplies

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS BOOKSTORE

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Located in the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center

Wawona

WAWONA HOTEL GOLF SHOP

(closes late October)

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Signature Wawona apparel, snacks, and golf supplies

WAWONA STORE

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Local crafts and souvenirs

PIONEER YOSEMITE HISTORY CENTER BOOKSTORE

(closes October 10)

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed for lunch)
Books, maps, and information
www.yosemitestore.com

Mariposa Grove

GIFT SHOP

(closes end of October, weather permitting)
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cards, bottled water, snacks, and memorabilia

MUSEUM SHOP

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed for lunch)
www.yosemitestore.com

Glacier Point

GIFT SHOP

(closes late October, weather permitting)
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Apparel, books, souvenirs, and binocular rental

FACILITIES & SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 5 – NOVEMBER 13, 2000
ALL SERVICES AND HOURS OF OPERATION ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

RECREATION

Conditions permitting

YOSEMITE LODGE TOUR DESK

(after-hours ticket sales available at front desk)
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through October 28
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from October 29
209/372-1240

SIGHTSEEING TOURS

Two-hour open-air tram (weather permitting) or bus tours, or all-day and half-day bus tours depart daily from lodging facilities in Yosemite Valley. Inquire at tour/transportation desks.

MOUNTAINEERING SCHOOL

Yosemite Mountaineering School offers lessons and guided climbing at all levels, overnight backpacking, and guided private and group day hikes to spectacular areas of Yosemite and the high country.

CURRY VILLAGE

(closes late November)
(located in the Mountain Shop)
8:30 a.m. to Noon, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Classes meet at 8:30 a.m.
209/372-8344

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

(closes September 24)
(located next to gas station)
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
209/372-8435

BEAR CANISTER RENTAL

Available for \$3 per trip at the Wilderness Center, Yosemite Valley Sports Shop, Curry Village Mountain Shop, Big Oak Flat Information Station, Crane Flat Store, Wawona Store, Wawona Information Station, Tuolumne Meadows Sport Shop, Tuolumne Meadows Store, and Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station. Canisters may be rented or returned at any rental location in the park.

BIKE RENTALS

Daily, weather permitting, with hourly and daily rates. Baby-joggers, wheelchairs, and six-speed bikes with trailers.

YOSEMITE LODGE

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
209/372-1208

CURRY VILLAGE

(through October)
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
209/372-8319

SWIMMING POOLS

(closes end of September)
YOSEMITE LODGE
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

CURRY VILLAGE

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

WAWONA GOLF COURSE & TENNIS

(closes with the first snow)
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

STABLES

Two-hour and four-hour rides depart daily. All-day rides, private rides, and pack trips into Yosemite's spectacular wilderness may also be arranged. Private horse boarding is available. Call for reservations.

YOSEMITE VALLEY

(closes October 29)
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
209/372-8348

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

(closes September 17)
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
209/372-8427

WAWONA

(closes September 17)
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
209/375-6502

SHOWERS & LAUNDROMAT

SHOWERS

CURRY VILLAGE
24 hours

HOUSEKEEPING CAMP

(closes October 15)
7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

LAUNDROMAT

HOUSEKEEPING CAMP

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

GAS STATIONS

CRANE FLAT

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Diesel available.
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

(closes September 24)
8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Propane available.
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

WAWONA

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Diesel & propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Auto Service, Towing, and Repair (AAA)

VILLAGE GARAGE

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Towing 24 hours.
Emergency gasoline & propane available
209/372-8320

POST OFFICES

Main Post Office (Yosemite Village)

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Yosemite Lodge Post Office

Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Wawona Post Office

Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tuolumne Meadows Post Office

(closes September 22)
Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.,
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to Noon

El Portal Post Office

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.,
1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

SERVICES FOR DISABLED

An accessibility brochure is available at park entrance stations and visitor centers.

Wheelchair rental available at Yosemite Medical Clinic, 209/372-4637, and bike stands, 209/372-1208 or 209/372-8319.

LOST AND FOUND

To inquire about items lost or found at one of Yosemite's restaurants, hotels, lounges, shuttle buses, or tour services, call Yosemite Concession Services at 209/372-4357, or write YCS Lost & Found, P.O. Box 578, Yosemite National Park, CA 95389.

For items lost or found in other areas of the park, call the National Park Service at 209/379-1001, or write to NPS Warehouse, 5083 Foresta Road, B-759, El Portal, CA 95318.

RECYCLING

Village Store Recycling Center

Noon to 5:00 p.m. Tues., Thurs., Sat., Sun. through November

Bottles and cans may also be returned to place of purchase or park gas stations.

ATM

Yosemite Village

South of Village Store (Bank of America)
Inside Village Store (Heritage Oaks Bank)

Yosemite Lodge

Inside main registration area

Curry Village

Inside gift shop

Wawona

Inside Wawona Store

El Portal

On Hwy. 140 at Yosemite View Lodge

MISCELLANEOUS

Babysitting

Limited babysitting available for registered guests in YCS accommodations equipped with private bath and telephone. Children must be 3 years of age and out of diapers. Requests must be made prior to arrival. 2 hour minimum. 24 hour cancellation policy. Availability not guaranteed.

Kennel

(weather permitting, open through October 28)

Located at the Yosemite Valley stable. Dogs must be gentle, over 10 pounds, with proof of shots and license required.

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 209/372-8348

Employment Opportunities

Would you like to be part of Yosemite's future? Employment opportunities exist at Yosemite National Park with the National Park Service, Volunteers in Parks, and Yosemite Concession Services Corporation.

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

For vacancy information on the web:

www.usajobs.opm.gov

Employment hotline:

209/372-0200-6-1-1

(for permanent positions)

209/372-0200-6-1-2

(for seasonal positions)

To contact the Yosemite National Park Human Resource Office, call 209/379-1805 or write: Yosemite National Park, Human Resource Office, P.O. Box 700, El Portal, CA 95318

VOLUNTEERS IN PARKS

Individuals and groups interested in community service projects in Yosemite can call the Volunteer Program Manager at 209/379-1850. Free camping is provided and entrance fees are waived during your work project.

YOSEMITE CONCESSION SERVICES

Contact Yosemite Concession Services Corporation at the General Offices in Yosemite Village or call 209/372-1236.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Yosemite Association

Outdoor seminars, some for college credit. P.O. Box 230, El Portal, CA 95318
209/379-2321 yosemite.org

Yosemite Institute

Non-profit environmental education organization. Week-long, field-based sessions for school groups, teachers, and other groups. P.O. Box 487, Yosemite, CA 95389. 209/379-9511 www.yni.org

NPS Education Branch

Ranger-guided programs, resource information, teacher workshops. Wawona Ranger Station, P.O. Box 2027, Wawona, CA 95389 209/375-9505. For entrance waivers for educational groups, call 209/379-1876 www.nps.gov/yose/teach.htm

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Al-Anon

YOSEMITE VALLEY: Wednesday 7:00 p.m., YCS General Office Building (Employee Training Center) Yosemite Village

Alcoholics Anonymous

YOSEMITE VALLEY: Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday 7:30 p.m., YCS General Office Building (Employee Training Center), Yosemite Village

Narcotics Anonymous

YOSEMITE VALLEY: Saturday 7:30 p.m., YCS General Office Building (Employee Training Center), Yosemite Village

Lions Club

Meets first and third Thursdays of each month at Noon, The Ahwahnee. Call 209/372-4475 for information.

Rotary International

Meets Thursdays at Noon for lunch, The Ahwahnee. Visiting Rotarian families and guests welcome. For reservation or information, call 209/372-1016.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Church of Christ

Inquiries, directions, other services, contact Ron Skelton. 209/379-2307

EL PORTAL CHAPEL

Worship Service: Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Yosemite Community Church (Protestant Nondenominational)

Pastor Brian Empie 209/372-4831
Rev. John K. Paris available for weddings and counseling. Call number above.

YOSEMITE VALLEY CHAPEL (year-round)

Worship Service
Sunday 9:15 a.m., Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Children's Church

Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Bible Studies

Call for location and times

Roman Catholic

Rev. Dennis Alvernaz, Resident Pastor
209/372-4729

Mass in Yosemite Valley

Sunday 10:00 a.m., Visitor Center East Auditorium (until Visitor Center West Auditorium remodel is complete)

Special Mass:

Holy Days 5:30 p.m., Yosemite Chapel

Crossway Church*

(Protestant)

Pastor Steve Hughes 209/379-2428
For information on weddings, Bible Studies, and other activities, call number above.

Worship Service

Sunday 7:00 p.m., Yosemite Chapel

* Affiliated with the North American Mission Board

El Portal Community Church*

Pastor Russ Marsh 209/379-2255
Assoc. Pastor Steve Hughes 209/379-2428

Worship Service: Saturday 7:30 p.m., El Portal Chapel (first and third weekends)

Sunday 10:30 a.m., El Portal Chapel (second, fourth, fifth weekends)

For information on Bible studies, children's and youth activities, call number above.

* Associated with the California Southern Baptist Convention

Wawona Christian Fellowship

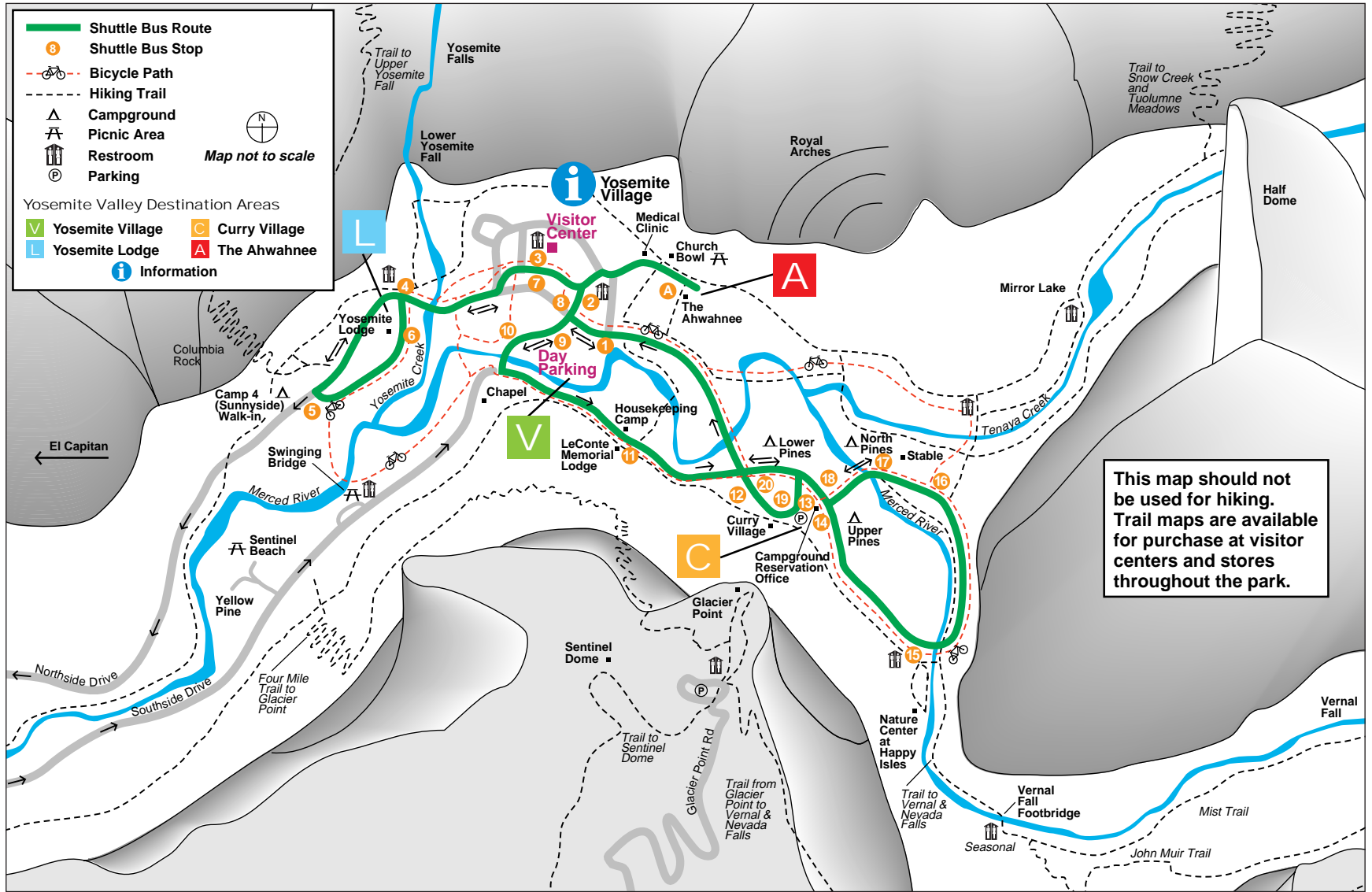
Pastor David Adamcik 209/966-3039

WAWONA COMMUNITY CENTER

Worship Service: Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Women's Bible Study: Wednesday 1:00 p.m.

U.S. Department
of the Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 577
Yosemite, CA 95389



RIDE THE FREE YOSEMITE VALLEY SHUTTLE BUS



Schedules and routes may vary.

Shuttle buses operate daily at 20-minute intervals, except during early morning and late evening hours when intervals may be 30 minutes. All buses follow the same route, serving stops in numerical order.

SCHEDULE:

September 5 – October 1, 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
October 2 – November 13, 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

- A** The Ahwahnee
- 1** Yosemite Village/Day Parking
- 2** Yosemite Village
- 3** Visitor Center
- 4** Yosemite Falls
(Service ends 8:00 p.m. through October 22; Service ends at 5:00 p.m. from October 23 through November 13)
- 5** Yosemite Lodge/Camp 4
- 6** Yosemite Lodge

- 7** Visitor Center
- 8** Yosemite Village
- 9** Yosemite Village/Day Parking
- 10** Sentinel Bridge/
Yosemite Chapel Parking
- 11** Housekeeping Camp/
LeConte Memorial Lodge
- 12** Bike & Raft Rental
- 13** Curry Village

- 14** Upper Pines Campground
- 15** Happy Isles*
- 16** Mirror Lake*
- 17** Stable*
- 18** Pines Campgrounds
- 19** Curry Village
- 20** Bike & Raft Rental

*Service ends at 8:30 p.m.;
Closes for season October 22

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