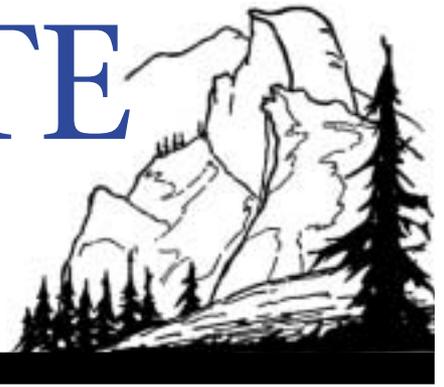


See
Yosemite
Today
for a complete
calendar of
what's happening
in the park.

YOSEMITE GUIDE

Your Key to Visiting the Park



WINTER/SPRING 2001-2002

25¢

VOLUME XXXI, NO. 1



Seasons of Magic



NPS Photo by C. W. Brown

Cottonwood trees and Upper Yosemite Fall from Cook's Meadow.



Look Inside!

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Every year, visitors and friends ask the same question: When is the best time to visit Yosemite? For me, that's easy—winter or spring. Just when the crowds of summer and fall become a memory, just when the Merced River slows to a crawl, just when I think I've forgotten what rain sounds like, winter happens. Then spring. And if you are fortunate enough to visit Yosemite during these times of the year, it's when magic happens as well!

Continued on page 1



YOSEMITE GUIDE

Your Key to Visiting the Park



WINTER / SPRING 2001 - 2002
VOLUME XXXI, NO. 1

Seasons of Magic

Continued from front cover

If I were to narrow it down even further, I would have to say that some of my favorite seasons occur on the cusp—as fall fades to winter or winter explodes into spring. These cusp seasons are where things can change literally overnight. On a November afternoon, you might see a pencil of water trickle down the face of Yosemite Falls, then wake the next morning after a rain to see it gushing! Picture yourself at that same spot in March: You might wake in the morning to see Upper Yosemite Fall frosted over in walls of ice that come crashing down as the day warms up.

Here are some of my favorite outdoor things to do and see during what I laughingly refer to as the “off season.”

WINTER:

WILDLIFE WATCHING

You may think that all of Yosemite's creatures are safely tucked away in hibernation during the winter. On the contrary, this is a great time to find a quiet place to stop and observe wildlife. Early mornings and evenings provide the best viewing. Coyotes can often be seen trotting through white meadows, sometimes stopping to pounce on prey still active under the blankets of snow. Deer sometimes browse in the snow looking for leftover shoots or acorns.



MIRROR LAKE & HOT CHOCOLATE

Take a shuttle bus to The Ahwahnee and hike or ski out along the paved trails just behind the hotel. (If it's snowy, try not to walk in ski trails.) This pleasant path will take you over a historic bridge or two crossing Tenaya Creek, then head up to Mirror Lake. It's a pleasant 3-4 mile round trip that's great on a clear day. Mirror Lake is perhaps one of the quietest corners of the Valley during this time of year. Enjoy an in-your-face view of Half Dome from this spot, as well! Don't forget to stop in at The Ahwahnee before or after your journey for some hot chocolate.

THUNDER & SNOW CONE

Have you noticed a snow cone at the base of Upper Yosemite Fall this winter? This distinctive feature forms from the frozen spray as it blows down the waterfall. The pile also rises higher as frozen spray accumulates into ice sheets on the walls of the adjacent cliffs. When the ice sheets shed, they pile up at the top of the snow cone. This mound of ice and snow can sometimes reach heights of about 300 feet, about as tall as a 25-story building!

FRAZIL ICE & STREAMS OF SLUSH

Waterfalls in the park occasionally produce a late winter and early spring phenomenon called frazil ice at the base of the fall. Small ice crystals develop in turbulent super-cooled stream water when the air temperature suddenly drops below freezing. These ice crystals become pressed together as more crystals form, transforming creeks into streams of slush. Frazil ice sometimes reaches a depth of more than 20 feet along Yosemite Creek at the Lower Yosemite Fall. In 1997, it was above the railings of the Lower Yosemite Fall Bridge, almost completely burying it.

SPRING:

LUNAR RAINBOW

Can you really see a rainbow at night? During the spring on clear nights of a full moon, stop by the bridge at the base of Lower Yosemite Fall and take in a lunar rainbow!

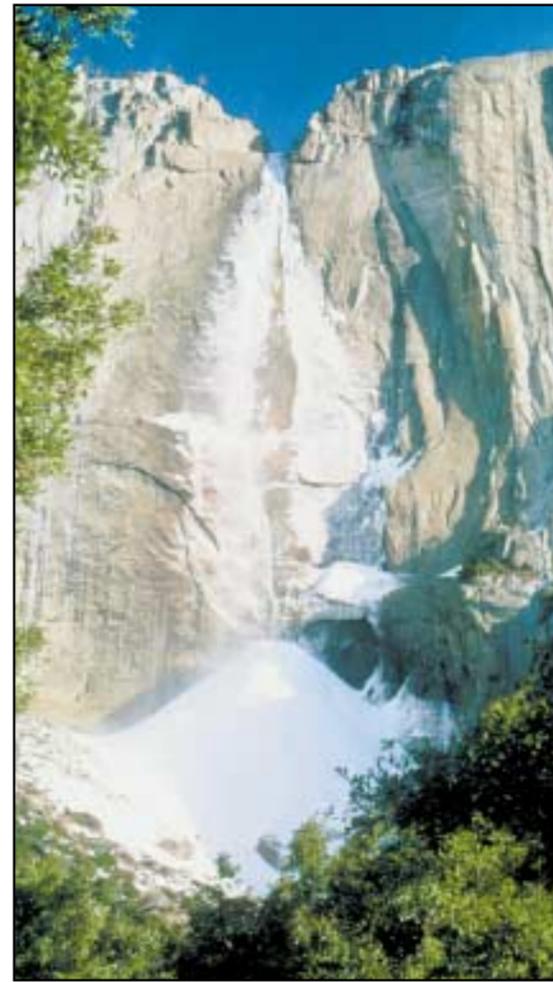
WATERFALL WATCHING

Yosemite is world-famous for its spectacular waterfalls—Yosemite Falls, Bridalveil Fall, Vernal and Nevada Falls. But a visit to Yosemite in spring isn't complete without taking in the other great Valley falls. Have you seen Horsetail Fall (an ephemeral, spring fall along the east buttress of El Capitan)? Royal Arches Cascades (directly behind The Ahwahnee)? The Giant Staircase cascades down Glacier Point just above Curry Village. Sentinel Fall (the world's tenth largest waterfall) careens down Valley walls just to the west of Sentinel Rock and can be seen easily from Leidig Meadow, west of Yosemite Lodge.

GIANT SEQUOIA GROVES

Spring is a great time to take in the big trees. There may still be some snow on the ground as late as April, but with some sturdy hiking shoes, you can head off into some of the quietest places on earth. See pages 4 or 5 or refer to *Yosemite Today* for grove locations and details.

Kristina Rylands contributed to this article. She serves as editor-in-chief for Yosemite National Park and has lived in the area for 9 years.



“Every clear, frosty morning loud sounds are heard booming and reverberating from side to side of the Valley...The strange thunder is made by the fall of sections of ice formed of spray that is frozen on the face of the cliff along the sides of the Upper Yosemite Fall. This frozen spray gives rise to one of the most interesting winter features of the Valley—a cone of ice at the foot of the fall...”—John Muir

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome to Yosemite. The tragic events of September 11 have caused us all to look at what it means to be an American. Our national parks tell

the story of America's struggles and successes. The USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor tells the story of how America united and responded when attacked during World War II. Manzanar National Historic Site, a lonely internment camp in Nevada, tells the story of where American citizens of Japanese ancestry were sent as a reaction to this attack. The National Park Service is beginning to tell

the story of America's response to terrorism in its management of the site of the Oklahoma City Bombing. And in the future, we will tell the story of September 11 and America's response.

National Park Service sites—such as the Statue of Liberty, the light of America's promise; Fort McHenry, inspiration for our National Anthem; and Yosemite, scenic wonder of America's greatness—symbolize the very freedoms attacked on September 11. From parks we can learn about important moments in our history. We can learn how we've treated each other in the past. We can learn about what we value as Americans.

While you are here, I hope you will see Yosemite National Park for more than just spectacular scenery and waterfalls

and granite domes. Yosemite's story truly unfolds when we look up and beyond the Valley walls. Whether you take to the slopes of Badger Pass, enjoy a walk to Mirror Lake, or simply appreciate that this amazing place has been set aside for future generations, I encourage you to make your own Yosemite connections.

Enjoy your visit. National parks like Yosemite not only help us appreciate the stories of our nation's heritage, but help preserve what we value most for the benefit of future generations—the natural and cultural wonders of this great land.

David A. Mihalic
Superintendent

TO LEARN MORE...

- See *Yosemite Today* for winter and spring activities throughout the park.
- Check out the Yosemite Field Seminar catalog which offers outdoor classes throughout the winter and spring. Call the Yosemite Association at 209/379-2321 or visit their web site at www.yosemite.org.

YOSEMITE GUIDE

Published by the National Park Service, in cooperation with the Yosemite Association and Yosemite Concession Services Corp.



NPS Editor and Coordinator
Kristina Rylands
Production by Skip Gaynard Designs
Printed by Casey Printing, Inc.
Email comments on this issue to Yose_Guide@nps.gov

CHANGING SEASONS

Special Protection for Special Places

Visitors to Yosemite are the park's most important guardians. With nearly 4 million people watching over its special plants, animals, historic, and archeological sites, imagine how well-protected these park resources could be!

During your visit to Yosemite be aware that there are people who either intentionally or unknowingly harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:

- feeding wildlife
- collecting plants
- hunting animals
- collecting reptiles and butterflies
- picking up archeological items such as arrowheads
- using metal detectors to locate and collect historic objects
- driving vehicles into sensitive meadows
- camping outside of designated campgrounds
- possession of weapons

If you see activities that could harm people or park resources, jot down any descriptions or a vehicle license plate number and contact the park dispatch office at 209/379-1992.

Pets

Some visitors choose to bring pets along on their vacations. In Yosemite, pets have a few rules to follow:

- Pets are only allowed in developed areas, on roads, and paved trails. They are not allowed on other trails or in wilderness areas.
- Pets must be on a leash or otherwise physically restrained.
- For the courtesy of other visitors, human companions are responsible for cleaning up and depositing pet feces in trash receptacles. This protects pets and wildlife from disease.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT...

- Food storage guidelines, see this page.
- Camping and campfires, see page 3.
- Yosemite Valley day hikes, see page 6.
- Wilderness regulations, see page 6.
- Bicycling rules, see page 5.



Half Dome winter scene in Ahwahnee Meadow.

Photo by Denise Guidi

WINTER/SPRING TRIP PLANNING

When planning a trip to Yosemite, keep in mind the changing seasons. The timing of your visit will determine the amount of clothing to bring, the availability of different campgrounds and parking lots, and the need for tire chains. Call road and weather information (209/372-0200) before you leave home. Here are some general guidelines:

ROADS

The Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) and Glacier Point Road beyond Badger Pass Ski Area are closed each year from late fall through spring. These roads generally close for the season with the first major snowstorm after November 1 and re-open by late May or early June, conditions permitting.

The road to the Mariposa Grove is also closed in winter.

WILL I NEED TIRE CHAINS?

It is recommended that you carry tire chains in your vehicle (including rental and 4-wheel-drive vehicles) between November and April, as a sudden storm could make them mandatory at any time. Under state regulations, any vehicle entering a signed chain control area must carry chains, 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; 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.

TEMPERATURE

Weather in Yosemite can change rapidly during all seasons of the year. Since areas in the park range from 2,000 to 13,000 feet in elevation, the lower foothills can be experiencing spring while the higher elevations remain in the grip of winter.

SNOW PLAY SAFETY

Each year sleds, toboggans, innertubes, saucers, and other sliding devices cause more injuries, on the average, than any other winter activity. Please slide safely. Sledding is not allowed in the Badger Pass area.

BEARS IN WINTER AND SPRING

Did you know that black bears do not truly hibernate in winter? Rather, they descend into a deep sleep, frequently awakening and occasionally wandering around. Because of this, it's not only important—but also required by federal regulation—that you keep your food stored properly, even during winter.

KEEP BEARS WILD AND YOUR PROPERTY SAFE

Bears are attracted to many things we might not think of as food. So, consider "food" to be any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This includes canned foods, sealed bottles, drinks, soaps, cosmetics, toiletries, perfumes, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unwashed items used for preparing or eating meals. Each campsite in the park has food storage lockers measuring approximately 33"x 45"x 18."

- Never leave your "food" in your vehicle after dark.

■ In campgrounds and tent-cabin areas you must store your "food" in food storage lockers, day and night.

■ In hotel rooms and hard-sided cabins, you may store "food" inside rooms (be sure to keep the windows closed if you leave).

■ In picnic areas and on the trail, be sure to stay with your "food" at all times.

■ If you are backpacking, it is strongly recommended that you use a bear canister (they are required in some areas). Inquire about food storage requirements when you get your wilderness permit.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE A BEAR

Never approach a bear, regardless of its size. If you encounter a bear in a developed area of the park or on a hiking trail, act immediately: yell, clap hands, and bang pots together. If there is more than one person, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear (allow the bear a way to run

away). If this is unsuccessful, throw small stones or sticks toward the bear from a safe distance (the intent is to scare the bear, not to injure it). Use caution if you see cubs, as a mother may act aggressively to defend them. Never try to retrieve anything once a bear has it. When done immediately, these actions have been successful in scaring bears away.

Report all bear incidents and sightings to a park ranger. (You can also call the Save-a-Bear hotline to report bear sightings and incidents, as well as trash and food storage problems: 209/372-0322.)

NOTE: These regulations and precautions help decrease your chance of personal injury or property damage. However, bear damage and confrontations are still possible, even when you follow all the guidelines. Failure to comply with these regulations may result in a citation and/or impoundment of property.

DRIVE SAFELY

California law requires that all vehicle occupants wear seat belts, and children under four years of age (or under 40 lbs.) be restrained in an approved child safety seat.

In winter and early spring, road conditions can change suddenly. Wet asphalt may be slippery or icy, especially in shady spots or on bridges. Keep speed down and allow extra distance from the vehicle in front of you.

Water from melted roadside snow often freezes on road surfaces, creating treacherous "black ice." This can occur even when the weather appears dry and fair.

Anticipate snowplows as they may be working just around the next curve. Wait for a signal from the plow driver before passing.

Don't drink and drive. It's a fatal combination.

KEEP YOSEMITE'S WATER CLEAN

■ To protect yourself from disease, treat any surface water before drinking. Treatment methods include boiling for 5 minutes, use of a Giardia rated water filter, or iodine based purifier.

■ To prevent the spread of Giardia and other water-borne disease organisms, use restroom facilities where available. In natural areas where facilities are not available, wash dishes, bathe, camp, and bury human waste (6" deep) at least 100 feet away from any water source or trail.

CAMPING

CAMPING RESERVATIONS

Reservations are required year round for Yosemite Valley's auto campgrounds 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 one month at a time, up to five 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 4/14/02 | 11/15/01 |
| 4/15/02 thru 5/14/02 | 12/15/01 |
| 5/15/02 thru 6/14/02 | 1/15/02 |
| 6/15/02 thru 7/14/02 | 2/15/02 |
| 7/15/02 thru 8/14/02 | 3/15/02 |
| 8/15/02 thru 9/14/02 | 4/15/02 |

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

Reservations can be made by phone, mail, or online. All requests are processed at the same time, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. beginning on the 15th of each month. Written requests will be accepted 2 weeks prior to the 15th. Include desired location, type of equipment you will be camping in (i.e., tent, RV, etc.), as well as method of payment.

YOSEMITE VALLEY

There is a 30-day camping limit within Yosemite National Park in any calendar year; however, **May 1 - September 15, the camping limit in Yosemite Valley and Wawona is 7 days inclusive, and 14 days outside the Valley.** 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 campsites after you arrive in the park. **Maximum length for recreational vehicles in Valley campgrounds is 40 feet.**

Camp 4 (formerly Sunnyside) Campground is a walk-in campground and 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 often fills before 9:00 a.m. each day May through September.

CAMPING IN AREAS SURROUNDING YOSEMITE

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) operates a variety of campgrounds on a seasonal basis near Yosemite. **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 outside Yosemite, call the respective chamber of commerce or visitor bureau listed on page 4.

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, and generators are not permitted in group sites.

SERVICES

- All sites include picnic tables, firepits or grills, tent space, parking, and a food storage locker (45" w x 18" h x 33" d). See *Bears in Winter and Spring* on page 2 for food storage regulations.
- Toilet facilities are available in campgrounds; however, Tamarack Flat, Yosemite Creek, and Porcupine Flat contain vault toilets only.
- Shower and laundry facilities are available year-round in Yosemite Valley; showers are also available at Tuolumne Meadows. See *Yosemite Today* for locations and hours of service.
- RVs over 24 feet are not recommended for Tamarack Flat, Yosemite Creek, and Porcupine Flat campgrounds, and RVs are not permitted in walk-in and group campsites. 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.

REGULATIONS

- Proper food storage is required 24 hours a day.
- Maximum of six people (including children) and two vehicles per campsite.
- 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.

CAMPFIRES

- In order to improve air quality in Yosemite Valley, campfires are only permitted May 1 through October 15 between 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
- Firewood collection is prohibited in Yosemite Valley. This includes "dead and down" wood.
- Please start campfires with newspaper. Do not burn pine needles or cones, as they create unnecessary smoke.

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. For more information, call the park campgrounds office at 209/372-8502 or visit online (www.nps.gov/yose/trip/camping).



Yes. People do camp in winter!

Photo by Mike Floyd

CAMPGROUNDS IN YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

| | CAMPGROUND | ELEVATION | MILES FROM YOSEMITE VALLEY | NUMBER OF SITES/ SPACES | DAILY FEE* | TAP WATER | STREAM WATER (BOIL) | PETS ALLOWED | GROCERIES NEARBY | STOCK CAMP | NOTES** |
|-------------------------|---|---------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------|---------------------|--------------|------------------|------------|---|
| IN YOSEMITE VALLEY | NORTH PINES | 4,000'/1,200m | 0 | 81 | \$18/s | ● | | ● | ● | | Open April-September Reservations required |
| | UPPER PINES | 4,000'/1,200m | 0 | 238 | \$18/s | ● | | ● | ● | | Open All Year Reservations required |
| | LOWER PINES | 4,000'/1,200m | 0 | 60 | \$18/s | ● | | ● | ● | | Open March-October Reservations required |
| | CAMP 4 WALK-IN (Sunnyside) | 4,000'/1,200m | 0 | 35 | \$5/p | ● | | | ● | | Open All Year/Walk-In First-come, first-served. Limited parking |
| OUTSIDE YOSEMITE VALLEY | WAWONA Wawona Road (Highway 41) near Wawona | 4,000'/1,200m | 27 | 93 | \$18/s | ● | | ● | ● | ● | Open All Year Reservations required May-Sept. (\$18); First-come, first-served Oct.-April (\$12) |
| | BRIDALVEIL CREEK Glacier Point Road | 7,200'/2,194m | 25 | 110 | \$12/s | ● | | ● | | ● | Open July-early September First-come, first-served |
| | HODGDON MEADOW Big Oak Flat Road (Hwy. 120 West near the Big Oak Flat Entrance) | 4,872'/1,484m | 25 | 105 | \$18/s | ● | | ● | | | Open All Year Reservations required May-Sept. (\$18); First-come, first-served Oct.-April (\$12) |
| | CRANE FLAT Big Oak Flat Road, near the Tioga Road turnoff | 6,191'/1,886m | 17 | 166 | \$18/s | ● | | ● | ● | | Open June-September Reservations required |
| | TAMARACK FLAT Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) | 6,315'/1,924m | 23 | 52 | \$8/s | | ● | | | | Open June-September Three-mile access road not suitable for large RVs or trailers. First-come, first-served |
| | WHITE WOLF Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) | 8,000'/2,437m | 31 | 74 | \$12/s | ● | | ● | | | Open July-early September First-come, first-served Not suitable for RVs over 27' |
| | YOSEMITE CREEK Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) | 7,659'/2,333m | 35 | 75 | \$8/s | | ● | ● | | | Open July-early September 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'/2,468m | 38 | 52 | \$8/s | | ● | | | | Open July-September RV access front section only First-come, first-served |
| | TUOLUMNE MEADOWS Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) | 8,600'/2,620m | 55 | 304 | \$18/s | ● | | ● | ● | ● | Open July-September ½ advanced reservations, ½ same-day reservations |

*s = per site
/p = per person

**Dates approximate

What is the best way to visit Yosemite?

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 Road Guide* 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, or www.yosemite.org.

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

TRANSPORTATION

To and From Yosemite

THE YOSEMITE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (YARTS) offers park visitors an alternative to driving their car into Yosemite by providing transit service throughout the region. This new voluntary bus service provides scheduled round-trip transportation to Yosemite from the outlying communities. Expanded summer service is offered mid-May to mid-September. Daily service from Mammoth Lakes runs in July and August. For schedule and more information visit the YARTS web site at www.yosemite.com/yarts or call toll free 877/98-YARTS (877/989-2787).

VIA, THE YOSEMITE-AMTRAK CONNECTION/GRAY LINE, offers 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. 209/384-1315 or in CA 800/369-PARK, or visit www.via-adventures.com.

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 by visiting www.yosemitepark.com. 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 \$48.00 per night for a basic tent cabin with nearby bathroom, to \$318.75 per night for a room at The Ahwahnee (rates are subject to change). Reservations are highly recommended and may be made up to one year and one day in advance.

INFORMATION OUTSIDE THE PARK

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

1 YOSEMITE VALLEY

Yosemite Valley is world famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. It is open year round and may be reached via Highway 41 from Fresno, Highway 140 from Merced, Highway 120 West from Manteca, and in late spring through late fall via the Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) from Lee Vining. Many activities and services are available in Yosemite Valley. Detailed information is available at the Valley Visitor Center in Yosemite Village. See the shuttle bus map and scheduled Valley activities in *Yosemite Today*.

2 MARIPOSA GROVE AND WAWONA

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1½ 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 closed in winter. 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 *Yosemite Today* 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 Sierra Nevada, is located 30 miles (a 1-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley. The view from Glacier Point provides an opportunity to see the 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, and then Glacier Point can be reached via skis or snowshoes only. See *Yosemite Today* for schedule of activities.

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

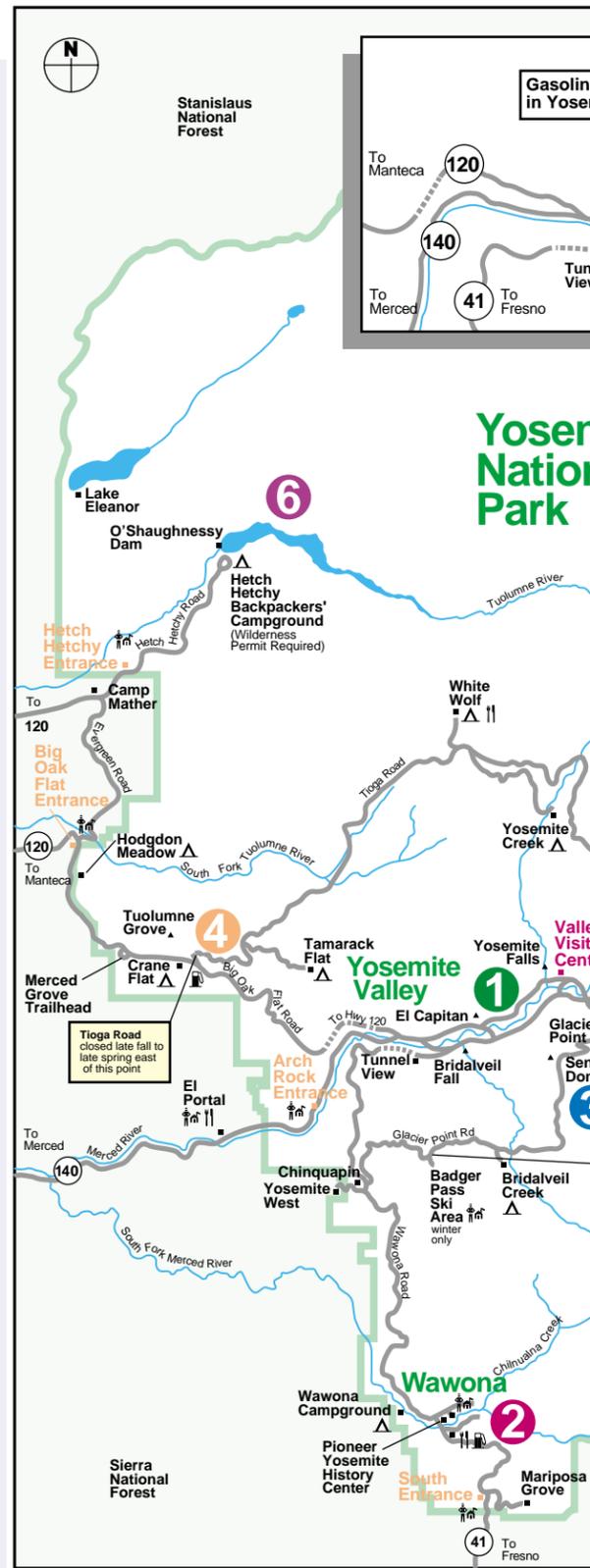
Highway 41
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
40637 Highway 41
Oakhurst, CA 93644
559/683-4636
www.sierranet.net/~ysvb

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

Highway 140/49
Mariposa County Visitor Bureau
(also info. for Fish Camp, Wawona, Yosemite West, and Buck Meadows)
P.O. Box 967
5158 Highway 140
Mariposa, CA 95338
800/208-2434 or 209/966-2456
www.homeofyosemite.com

Highway 120 East
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

AREAS TO VISIT IN Y



ENTRANCE FEES

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

| TYPE | PRICE | NOTES |
|---|-------|---|
| Vehicle | \$20 | Valid for seven days. |
| Individual | \$10 | In a bus, on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or horse. Valid for seven days. |
| Yosemite Pass | \$40 | Valid for one year in Yosemite. |
| National Parks Pass | \$50 | Valid for 1 year in all national park areas. |
| Golden Eagle Hologram for National Parks Pass | \$15 | Covers entrance fees at other federal sites. |
| 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. |

"WHAT HAPPENS TO MY ENTRANCE FEE DOLLARS?"

Thanks to the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, a temporary program approved by Congress in 1995, 80% of your \$20 entrance fee remains in Yosemite to help fund projects that improve the park and your visit.

PROJECTS COMPLETED INCLUDE:

- Significantly upgraded the visitor orientation theatre in Yosemite Valley
- Repaired sections of the sewer line that services Yosemite Valley
- Replaced picnic tables, fire rings, and signs in out-of-Valley campgrounds

CURRENT AND FUTURE PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Stabilizing historic backcountry cabins
- Refurbishing roads, trails, and utilities throughout the park

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.yosemite-gateway.org

VISITOR CENTERS

The four visitor centers in Yosemite National Park are excellent resources for park information, wilderness permits, and park-related publications and handouts. See *Yosemite Today* for hours of operation and more information.

YOSEMITE VALLEY VISITOR CENTER

Open daily all year.

BIG OAK FLAT INFORMATION STATION

Closed in winter; generally open spring through fall.

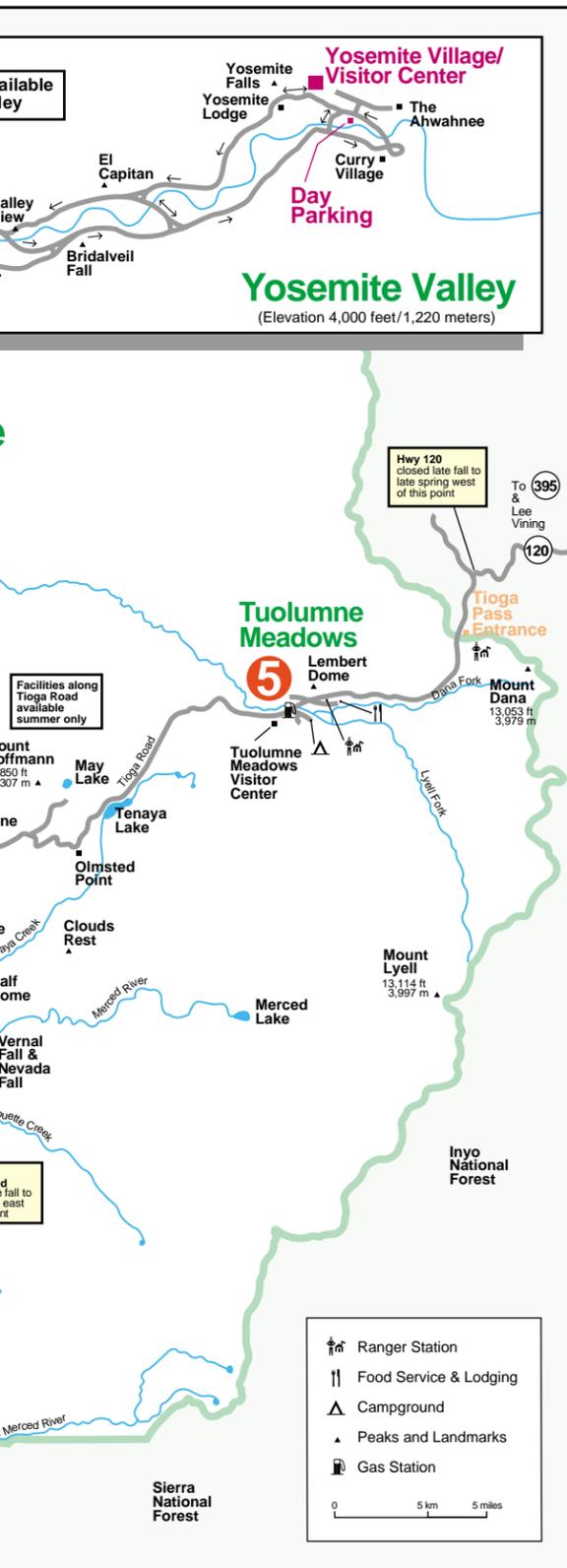
WAWONA INFORMATION STATION AT HILL'S STUDIO

Closed in winter; generally open spring through fall.

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS VISITOR CENTER

Closed in winter and spring; generally open summer through fall.

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 East), and walk one 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 *Yosemite Today*.

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 May through late October or early November 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 the Tioga Pass Entrance Station. 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. For activities, see *Yosemite Today*.

6 HETCH HETCHY

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power 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.

(40 km) of groomed track at no charge. Maps of marked ski and snowshoe trails are available at park visitor centers or through the Yosemite Association (209/379-2648 or www.yosemite.org). For cross-country and downhill ski school information and conditions, call 209/372-1000. For Ostrander Ski Hut reservations call 209/372-0740 on or after December 3, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Ice Skating The Curry Village Ice Skating Rink is open from mid-November through early March, conditions permitting. Rental skates are available. For more information, call 209/372-8341.

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).
- Bikes are not allowed off-road or on pedestrian and hiking trails.
- Bicyclists must obey all posted traffic signs and travel with the flow of traffic when on road used by automobiles.

Horseback Riding Weather and trail conditions permitting, 2-hour, half-day, and full-day rides depart from stables in Yosemite Valley, Tuolumne Meadows, and Wawona spring through fall. Closed in winter. Call 209/372-8348 for information.

Hiking & Backpacking Yosemite offers over 800 miles of hiking trails parkwide. For updated trail information, visit the Wilderness Center in Yosemite Valley and Tuolumne Meadows (spring through fall); in winter, check at the Valley Visitor Center, or call 209/372-0200. Wilderness permits are required for overnight wilderness users. For wilderness permit information and reservations, call 209/372-0740 or go to www.nps.gov/yose/wilderness. For some ideas on Valley day hiking, as well as information about wilderness travel, see page 6.

Rock Climbing Classes The Yosemite Mountaineering School and Guide Service offers beginner through advanced classes in Yosemite Valley spring through fall, and in Tuolumne Meadows in late spring through summer. Call 209/372-8344 for information.



Half Dome as seen from the Valley rim.

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**
Yosemite National Park
www.nps.gov/yose
Yosemite Concession Services
www.yosemitepark.com
Camping Reservations
reservations.nps.gov
Regional Information
www.yosemite.com
Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)
www.yosemite.com/yarts
Yosemite Association
yosemite.org
Yosemite Fund
www.yosemitedfund.org
Yosemite Institute
www.yni.org/yi
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 ACTIVITIES

www.nps.gov/yose/trip/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), DeConte Memorial Lodge (summer), Wilderness Center, The Ansel Adams Gallery, Parsons Lodge in Tuolumne Meadows (summer), and Glacier Point (summer). Check park visitor centers and bulletin boards for additional information, and see activities listed in *Yosemite Today*.

Tours For a relaxing and informative experience, take a sightseeing tour on a bus or open-air tram (weather permitting). These tours, narrated by informed 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 Valley in a different light during summer months (on nights around a full moon). 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. Information is also available online at www.yosemiteparktours.com.

Skiing and Snowshoeing In winter, Yosemite offers downhill skiing at Badger Pass in addition to three main areas for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing: Badger Pass, Crane Flat, and the Mariposa Grove. These areas all have marked winter trails. Badger Pass offers approximately 10 miles

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/-0.5 |
| April | 3.0/7.6 | 65/18 | 35/2 |
| May | 1.3/3.3 | 73/23 | 42/5.5 |
| 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 | 53/11.5 |
| September | 0.9/2.3 | 87/30.5 | 47/8 |
| October | 2.1/5.3 | 74/23 | 39/4 |
| November | 5.5/14 | 58/14 | 31/-0.5 |
| 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.

ON THE TRAIL



Protect Yosemite's Wilderness

Pack out all trash and toilet paper/sanitary products.



Use gas stoves rather than wood fires.



Camp in an existing, well-used campsite at least 100 feet from water and trail. You must be 4 miles from any populated area and 1 mile from any road before camping.



To minimize trampling of vegetation, bring a container to carry water to your camp from lakes or streams.



Maximum group size is 15 people for trail travel and 8 people for off-trail travel.



Yosemite is a natural preserve. Pets, weapons, bicycles, strollers, and motor vehicles are never allowed on Yosemite's wilderness trails.



See page 2 for food storage regulations and for water quality information.

EXPERIENCE THE WILDERNESS IN THE WINTER & SPRING . . . SAFELY

There are many ways to experience the wildness of Yosemite. While the forces of nature can create unexpected hazardous conditions, with a little common sense and some pre-planning you can minimize the human risks associated with many of these activities:

PLANNING AND SAFETY

- Visitors to Yosemite's wilderness should be familiar with the use of snowshoes or skis in order to navigate deep snow conditions. Those who choose to explore Yosemite's more remote wilderness areas should be competent in winter wilderness travel, route finding, winter camping, and survival skills.
- Be honest about your abilities and plan activities toward the least experienced member of your group.
- Always tell someone where you are going and when you are due back. Carry a sig-

nal mirror and whistle. Solo activities require increased precautions.

- Cold and altitude can sap energy. Allow plenty of time for rest, campsite selection, and proper food storage.
- Stay on designated trails or routes. Carry and know how to use a map and compass.
- Avoid scrambling in steep terrain or off-trail. If new to climbing, take a class to learn important safety techniques before venturing out alone.
- Check weather forecasts prior to your trip. Plan for sudden extreme changes in weather.
- Carry plenty of water and food. You will need to eat and drink more in cold weather.
- Be prepared for an emergency bivouac even when out just for the day. Know

how to use your gear and carry minimum repair materials.

- Avoid the combination of wetness, wind, and cold. Know symptoms and treatment methods for hypothermia. Carry emergency fire starting materials.
- Stay away from river and creek banks during high water conditions in spring and avoid "rock hopping." Stream polished rocks along the water's edge may be slippery when wet or dry.
- If you choose to cross a stream without a bridge, avoid deep and/or swift water. If crossing on a natural bridge of rocks or logs, consider where you will land if you fall. Never cross above rapids or falls. To prevent being pulled under by its weight, unbuckle your pack's waist strap so you can shed it if you fall in. Do not tie yourself into safety ropes—they can drown you.

WILDERNESS PERMITS

Free wilderness permits are required year round for all overnight trips into Yosemite's wilderness. They are not required for day hikes. Permits are available on a first-come, first-served basis the day of, or one day prior to, the beginning of your trip. In winter, permits are issued at Badger Pass (for trips originating there); or self-register at Big Oak Flat Entrance Station, Wawona Information Station, or Hetch Hetchy Entrance Stations, or at the Valley Visitor Center. Call 209/372-0200 or go to the wilderness web site for information on making advance reservations, and Wilderness Center locations and hours.

Wilderness users who plan to enjoy Yosemite's beautiful high country during the peak season (May through September) are encouraged to make permit reservations.

Reservations are taken from 24 weeks to 2 days in advance of the trip start date. For permit reservations and general wilderness information, call 209/372-0740 (after December 3, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.).

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



Photo by W.R. Jones

In winter, the Valley's south rim is accessible on cross-country skis or snowshoes by way of the Glacier Point Road.

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 (a seasonal lake) | Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17 | 2 miles round trip (3.2 km) | Easy | 1 hour round trip | ♿ Vehicle access available with placard |
| LOWER YOSEMITE FALL | Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6 | 1/2 mile round trip (0.8 km) | Easy | 20 minutes round trip | ♿ with assistance |
| UPPER YOSEMITE FALL TRAIL COLUMBIA ROCK | Camp 4 (Sunnyside Campground) near Shuttle Stop #7 | 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 #16 | 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 |
| 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 | 5 to 6 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 early October; otherwise cable route is inaccessible |
| 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 and early spring |
| VALLEY FLOOR LOOP | Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6 | 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 |

GENERAL INFORMATION

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.

MISCELLANEOUS

Bear Canister Rental

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

Babysitting

Limited babysitting available for registered guests at Yosemite Lodge and The Ahwahnee. Call front desk or concierge for additional information.

Fishing

Fishing season along the Merced River is from the last Saturday in April through November 15. Special regulations apply within Yosemite National Park. Visit the park's web site at www.nps.gov/yose/trip/fishing.htm or ask at any visitor center.

Kennel

(Spring through fall, weather permitting)

Located at the stable in Yosemite Valley. Dogs must be gentle, over 10 pounds, with proof of shots and license required. 7:30 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. www.nps.gov/yose/jobs

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. www.yosemitepark.com/jobs.html

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

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

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/yi

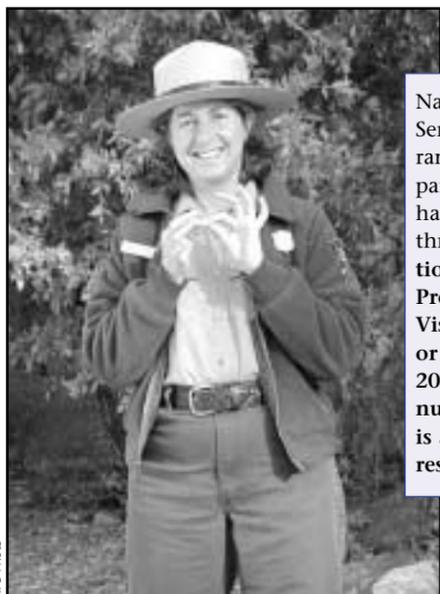
NPS EDUCATION BRANCH

Wawona Ranger Station, P.O. Box 2027, Wawona, CA 95389. 209/375-9505. For entrance waivers for educational groups, call 209/372-0206 www.nps.gov/yose/learn

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 the Yosemite Lodge bike stand, 209/372-1208.



Nanette Oswald, Yosemite's Deaf Services Coordinator, interprets ranger-led activities and provides park information for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors in spring through fall. **For more information about the Deaf Services Program, come to the Valley Visitor Center information desk, or call 209/372-4726 (TDD) or 209/372-0642 (voice). The TDD number for lodging reservations is 559/255-8345; for camping reservations, call 888/530-9796.**

NPS Photo

HELP YOUR PARK



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



THE YOSEMITE FUND

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

Anyone who loves Yosemite and wishes to become more closely involved with the park is encouraged to become a member of the Yosemite Association. The Yosemite Association is a nonprofit 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.

Memberships of \$30 or more entitle you to receive a free "thank you" gift along with other benefits, including discounts on Yosemite Association and The Ansel Adams Gallery merchandise, a quarterly journal, and opportunities to volunteer in the park and attend member activities.

The Yosemite Fund is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and preserving Yosemite—one of the most cherished parks in the world. Thanks to gifts from dedicated "Friends of Yosemite," the Fund has distributed over \$13 million for more than 150 projects that would otherwise not be possible. The Yosemite Fund has helped rehabilitate meadows, rebuild trails, and has installed over 2,000 bear-proof food storage lockers throughout the park.

You can help by becoming a Friend of Yosemite through a donation to the Fund. All donors of \$25 or more receive a "thank you" gift, the Fund's full-color biannual magazine, and acknowledgement at the Friends of Yosemite Honor Wall at the Valley Visitor Center.

Become a PART of the FUTURE

To continue the National Park Service's goals of preserving park resources and serving visitors, Yosemite needs employees and volunteers from all walks of life, from all ethnic backgrounds, with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to turn those goals into reality.

To protect park resources and to serve the public, Yosemite employs a permanent and a seasonal workforce of over 700 individuals every year. The variety of paid positions available may surprise you: biologists, criminal investigators, human resource managers, accountants, electricians, historians, and even traditional park rangers. Whatever the job, a rewarding experience with Yosemite National Park and the National Park Service is guaranteed.

Yosemite National Park also has active Volunteers in Parks, Youth Conservation Corps, and Student Conservation Association programs. Participants of these splendid programs come from every state and nearly every country in the world to help preserve and protect America's natural and cultural heritage for the enjoyment of this



NPS Photo by C. Marie Mackie

and future generations. Young and old alike give of their time and expertise to assist National Park Service staff.

For specific employment information, or to find out what positions are currently available and how to apply, contact the Human Resources Office by calling 209/379-1805. You may also access either the Yosemite National Park web site at www.nps.gov/yose or USAJobs at www.usajobs.opm.gov for a listing of employment opportunities as they occur.

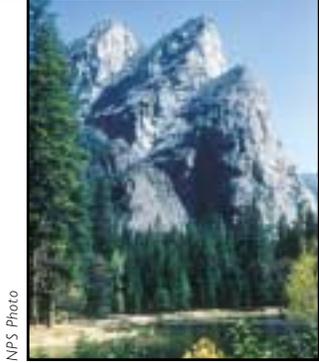
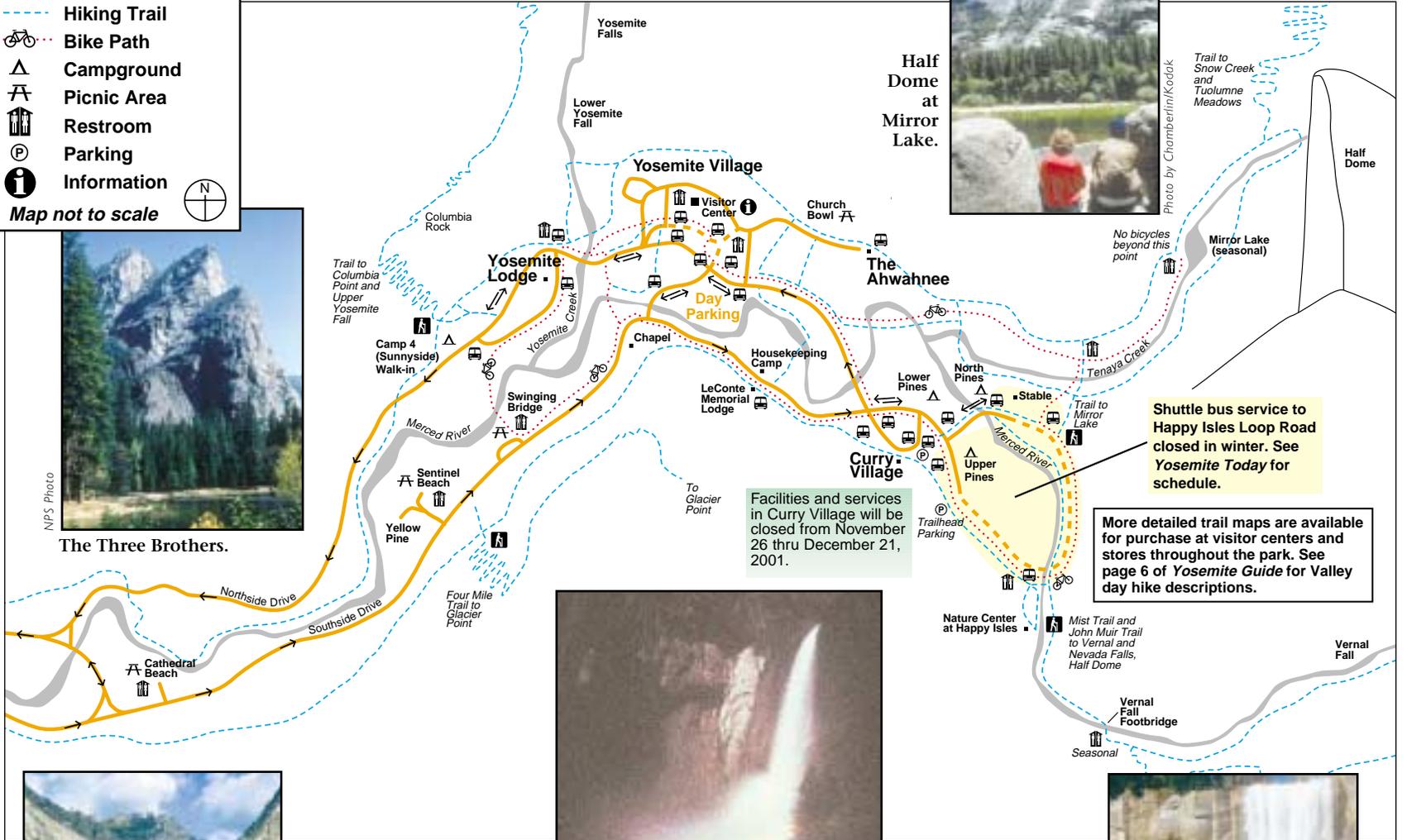
Selection for employment will be made without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, physical handicap, age, membership or non-membership in an employee organization, personal favoritism, or other non-merit factors.

The National Park Service is



an Equal Opportunity Employer

— Roadway
- - - Shuttle Bus Only
 Shuttle Bus Stop
 Trailhead
- - - Hiking Trail
- - - Bike Path
 Campground
 Picnic Area
 Restroom
 Parking
 Information
 Map not to scale



The Three Brothers.



Half Dome at Mirror Lake.

Facilities and services in Curry Village will be closed from November 26 thru December 21, 2001.

Shuttle bus service to Happy Isles Loop Road closed in winter. See *Yosemite Today* for schedule.

More detailed trail maps are available for purchase at visitor centers and stores throughout the park. See page 6 of *Yosemite Guide* for Valley day hike descriptions.



Bridalveil Fall.



A lunar rainbow, Lower Yosemite Fall.



Vernal Fall.