

# Yosemite Guide

Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

September 8 - October 12, 2010

Giant sequoias, photo by

# September - October 2010

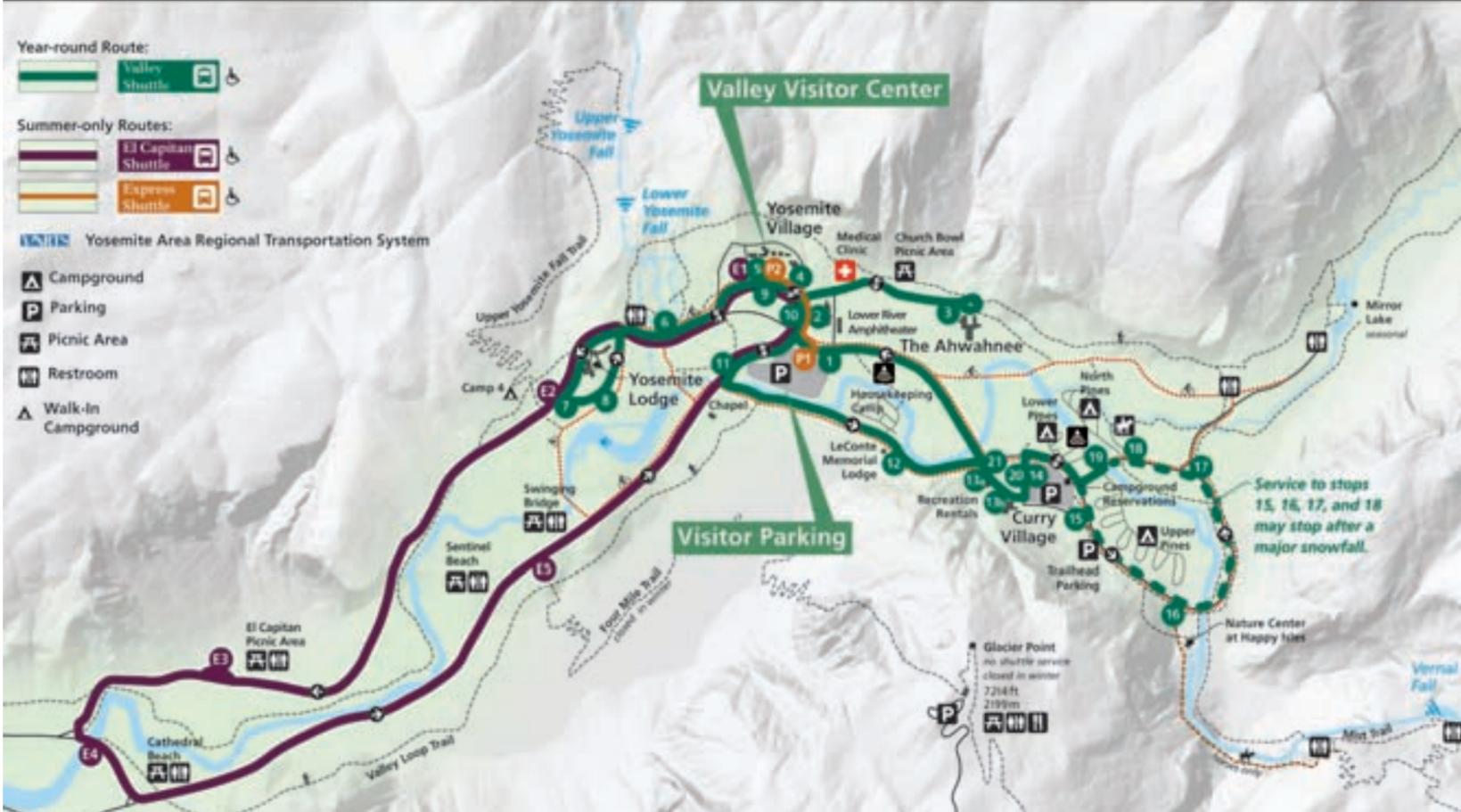


Vol.35, Issue No.7

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

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Yosemite Guide September 8 - October 12, 2010



The **Valley Visitor Shuttle** operates from 7 am to 10 pm and serves stops in numerical order. Shuttles run daily every 10 to 20 minutes depending on time of day. Overnight service available by calling 209/372-1001.  
 The **El Capitan Shuttle** operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttles run daily every 30 minutes. No overnight service available.  
 The **Express Shuttle** operates from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Stop #	Location	Stop #	Location	Stop #	Location
1	Visitor Parking	8	Yosemite Lodge	16	Happy Isles
2	Yosemite Village	11	Sentinel Bridge	17	Mirror Lake Trailhead
3	The Ahwahnee	12	LeConte / Housekeeping Camp	18	Stable
4	Degnan's Deli	13-21	Recreation Rentals	19	Pines Campgrounds
5	Valley Visitor Center	14	Curry Village	20	El Capitan Picnic Area
6	Lower Yosemite Fall	15	Curry Village Parking	21	El Capitan Bridge
7	Camp 4		Upper Pines Campground	22	Four Mile Trailhead

# Things to Do

Keep this Guide with you to get the most out of your trip to Yosemite National Park

**W**hat do you want to do with your special time in Yosemite? The choice is yours, but to give you some ideas, here are some popular activities for a day in Yosemite National Park.

## Take the Bus!

Free shuttles, including some environmentally-friendly electric/diesel hybrids, are available in many places throughout the park. Park your car and let an expert drive you to some of the most scenic and historic points in the park. Not only will you be doing your part to cut down on traffic congestion and vehicle pollutants, you'll also have both hands free for that perfect shot of Half Dome.

## Walk to a Waterfall

Yosemite Valley is famous for its awe-inspiring waterfalls; each as distinct as the granite cliffs they dive over. While Yosemite Falls is likely dry by September, Bridalveil, Vernal, and Nevada Falls flow all year. (See page 17 for hiking information.)

## Explore a Sequoia Grove

Meet the most massive trees on earth as you explore a giant sequoia grove. Yosemite is home to three groves—the Mariposa Grove, which contains hundreds of sequoias, and the Tuolumne and Merced Groves, which each hold dozens. (See page 2 for a map of the park.)

## See Sunset from Glacier Point

Glacier Point provides a superb view of Half Dome, towering more than 3,000 feet above Yosemite Valley. Witness the



## Bring Your Yosemite Guide With You!

The Yosemite Guide has much of the information you'll need to get the most out of your visit, including maps, hiking and camping, and important safety information.

sunset, as it lights up the cliff face, from Glacier Point (or from other points in Yosemite Valley). Listen in on a sunset talk with a ranger at Glacier Point.

## Visit the other valley, Hetch Hetchy

*"Almost an exact counterpart of the Yosemite... a visit to its counterpart may be recommended, if it be only to see how curiously nature has repeated herself."* -Josiah D. Whitney.

Hetch Hetchy provides spectacular vistas, waterfalls, and hiking trails. (See page 2 for a park map and page 3 for area information)

## Drive to Olmsted Point

Take in the spectacular panoramic view from this scenic turnout on the Tioga

Road: Tenaya Canyon, granite peaks and domes, and Tenaya Lake with Mt. Conness in the background. (See page 2 for a park map and area information.)

## Travel Back in Time

Visit Wawona's Pioneer Yosemite History Center and join "Buckshot" for a horse-drawn stage ride! These 10-minute rides introduce you to an early chapter in Yosemite's history and are fun for the whole family. (See pages 8 and 9 for history center and other Wawona area information.)

## Stroll with a Ranger

Learn about the wonders of the park on a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are

offered daily throughout the park on a variety of topics including waterfalls, trees, bears, geology, Yosemite Indians and more. (See area program grids on pages 6, 7, 9, and 11.)

## Take a Photography Class

Learn how to best capture the landscape of Yosemite by joining a photography expert from the Ansel Adams Gallery. Several classes are offered each week. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 6 and 7 for times and meeting places.)

## Have Fun with the Family

Learn about Yosemite, meet a park ranger, and have a blast by becoming a Yosemite Junior Ranger or Yosemite Little Cub. Check in with any visitor center to find out how. Stop by the Nature Center at Happy Isles for another great place to explore with the family. (See page 12 for the Jr. Ranger Page.)

## 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 5 for museum hours and a list of gallery events and features.)

Yosemite Shuttle photo by Al Golub



## Entering a National Park

Prepare yourself for a wild experience. Yosemite is a place where natural forces—such as rockfall, fire, and flood—are constantly at work. Here, wildlife freely roams. This is a place where wilderness prevails. The National Park Service recognizes the importance of Yosemite's natural processes and is bound by its mission to protect them for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. While you are enjoying your visit, be attentive to the special regulations in place to protect park resources (page 6) and those designed for your safety (page 7).

**i** Fire – Police – Medical Emergency:  
Dial 911

**Road, Weather, and General Park Information: 209/372-0200 or [www.nps.gov/yose](http://www.nps.gov/yose)**

Sudden changes in weather are common in the Sierra Nevada. Call the number above or check at a visitor center for the most recent weather forecast.

## Road Information

Construction may cause delays and/or detours on park roads. Call 209/372-0200 for updated road information and check the park map on the back of this Guide to determine possible construction impacts.

## Access for People with Disabilities

**Accessible parking, lodging, tours, and activities are available throughout the park.**



For a complete list of accessible services, recreational opportunities, and exhibits, pick up an updated Yosemite Accessibility Guide which is available at park entrance stations, visitor centers, and online at [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm](http://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.

A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Call 209/372-0296 to request an interpreter. Advance notice of at least 2 days is requested. Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advance request. Inquire at a 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.

## What's Inside:

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# Discover Yosemite

## Entrance Fees

Reservations are NOT required to enter Yosemite. The park is open year-round, 24 hours/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.tcvb.com

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

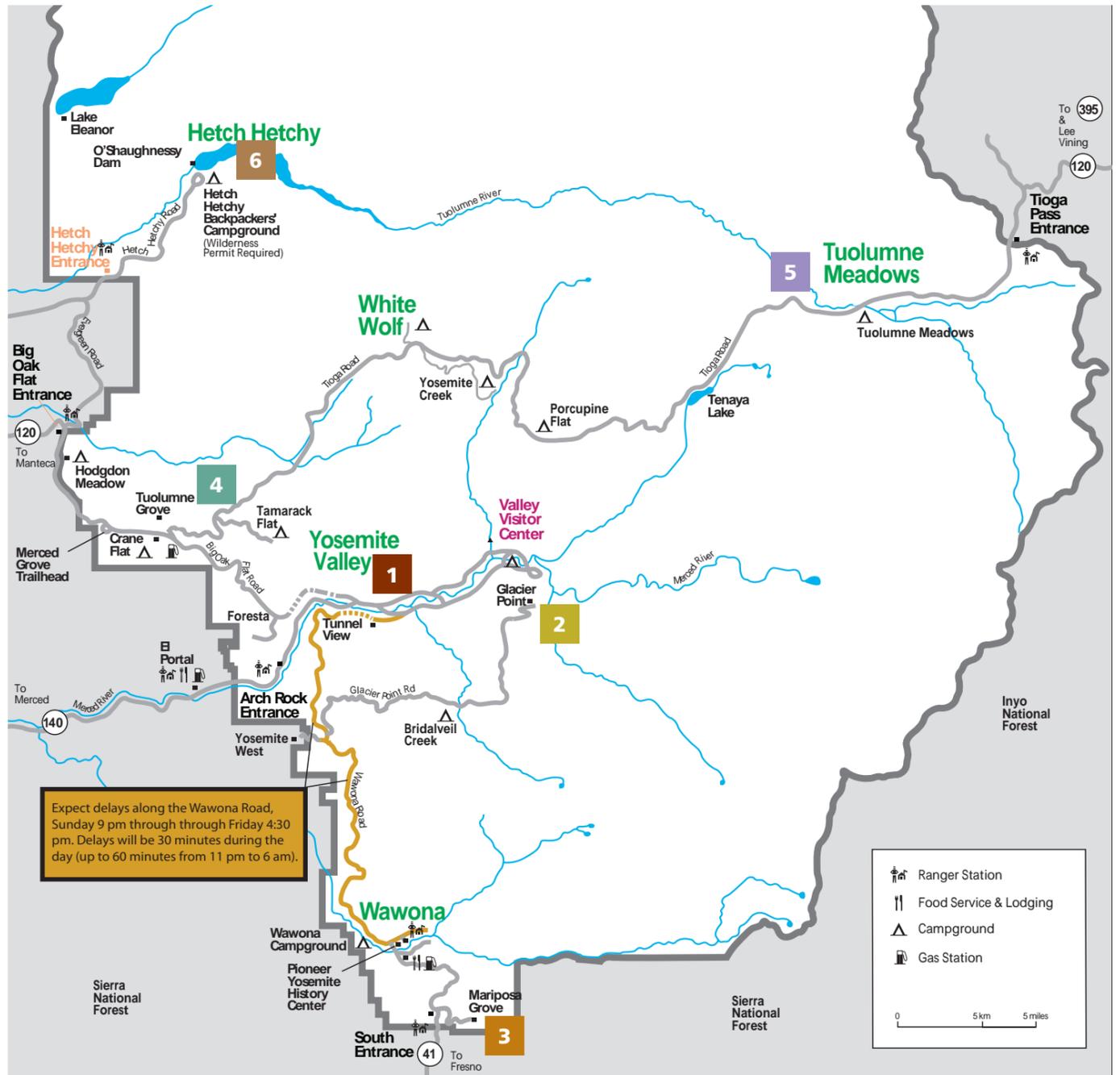
**Highway 132/49**  
Coulterville Visitor Center  
209/878-3074

**Highway 140/49**  
Mariposa County Visitor Center  
866/425-3366 or 209/966-7081

**Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau**  
209/742-4567  
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 209/724-8104  
www.yosemite-gateway.org



## Yosemite Valley

**1** Yosemite Valley, open all year, is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. You can get there via Highway 41/Wawona Road from Fresno, Highway 140/El Portal Road from Merced, Highway 120 west/Big Oak Flat Road from Manteca, and (during summer) via the Tioga Road/Highway 120 east from Lee Vining. Yosemite Valley is home to massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls slows to trickle by August, a moderate hike will bring you to impressive Vernal and Nevada Falls. Walk to Mirror Lake, where you will see reflections of Half Dome. Gaze up at El Capitan, a massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the valley by foot, bike, car, on horseback, raft, or tour, you will behold scenery that will leave you breathless and eager to see what's around the next corner.



Mirror Lake and Mount Watkins. 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 or Wawona. To get there from either of these places, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), to Chinquapin, then turn onto Glacier Point Road. Glacier Point Road is usually open from late May through sometime in November. Be prepared for 30-minute construction delays (60 minutes at night) on the Wawona Road Sunday evening through Friday evening. 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 below.



View from Glacier Point at sunset. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## 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. Be prepared for 30-minute construction delays (60 minutes at night) on the Wawona Road Sunday evening through Friday evening. 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. Enjoy a horse-drawn stage ride, watch blacksmiths at work at the blacksmith shop, or hike one of the scenic trails. For more information, visit the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio, adjacent to the historic Wawona Hotel. This was once a painting studio for the 19th-century artist Thomas Hill. The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is a short drive or help reduce congestion by taking the free shuttle from the Wawona Store.



The Mariposa Grove Museum. Photo by Pam Meierding

## Tioga Road and Tuolumne Grove

**4** Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. It is usually open from late May or early June through sometime in November. The road's elevation ranges from 6,200 to nearly 10,000 feet, so it offers an opportunity to experience many of Yosemite's habitats. The White Wolf area, midway across the park, is the starting point for day hikes to Lukens Lake and Harden Lake. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking area on the Tioga Road, and walk one steep mile down to the grove. Or, park at Merced Grove trailhead on Big Oak Flat Road and walk 1.5 steep miles down to the grove. These groves are smaller than the more-famous Mariposa Grove, but are quieter and off-limits to vehicles. Remember: walking down is easier than walking back up.



Clouds Rest and Half Dome as seen from the Tioga Road at Olmsted Point. Photo by Victoria Mates

## Tuolumne Meadows

**5** Tuolumne Meadows provides a glimpse of the High Sierra and the Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River, which winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by even higher granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week. Stop at the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center for information about hiking to Cathedral Lakes, Elizabeth Lake, Dog Lake, Lembert Dome, or along the Tuolumne River through Lyell Canyon. Take advantage of the free shuttle service in Tuolumne Meadows or the Tuolumne Meadows Tour and Hikers' Bus from Yosemite Valley.



Cathedral Peak, Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Hetch Hetchy

**6** 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 wilderness trails. Due to its importance as a municipal water supply, no swimming is permitted. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open 7 am to 9 pm May 1 through Labor Day, with reduced hours during the rest of the year. Hetch Hetchy Road is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen Road and is approximately a 1 ¼-hour 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.



Hetch Hetchy. Photo by Erik Skindrud

### Did you know?

Fire has been a natural part of the Sierran ecosystem for centuries. Natural fires swept through these plant communities at intervals that provided conditions for many plant species to regenerate. Fire thins competing species, recycles nutrients into the soil, releases and scarifies seeds, and opens holes in the forest canopy for sunlight to enter. All of these are critical to forest health and natural cycles of growth and decomposition. Plants are not the only living things that have evolved with and adapted to fire. Animal species are just as much a part of the "fire environment." With the increased forage that results after a fire, many animals low on the food chain experience increases in their populations; therefore species above them on the food chain also benefit.

Despite the evidence that fire is a necessary element in the Sierra Nevada, over most of the past century people have feared and suppressed it whenever possible. Especially in the western United States, the accumulation of dead forest litter and duff during that time now presents extreme hazards to the health of the trees, soil, and wildlife, and to humans living in these areas. To learn more about fire ecology, visit [www.nps.gov/fire](http://www.nps.gov/fire).

# Yosemite Valley

## Spectacular vistas in the heart of the park



Yosemite Falls, NPS Photo

### 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. See pages 5, 6, and 7 for more information on program topics and visitor services.

#### Ranger Programs

Rangers give walks and talks every day about Yosemite's natural and cultural history. See pages 6 and 7 for scheduled strolls, talks, and evening programs.

#### Walking and Hiking

From easy walks to Lower Yosemite Fall, Cook's Meadow, and Mirror Lake to strenuous hikes to the top of Yosemite Falls or Nevada Fall, Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. See page 17 for a list of hikes.

#### Bicycling

Several miles of paved bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. Bring your own or rent bikes at Yosemite Lodge or Curry Village. Rental stands are open from 9am to 6pm, with the last rentals out at 4:45pm. Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

#### Tours

(Tours listed below depart from Yosemite Lodge.)

- The **Valley Floor Tour** is a 19-mile, two-hour open-air tram tour narrated by a park ranger (weather permitting). The tour departs

Yosemite Lodge several times daily.

- The **Glacier Point Tour** leaves Yosemite Lodge at 8:30 am, 10 am, and 1:30 pm daily when the Glacier Point Road is open. One-way tickets are available for those who want to hike down from Glacier Point.
- The **Grand Tour** includes the Valley, Glacier Point, and the Mariposa Grove. An experienced guide narrates each tour. The tour departs Yosemite Lodge at 8:45 am daily.

Call 209/372-4386 for reservations or inquire at the tour desks at Yosemite Lodge, Yosemite Village, Curry Village, and The Ahwahnee.

#### Mule & Horseback Rides

Horse or mule rides begin at the stable near North Pines Campground. Stable hours are 7:00 am to 5 pm daily. Information: 209/372-8348 (reservations strongly recommended).

#### Sightseeing

Some of the famous landmarks in Yosemite Valley include:

- **Yosemite Falls**, even when it's dry, you can walk to the base or take the strenuous trail to its top for spectacular views of Yosemite Valley and the High Sierra beyond (see page 17).
- **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, and Glacier Point, are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome.

- **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.
- **Happy Isles** is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16 or by walking from Curry Village. Cross the footbridges onto the isles or wander through outdoor and indoor exhibits detailing Yosemite's geologic story.
- **Tunnel View**, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.



Western tanager  
Illustration by Lauren Hamilton

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 Loft**, closes September 19  
11am to 9pm

**Degnan's Delicatessen**  
7am to 5pm

**Village Grill**  
11am to 5pm, closes October 10

#### 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

##### Ahwahnee Coffee Bar

7am to 10:30am

##### The Ahwahnee Bar

11:30am to 11pm

#### Yosemite Lodge

##### Food Court

Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am

Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm

Dinner: 5pm to 8:30pm

##### Mountain Room Lounge

Monday – Friday

4:30pm to 11pm

Saturday – Sunday

Noon to 11pm

##### Mountain Room Restaurant

5:30pm to 9:00pm

Reservations taken for 8 or more.

209/372-1281

#### Curry Village

##### Curry Village Guest Lounge

8 am - 10 pm

##### Coffee Corner

7am to 11am

##### Curry Village Bar

Noon to 10 pm daily, 5-10 pm Sun-

Thurs. and Noon to 10 pm on Sat. &

Sun. beginning Sept. 19

##### Pavilion Buffet

Breakfast: 7am to 10am

Dinner: 5:30pm to 8pm

##### Pizza Deck

Noon to 9pm

##### Taqueria

11am to 5pm, closes October 3

##### Happy Isles Snack Stand

11am to 5pm, closes October 3

### BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

#### Yosemite Village

##### The Ansel Adams Gallery

9am to 6pm

##### Yosemite Art & Education Center

9am to 4:30pm closed for lunch

##### Yosemite Bookstore

Inside Yosemite Visitor Center

9am to 6pm

##### Yosemite Museum Store

9am to 5pm

##### Valley Wilderness Center

8am to 5pm

##### Village Store

8am to 9pm

##### Habitat Yosemite

11am to 4pm, Thursday-Sunday

##### Sport Shop

10am to 5pm

#### Ahwahnee

##### The Ahwahnee Gift Shop

8am to 9pm

##### The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop

7am to 10pm

#### Yosemite Lodge

##### Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm

##### Nature Shop

10am to 6pm

#### Curry Village

##### Mountain Shop

8am to 6pm

##### Curry Village Gift/Grocery

8am to 9pm

#### Nature Center at Happy Isles

Exhibits only, 10am to 4pm. Open through September 29th

# Yosemite Valley

## Where to Go & What to Do



### Experience Yosemite Valley

A variety of programs, services, and events are available for all ages in Yosemite Valley. These pages describe these offerings and hours of operation to help you guide your adventure.

## Yosemite Valley

### Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

Visitor center and bookstore hours are 9 am to 6 pm. The visitor center is just west of the main post office (shuttle stops #5 and #9). The facility offers information, maps, and books. Explore the exhibits and learn how Yosemite's landscape formed and how people interact with it.

#### FILM: SPIRIT OF YOSEMITE

This inspiring visitor-orientation film provides a stunning overview of Yosemite's splendor. It is shown every 30 minutes, Monday through Saturday between 9:30 am and 5:30 pm, and Sunday between noon to 5:30 pm in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

### Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center.

#### VIEWS & VISITORS: THE YOSEMITE EXPERIENCE IN THE 19TH CENTURY

This exhibit features paintings, prints, artifacts, and ephemera from Yosemite's early years. Historic hotel registers and the Grand Register of the Cosmopolitan are also on view. The exhibit includes an interactive kiosk related to the Grand Register and a digital slide show of historic visitors and hotels, and is open daily through October 31. Hours are from 10-12 and 1-4. The exhibit is made possible by a grant from the Yosemite Conservancy.



#### 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.

### Ansel Adams Gallery

In Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9 am to 6 pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, other photographers and artists, camera walks, workshops, and classes. Activities are listed on the front porch. Call 209/372-4413, or visit [www.anseladams.com](http://www.anseladams.com).

### Wilderness Center

The Valley Wilderness Center is located in Yosemite Village adjacent to the post office. Hours are 8 am to 5 pm. Visit the wilderness center to learn about

wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, and rent bear canisters.

### Yosemite Art & Education Center

The Yosemite Art & Education Center offers a selection of original art and art supplies, as well as four-hour art workshops Tuesday through Saturday (see pg. 6). Located south of the Village Store, the Center is open 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 4:30 pm daily.

### Nature Center at Happy Isles

Open 9:30 am to 4 pm, exhibits only, through September 29th. Designed for nature-exploring children and their families, the nature center offers natural-history exhibits and a bookstore. The nature center is a short walk from shuttle stop # 16.

### Internet Access

Fee-based terminals are available at Degnan's Deli. Wireless access is offered at Yosemite Lodge (for a fee). Free access via terminals is available at the Mariposa County library, south of the Yosemite Cemetery at Yosemite Village (hours are limited).

### Yosemite Theater LIVE

Yosemite Theatre LIVE offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances that bring Yosemite's history to life. Discover the world of John Muir and other characters from the park's rich history.

## VALLEY SERVICES

### POST OFFICES

#### 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

### GROCERY, BOOKS, & GIFTS

#### Yosemite Village

##### The Ansel Adams Gallery

9am to 6pm

##### Yosemite Art & Education Center

9am to 12pm and 1pm to 4:30pm,

##### Yosemite Bookstore - Visitor Center

9am to 6pm

##### Yosemite Museum Store

9am to 5pm (may close for lunch)

##### Village Store Gift/Grocery

8am to 9pm

##### Habitat Yosemite

11am to 4 pm Thurs-Sun

##### Sport Shop

10am to 5 pm

##### Tour Desk - Village Store

7:30am to 3pm

#### The Ahwahnee

##### The Ahwahnee Gift Shop

8am to 9pm

##### The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop

7am to 10pm

#### Yosemite Lodge

##### Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm

##### Nature Shop

8am to 6pm

##### Tour Desk

7:30am to 7pm

#### Curry Village

##### Mountain Shop

8am to 6pm

##### Gift/Grocery

8am to 9pm

##### Tour Desk

7:30am to 3pm

#### Housekeeping Camp

##### Gift/Grocery

8 am to 6 pm, closes Oct 11th at noon

## MEDICAL & DENTAL

### Yosemite Medical Clinic

Emergency care: 24 hours daily.

Drop-in and urgent care: 8am to

7pm. Appointments: 8am to 5pm,

M-F. (Also: Mountain Crisis Services

for victims of domestic violence.)

Located on Ahwahnee Drive.

209/372-4637.

### Dental Services

Located next to the Medical Clinic

209/372-4200 or 209/372-4637.

# SCHEDULED EVENTS IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

September 8 - October 12, 2010



A DNC Interpreter engages young park visitors during a Wee Wild Ones program. Photo courtesy of DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite.

## Outdoor Adventures

The non-profit Yosemite Conservancy sponsors this year-round series of fun, educational field seminars; they're a great way to deepen your connection to our park. Pick up an Outdoor Adventures catalog in any Visitor Center, find all the details at [www.yosemite.org](http://www.yosemite.org), or call 209/379-2317 x 17 or 12. Park entry and camping are included; motel rooms have already been set aside for these courses. The Conservancy also arranges Custom Adventures for individuals families and groups who want their own naturalist/guide: [info@yosemite.org](mailto:info@yosemite.org).

- September 15-19 Lyell Glacier Survey-Backpack from Tuolumne Meadows to high elevations with Greg Stock and Pete Devine.
- October 1-3 Yosemite with an Artist's Eye- Award winning artist Chris Van Winkle covering sketching and water color techniques.
- October 8-10 Watercolors in the Wild- Painting in wild places of Yosemite with painter and book artist Andie Thrams.
- October 18-20 Autumn Light Photography-Hiking and photography with 2 very talented photographers Dave Wyman and Ken Rockwell.

## Art Workshops

The Yosemite Art & Education Center (YAEC) offers art workshops from 10 am to 2 pm Tuesday through Saturday. Register for classes in advance: 209/379-2321 ext. 17. (suggested donation of \$5, supplies extra). Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Be prepared to work outdoors.

- September 7 – September 11 Doug Castleman Outdoors With Watercolor
- September 14 – September 18 Elaine Drew Learning to Draw From Nature
- September 21 – September 25 Mariko Lofink Watercolor Views in Yosemite
- September 28 – October 2 Barbara Beaudreau Pastel Painting
- October 5 – October 9 Pam Pederson Pen & Ink With Watercolor
- October 12 – October 16 Marcy Wheeler Impressive/Expressive Yosemite With Acrylics

## Yosemite Theater

Yosemite Theatre LIVE offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances that bring Yosemite's history to life. Discover the world of John Muir and other characters from the park's rich history.

## LeConte Memorial Lodge

LeConte Memorial Lodge is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm, with evening programs Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings, and some Thursday evenings. Evening programs are scheduled for 8:00 pm and are free. The Lodge has a library, children's corner, and a new climate change exhibit. The Lodge is located at shuttle stop #12.

## Religious Services and Service Organizations

### RELIGIOUS SERVICES

**YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
9:00 A.M. Lower Pines Campground; Various Bible Studies during the week call for times and locations. 209-372-4831

### ROMAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS SERVICES

SUNDAY MASS CELEBRATIONS:  
Sat. 6:00 p.m. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater,  
Sun. 10:00 a.m. Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Theater  
Sunday, 6:00 p.m. (Spanish) Cedar Lodge, El Portal  
DAILY MASS CELEBRATIONS:  
Wed. & Fri., at 8:00 a.m. Tue. & Thu. at 6:30 p.m.  
at the Parish Rectory. The Rectory is located at  
9006 Cedar Ct. (no. 7). For more information call 209-  
372-4729  
WEDDINGS:  
To arrange for a Catholic Wedding, contact

Fr. Anthony Janelli at (209) 372-4729, or  
[tjanelli@yahoo.com](mailto:tjanelli@yahoo.com)

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11 am  
Info: 209/379-2100

**A CHRISTIAN MINISTRY IN THE NATIONAL PARKS**  
9am Sunday at Lower Pines, Wawona, and Tuolumne  
Meadows campgrounds.

### SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
7:30pm Sunday, Tuesday, & Thursday  
DNC General Office Bldg. Yosemite Village.

**LIONS CLUB**  
First and third Thursday of each month at noon, The  
Ahwahnee. Call 209/372-4475.

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL**  
Thursday at noon at The Ahwahnee.  
Reservations / information: 209/372-8459.

MORNING	
Sunday	10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
Monday	8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hrs. Sign up in advance at the Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at The Ahwahnee Hotel (TAAG)
	10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
Tuesday	8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)
	10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
	<b>Art Workshop</b> 4 hrs. See schedule of Artists pg 6 (YAEC)
Wednesday	11:00am <b>CHILDREN'S PHOTO WALK</b> 1hr. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)
	10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
Thursday	<b>Art Workshop</b> 4 hrs. See schedule of Artists pg 6 YAEC
	8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)
Friday	9:00am <b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 9 only) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) free, ♿
	10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
	<b>Art Workshop</b> 4 hrs. See Schedule of Artists, p.6 (YAEC)
	11:00am <b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 10 only) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) free, ♿
Saturday	10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
	<b>Art Workshop</b> 4 hrs. See Schedule of Artists, p.6 (YAEC)
	8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)
	9:00am <b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 11 only) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) free, ♿

**NPS** National Park Service

**DNC** DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.

**AAG** The Ansel Adams Gallery

**AAC** American Alpine Club

**SC** Sierra Club

**YAEC** Yosemite Art Education Center

**YC** Yosemite Conservancy

**YMS** Yosemite Mountaineering School

**S** 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 209/372-0296 to request an interpreter. Advance notice of 2 days is requested.



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

## Did you know?

Congress has designated nearly 95 percent of Yosemite National Park as Wilderness. Wilderness is meant to protect the land's natural conditions, scientific, educational, ecological, and historic values; and provide opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. The best way to experience the 1,100 square miles of Yosemite's Wilderness is to explore it first-hand. In 1898, John Muir said, "Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home; that wildness is a necessity..." To learn more about how to plan your trip and reduce your impact on the Wilderness during your visit, see pages 14 and 15.

	AFTERNOON AND EARLY EVENING	EVENING
Sunday	1:30pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK-BEARS</b> 1½ hrs. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. Recommended ages 7-13 (NPS)	7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theatre: This is America</b> (September 12 only) A film by Ken Burns about diverse National Park pioneers. Followed by a discussion with Ranger Shelton Johnson. 1½ hrs. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Visitor Center Bookstore (9 am – 6 pm) or at any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$
	2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Yosemite’s First People</b> 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS) ♿	<b>Yosemite Theatre LIVE: Yosemite Through the Eyes of a Buffalo Soldier, 1904.</b> (October 3 only) Starring Ranger Shelton Johnson. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Visitor Center bookstore (9 a.m. – 6p.m.) or at any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$
	3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿
	4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿
	5:00pm <b>Twilight Stroll</b> 1 hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) ♿	<b>Evening Program</b> LeConte Memorial Lodge 1 hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) September 12: Across the Range: Hike from Sequoia to Mt. Whitney (narrated hiking video) September 19: Sounds Nature Makes (Sound & Poetry Reading with Chris Olander)
6:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> (except October 3 & 10) 45 min. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿		
Monday	2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk –Trees</b> 1 ½ hrs.The Ahwahnee, shuttle stop #3 (NPS)	7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theatre LIVE: Vintage Songs of Yosemite</b> 1½ hrs. Yosemite entertainer Tom Bopp performs live to historic images and films. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Visitor Center Bookstore (9 am – 6 pm) or at any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$
	3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿
	4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿
Tuesday	12:00pm <b>Yosemite Forum</b> (September 14 only)1 hr. Dr. Amy Angert (Colorado State) Population Dynamics of Monkeyflowers: Another Signature of Climate Change? Valley Visitor Center Auditorium (NPS)	7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE: Conversations With a Tramp: An Evening With John Muir</b> (September 14 only) 1½ hrs. A live performance featuring Lee Stetson. Visitor Center Theater. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center Bookstore (9am - 6pm) or at any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$
	<b>Yosemite Forum</b> (October 12 only) 1 hr. Dr. Brian Collins (USGS) The Mechanics of Yosemite Valley Rockfalls. Valley Visitor Center Auditorium (NPS)	8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿
	2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Bears</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS)	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿
	<b>“Using your Digital Camera”</b> Class 4 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (AAG) \$	
	3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	
4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿		
Wednesday	2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Geology</b> 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE: John Muir Among the Animals</b> (September 8 and 15 only) 1½ hrs. Visitor Center Theater. A live performance featuring Lee Stetson. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center Bookstore (9am - 6pm) or at any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$
	3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿
	<b>Fine Print Tour</b> 1 hrs. Very limited space. Sign up at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿
	4:00 pm <b>Meet the Artist Reception</b> (October 6 only) 2 hrs. Ansel Adams Gallery. Meet artist Sally Owens. Light refreshments will be served.	
	4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	
Thursday	2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Wild About Wildlife</b> 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE: The Spirit of John Muir</b> (September 9 and 16 only) 1½ hrs. Visitor Center Theater. A live performance featuring Lee Stetson. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center Bookstore (9am - 6pm) or at any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theatre (YC) \$.
	<b>“In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams: Seeing Artistically with your Camera.”</b> 4 hours. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (AAG) \$	8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿
	3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿
	4:00pm <b>CHILDREN’S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED’S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 9 only) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) free, ♿	
	4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	
	5:00pm <b>Twilight Stroll</b> 1 hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) ♿	
6:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 min. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿		
Friday	2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Yosemite’s Legacy</b> 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theatre: Return to Balance: A Climber’s Journey</b> 1 hr. Followed by discussion with climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center Bookstore (9am – 6 pm) or at any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$
	3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿
	4:00pm <b>CHILDREN’S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED’S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 10 only) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) free, ♿	<b>Film: Ansel Adams</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (AAG) ♿
	4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	<b>Evening Program</b> LeConte Memorial Lodge 1hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) September 10: Souvenirs-R-Us: A look at simple treasures from Yosemite over 150 years & Make Your Own Souvenirs with Jonathan Bayless, YNP, Chief curator September 17: <b>AMERICAN INDIAN STORYTELLING AND FLUTE</b> September 24: Search & Rescue in Yosemite with John Dill
	6:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles campfire ring, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)	8:30pm <b>NIGHT PROWL</b> 1 ½ hrs, Explore Yosemite at Night! Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ ♿
Saturday	1:30pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK-GEOLOGY</b> (Except September 18) 1½ hrs. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. Recommended ages 7-13 (NPS)	7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theatre: Return to Balance: A Climber’s Journey</b> 1½ hrs. Followed by discussion with climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center Bookstore (9am – 6pm) or at any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$
	<b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK-WATER</b> (September 18 only) 1½ hrs. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. Recommended ages 7-13 (NPS)	8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿
	2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Bears</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS)	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) ♿
	<b>“Using your Digital Camera”</b> Class 4 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (AAG) \$	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC/AAC) ♿
	3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	<b>Evening Program</b> LeConte Memorial Lodge 1hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) September 11: <b>ALONG THE JOHN MUIR TRAIL</b> (narrated hiking video) September 18: John Muir’s Science: Where did he get those ideas anyway? September 25: John Muir At Home with Tad Shay, John Muir National Historic Site Lead Ranger
	4:00pm <b>CHILDREN’S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED’S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 11 only) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) free, &	
	4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿	
6:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles campfire ring, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)		
<b>WEE WILD ONES</b> (except Sept. 25) 45 min. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under, Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) ♿		

# Wawona, Mariposa Grove and Glacier Point

## Where to Go & What to Do

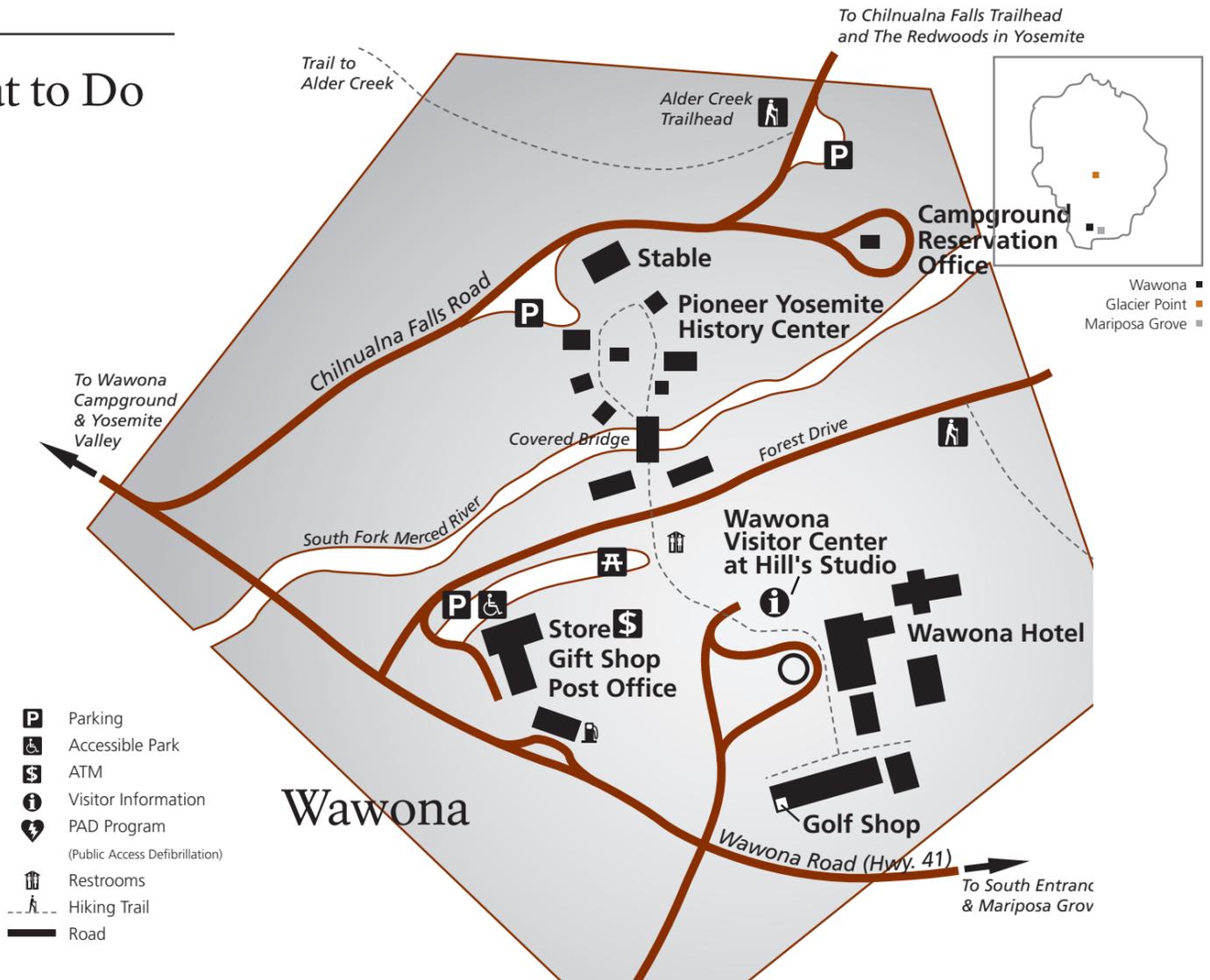


Join Burl "Buckshot" Maier for a horse-drawn stage ride in Wawona.

NPS photo by Susan Maier

### Explore History Discover Giant Trees Find Amazing Vistas

These park areas offer endless opportunities for amazing experiences.



### Wawona & the Mariposa Grove

#### Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio

Open 8:30 am to 5 pm, the visitor center offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. Located on the grounds of the Wawona Hotel, Hill's Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th-century landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the hotel or park at the Wawona Store parking area and follow the path up the hill. 209/375-9531.

#### Coffee with a Ranger

Grab your mug and join a ranger in the Wawona Campground Amphitheater for coffee, tea, and hot cocoa. Use this time to plan your day or get other questions answered. See page 9, at right, for dates and times.

#### Evening Programs at the Wawona Hotel

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 stories from Yosemite's past. Once or twice a week, he will present an hour-long interpretive program on the vintage songs of Yosemite, or on the history of Wawona, with slide or music accompaniment.

### 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 history center is always open, and interpretive signs and brochures are available.

#### EXPERIENCE HORSE-DRAWN TRAVEL

Travel into history by taking a 10-minute horse-drawn stage ride. Tickets may be purchased at the Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. \$4/ adults and \$3/child (ages 3-12).

### Mariposa Grove

Located near Yosemite's South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park's largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 large mature sequoias. A few of these giants are visible in the parking area. Information about access for people with disabilities is available at the tram boarding area.

#### Getting to Mariposa Grove

Allow 1 ¼ hours driving time to reach the grove from the Valley. Cars are prohibited beyond the grove parking lot. The road may close due to limited parking, so use the free shuttle.

Please see pg. 3 or call 209/372-0200 for important road construction information. Trailers are prohibited on the Mariposa Grove Road. Private vehicles longer than 25 feet are not permitted on this road.

#### FREE MARIPOSA GROVE & WAWONA SHUTTLE

A 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. *Shuttle operates weekends only after September 26th.*

Please use this free shuttle service to help reduce congestion and parking delays.

#### Mariposa Grove Ranger Walks

Rangers lead walks among the giant sequoias, explaining their natural history and historical importance. (See page 9 for schedule.)

#### Big Trees Tram Tour

A 1 ¼-hr. tram tour of the grove is available 9 am to 5 pm. This audio tour is available in five languages and for the visually impaired. Call 209/375-1621 or stop at a tour desk for more information.

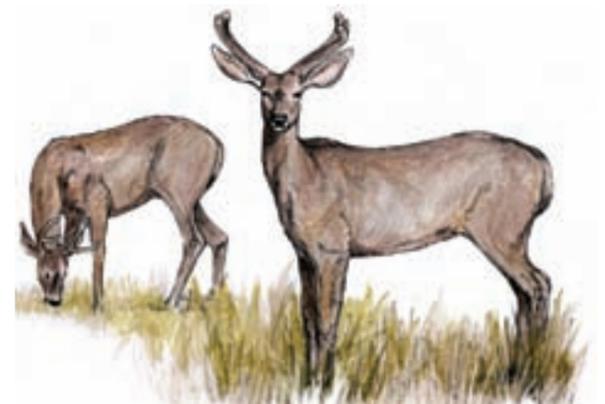
#### Mariposa Grove Museum & Trails

Open 10 am to 4 pm daily through October 4. Located in the Upper

Mariposa Grove, the museum offers information, displays on giant sequoias, and a small bookstore.

The trail to the Grizzly Giant has new interpretive signs that provide a self-guiding tour. Information is available in Spanish, German, French and Japanese.

Dogs or bikes are not allowed on trails and roads in the Mariposa Grove.



Mule deer

Illustration by Tom Whitworth



Geology Hut. Photo courtesy Yosemite Research Library

## Glacier Point

Enjoy breathtaking scenery and experience life on the edge.

Approximately an hour's drive from either Yosemite Valley or the Park's South Entrance, Glacier Point offers stunning views up the Merced River Canyon past Vernal and Nevada Falls and across the High Sierra. Meet a ranger to enjoy the lengthening evening shadows and the alpenglow (or moonrise) on the Sierra high country. Stargazing programs are offered as well. Details at right.

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

Wawona

#### Wawona Hotel Dining Room

Breakfast: 7:30am to 10am  
Lunch: 11:30am to 1:30pm  
Late Lunch (Weekends only-limited menu) 1:30-4:30  
Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm  
Saturday BBQ: 5pm to 7pm (*last BBQ September 11*)

Glacier Point

#### Snack Stand

10am to 4pm, open through October 3

### GROCERIES

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop  
8am to 6pm

### GIFTS & APPAREL

Wawona

#### Golf Shop & Snack Stand

8:30am to 6pm

#### Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop

8am to 6pm

#### Wawona Information Station at Hill's Studio

8:30am to 5pm

Glacier Point

#### Gift Shop

10am-5pm

Mariposa Grove

#### Mariposa Grove Museum

10am to 4pm through October 4

#### Big Trees Gift Shop

9am to 5pm

### POST OFFICE

Wawona Post Office

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

### GAS STATION

Wawona Gas Station

9am to 6pm Diesel & propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

### GOLF

Wawona Hotel Golf Course

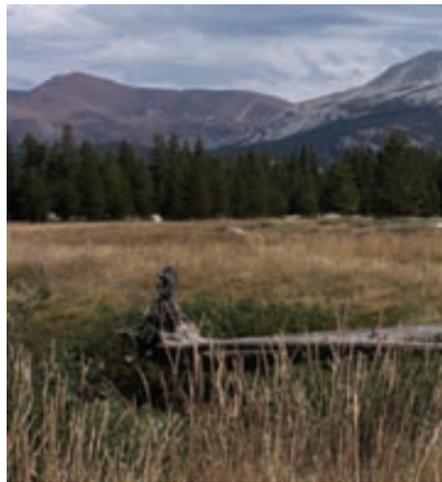
8 am to 6 pm weather and conditions permitting. Nine-hole, par 35 course

	WAWONA & MARIPOSA GROVE	GLACIER POINT
<b>Sunday</b>	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>11:00am – 3:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p>	<p>2:00pm <b>A Short Walk to a Great View of El Capitan</b> (except October 10) 1 ½ hrs. Easy. Meet in front of the Glacier Point Gift Shop (NPS)</p> <p>6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (October 3 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Except October 3 and October 10) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p>
<b>Monday</b>	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>11:00am – 3:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (Oct 11 only) 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>2:00mm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p>	<p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk-Cliffs and Domes</b> 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/ Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road (NPS)</p> <p>6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (October 4 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Except October 4 and October 11) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> (except Oct 12) ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music Of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music &amp; historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk-Cliffs and Domes</b> (Except October 11) 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/ Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road (NPS)</p> <p>6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (October 5 and October 12 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Except October 5 and October 12) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music Of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music &amp; historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>2:00pm <b>A Short Walk to a Great View of El Capitan</b> 1 ½ hrs. Easy. Meet in front of the Glacier Point Gift Shop (NPS)</p> <p>5:30pm <b>Full Moon Hike to Sentinel Dome</b> (September 22 only) 2 hrs. Dress warmly. Meet at Sentinel Dome parking area (NPS)</p> <p>6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (October 6 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (September 15 and September 29 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p>
<b>Thursday</b>	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music Of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music &amp; historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) ♿</p>	
<b>Friday</b>	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>11:00am – 3:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music Of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music &amp; historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk-Cliffs and Domes</b> (Except October 8) 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/ Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road (NPS)</p> <p>6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (October 1 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Except October 1 and October 8) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Stars Over Yosemite</b> (Except October 8) Meet at railing overlooking Yosemite Valley. Dress warmly (NPS) Free ♿</p>
<b>Saturday</b>	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>11:00am – 3:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (Sept 11 &amp; Oct 9 only) 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> (except Oct 2) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music Of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music &amp; historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk-Cliffs and Domes</b> 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/ Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road (NPS)</p> <p>6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (October 2 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Except October 2 and October 9) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Stars Over Yosemite</b> (Except October 9) Meet at railing overlooking Yosemite Valley. Dress warmly (NPS) Free ♿</p>

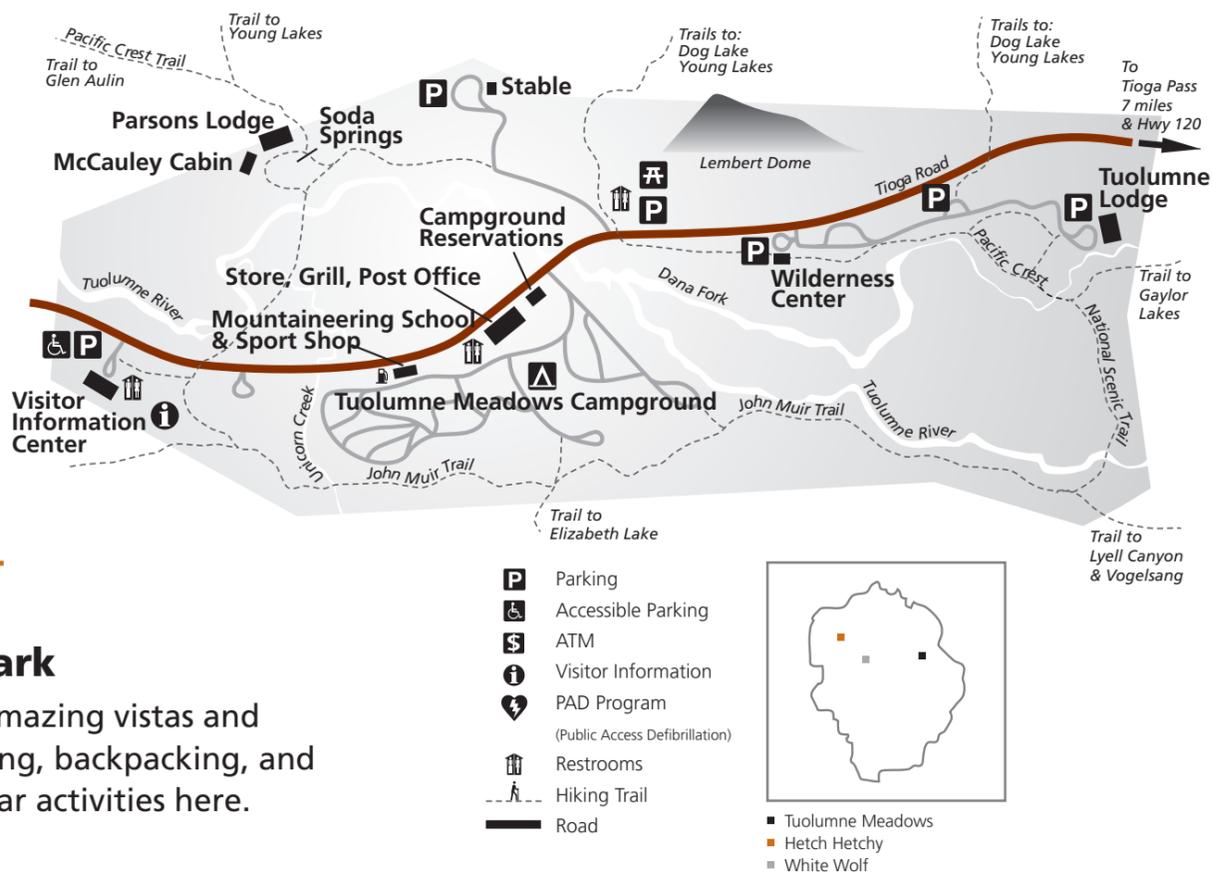
Programs printed in **COLOR** are especially for **Children & their families**

# Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, Crane Flat, and Hetch Hetchy

## Where to Go & What to Do



Tuolumne Meadows in fall, NPS Photo by Adrienne Freeman



## High Sierra Peaks and Quiet Corners of the Park

These areas of the park offer amazing vistas and opportunities for solitude. Hiking, backpacking, and ranger-led programs are popular activities here.



### Take the FREE Tuolumne Meadows shuttle bus along Tioga Road!

See schedule posted at stops. See details at right



The Tuolumne Meadows shuttle operates from 7am to 7pm. Open through September 19.

## Tuolumne Meadows

### Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center

Open 9 am to 5 pm through Sunday, September 26. Park orientation, trail information, books, maps, and displays

### Parsons Memorial Lodge, McCauley Cabin, and Soda Springs

Two trails, both flat and 3/4-mile long, lead to this historic area accessible only by walking. Parsons Memorial Lodge is open from 10 am to 4 pm through Saturday, September 18. Soda Springs are small, naturally-carbonated springs that attract birds and deer, especially at sunrise and sunset.

### Ranger Walks

Join a ranger to explore new areas and learn about geology, birds, flowers, history, the Tuolumne River, and more. These walks range from one to eight hours and, except for the long walks, are fairly easy.

### Evening Activities

Come to a traditional, ranger-led campfire program for stories, songs, and insight into Yosemite. Program topics

vary and are posted at the campground, Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. End your day with a star program—bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly.

## Big Oak Flat

### Big Oak Flat Information Station

Open 8 am to 4:30 pm. The information station offers general park information, books, and maps. It also provides wilderness permits, bear canister rentals, and backpacking information. The wilderness center at the Big Oak Flat information station will be open through October 14.

## 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 three-mile round-trip hike (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 trail is marked by a 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. The path drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The way down can seem much easier than the return to the parking lot. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guiding nature trail.



Clark's nutcracker

Illustration by Tom Whitworth

## Did you know?

The Tioga Road is the highest trans-sierra route in California, crossing Tioga Pass at 9,945 feet in elevation. The road, which isn't plowed during winter months, is a great place to cross-country ski!

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

#### Tuolumne Meadows

##### Tuolumne Meadows Grill

Daily:  
8am to 5pm, *open through Sept. 26*  
**Tuolumne Meadows Lodge Dining Room**  
Breakfast: 7am to 9am, *closes after service September 19*  
Dinner: 5:50pm to 8pm, *closes after service September 18*  
Meals are served family style, and reservations are required.  
Call 209/372-8413

#### White Wolf

**White Wolf Lodge**, *open through September 12*  
Breakfast: 7:30am to 9:30am, *closes after service on September 12*  
Take-out Lunch: noon to 2pm, *closes after service on September 11*  
Dinner: 6pm to 8pm, *closes after service on September 11*  
Reservations recommended.  
Call 209/372-8416.

### GROCERIES

#### Tuolumne Meadows

**Store**  
9am to 6pm, *closes for the season at noon September 27*

#### Crane Flat

**Store**  
9am to 5pm

#### White Wolf

**Camp Store**  
8am to 9pm, *open through September 12*

### GIFTS & APPAREL

#### Tuolumne Meadows

**Mountaineering School and Sport Shop**  
9am to 5pm, *open through September 19*  
**Tuolumne Meadows Bookstore**  
9am to 5pm Inside the Tuolumne Meadow Visitor Center  
**Tuolumne Meadows Store**  
9am to 6pm, *closes for the season at noon September 27*  
**Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center**  
8am- 5pm through September 30;  
8am-4:30pm, through October 14

### POST OFFICE

#### Tuolumne Meadows

**Post Office**  
Monday – Friday: 9am to 5pm  
Saturday: 9am to 1pm

### GAS STATION & ATM

#### Tuolumne Meadows

Diesel & propane available.  
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

#### Crane Flat

9am to 6pm  
Diesel & propane available.  
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Programs printed in **COLOR** are especially for **Children & their families**

	TUOLUMNE MEADOWS	WHITE WOLF	CRANE FLAT / HODGDON MEADOW / HETCH HETCHY
<b>Sunday</b>	<p>10:00am <b>Ranger Hike—Lembert Dome</b> (except October 3 and 10) 3 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 3 miles. Dog Lake parking, shuttle stop #2. Bring snacks and water. (NPS)</p> <p>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except October 3 and 10) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Winter's A-Comin'!</b> (except October 3 and 10) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (except October 3 and 10) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</p>	<p>9:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> (September 12 only) 1 hr. White Wolf campfire circle. Bring your own mug. (NPS)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b> (September 12 only) 1 hr. White Wolf campfire circle (NPS)</p>	<p>1:00pm <b>Giant Sequoias</b> (except October 3 &amp; 10) 1½ hrs. Meet a ranger in the Tuolumne Grove for answers to your sequoia questions (NPS)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b> (except October 3 &amp; 10) 1 hr. Crane Flat Campfire Circle (NPS)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b> (September 19 &amp; 26 only) 1 hr. Hodgdon Meadow Campground (check at kiosk for location) (NPS)</p>
<b>Monday</b>	<p>10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Domes and Meadows</b> (September 13 and 20 only) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS)</p> <p>10:30am <b>Tenaya Lake Walk and Clean-up with Climber Ron Kauk</b> (September 13 and 20 only) 1 hr. East end of Tenaya Lake, shuttle stop #9 (NPS)</p> <p>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (September 13 and 20 only) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Bears and Other Wildlife</b> (September 13 and 20 only) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Campground Reservation Office (NPS)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (September 13 and 20 only) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</p>	<p>9:00am <b>Ranger Walk – Bears and Other Wildlife</b> (September 13 only) 2 hrs. White Wolf Campfire Circle (NPS)</p>	<p>6:30pm <b>Twilight Stroll</b> (except October 4 &amp; 11) 1½ hrs. Hodgdon Meadow Group Campground (NPS)</p>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<p>9:15am <b>Ranger Hike—Gaylor Lakes Basin</b> (September 14 and 21 only) 5-6 hrs. Strenuous. 5 miles. Meet at Gaylor Lakes parking lot at Tioga Pass. Bring lunch, water, and raingear (NPS)</p> <p>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (September 14 and 21 only) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Along the River</b> (September 14 and 21 only) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (September 14 and 21 only) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</p>	<p>9:30am <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (September 14 only) 15 min. Short talk on a park topic. Lukens Lake trailhead, near White Wolf Campground (NPS) ♿</p>	<p>10:00am <b>Ranger Hike – Hetch Hetchy</b> (except October 5 &amp; 12) 1½ hrs. Bring water. O'Shaughnessy Dam (NPS)</p> <p>4:00pm <b>Giant Sequoias</b> (except October 5 &amp; 12) 1½ hrs. Meet a ranger in the Tuolumne Grove for answers to your sequoia questions (NPS)</p>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<p>8:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Birds</b> (September 8 and 15 only) 2 1/2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area. Binoculars available. (NPS)</p> <p>8:30am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> (September 8 and 15 only) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup. (NPS)</p> <p>10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Geology of Tuolumne Meadows</b> (September 8 and 15 only) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS)</p> <p>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (September 8 and 15 only) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Bennettville Exploration</b> (September 8 and 15 only) 2 1/2 hrs. Tioga Lake turnout east of Tioga Pass (NPS)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (September 8 and 15 only) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</p> <p>9:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Stars</b> (September 8 and 15 only) 1 hr. Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. (NPS)</p>	<p>9:00am <b>Ranger Walk – Bears and Other Wildlife</b> (September 8 only) 2 hrs. White Wolf Campfire Circle (NPS)</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Twilight Stroll</b> (September 8 only) 1½ hrs. White Wolf Campground entrance (NPS)</p>	<p>9:00am <b>Ranger Walk – Bears and Other Wildlife</b> (September 8 &amp; October 6) 1½ hrs. Hodgdon Meadow Group Campground (NPS)</p> <p>11:30 am <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (except October 6) 15 min. Short talk on a park topic. Big Oak Flat Information Station (NPS) ♿</p> <p>9:00pm <b>Starry, Starry Night</b> (except October 6) 1¼ hrs. Crane Flat area. Limited to 30 people. Sign-up in advance by calling 209/379-1899 (NPS) ♿</p>
<b>Thursday</b>	<p>10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—History of Tuolumne Meadows</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center shuttle stop #6 (NPS)</p> <p>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>Sketch Walk to Lyell Fork</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 1 1/2 hrs. Tuolumne Lodge front porch. Bring pencil and paper. (NPS)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</p>	<p>2:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (September 9 only) 15 min. Short talk on a park topic. White Wolf Lodge (NPS)</p> <p>9:00pm <b>Night Prowl</b> (September 9 only) 1 hr. White Wolf area. Explore nature after dark. Sign up in advance by calling 209/379-1899 (NPS)</p>	<p>3:30pm <b>Ranger Hike – Hetch Hetchy</b> (September 9 &amp; 23 only) 1½ hrs. Bring water. O'Shaughnessy Dam (NPS)</p> <p>9:00pm <b>Night Prowl</b> (September 16 &amp; 23 only) 1 hr. Hodgdon Meadow area. Explore nature after dark. Sign up in advance by calling 209/379-1899 (NPS)</p>
<b>Friday</b>	<p>8:30am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> (except October 1 and 8) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup. (NPS)</p> <p>9:15am <b>Ranger Hike—Mono Pass</b> (except October 1 and 8) 6-8 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 8 miles. Meet at Mono Pass trailhead. Bring lunch, water, and raingear. (NPS)</p> <p>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except October 1 and 8) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—The Secret Life of Plants</b> (except October 1 and 8) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (except October 1 and 8) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</p>	<p>4:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (September 10 only) 15 min. Short talk on a park topic. White Wolf Lodge (NPS)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b> (September 10 only) 1 hr. White Wolf Campfire Circle (NPS)</p>	<p>2:00pm <b>History &amp; the Big Trees</b> (except October 1 &amp; 8) 1½ hrs. Meet in the Merced Grove of Giant Sequoias for answers to your questions (NPS)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b> (except October 1 &amp; 8) 1 hr. Crane Flat Campfire Circle (NPS)</p>
<b>Saturday</b>	<p>8:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Birds</b> (September 11 and 25 only) 2 1/2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area. Binoculars available. (NPS)</p> <p>8:30am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> (except October 2 and 9) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup. (NPS)</p> <p>11:00am <b>Ranger Hike—Twin Bridges Loop</b> (except October 2 and 9) 3-4 hrs. Easy. 3 miles. Tuolumne Meadows Campground Reservation Office. Bring lunch, water, and raingear. (NPS)</p> <p>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except October 2 and 9) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (except October 2 and 9) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</p> <p>9:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Stars</b> (except October 2 and 9) 1 hr. Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. (NPS)</p>	<p>2:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (September 11 only) 15 min. Short talk on a park topic. White Wolf Lodge (NPS)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b> (September 11 only) 1 hr. White Wolf Campfire Circle (NPS)</p>	<p>1:30pm <b>Giant Sequoias</b> (except October 2 &amp; 9) 1½ hrs. Meet a ranger in the Tuolumne Grove for answers to your sequoia questions (NPS)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b> (except October 2 &amp; 9) 1 hr. Crane Flat Campfire Circle (NPS)</p>

# Become a Junior Ranger

Activities for kids ages 3 and up!

Yosemite National Park offers a wide variety of programs and activities for kids of all ages! To find kid-friendly programs, see pages 6, 7, 9, and 11 of the Guide for program descriptions:

Programs printed in **ALL CAPS & COLOR** are especially for **CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES**

Be a naturalist. Look for these common Yosemite animals. If you see one, make a note by the animal's picture below. If you don't see the animal below, try to draw it in the box on this page. Where did you see it? What was it doing? Also, remember never to feed or approach an animal.



Coyote



Black bear



Golden-mantled ground squirrel

*Illustrations by Tom Whitworth*

## Follow these steps to earn your Junior Ranger badge.\*

1. With an adult, pick a trail to walk. See page 17 of this Guide or stop by a visitor center to choose your trail. As you go, walk quietly, watch, listen, and think. Write the name of the trail you walked. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Explore with your senses! Record the following.

I see: \_\_\_\_\_

I hear: \_\_\_\_\_

I smell: \_\_\_\_\_

I touch: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Leave no Trace! If you see trash or rubbish, pick it up. Junior Rangers learn to be good park stewards by bringing in a bag of trash. Recycle any recyclable materials you pick up or bring along.

4. Learn more. Go to a ranger-led program or visit with an Indian Cultural Demonstrator. Have the ranger or demonstrator sign below.

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Write down something you learned from a ranger or Indian Cultural Demonstrator.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Think about this. Why do people work to protect national parks?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. When you complete this page, take it to a visitor center. There you will take your oath and receive your Junior Ranger badge.

\*Expanded Junior Ranger and Little Cub programs (and the chance to earn a patch) are available in the *Junior Ranger* or *Little Cub Handbooks*, which can be purchased at any park bookstore.

# Bears and Wildlife

Enjoying wildlife safely and responsibly



Sow and Cub. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Keeping Bears Wild

(While protecting yourself and your property)

### Keep Yosemite's Black Bears Wild and Alive:

#### 1. Store Your Food Properly.

(See table below for details.)

4,000 to 20,000 calories worth of grasses, berries, acorns, and grubs—that's the typical daily diet of most bears. It's a lot easier for a bear to eat the thousands of calories of food in an ice chest than it is to spend all day nibbling at grasses. Their incredible sense of smell allows them to detect things we can't, which helps them find food—a black bear can smell a dead deer three miles away. To top it off, bears have excellent vision and can see in color, so they recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food containers as potential food sources.

#### 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. Bears that become comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed.

#### 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. Slow down! Driving too fast is almost always the cause of these accidental deaths.

#### Red Bear, Dead Bear

Did you notice the red bear markers as you drove through the park? Each of them mark a place where a bear was recently hit. Every year bears, hundreds of deer, and countless other animals are killed while trying to cross park roads. Many of these deaths could have been avoided if drivers observed posted speed limits.

Please remember that Yosemite National Park is a wildlife preserve: by driving the speed limit you are helping to protect the park and its wildlife.

#### Backpackers: Save Your Food, Save A Bear

Bear resistant food canisters are 2.7-pound containers that can be used to store five or more days of backpacker food when meals are carefully planned. Canisters have an inset lid that bears are unable to open. When used correctly, bears learn that—although they smell like food—the canisters are not worth investigating.

Bear canisters are available for \$5 per trip at the Valley Wilderness Center, the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio, Big Oak Flat Information Station, Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station. Canisters can be rented and returned at any of these locations.

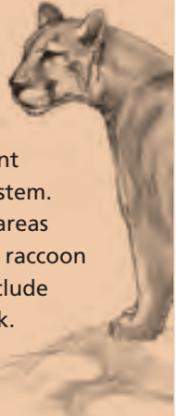
#### Report Bear Sightings!

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. Your call can be made anonymously.

For more information regarding bears and proper food storage, visit the park's website ([www.nps.gov/yose/bears](http://www.nps.gov/yose/bears)).

**Never leave unattended food strapped to the outside of a vehicle or in a pickup truck bed.**

## 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. Although lion attacks on humans are extremely rare, they are possible, just as is injury from any wild animal.

#### For your safety:

Do not leave pets or pet food outside and unattended. Pets can attract mountain lions.

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.

#### What should you do if you meet a mountain lion?

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

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

If the lion behaves aggressively, wave your arms, shout, and throw objects at it. The goal is to convince it that you may be dangerous. If attacked, fight back!

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

## How to Store Food

"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.

LOCATION	FOOD STORAGE	WHY?
<b>Your Vehicle</b>	You may store food in your car (with windows closed) only during daylight hours. 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.	Bears can smell food, even if it's sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!
<b>Your Campsite or Tent Cabin</b>	You must store all your food in food lockers—not in your tent or tent cabin. 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.	Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even check food lockers to see if they're secured. Keep food lockers closed and latched at all times, even when you are in your campsite or tent cabin.
<b>Picnic Areas &amp; on the Trails</b>	Do not leave food unattended. Always keep food within arm's reach. Don't turn your back to your food.	Bears may investigate picnic areas or backpacks for food even when people are present, so be alert.
<b>Backpacking in the Wilderness</b>	Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite.	In Yosemite and the southern Sierra, bear canisters are the only effective and proven method of preventing bears from getting human food.

Note: Improper food storage may result in impoundment of your food or vehicle, a fine of up to \$5,000, and/or revocation of camping permit. Following these regulations and precautions decreases the chance of personal injury or property damage. However, bear damage and confrontations are still possible, even when all the regulations and guidelines are followed.



# Protecting yourself...



## Permit Required to Hike Half Dome

To address safety concerns related to increased crowding on the Half Dome cables, the National Park Service has instituted an interim permit system for 2010 and 2011. The system limits the number of people using the cables to about 400 people per day and is in effect on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and federal holidays when the cables are up (until October 11 in 2010). A permit is not required to day-hike to Half Dome on other days.

**Backpackers** with an appropriate wilderness permit can receive a Half Dome permit when they pick up their wilderness permit. **Rock climbers** who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area can descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit.

No more permits are available for September or October 2010. Permits are also not available in the park or on a first-come, first-served basis. You can find more information at [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm).

## 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.

### 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 traffic lanes, to take photos, consult the park map, or simply enjoy the park's scenery and wildlife.

### Bring Water

Avoid dehydration and heat exhaustion by carrying and drinking plenty of water. Filters or other treatment methods are essential. (See "Water Quality," page 15))

### Hiking, Backpacking, Rock Climbing, and Scrambling

- 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. Carry a signal mirror and whistle. Solo activities require increased precautions.
- Stay on designated trails and 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 critical safety and protection techniques. Never climb alone.
- 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.

- Don't depend on cell phone or GPS reception for your safety.

### Protect Yosemite's Wilderness

The Yosemite Wilderness provides outstanding opportunities for solitude in a beautiful setting.

In order to avoid overcrowding and reduce impacts, a trailhead quota system limits the number of backpackers entering each trailhead each day.

Of the daily quota for a trailhead, 60% can be reserved ahead of time, while 40% is available on a first-come, first-served basis one day prior to, or the same day as, the beginning of the hike.

- Free wilderness permits are required for all wilderness trips.
- Pack out all trash and toilet paper/sanitary products.
- Pack out all trash and toilet paper/sanitary products.
- Use gas stoves, not wood fires.
- Camp in an existing campsite at least 100 feet from water and trail. You must camp four trail miles from any populated area and one mile from any road.
- To minimize trampling of vegetation, bring a container to carry water to your camp from lakes or streams.
- Maximum group is 15 people for on-trail and eight for off-trail travel.

### Wilderness Permits

Free permits are required for overnight trips. Permits are issued at Yosemite Valley, Big Oak Flat, Wawona, Tuolumne Meadows, and the Hetch

Hetchy Entrance Station (opening times vary). You can reserve permits, but they must be picked up in person. Check the park's website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740 to reserve a permit.

### More Information

[www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm)

Leave No Trace:  
[www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)

Friends of Yosemite Search and Rescue:  
[www.friendofyosar.org](http://www.friendofyosar.org)

### Safety for Pets

Keep in mind, daytime temperatures can reach above 100 ° Fahrenheit in the summer. Make sure to keep your pet cool and well-hydrated. In Yosemite, pet owners have a few rules to follow:

- Pets are only allowed in developed areas and on roads and paved bike paths. Pets are not allowed anywhere in the Mariposa or Merced sequoia groves. They are not allowed on trails, in wilderness areas, or where signs are posted prohibiting them.
- 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 tied to an object and left unattended.

# ...and Yosemite

## The Water Ways

Not long ago, many areas along the Merced River showed signs of human trampling. Now, because of the careful actions of park staff and visitors, many of these areas have been restored to more natural conditions. The plants, birds, insects, and animals that depend on living in or near the water have been able to return to these once barren areas. You can help continue this progress by entering and exiting the river at designated launch and removal points. Packing out what you pack in will also help keep the river free from trash and prevent animals from swallowing harmful plastic or aluminum.

Please observe the following safety tips to protect Yosemite's river and lakeshore habitats and to safely enjoy water activities throughout the park.

### Swimming

Choose swimming areas carefully and swim only during low water conditions.

- Always supervise children closely.
- Avoid areas of whitewater, where streams flow over rocky obstructions.
- Never swim or wade upstream from 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.

### River Crossings

In summer, rivers and creeks swollen by runoff from snowmelt are dangerous.

- Stay away from river and creek banks during high water conditions and avoid rock hopping. Stream-polished rocks along the water's edge are slippery when wet or dry.
- If you choose to cross a stream without a bridge, avoid places where the water is either swift or over your knees. Use a stick or pole for balance and try to cross where there is a gravel bottom. Crossing on a natural bridge of rocks or logs can be surprisingly slippery. Consider where you will land if you fall.

Never cross above rapids or falls. To prevent being pulled under by the weight of your pack, unbuckle the waist strap so you can shed it if you fall in. Do not tie yourself into safety ropes—they can drown you.

### Rafting

Conditions permitting, rafting on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley (Stoneman Bridge to Sentinel Beach) and the South Fork of the Merced River in Wawona is open from 10 am to 6 pm daily to any type of non-motorized vessel or other flotation device.

- The entire length of the Merced River in Yosemite Valley is closed to all flotation devices whenever the river gauge at Sentinel Bridge reads 6.5 feet or higher. Ask at a visitor center for conditions and obey all posted signs.
- You must wear or have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device immediately available.
- Fallen trees and other natural debris in the river create important habitat for fish and other wildlife. Be alert—they can also create hazards for rafters.

### Fishing

Fishing in Yosemite is regulated by 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 runs 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.

### Water Quality

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

- Treatment methods include boiling for three 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 wash hands with soap and water.



## Yosemite Guardians

Visitors to Yosemite National Park 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 unknowingly or intentionally harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:

- Feeding or approaching wildlife
- Collecting plants
- Hunting animals
- Collecting reptiles and butterflies
- Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads
- Using metal detectors
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Biking off of paved roads
- Camping outside of designated campgrounds
- Possession of weapons inside federal facilities

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.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.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 Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7 and 34), and other applicable federal statutes and regulations.

## Weather in Yosemite

Dressing in layers and bringing plenty of water can help you stay safe through Yosemite's changing weather conditions. As is true of all mountainous regions, weather in the Sierra Nevada can change rapidly any season of the year. Elevation plays a major role in temperature and precipitation variability, and Yosemite ranges in elevation from 2,000 feet to more than 13,000 feet above sea level. It is not uncommon for clouds to build up suddenly, bringing rain and/or thunderstorms to an otherwise sunny day. In September and October, temperatures in Tuolumne Meadows can dip well below freezing, while day time temperatures at lower elevations, like Yosemite Valley and Hetch Hetchy, can soar to over 100° F.

# Camping

## Planning your camping experience



Camping in Yosemite. Photo by Ray Santos

### General Information

To check same-day camping availability, call 209/372-0266

#### Services

- All sites include picnic tables, firepits with grills, and a food locker (33" d x 45" w x 18" h). See page 13 for food storage regulations.
- Toilets are available in campgrounds; however, Tamarack Flat, Yosemite Creek, and Porcupine Flat have non-flushing vault toilets only and no potable water.
- Shower and laundry facilities are available year-round in Yosemite Valley.
- 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.
- A maximum of six people (including children) and two vehicles are allowed per campsite.
- Quiet hours are from 10 pm to 6 am.
- Where permitted, pets must be on a leash and may not be left unattended.

#### Campfires

- In Yosemite Valley between May 1 and September 30, campfires are permitted between 5 pm and 10 pm. At other times of the year and in out-of-Valley campgrounds, fires are permitted at any time, as long as they are attended.
- Firewood collection (including pine cones and pine needles) is not permitted in Yosemite Valley; you may purchase firewood at stores near the campgrounds.

### A primitive overnight experience

Yosemite National Park contains 13 popular campgrounds. Up to seven are on a reservation system, the rest are first-come, first-served. From April through September, reservations are essential and the first-come, first-served sites often fill by noon during these months.

#### Camping Reservations

Reservations are required March through October for campsites in Yosemite Valley's car campgrounds and summer through fall for Hodgdon Meadow, Wawona, and half of Tuolumne Meadows and Crane Flat. All other campgrounds (except group and stock campgrounds) are first-come, first-served. Campground reservations are available up to five months in advance, on the 15th of each month at 7 am Pacific time. Log onto the website or call as soon as possible as some campgrounds fill within a few minutes of the opening period.

ARRIVAL DATE	FIRST DAY TO MAKE RESERVATIONS (7 AM PT)
Dec. 15 – Jan. 14	Aug. 15
Jan. 15 – Feb. 14	Sept. 15
Feb. 15 – Mar. 14	Oct. 15
Mar. 15 – Apr. 14	Nov. 15
Apr. 15 – May 14	Dec. 15
May 15 – Jun. 14	Jan. 15
Jun. 15 – Jul. 14	Feb. 15
Jul. 15 – Aug. 14	Mar. 15
Aug. 15 – Sep. 14	Apr. 15
Sep. 15 – Oct. 14	May 15
Oct. 15 – Nov. 14	Jun. 15
Nov. 15 – Dec. 14	Jul. 15

For campground reservations, visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) (recommended) or call 877/444-6777 or TDD 877/833-6777 or 518/885-3639 from outside the US and Canada.

#### Hours:

7 am to 7 pm Pacific time (November through February)

7 am to 9 pm Pacific time (March through October)

Reservation offices in the park are located in the visitor parking area at Curry Village (shuttle bus stop #14), the Tuolumne Meadows Campground entrance, in Wawona off Chilnualna Falls Road, and at Big Oak Flat Information Station.

#### Yosemite Valley

There is a 30-day camping limit within Yosemite National Park in a calendar year; however, May 1 to September 15, the camping limit is 14 days and only seven of those days can be in Yosemite Valley or Wawona.

Camp 4 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

available on a per-person basis, and six people will be placed in each campsite, regardless of number of people in your party. Camp 4 often fills before 9 am 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 Groveland Ranger Station at 209/962-7825; Mariposa Ranger Station at 209/966-3638; Mono Lake Ranger Station at 760/647-3044; or Oakhurst Ranger Station at 559/683-4636. For private campgrounds outside Yosemite, call the respective chamber of commerce or visitor bureau listed on page 10.

#### Group Campgrounds

There are group campsites at Tuolumne Meadows, Hodgdon Meadow, Wawona, and Bridalveil Creek Campgrounds. Reservations can be made the same way as individual site reservations; 13 to 30 people are allowed in each group campsite. Tent camping only. Pets, RVs, and generators are not permitted in group sites.

## Campgrounds in Yosemite National Park

CAMPGROUND	OPEN 2010 (ESTIMATED)	MAX RV LENGTH	MAX TRAILER LENGTH	RESERVATIONS REQUIRED?	DAILY FEE	# OF SITES	PETS	WATER
YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Upper Pines	All year	35 ft	24 ft	March 15 - Nov 30	\$20	238	Yes	Tap
Lower Pines	March 24 – Nov 2	40 ft	35 ft	Yes	\$20	60	Yes	Tap
North Pines	March 26 – Oct 12	40 ft	35 ft	Yes	\$20	81	Yes	Tap
Camp 4	All year	No RVs/trailers	n/a	First-come, first-served	\$5/pers.	35	No	Tap
SOUTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Wawona	All year	35 ft	35 ft	April 1 – Sep 27	\$20	93	Yes	Tap
Bridalveil Creek	July 1 – TBD	35 ft	24 ft	First-come, first-served	\$14	110	Yes	Tap
NORTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Hodgdon Meadow	All year	35 ft	27 ft	Apr 1 – Oct 12	\$20	105	Yes	Tap
Crane Flat	July 1 – Oct 12	35 ft	27 ft	50%	\$20	166	Yes	Tap
Tamarack Flat	July – Oct 15	No RVs/trailers		First-come, first-served	\$10	52	No	Creek (boil)
White Wolf	July – Sep 13	27 ft	24 ft	First-come, first-served	\$14	74	Yes	Tap
Yosemite Creek	July – TBD	No RVs/trailers		First-come, first-served	\$10	75	Yes	Creek (boil)
Porcupine Flat	July – Oct 15	24 ft (limited)	20 ft	First-come, first-served	\$10	52	No	Creek (boil)
Tuolumne Meadows	July 1 – Sep 27	35 ft	35 ft	50%	\$20	304	Yes	Tap

# Hiking

Discover an easy stroll or an all-day adventure



## Choose your adventure

With over 800 miles of hiking trails, what better way to enjoy the beauty of Yosemite than on foot? Ask a ranger at any visitor center for one of several free, day-hike handouts. Excellent maps and guidebooks are available at bookstores throughout the park.

## 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	7 miles round-trip, 5-6 hours	Strenuous 1,900-foot gain
Top of Half Dome <small>Permit required to hike to the top of Half Dome Fridays - Sundays and holidays!</small>	same as above	14 mi (via Mist Trail) or 16.3 mi (via John Muir Trail) round-trip, 10-12 hours	Extremely Strenuous, 4,800-foot gain
Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point	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

## Day Hikes Outside of Yosemite Valley

TRAIL / DESTINATION	STARTING POINT	DISTANCE / TIME	DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION
WAWONA			
<b>Wawona Meadow Loop</b>	Wawona Hotel	3.5 miles round-trip, 1.5 hours	Easy
<b>Swinging Bridge Loop</b>	Wawona Store / Pioneer Yosemite Hist. Ctr. Parking Area	4.75 miles round-trip, 2 hours	Moderate
GLACIER POINT ROAD			
<b>Taft Point</b>	Sentinel Dome Parking Area	2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours	Easy to Moderate
<b>Sentinel Dome</b>	Sentinel Dome Parking Area	2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours	Moderate
TUOLUMNE MEADOWS AREA			
<b>Soda Springs / Parsons Lodge</b>	Lembert Dome Parking Area	1.5 miles round-trip, 1 hour	Easy
<b>Lembert Dome</b>	Lembert Dome Parking Area	4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours	Moderately Strenuous
<b>John Muir Trail through Lyell Canyon</b>	Dog Lake Parking Area	8 miles one-way, 3 to 4 hours	Easy, 200-foot gain
<b>Elizabeth Lake</b>	Tuolumne Meadows Group Campground	4.8 miles round trip, 4 to 5 hours	Moderate
TIOGA ROAD			
<b>Lukens Lake</b>	White Wolf <sup>1</sup>	5.4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours	Moderate
<b>Yosemite Valley via Porcupine Creek</b>	Porcupine Creek <sup>1</sup>	7 miles one-way, 4 to 6 hours	Moderate, 3,500- to 4,000-foot loss
<b>Yosemite Valley via Yosemite Creek</b>	Lukens Lake Trailhead <sup>1</sup>	10.5 miles one-way, 5 to 9 hours	Moderately Strenuous 3,500- to 4,000-foot loss
<b>Yosemite Valley via Clouds Rest</b>	Tenaya Lake <sup>1</sup>	19 miles one-way, 10 to 12 hours	Strenuous
HETCH HETCHY			
<b>Wapama Falls</b>	O'Shaughnessy Dam	5 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours	Easy to Moderate

<sup>1</sup>These are drop-off points via the Tuolumne Meadows Hikers' Bus.

## Self-Guided 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 Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

### Giant Sequoias

Two self-guiding trails in the Mariposa Grove, and one in the Tuolumne Grove, interpret the natural history and ecological dynamics of the giant sequoia community.

### 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, American Indian use, and history of this popular destination. To reach the start of the trail, walk one mile from shuttle stop #17 to the disabled parking spaces near the lake. The self-guiding 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 Left: Hikers. Photo by Bob Roney

Top Right: Hikers. Photo by Bob Roney

# Half Dome

## Feature Article



## Half Dome: A Story of Daring, Determination, and Darn Hard Work

By: Haley Bercot, Yosemite Wilderness

### *Blame it all on Josiah Whitney.*

The thousands of people attempting it's notorious summit, the immediately recognizable silhouette prevalent on outdoor gear. It's all because Whitney declared Half Dome to be, "probably the only one of all the prominent points about the Yosemite which never has been, and never will be, trodden by human foot."

Whitney underestimated later climbers. Not climbing Half Dome might have been a disappointment for him and the rest of the California Geological Survey. This team of hardy explorers came to Yosemite in 1863 to map the remote high country. They successfully summited many Yosemite peaks, including Mt. Hoffmann, Mt. Conness, Mt. Dana, Ragged Peak, Merced Peak, Red Peak, and the formidable Mt. Clark. Yet, this mountaineering dream team didn't even try Half Dome. No wonder Whitney described Half Dome as "perfectly in-

accessible" in his 1868 Yosemite Book.

Those words forever changed Half Dome's future by daring adventurers to prove Whitney wrong. Hotelier James Hutchings attempted the Dome in 1869. According to his book, *In the Heart of the Sierras*, Hutchings used an "old Indian trail" around Grizzly Peak to reach Half Dome's shoulder. This adventurous approach required his party to carefully edge along narrow ledges, depending on rock outcroppings and small bushes as handholds. The men feared for their lives, but kept going anyway and eventually reached the safety of the flat shoulder. Relief gave way to despair, though, as they eyed the remaining slope of rock:

"To our dismay, as well as disappointment, we found a great smooth mountain before us, standing at an angle of 40 degrees . . . There was not a place to set a secure foot upon, or a point that we could clutch with our fingers. The very first sight put every hope to flight of reaching its exalted summit."

Hutchings declared defeat. Their experience, though, helped trail builder

John Conway plan his attempt. Conway and his sons brought a rope and some bolts to assist them through the steep section. They opted to climb the smooth rock barefoot instead of wearing hob nailed boots. Still, Yosemite's master trail builder only made it 200 feet higher than Hutchings before turning around. The locals had deemed Half Dome too dangerous to climb.

The dangers, daring attempts and dreaded defeats added to Half Dome's fame. An enterprising blacksmith named George Anderson decided he would make his fortune by building and operating a toll trail leading all the way to Half Dome's top. But before realizing his dream of fame and fortune, he had to actualize the first ascent.

In the fall of 1875, Anderson attacked that mountain with all he could muster. He based his siege from the slopes above Little Yosemite, and his weapons included baling rope, a sledge hammer, hand drill, wooden pins, a forge and at least 40 home-made seven

inch long eye-bolts. He used pine pitch to increase friction on the slick rock. Then, with heavy gear and sticky feet, he began his assault on the final 1,000 feet of "impossible" and "dangerous" climbing.

Anderson slowly made his way up by creating and climbing a bolt and rope ladder. His method was to drill a hole into the hard granite with his sledgehammer and hand drill. Then, he drove in the seven inch eye-bolt, secured loose ones with a wooden peg, and threaded the rope through the eye of the bolt. Finally, he used that rope, friction on the smooth rock, and his prodigious strength to pull himself up until he was standing on the very same bolt he had just drilled. Then he began the process all over again. Anderson placed bolts every five or six feet until he had secured 975 feet of rope and reached the summit. Thus, on October 12, 1875, Anderson stood atop Half Dome. The crowds of visitors followed shortly thereafter.

You too are following in these pioneers' footsteps, even if you never set foot on Half Dome. You depend on their knowledge whenever you read a map. You benefit from their ambition whenever you travel on a road or trail. You can carry on their passion by doing some exploring of your own. Learn something new from a Ranger program. Spend some time enjoying the scenery from an overlook you've never stopped at before. Hike to some place new, or try to find something new on a familiar trail. Keep on exploring. One day you too will find yourself standing atop your impossible dream.



Remaining George Anderson bolt, NPS

# Supporting Your Park

Providing for Yosemite's Future

## Enhance the Visitor's 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.YosemitePark.com)



### 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.yni.org/yi](http://www.yni.org/yi).



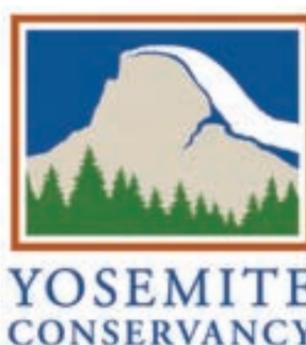
### Yosemite Conservancy

Yosemite Conservancy is the new nonprofit formed by a merger of the Yosemite Association and The Yosemite Fund. The Conservancy has a long history in Yosemite with over 100 years of combined experience supporting the park. Yosemite Conservancy can make the difference you see around you because we are the only philanthropic organization that is dedicated exclusively to Yosemite.

Our mission remains the same: Providing for Yosemite's future is our passion. We inspire people to support projects and programs that preserve and protect Yosemite National Park's resources and enrich the visitor experience.

The Yosemite Conservancy has funded over 300 projects through \$55 million in grants to help preserve and protect the park. The work of the Conservancy can be found in every aspect of the visitor experience from trail restoration, bear-proof lockers and canisters, habitat restoration, outdoor education and so much more. Annually the Yosemite Conservancy recruits over 400 volunteers to work in the park to repair trails, remove invasive species, and provide visitor information.

For more information, visit park bookstores or online at [yosemiteconservancy.org](http://yosemiteconservancy.org)



## Contact Us...

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## Want to get involved?

Yosemite National Park is busy planning for the future. Sign up for our mailing list and receive emails about current and upcoming plans and projects on our website:

<http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/planning.htm>