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Oct - Dec 2009

Yosemite Valley autumn color. Photo by Christine White Loberg

Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

October 14 - December 15

Yosemite Guide

Things to Do

Keep this Guide with you to get the most out of your visit



Illustration by Lawrence W. Duke

What do you want to do with your special time in Yosemite? The choice is yours. But to give you some ideas, park rangers made a list of possibilities for the autumn season.

In no particular order, here are 10 popular activities for a day in Yosemite National Park.

Explore a Sequoia Grove

Meet the most massive living trees on earth as you explore a sequoia grove. Yosemite is home to three groves—each within walking distance of a road. Skis or snowshoes are recommended if the trail is snow covered. (See map on page 2 and info on page 7.)

Visit the Yosemite Museum

Learn about Yosemite Indians by exploring a museum collection that includes remarkable woven baskets and traditional dress. Tour the outdoor Indian Village or talk with an Indian cultural demonstrator. The Yosemite Museum is located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See page 6.)

Take a Photography Class

Learn how to best capture the landscape of Yosemite by joining a photography expert from the Ansel Adams Gallery.



Painters record the scene at Tunnel View. Photo by Erik Skindrud

How to Use Your Yosemite Guide

The list on this page offers 10 popular things to do. The table of contents (“What’s Inside...”) at lower right shows where you can turn for more information. A detailed listing of program information can be found on page 5.

Several classes are offered each week. Some have fees, some are free. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 5 and 6.)

Hike to Mirror Meadow

Situated at the base of Half Dome, the site of Mirror Lake frames reflections of Yosemite’s most iconic cliff. (The lake itself is dry until the first significant precipitation of the season, however.) The quiet trail is gentle and follows Tenaya Creek as it winds its way through the eastern Valley. The trail starts at shuttle stop #17. (See Valley map on the back of this Guide.)

Visit the Other Valley: Hetch Hetchy
Hetch Hetchy Valley and its reservoir are located about 40 miles north of Yosemite Valley. The contours of Hetch Hetchy are much like its southern neighbor—with precipitous cliffs and waterfalls. Hiking opportunities abound. (See page 3 for specifics on visiting Hetch Hetchy.)

Tour The Ahwahnee

Step back to an earlier era of history as you explore the National Historic Landmark that opened in 1927. Notable for its architecture and artful décor, the hotel provides a cozy atmosphere to relax and enjoy a warm drink in. (“Food & Beverage,” page 7.)

Drive to Tunnel View

One of the most famous views of Yosemite Valley, Tunnel View has captivated visitors for over 75 years. Newly rehabilitated, it offers expansive views of El Capitan, Clouds Rest, Half Dome, and Bridalveil Fall. (See map, page 2.)

Stroll with a Ranger

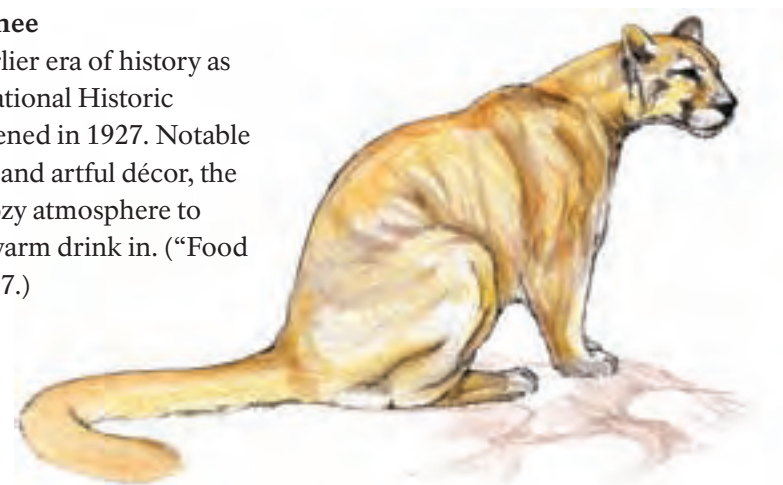
Learn about park wonders on a ranger-guided walk. Programs are offered daily in Yosemite Valley focusing on bears, geology, trees, and other topics. (See page 5 for times and places.)

See Half Dome at Sunset

Towering more than 4,000 feet above the eastern end of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome compels eyes to gaze on it. Sunset lights up the cliff face, creating a dramatic and colorful scene. Witness the effect from Sentinel Bridge or one of the meadows near Yosemite Village or Curry Village. (See the Valley map on the back of this Guide.)

Go Bike Riding or Ice Skating

Rentals at Yosemite Lodge and Curry Village are both open 9 am to 6 pm. Curry Village bike rentals close on Oct. 25. Yosemite Lodge bike rentals close on Nov. 15. Given safe conditions, you can always ride your own bike on paved paths in the Valley, however. Call 209/372-8319 for more information on bike rentals. Ice skating at the Curry Village Ice Rink opens on Nov. 20, weather conditions permitting.



Mountain lion by Tom Whitworth

Welcome, and Be Prepared Emergency: Dial 911



Website: www.nps.gov/yose/
Twitter: twitter.com/YosemiteNPS
Road, Weather, and General Park Information: 209/372-0200

Access for People With Disabilities



The *Yosemite Accessibility Guide* is available at park entrance stations, visitor centers, and online at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm. Accessible parking spaces are available just west of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. To reach these, enter the Valley on Southside Drive. Turn left on Sentinel Drive. Turn left on Northside Drive, and follow the blue-and-white signs.

An American Sign Language interpreter is available for Deaf and hard of hearing



visitors. Call 209/372-0645 (Voice) or 209/372-4726 (TTY) to request an interpreter. Please call at least two weeks before the visit. Assisted listening devices are available at the Visitor Center.



Lost and Found

To inquire about items lost or found at one of Yosemite’s restaurants, hotels, lounges, shuttle buses, or tour services, call 209/372-4357. For items lost or found in other areas of the park, call 209/379-1001.

Weather

Sudden changes in weather are common in the Sierra Nevada. Check at a park visitor center for the most up-to-date weather forecast.

Road Information

Construction may cause short delays or detours on some park roads. Road info: 209/372-0200.

What’s Inside:

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Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Entrance Fees

Reservations are NOT required to enter Yosemite. The park is open year-round, 24 hours a day.

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 one year in Yosemite.

Interagency Annual Pass \$80
Valid for one year at all federal recreation sites.

Interagency Senior Pass \$10 (Lifetime)
For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.

Interagency Access Pass (Free) (Lifetime)
For permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Reservations

Campground Reservations
877/444-6777
www.recreation.gov

Lodging Reservations
801/559-5000
www.yosemitepark.com

Regional Info

Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) www.yarts.com

Highway 120 West
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce
800/449-9120 or 209/962-0429
Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
800/446-1333
www.thegreatunfenced.com

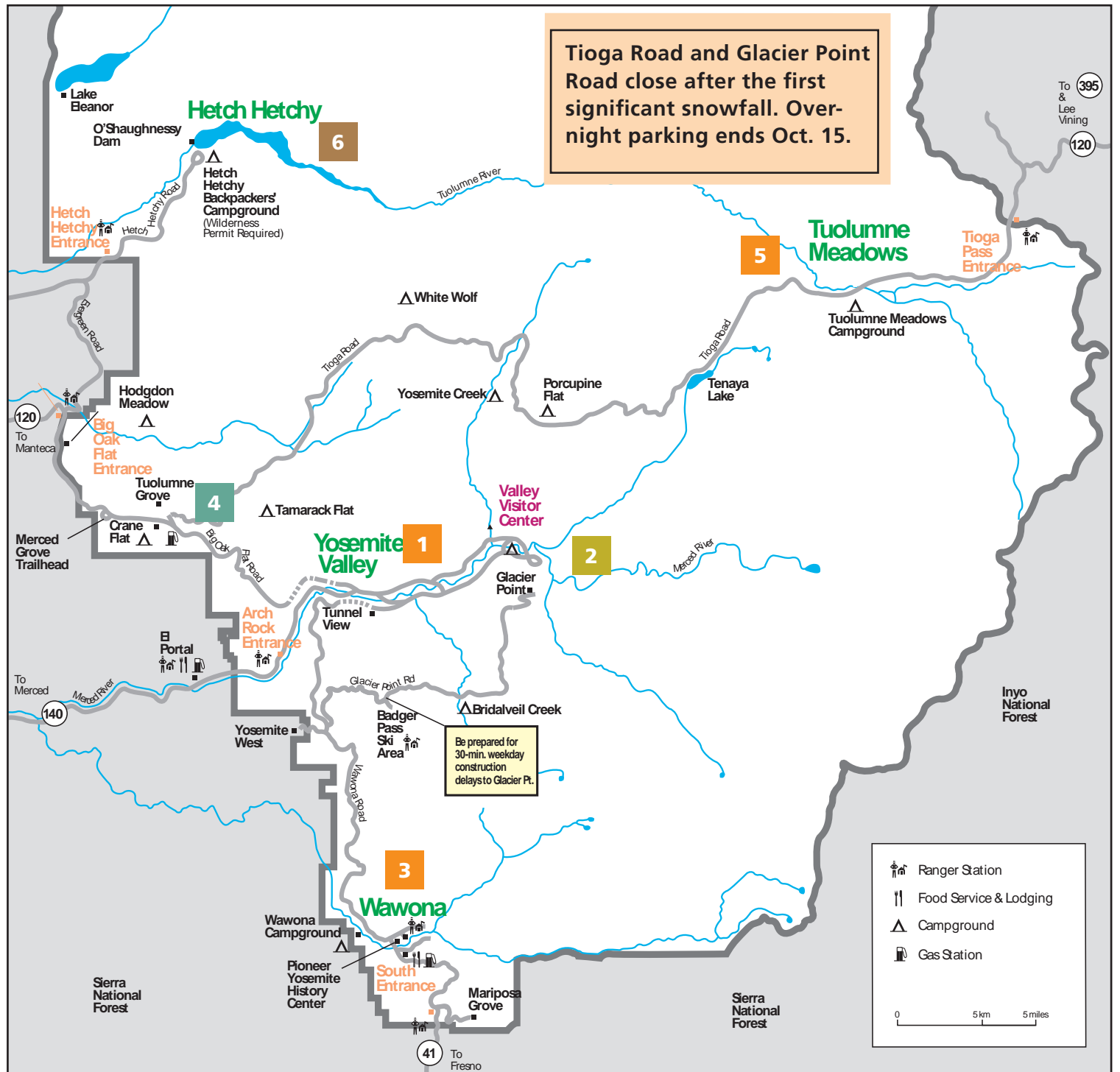
Highway 41
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
559/683-4636
www.yosemitethisyear.com

Highway 132/49
Coulterville Visitor Center
209/878-3074

Highway 140/49
Yosemite Mariposa Tourism Bureau
866/425-3366 or 209/966-7081
www.homeofyosemite.com

Highway 120 East
Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center, 760/647-6629
www.leevining.com

Calif. Welcome Center, Merced
800/446-5353 or 209/384-2791
www.yosemite-gateway.org



Yosemite Valley

1 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 via the Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) from Lee Vining. The Valley is known for massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, its plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and its attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow recharge it, a moderate hike will bring you to Vernal and Nevada Falls. You can walk to the site of Mirror Lake (also dry until rain), where you can gaze straight up at Half Dome. Admire El Capitan, the massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the Valley by foot, bike, car, on horseback, or tour, you will behold scenery that will leave you breathless and eager to see what's around the next corner.



Granite, the Merced River, trees, and meadows compose the Valley's unique blend. Photo by Christine White Loberg

Glacier Point

2 Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the Yosemite's high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley. **The road stays open until sometime in November, although overnight parking along it ends on Oct. 15.** When snow covers the road and conditions permit, a system of ski tracks is maintained on it. From Yosemite Valley, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), then turn left onto Glacier Point Road. Motorists should be prepared for 30-minute construction delays during weekdays. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating, some might say unnerving, view 3,214 feet down to Yosemite Valley.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

3 The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park's South Entrance station. The road to the grove closes in November or December due to snow, however. The nearby 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. The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is a short drive or help reduce congestion by taking the free shuttle from the Wawona Store (until winter weather stops it for the season). See page 7 for Mariposa Grove hiking details. Also, a portion of the Wawona Road is subject to 30-minute delays Monday through Friday.

Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

4 Crane Flat is a forest and meadow area located 16 miles from Yosemite Valley at the junction of Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads. A number of hikes through pleasant meadows are available—when snow covers the ground these turn into delightful ski and snowshoe tracks. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking area located on the Tioga Road, and walk one steep mile down to the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias. Or, park at Merced Grove trailhead and walk two steep miles down to this small grove. These groves north of Yosemite Valley are smaller than the more-famous Mariposa Grove, but are quieter and off-limits to vehicles. Remember that the walk down is easier than the walk back up.

Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road

5 The Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. **The road usually closes sometime in November, but be aware that overnight parking ends on Oct. 15.** The road's elevation ranges from 6,200 to just under 10,000 feet. Tuolumne Meadows embodies the high-country of the Sierra Nevada. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week. In winter, Tuolumne Meadows is often reached by skiers via the Snow Creek Trail from Tenaya Canyon, a short distance east of Yosemite Valley.

Hetch Hetchy

6 Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. The area's low elevation makes it a good place to hike in autumn and winter. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley via Highway 120 and Evergreen and Hetch Hetchy Roads. Hetch Hetchy Road is open limited hours: 8 am to 7 pm through Oct. 31; then 8 am to 5 pm through March 31. The road is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen Road and is a 1 hour and 15 minute drive from Yosemite Valley. Trailers, vehicles over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not allowed on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.

Winter Weather and Driving in Yosemite

Tioga Road and Glacier Point Road are closed each year from November to late May or early June. Other roads are generally plowed and maintained, but can close or present delays during storm periods. Motorists should always carry chains and check weather and road conditions before travel. To check conditions, call 209/372-0200 for roads inside the park and 800/427-7623 or visit www.dot.ca.gov for highways connecting to Yosemite.



The view from Glacier Point. Photo by Hugh Sakols



Snow at Wawona's covered bridge. Photo: Christine White Loberg



Tuolumne Meadows deep freeze. Photo by Wendy Malone



Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. NPS photo by Erik Skindrud

Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas and the heart of the park



The Incomparable Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley embraces one of the world's most outstanding concentrations of waterfalls, granite walls, meadows, wildflowers, and trees. The Valley also harbors a rich collection of human stories, from American Indian lore to the birth of the National Park movement.

Yosemite Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery before you. See pages 5-6 for more information on program topics and visitor services available.

The base of **Lower Yosemite Fall** is an easy walk from shuttle stop #6. Impressive views of both the upper and lower falls are seen on the path to the base. This hike features educational exhibits and a picnic area, and is accessible to the mobility impaired. Although Yosemite Falls dries up by the end of the summer, **Bridalveil Fall** is a year-round waterfall that you can visit by car on your way into or out of the Valley. Winds swirling about the cliff lift and blow the falling water in a delicate free-fall.

El Capitan, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan. *Note: Please park on the paved road*

shoulder next to El Capitan Meadow. Delicate meadows are easily damaged by trampling, so please stay on footpaths.

Half Dome, Yosemite's most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook's Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, Tunnel View, Glacier Point, and Olmsted Point are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome.

Happy Isles is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16. Cross the footbridges onto the Isles or wander through outdoor exhibits detailing Yosemite's geologic story. Shuttle buses may not travel to stop #16 when the road is snow-covered or icy though.

For a strenuous day hike, you can use this trailhead to reach Vernal Fall footbridge ($\frac{3}{4}$ miles) and Nevada Fall (2.7 miles) via the Mist Trail. Visitors with mobility impairments can obtain a placard at the Valley Visitor Center or at an

entrance station that will authorize them to drive to Happy Isles or Mirror Lake.

Winter sports get underway in November and December. Badger Pass Ski Area is tentatively scheduled to open on Dec. 18. The ice rink at Curry Village is scheduled to open on Nov. 20. To learn more: 209/372-8341.

Tunnel View, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, including El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is particularly spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

To experience the Valley on foot, stop by a visitor center for a trail map and the most current trail conditions.

To experience the Valley by bike, bring or rent a bike. Weather permitting, rentals at Yosemite Lodge and Curry Village are both open 9 am to 6 pm. Curry Village bike rentals close on Oct. 25. Yosemite Lodge bike rentals close on Nov. 15. Call 209/372-8319 for more

information on bike rentals.

Weather permitting, several motor coach sightseeing tours are available in Yosemite.

To experience the Valley with a bus and guide, take the Valley Floor Tour. This 26-mile, 2-hour tour departs several times daily from Yosemite Lodge. During warm fall days, an open-air tram is used. When weather turns colder, tours travel by motorcoach.

The Glacier Point Tour is a four-hour round trip from Yosemite Valley to Glacier Point, which departs daily from Yosemite Lodge. The Glacier Point Tour also offers a one-way ticket for adventurers to hike back down to Yosemite Valley. The Grand Tour is an eight-hour combination of Big Trees and Glacier Point tours and departs daily from Yosemite Lodge. **Both tours end when snow closes Glacier Point Road.**

Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at tour/transportation desks at Yosemite Lodge, Curry Village, or Yosemite Village.

Self-Guiding Trails

A Changing Yosemite

This one-mile-long walk through Cook's Meadow explores both natural and cultural stories of Yosemite. Brochure available at the Valley Visitor Center.

Mirror Lake

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 and American Indian use. To reach the start of the trail, walk one mile from shuttle stop #17 to the disabled parking spaces near the lake. The trail begins here.

Indian Village

This short loop winds through the Indian Village of Ahwahnee, a reconstructed Miwok-Paiute village. A booklet is available at the trailhead and in the Visitor Center. The trail begins behind the Yosemite Museum.

Curry Village

The Legacy of Curry Village 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.


Top: Tunnel View is a top spot for Valley photos. Photo by Dustin Nelson
Above: Valley Floor Tour. Photo by Pam Meierding

Events and Programs

Where to go and what to do

	YOSEMITE VALLEY	WAWONA
Sunday	<p>9:00am Photography Walk 1 ½ hrs. Limited space. Reservations required. Sign up and meet at the Ansel Adams Gallery (conditions permitting) (AAG)</p> <p>11:00am STORYTIME (Nov. 29 only) ½ hr. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge Fireplace (DNC) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Stroll—Merced Meanders 1 ½ hrs. Shuttle stop #6 (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm History of Bracebridge Dinner Talk (Dec. 13 only) ½ hr. The Ahwahnee Winter Club Room (DNC) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm Fine Print Viewing 1 hr. Very limited space. Sign up in advance at the Ansel Adams Gallery (AAG)</p> <p>7:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for venue & topic (DNC) ♿</p>	
Monday	<p>9:00am Photography Walk at The Ahwahnee 1 ½ hrs. Limited space. Reservations required. Sign up/meet at The Ahwahnee Front Desk (AAG)</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Stroll—Yosemite's First People 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm History of Bracebridge Dinner Talk (Dec. 14 only) ½ hr. The Ahwahnee Winter Club Room (DNC) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm Twilight Stroll (Except Oct. 19 and 26) 1 hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm Ranger Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for venue and topic (NPS) ♿</p>	
Tuesday	<p>9:00am Photography Walk 1 ½ hrs. Limited space. Reservations required. Sign up & meet at Ansel Adams Gallery (conditions permitting) (AAG)</p> <p>11:00am KIDS' PHOTOGRAPHY WALK 1 hr. For kids and their parents. Sign up and meet at the Ansel Adams Gallery. (AAG)</p> <p>12noon Yosemite Forum (Nov. 10 only) Sense of Place: Design Guidelines for Yosemite National Park (Dec. 8 only) Wilderness Trailhead Quota System: Reassessing Visitor Travel Patterns 1 hr. Valley Visitor Center Auditorium (NPS)</p> <p>12:30pm Using Your Digital Camera Class 4 hrs. Reservations required. Sign up and meet at the Ansel Adams Gallery (AAG) \$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Stroll—Trees (except Dec. 8) 1 ½ hrs. The Ahwahnee, shuttle stop #3 (NPS)</p> <p>7:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for venue & topic (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>5:30pm Vintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist / singer Tom Bopp. Programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30 pm. Drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom for details. Wawona Hotel lounge. (Schedule subject to change, please check local listings.) (DNC) ♿</p>
Wednesday	<p>9:00am WEE WILD ONES (Except Oct. 28 and Nov. 4 & 11) ¾ hr. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge Fireplace (DNC) ♿</p> <p>1:00pm NPS Open House (Oct. 28 and Dec. 2 only) 3 hrs. Come learn about park improvement efforts. Valley Visitor Center Auditorium (NPS)</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Stroll—Wild about Wildlife 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:30pm Twilight Stroll (Oct. 14, 21, and 28 only) 1 hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm Ranger Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for venue and topic (NPS) ♿</p>	<p>5:30pm Vintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist / singer Tom Bopp. Programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30 pm. Drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom for details. Wawona Hotel lounge. (Schedule subject to change, please check local listings.) (DNC) ♿</p>
Thursday	<p>9:00am Photography Walk 1 ½ hrs. Limited space. Reservations required. Sign up & meet at Ansel Adams Gallery (conditions permitting) (AAG)</p> <p>12:30pm In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams: Seeing Artistically With Your Camera 4 hrs. Limited space. Ansel Adams Gallery (AAG) \$</p> <p>1:00pm FAMILY STROLL (Nov. 26 only) 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Stroll—Yosemite's Legacy 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm STORYTIME (Nov. 26 only) ½ hr. Yosemite Lodge Cliff Room (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theatre LIVE: World-renowned climber Ron Kauk presents Return To Balance (High-definition climbing film) (Oct. 15, 22, and 29 only) 1 ½ hrs. Valley Visitor Center Theater. Tickets must be purchased in advance at any tour desk or at the Valley Visitor Center (open 9am to 5pm). (YA) \$ ♿</p> <p>7:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for venue & topic (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>5:30pm Vintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist / singer Tom Bopp. Programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30 pm. Drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom for details. Wawona Hotel lounge. (Schedule subject to change, please check local listings.) (DNC) ♿</p>
Friday	<p>10:00am STORYTIME (Nov. 27 only) ½ hr. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge Fireplace (DNC) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Stroll—Geology 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm FAMILY STROLL (Nov. 27 only) 1 hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theatre LIVE: World-renowned climber Ron Kauk presents Return To Balance (High-definition climbing film) (Oct. 16, 23, and 30 only) 1 ½ hrs. Valley Visitor Center Theater. Tickets must be purchased in advance at any tour desk or at the Valley Visitor Center (open 9am to 5pm). (YA) \$ ♿</p> <p>7:30pm Film—Ansel Adams 1 hr. Check local listings for venue (AAG) ♿</p> <p>HALLOWEEN HISTORY STROLL (Oct. 30 only) 1 ¼ hrs. Walk through the Yosemite Cemetery. Meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center with flashlights (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm NIGHT PROWL (October 16, 23, and 30 only) 1 ½ hrs. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ ♿</p>	<p>5:30pm Vintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist / singer Tom Bopp. Programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30 pm. Drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom for details. Wawona Hotel lounge. (Schedule subject to change, please check local listings.) (DNC) ♿</p>
Saturday	<p>9:00am Photography Walk 2 hrs. Limited space. Reservations required. Sign up & meet at Ansel Adams Gallery (conditions permitting) (AAG)</p> <p>WEE WILD ONES (Except Oct. 17 & 24 and Nov. 7) ¾ hr. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge Fireplace (DNC) ♿</p> <p>11:00am KIDS' PHOTOGRAPHY WALK 1 hr. For kids and their parents. Sign up and meet at the Ansel Adams Gallery (AAG)</p> <p>12:30pm Using Your Digital Camera Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at the Ansel Adams Gallery. (AAG) \$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Stroll—Bears 1 ½ hrs. Lower Yosemite Fall, shuttle stop #6 (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:30pm Twilight Stroll (Oct. 17 and 24 only) 1 hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm HALLOWEEN FAMILY NIGHT. (Oct. 31 only) 2 ½ hrs. See information below. Nature Center at Happy Isles. Near shuttle stop #16. (DNC/NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theatre LIVE: World-renowned climber Ron Kauk presents Return To Balance (High-definition climbing film) (Oct. 17, 24, and 31 only) 1 ½ hrs. Valley Visitor Center Theater. Tickets must be purchased in advance at any tour desk or at the Valley Visitor Center (open 9am to 5pm) (YA) \$ ♿</p> <p>7:30pm Ranger Evening Program (except Oct. 31) 1 hr. Check local listings for venue & topic (NPS) ♿</p>	<p>5:30pm Vintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist / singer Tom Bopp. Programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30 pm. Drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom for details. Wawona Hotel lounge. (Schedule subject to change, please check local listings.) (DNC) ♿</p>

- NPS** National Park Service
- DNC** DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.
- AAG** The Ansel Adams Gallery
- YA** Yosemite Association
- \$** Programs offered for a fee

 Indicates facilities accessible to visitors in wheelchairs. Short, steep inclines may be encountered.



A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Contact 209/372-4726 (TTY) or 209/372-0645 to request an interpreter. Advance notice of 2 weeks is requested.



Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advance request. Inquire at a visitor center.

Programs printed above in **COLOR** are especially for **CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES**

HALLOWEEN FAMILY NIGHT

October 31, 2009 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Nature Center at Happy Isles

Join park interpretive staff at the Happy Isles Nature Center for an evening of "super-natural" fun for the whole family! Stations will be set up investigating some of Yosemite's nightlife such as spiders, scorpions, bats and owls. You can also go out on a night walk and enjoy a story finale to the evening with goodies and hot drinks for attendees. The Nature Center is a short walk from shuttle stop #16; shuttle service will continue out to Happy Isles until 9:30p.m. for the event. ♿

HALLOWEEN HISTORY STROLL

October 30, 2009 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. Valley Visitor Center

Join a naturalist at the front of the Visitor Center with your flashlight. Take a shuttle bus to stops #5 or #9 (parking is not available). It is a short walk to the Yosemite Cemetery where we will piece together the story of some of the residents there. Not a scary event. ♿

Yosemite Valley

Dates, times, and places



Throughout Yosemite National Park

In Fall, Yosemite begins a transition to a cooler and quieter time of year. Below you will find a list of services and facilities that are available throughout the park. Note that some tours and roads close after the first big snowfall of the season.

Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

Visitor center and bookstore hours are 9 am to 5 pm, just west of the main post office (shuttle stops #5 and #9). The center offers information, maps, and books in the attached bookstore. Explore the new exhibit hall and learn how Yosemite's spectacular landscape was formed, how people have interacted with it through the centuries, how wildlife adapts and survives, and how your national park continues to evolve.

FILM: SPIRIT OF YOSEMITE

This inspiring visitor-orientation film is shown every 30 minutes, Monday - Saturday between 9:30 am and 4:30 pm, and Sunday between noon to 4:30 pm in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

Wilderness Permits

The Valley Wilderness Center is open from 8 am to 4:30 pm through Oct. 25. After that date, permits are available by self-registration at the Valley Visitor Center. Bear canister rentals are avail-

able at the visitor center after Oct. 25. See page 8 for other locations to obtain wilderness permits.

Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center.

ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE EXHIBIT

An exhibition of selected artists-in-residence who have worked in Yosemite over the last 20 years is ongoing at the Yosemite Museum Gallery. The exhibit continues through November 8.

INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

Open 9 am to 5 pm. Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite's Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE

Open daily from 9 am to 5 pm. The store offers books and traditional American Indian arts, crafts, jewelry, and books.

Village of Ahwahnee

Located behind the Yosemite Museum and open daily, the village offers a self-

guiding trail brochure and exhibits on Ahwahneechee life.

Yosemite Cemetery

This historic cemetery is located just west of the Yosemite Museum, across the street. *Guide to the Yosemite Cemetery* is available at the Valley Visitor Center.

Ansel Adams Gallery

The gallery is located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center and is open daily. Hours are 9 am to 5 pm through Oct. 31 and 10 am to 5 pm starting Nov. 1. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other fine artists. See page 5 for photo walk and other event times. For more information, call 209/372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com.

GALLERY EXHIBIT THROUGH NOV. 16

"Bob Kolbrener and Ansel Adams: 90 Years in the American West." A reception is open to the public on Oct. 24 from 4 to 6 pm.

POST OFFICE

Yosemite Village

Main Office

Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
Saturday: 10am to noon

Yosemite Lodge

Post Office

Monday-Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm

El Portal

Post Office

Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
closed for lunch from 12:30 to 1:30

Wawona Post Office

Monday-Friday: 9am to 5pm
Saturday: 9am to noon

BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

Yosemite Village

The Ansel Adams Gallery

9am to 5pm through Oct. 31
10am to 5pm starting Nov. 1

Yosemite Bookstore

Inside Yosemite Visitor Center

9am to 5pm

Yosemite Museum Store

9am to 5pm, may close for lunch

Village Store

8am to 8pm

Habitat Yosemite

11am to 4pm Fri., Sat., Sun. only
closes for season on Oct. 26

Sport Shop

10am to 5pm

The Ahwahnee

The Ahwahnee Gift Shop

8am to 8pm

The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop

7am to 10pm

Yosemite Lodge

Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm through Nov. 29
8am to 7pm as of Nov. 30

Nature Shop

11am to 7pm

Curry Village

Mountain Shop

8am to 6pm; 9am to 5pm as of Nov. 2

Curry Village Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm through Nov. 29
9am-7pm as of Nov. 30

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop

8am to 5pm

WINTER SPORTS

Badger Pass Ski Area and Sport Shop

Scheduled to open Dec. 18,
weather and conditions permitting.

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

TRAIL / DESTINATION	STARTING POINT	DISTANCE / TIME	DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION
Bridalveil Fall	Bridalveil Fall Parking Area	0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes	Easy
Lower Yosemite Fall	Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6	1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes	Easy
Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock	Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7	2 miles round-trip, 2-3 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Upper Yosemite Fall	Same as above	7.2 miles round-trip, 6-8 hours	Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain
Mirror Lake (a seasonal lake)	Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17	2 miles round-trip, 1 hour	Easy
Vernal Fall Footbridge	Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16	1.4 miles round-trip, 1-2 hours	Moderate, 400-foot gain
Top of Vernal Fall	Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16	3 miles round-trip, 2-4 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Nevada Fall	same as above	5 miles round-trip, 5-6 hours	Strenuous 1,900-foot gain
Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Closed in winter)	Southside Drive	4.8 miles one-way, 3-4 hours one-way	Very Strenuous, 3,200-foot gain
Valley Floor Loop	Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6	13 miles full loop, 5-7 hours full loop	Moderate

Hours listed are core hours for facilities and may be extended during periods of peak visitation. Check local postings for changes to hours of operation.

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Yosemite Village

Degnan's Delicatessen
7am to 5pm

Village Grill
11am to 5pm (closes for season Oct. 25)

The Ahwahnee

Dining Room
Breakfast: 7am to 10:30am
Lunch: 11:30am to 3pm
Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm
Sunday Brunch: 7am to 3pm
Appropriate attire respectfully requested for dinner.

Reservations recommended for dinner and Sunday Brunch:
209/372-1489.

The Ahwahnee Bar 11am to 11pm

Yosemite Lodge

Food Court
Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am
Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm
Dinner: 5pm-8pm

Mountain Room Lounge
4:30pm to 11pm (Mon.-Fri.)
Noon - 11pm (Sat.-Sun.)

Mountain Room Restaurant
Sunday - Thursday 5:00pm to 8:30pm
Friday - Saturday 5:00pm to 9:00pm
Reservations taken for 8 or more.
209/372-1281

Curry Village

Pizza Deck
Noon-9pm daily through Oct. 16
Noon-9pm Sat.-Sun. only as of Oct. 17;
closes for season on Nov. 28.

Coffee Corner
7 to 11am, closes for season Nov. 29

Curry Village Bar
5pm - 9pm daily
closes for season on Oct. 24

Pavilion Buffet
Breakfast: 7am to 10am,
closes for season on Oct. 25
Dinner: 5:30pm to 8pm,
closes for season on Oct. 24

Wawona

Wawona Hotel Dining Room
Breakfast: 7:30am to 10am
Lunch: 11:30am to 1:30pm
Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm
Reservations taken for 6 or more.
209/375-1425

GROCERIES

Yosemite Lodge

Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm through Nov. 29
8am to 7pm as of Nov. 30

Yosemite Village

Village Store
8am to 8pm

Degnan's Delicatessen
7am to 5pm

Curry Village

Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm through Nov. 29
9am to 7pm as of Nov. 30

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop

8am to 5pm

Crane Flat

Store
closed for remodeling

GAS STATION

Gas outside Yosemite Valley

El Portal
9am to noon, 1pm to 5pm
Diesel available. Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

Wawona Gas Station

8am to 5pm. Diesel & propane.
Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Crane Flat

Diesel available. Store closed for remodeling. Fuel available 24 hours with credit or debit card only.

Tuolumne Meadows

9am to 5pm. 24-hour pay with credit card only until road closure.

GOLF

Wawona Hotel Golf Course

9am to 5pm weather and conditions permitting. Nine-hole, par-35 course. Closes for season on Nov. 1.

Visitor Services

Beyond Yosemite Valley

Wawona

Pioneer Yosemite History Center

Go back to a time of horse-drawn wagons, a covered bridge, and log cabins. A visit to the Pioneer Yosemite History Center explores Yosemite's history and explains how Yosemite was the inspiration for national parks across America and around the world. The center is open throughout the year.

Evening Programs

Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Wawona Hotel lobby from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm, Tuesday through Saturday, as he performs songs and tells stories from Yosemite's past.

Wilderness Permits

Visitors can obtain wilderness permits at a self-service kiosk on the porch of the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio, adjacent to the Wawona Hotel.

Mariposa Grove

Located near Yosemite's South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park's largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees. A few of these giants are visible in the parking area. Information about access for disabled people is available at the tram boarding area. The road to the Grove closes in November or December and opens sometime in April. Visitors can walk, ski, or snowshoe when the road is closed to vehicles.

Getting to Mariposa Grove

Allow 1½ hours driving time to reach the grove from the Valley. Cars are prohibited beyond the grove parking lot.

Trailers are prohibited on the Mariposa Grove Road. Private vehicles longer than 25 feet are not permitted.

MARIPOSA GROVE & WAWONA SHUTTLE

A free shuttle stops at the Wawona Store, South Entrance, and Mariposa Grove. Visitors may park at the Wawona Store to board the bus. Shuttles operate beginning at 9 am, and the last shuttle leaves the grove at 6 pm, or after the last tour. Service stops for winter after the first significant snowfall.

BIG TREES TRAM TOUR

A 1¼-hr. tram tour of the grove available 9:30 am to 5 pm if weather permits. This audio tour is available in five languages and for visually impaired. Call 209/375-1621 or stop at a tour desk for information.

Walking through the Grove

Trails into the grove extend uphill from the trailhead 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 in Spanish, German, French and Japanese. When snow covers the ground, access is limited to foot, snowshoe, or ski.

Dogs or bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Grove.



Giant sequoias. Photo by Christine White Loberg

Outdoor Adventures

For more information on Yosemite Association's field seminars and custom guided hikes, pick up a catalog at any park visitor center, call 209/379-2321, or visit www.yosemite.org.

Oct. 9-20 Hiking Yosemite's Sister National Parks in China—Pete Devine.

Oct. 19-21 Autumn Light Photography—Dave Wyman and Ken Rockwell.

Nov. 5-8 Focusing on Nature: Autumn Photography—Keith Walklet.

Dec. 5 Woodpeckers: The Quest for Eleven—Pete Devine.

Big Oak Flat (Hwy 120)

Big Oak Flat Information Station

The information station is closed until spring, but wilderness permits are available at a self-service, 24-hour kiosk throughout the winter season.

Merced Grove

Yosemite's quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of about 20 trees accessible only on foot. It's a four-mile round-trip hike, ski, or snowshoe (about three hours) into the grove from Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). Located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat and 4½ miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance, the trailhead is marked by a road sign and post labeled B-10.

Tuolumne Grove

This cluster of about 25 sequoias is near Crane Flat at the intersection of Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from Crane Flat into the grove. Now closed to cars, this path drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The trip (you can walk, ski, or snowshoe) is moderately strenuous uphill. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guiding nature trail.

SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY

Curry Village

Showers
Open 24 hours

Housekeeping Camp

Laundromat
8am to 10pm

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(Nondenominational Christian)
WORSHIP SERVICES / YOSEMITE VALLEY CHAPEL
Sunday 9:15 am and 6:30 pm

Thursday: 7 pm;
Tuesday Bible Studies
Call 209/372-4831 for information

ROMAN CATHOLIC


Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Theater
Sunday Mass 10 am
CHURCH OF CHRIST (NONDENOMINATIONAL)
El Portal Chapel/Worship: Sunday 11 am
Foresta Road, at top of Chapel Lane
Information: 209/379-2100

GENERAL SERVICES

Village Garage
NO GAS AVAILABLE IN
YOSEMITE VALLEY
8am to 5pm
Towing 24 hours. Propane available until 4pm. 209/372-8320

Dental Services

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

Yosemite Medical Clinic
Emergency care: 24 hours daily. 
Drop-in and urgent care: 8am to 7pm.
Appointments: 8am to 5pm Mon. through Fri. Located on Ahwahnee Drive in Yosemite Valley, the clinic provides routine and emergency medical care, 24-hour paramedic/ambulance services, limited pharmacy, lab, x-ray, physical therapy, and Mountain Crisis Services for victims of domestic violence.
209/372-4637

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
7:30 pm Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday
DNC General Office Building
(Employee Training Center) Yosemite Village

AL-ANON

No Al-Anon meetings are currently taking place. However, if you need to speak with someone, feel free to call Dave M. at 209/765-1266.

LIONS CLUB

Meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at noon, The Ahwahnee.
Call 209/372-4475.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Meets Thursdays for lunch at noon in The Ahwahnee Mural Room. Visiting Rotarian families and guests welcome. For meeting reservations or information, call 209/372-8459.

Protecting Yourself

Experience Yosemite —Safely



Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.

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 risks associated with many activities.

Around Ice and Water

- Stay off frozen lakes, ponds and streams and away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards.
- Never swim or wade upstream from the brink of a waterfall, even if the water appears shallow and calm. Each year, unsuspecting visitors are swept over waterfalls to their deaths when swimming in these areas.
- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

Avoid Hypothermia

Sierra winters are comparatively mild, but temperatures can drop into dangerous territory with little warning. Winter sports require a high degree of preparation and training. Be prepared for a bivouac even when out just for the day. Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

Avoid the combination of wetness, wind, and cold. Know symptoms of hypothermia. Carry emergency fire-starting materials and food. Avoid dehydration; carry and drink plenty of water and carry emergency high-energy food.

Water Quality

To protect yourself from disease, treat any surface water before drinking.

- Treatment methods include boiling for five 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, and always wash hands afterwards with soap and water. In natural areas where facilities are not available,

wash, camp, and bury human waste (6 inches deep) at least 100 feet away from any water source or trail.

Traffic Safety

Roads leading to the park are two-lane, narrow, and winding. When traveling on park roads you can protect yourself, other visitors, and park wildlife by observing the following simple rules: Please obey posted speed limits. Yosemite's roads are used by both visitors and park wildlife. Use turnouts to pull completely out of the road, to take photos, consult the park map, or simply enjoy the park's scenery and wildlife.

Effects of Altitude

Altitude sickness may develop in otherwise healthy and fit people who are exposed to rapid increases in altitude. It can develop at altitudes as low as 8,000 feet (Yosemite Valley's elevation is 4,000 feet). Should altitude sickness develop, descend to a lower elevation. The Yosemite Medical Clinic in Yosemite Valley is experienced in diagnosing and treating this sickness.

Hiking, Backpacking, Backcountry Snow Travel, and Rock Climbing

- There are no scheduled winter patrols, so be prepared. You're on your own. Be honest about your abilities and plan with the least experienced member of your group in mind. Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back.
- Be prepared for icy travel before conditions arise. Bring crampons, ice axe, climbing skins, and other traction devices.
- Carry and know how to use a map and compass.
- Check weather forecasts. Snow can

occur with little warning, and can make route finding very difficult. Temperature shifts are common.

- Avoid dehydration or heat exhaustion; carry and drink plenty of water, and bring high-energy food.
- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.
- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

Wilderness Permit Details

Free wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Permits are issued at Yosemite Valley, Tuolumne Meadows (road closed after first big snow), Big Oak Flat, Wawona, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station. Self-service permit kiosks are open during the autumn and winter, with an additional permit point open at Badger Pass during snowy months. At Tuolumne Meadows after Oct. 15, permits are available at a self-service kiosk at the Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station. The Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center closes for the season on Oct. 25. Call the park's main phone line for backcountry information: 209/372-0200.

For summer trips, reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. There is a \$5 per person fee. Check the park's website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740 (starting on Jan. 5).

More Information

www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm
Leave No Trace www.lnt.org
Friends of Yosemite Search and Rescue www.friendofyosar.org

Fire Safety

Each year campfires, cigarettes, and human carelessness cause unwanted fires in Yosemite. You can help prevent these fires by following a few fire safety tips.

Campfires

- Build small campfires in established campfire rings.
- Never leave a campfire unattended.
- Extinguish campfires by stirring with water a half hour before leaving the site. Carefully feel charred material to make certain the fire is cold and out.

Cigarettes

- Never throw lighted cigarettes on the ground or out of a car window.
- Crush cigarette butts dead and out before discarding them in an ashtray or trash can.
- Do not smoke while walking on trails. Stop, smoke, and properly discard the cigarette butt before resuming your walk.

Charcoal Briquettes

- Never burn charcoal briquettes in a tent or vehicle. The carbon monoxide produced by burning charcoal is deadly in a confined space.
- After use, dunk burning briquettes in water until cold. Carefully check them to make sure the fire is out.
- Never throw burning or warm briquettes into trash cans or dumpsters.

Camping Stoves and Lanterns

- Refuel stoves or lanterns only when they are cold and in a well-ventilated area.
- Never use gas-fueled lanterns and stoves in tents, vehicles, or other confined spaces. These devices produce carbon monoxide gas which can be deadly.

Top Left: Wilderness exploration. Photo by Bob Roney

Top Right: On the trail. Photo by Bob Roney

Protecting Your Park

Enjoy park places, plants, and wildlife safely and responsibly



Sow and cub. Photo by Christine White Loberg

Protect Yosemite's Wilderness

- Pack out all trash and toilet paper/sanitary products.
- Use gas stoves rather than wood fires.
- Camp in an existing campsite at least 100 feet from water and trail. You must be four trail miles from any populated area and one 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 eight people for off-trail travel.
- Yosemite is a wildlife preserve. Pets, weapons, bicycles, strollers, and motor vehicles are never allowed on Yosemite's wilderness trails.

Fishing

Fishing in Yosemite is regulated under state law. A valid California sport-fishing license is required for those persons age 16 years and older. When fishing, the license must be plainly visible by attaching it to an outer layer of clothing above the waistline.

- Trout season opens on the last Saturday in April and continues through November 15 (except Frog Creek near Lake Eleanor, which opens June 15).
- Special fishing regulations apply on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley from Happy Isles downstream to the

Foresta Bridge in El Portal. Within these reaches of the river, it is catch-and-release only for rainbow trout. Brown trout limits are five fish per day. Only artificial lures or flies with barbless hooks may be used.

- The use of live or dead minnows, bait fish or amphibians, non-preserved fish eggs or roe is prohibited.

Pets

Some visitors choose to bring pets along on their vacations. Keep in mind, in Yosemite, pet owners have a few rules to follow:

- Pets are only allowed in developed areas and on roads and paved bike paths. They are not allowed on other trails, or in wilderness areas.
- Pets must be on a leash (6 feet or less) or otherwise physically restrained.
- For the courtesy of others, human companions are responsible for cleaning up and depositing pet feces in trash receptacles.
- Pets are not allowed in any lodging facilities or other buildings within the park and are not allowed in some campgrounds.
- Pets may not be left unattended.

Bicycling

Each season, plants are crushed from bicycle travel in meadows, campgrounds, and picnic areas. Please respect park resources and keep bicycles on paved roads and paved bicycle trails. They are not allowed to travel

off-trail or on dirt paths or trails.

Permits and Other Rules

To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit www.nps.gov/yose/plan_your_visit/your_safety.htm and find a copy of the Superintendent's Compendium. This document is a compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions made by the superintendent, in addition to what is contained in applicable federal statutes and regulations.

Reporting Violations

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

- Actively feeding or harassing wildlife
- Collecting plants, reptiles, or insects
- Hunting or directly harming animals
- Picking up archeological items such as arrowheads
- Using metal detectors to locate and collect historic objects
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Camping outside of 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 call the park dispatch office at 209/379-1992.

Avoid hiking alone. Watch children closely and never let them run ahead or lag behind on the trail. Teach children what to do if they see a lion.

Never approach a lion, especially if it is with kittens. Most lions will avoid confrontation. Always give them a way to escape. Don't run. Hold your ground, or back away slowly.

Face the lion and stand upright. 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 may be dangerous. If attacked, fight back!

Report lion encounters at 209/372-0322.

Keeping Bears Wild

Three Top Ways to Keep Yosemite's Black Bears Wild and Alive. Remember that Yosemite Bears are Active All Winter Long:

1. Store Your Food Properly.

"Food" includes any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This may include items that you do not consider food, such as canned goods, bottles, drinks, soap, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unwashed items used for preparing or eating meals. Do not store food in your car after dark: use a food locker. Remember to clear your car of food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats. If you are staying in a campsite or tent cabin, you must store all your food in food lockers. A food locker is available at each campsite and tent cabin. Food may be stored out of sight in hard-sided RVs with windows closed. Do not leave food unattended at picnic areas and along trails. When backpacking in the wilderness, bear resistant food containers are required.

2. If you see a bear, scare it away or keep your distance.

You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away: Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If there is more than one person, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear. If you see a bear anywhere else, consider yourself lucky—but keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will be helping the bear become used to being around people.

3. Drive the speed limit.

The most common human-related cause of death for a black bear in Yosemite is being hit by a car. Please slow down!

To report bear sightings, improper food storage, trash problems, and other bear-related problems, leave a message for the Bear Management Team at 209/372-0322.

Mountain Lions

Mountain lions are a normal and important part of the park ecosystem. They are attracted to areas with healthy deer and raccoon populations, which include many areas of the park. Generally, they are calm, quiet, and elusive. Sightings are quite rare, so if you spot one, consider yourself privileged!

Women Who Changed Yosemite

Feature Article



The Sweet sisters posed with their friend Maybel Davis in 1896. Yosemite Research Library photo.

Stella, Bertha and Mabel Sweet and friend Maybel Davis ascended Mt. Lyell, the highest mountain in the park, in 1896. They were the third group of women to climb Mt. Lyell and the first group to descend into Tuolumne Canyon. The photograph on the left was captured by their brother, and the *San Francisco Chronicle* wrote about them.

Kitty Tatch was a maid and waitress at the Sentinel Hotel in the late 1890s and early 1900s. Dressed in long wide skirts identifying her clearly as a woman, she danced and did high kicks at Overhanging Rock, 3,000 feet above the Valley, on Glacier Point with her friend Katherine Hazelston as George Fiske photographed them (see photo at right). These pictures were later made into postcards, autographed by Tatch, and sold for years.

In a more modern context, Liz Robbins became the first woman to ascend the Northwest face of Half Dome in 1967 with her husband, Royal Robbins. In 1973, Bev Johnson and Sybille Hectell completed the first all female ascent of El Capitan.

Enid Michael, Yosemite's assistant postmaster. An ardent naturalist-botanist, Enid was appointed a seasonal ranger in 1921, serving in that position for 20 years. As a temporary park ranger making \$80 a month, her duties included lecturing at museums, giving nature walks, and collecting and preparing plant specimens. By 1929, she had collected and mounted 1,000 plant specimens as well as recording visits by 130 bird species. Her most significant accomplishments were the creation of a wildflower garden behind the Yosemite Museum and



Kitty Tatch & Katherine Hazelston dance on Overhanging Rock at Glacier Point. Yosemite Research Library photo.

writing 537 articles—the largest body of writing on Yosemite by any author.

Artists & Writers

The work of female artists inspired other women to visit Yosemite and the West. Constance Gordon-Cummings completed 50 watercolors and drawings and staged an exhibition of her work during a three-month stay in 1878. Her book, *Granite Crags of California*, published in 1886, included a travel narrative about Yosemite; Mary Winslow, one of the first female traveling photographers, documented Yosemite's landscape in 1895; and Jesse Benton Fremont wrote *Far West Sketches* in which she described her visits to Yosemite Valley. Fremont was the wife of John C. Fremont and daughter of Thomas Hart Benton, important figures in Western American history, yet she still distinguished herself as a notable author and political activist in her own right.

Visit www.nps.gov/yose/historyculture to learn more about history and culture in Yosemite National Park.

The impact of pioneer women on the Yosemite region is richer and more enduring than is widely known by visitors.

Women have made their mark in the park.

By Ranger Pam Meierding

Women have played an important—though often hidden—part in Yosemite. In the 1800s, women were expected to play a traditional role in the private world of the family and the home. With the birth of the railroad, and as the Gold Rush drew people to California from around the country in the late 1800s, pioneering women found ways to broaden traditional roles. Clothing reforms, such as the advent of “bloomers,” allowed women to participate in outdoor pursuits, while women writing about their adventures in the West inspired the imagination of others. In the West, women's domestic skills sometimes became the basis for a profitable business. Below you will meet some of these pioneering women.

The Concessioners

Bridget Degan moved to the United States from Ireland with her husband John, settling in Yosemite Valley in 1884. They raised eight children while John worked as a laborer for the state. Bridget added to the family's income by selling bread she baked daily

for 12 ½¢ a loaf. Demand for her bread increased steadily as more visitors traveled to Yosemite Valley.

In 1900, the Degnans ordered a large brick oven that could hold over 100 loaves of bread. This oven is on display in the Pioneer History Center at Wawona. Their original home was in the vicinity of the present-day Yosemite Lodge, and later, at the site of old Yosemite Village.

Jennie Foster Curry moved to Yosemite in 1899 with her husband David Curry. She was a college graduate, which was unusual for a woman at the time. Her husband and she ran a tent camp at the base of Glacier Point. When David died in 1917, “Mother” Curry carried on the camp and oversaw expansions, continuing Yosemite Park and Curry Company leases from the government with the help of her children. By 1922, Camp Curry had grown to 650 tents, 60 rooms in cottages, a cafeteria, and many other amenities

The Adventurers

Sally Dutcher became the first woman to climb Half Dome in October 1875, accompanied by George Anderson and Galen Clark. She worked as an assistant to photographer Carleton Watkins in his gallery.

Park Employees & Naturalists

Maggie Howard was a Paiute born at Mono Lake, and she spent much of her life in Yosemite Valley. She was one of the first American Indian women to do cultural demonstrations. She worked at the Yosemite Museum from 1929-1942 demonstrating acorn preparation and basket weaving, a tradition that continued with succeeding cultural demonstrators, Lucy Telles and Julia Parker.

Clare Marie Hodges was the first woman ranger in Yosemite. She began teaching in the Yosemite Valley School in 1916. During World War I, Hodges heard about the difficulty the park was having finding men to work as rangers due to the demands of the war. In the spring of 1918, she applied to the superintendent, Washington B. Lewis, and said, “Probably you'll laugh at me, but I want to be a ranger.” He responded, “I beat you to it, young lady. It's been on my mind for some time to put a woman on one of these patrols.” Her job consisted of taking the gate receipts from Tuolumne Meadows to park headquarters, an overnight ride on horseback.

Enid Michael came to Yosemite Valley in 1916 when she married Charles Mi-

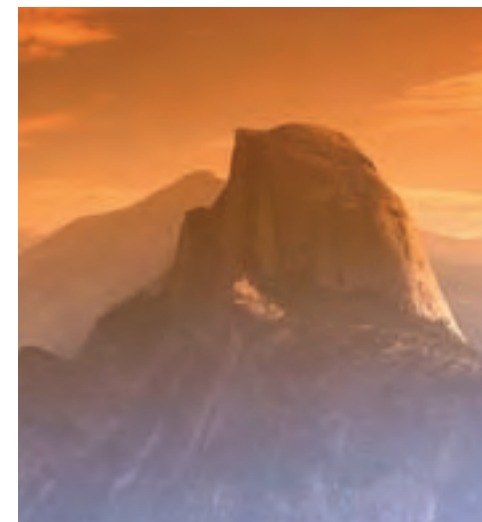
Supporting Your Park

Providing for Yosemite's Future

Enhancing the Visitor Experience

It takes a legion of people working together to protect this special park for you and future generations of visitors. You, too, can extend your connection to Yosemite well after you return home by getting involved with the organizations that partner to preserve Yosemite.

This publication was made possible by the Yosemite Park Partners listed on this page. Read more below or visit www.yosemitepartners.org to learn more about helping these organizations provide for the future of Yosemite National Park.



The Ansel Adams Gallery

The Ansel Adams Gallery, owned by the family of photographer Ansel Adams since 1902, is a center that celebrates the arts and the natural grandeur of our environment. It cultivates an aesthetic appreciation and concern for our world by offering visitors a unique variety of literature and art, as well as programs that inspire creativity. Visit online at www.anseladamsgallery.com.

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite (DNC) operates hotels, restaurants, sightseeing tours, recreational activities, interpretive programs, stores, shuttles and service stations in the park under contract with the U.S. Department of the Interior. DNC encourages its employees to develop a strong relationship with the park during their tenure. For more information and employment opportunities with DNC at Yosemite, visit online at www.YosemitePark.com.

Yosemite Association

The Yosemite Association is a nonprofit membership organization that provides opportunities for people to learn about, enjoy, and experience Yosemite National Park and the Sierra Nevada. The Association celebrates the majesty and grandeur of this region through its visitor services, publications, outdoor classroom, and membership activities, which give people of all ages the chance to forge an enduring and inspirational connection to Yosemite. This, in turn, builds a commitment to the long-term preservation and vitality of Yosemite and our National Parks. Since 1923, the Association has provided important services and financial support to the National Park Service. Anyone who loves Yosemite and wishes to become more closely involved and affiliated with the park will enjoy membership in the Association. For more information, visit park bookstores or www.yosemite.org.

The Yosemite Fund

The Fund provides broad-based private funding from 27,000 members for projects that preserve, protect, or enhance Yosemite Park. Fund operations result in material improvement in the stewardship and quality of Yosemite's natural, cultural or historical resources or the visitor experience. Fund grants repair trails, restore habitat, conduct scientific research, enhance visitor education, preserve park history, and protect wildlife. Since 1988 the Fund has provided over \$50 million to complete more than 200 projects. Visit online at www.yosemitefund.org.

Yosemite Institute

Since 1971, thousands of school-age children have benefited from learning in "nature's classroom" through the residential field-science programs offered by Yosemite Institute (YI). A YI experience strives to foster a life-long connection to the natural world—whether it is in Yosemite, on a city street or in our own backyards. YI also offers professional development for teachers, summer youth programs, backpacking adventures, community outreach programs and service learning projects. For more information, visit www.naturebridge.org/yosemite.

Contact Us...

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THE YOSEMITE FUND®
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Above right: Half Dome. Photo: Christine White Loberg



Shuttles run daily every 10-20 minutes depending on the time of day. The Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7:00am - 10:00pm. All shuttles follow the same route, serving stops in numerical order. Service may be affected by construction projects. Check shuttle stops for more information.