

# Yosemite Guide

Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

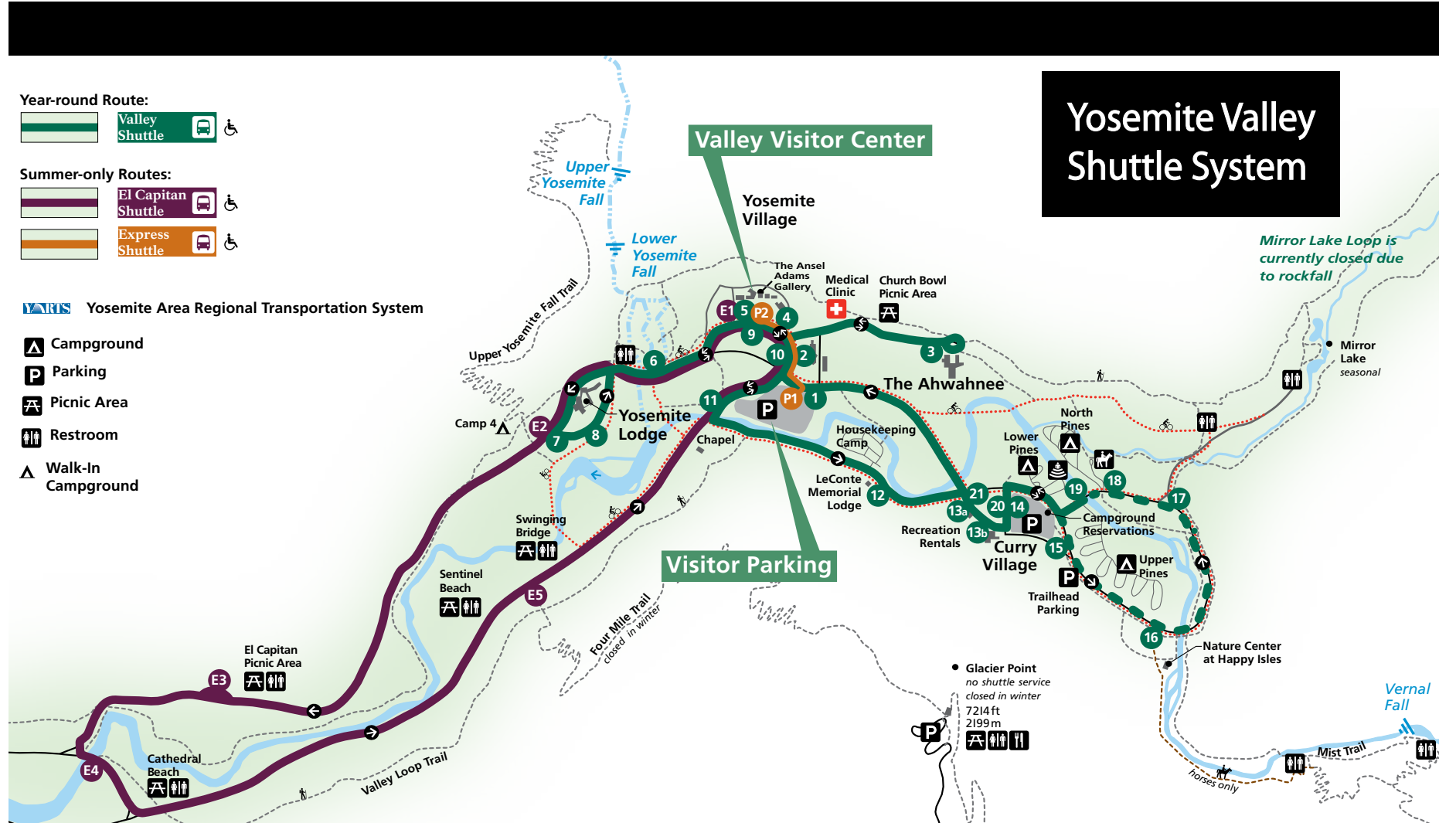
June 29, 2011 - August 2, 2011



Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

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US Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
PO Box 577  
Yosemite, CA 95389



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.  
 The El Capitan Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttles run daily during summer every 30 minutes.  
 The Express Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttles run daily during summer every 20 minutes.

| Stop # | Location              | Stop # | Location                    | Stop # | Location               |
|--------|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------------|--------|------------------------|
| 1      | Visitor Parking       | 8      | Yosemite Lodge              | 16     | Happy Isles            |
| 2 10   | Yosemite Village      | 11     | Sentinel Bridge             | 17     | Mirror Lake Trailhead  |
| 3      | The Ahwahnee          | 12     | LeConte / Housekeeping Camp | 18     | Stable                 |
| 4      | Degnan's Deli         | 13a 21 | Recreation Rentals          | 19     | Pines Campgrounds      |
| 5 9 E1 | Valley Visitor Center | 13b    | Curry Village               | E3     | El Capitan Picnic Area |
| 6      | Lower Yosemite Fall   | 14 20  | Curry Village Parking       | E4     | El Capitan Bridge      |
| 7 E2   | Camp 4                | 15     | Upper Pines Campground      | E5     | Four Mile Trailhead    |

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# Seasonal Highlights

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? In the height of summer, the possibilities are endless. Whether you want to get your heart rate up with a strenuous hike, read a book in a quiet spot, picnic, raft, or just hang out, the river is a great place to start.

## Learn More about the Merced River

Love the river? Now is a great time to get involved in the future management of this special place. Check out our website at <http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/mrp.htm> for upcoming events.

## 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 may be dry by August, Bridalveil, Vernal, and Nevada Falls flow all year. (See page 17 for hiking information.)

## 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 early season hiking. (See page 2 for a park map and area 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.)

## Travel Back in Time

Visit Wawona’s Pioneer Yosemite



Upper Yosemite Fall NPS Photo

## Get outside and enjoy your park!

Summer offers spectacular views of waterfalls, great hiking, and endless opportunities for recreation. This is a great time of year to interact with Yosemite’s Wild and Scenic Merced River. Whether it be floating down the river itself, hiking or picnicking along the river’s banks, take the opportunity to be inspired by this phenomenal natural resource.

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. Fun for the whole family. (See pages 8 and 9 for history center and other program 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.)

### Discover the Night Sky

Attend the “Starry Skies Over Yosemite Valley” for a wild ride through the universe to learn about stars, constellations, planets, meteors, and other night sky features, all from the comfort of Yosemite Valley. Sign up at any tour desk. (See page 4 for tour desk locations.)

### Go to the 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. (See page 7 for shows and starting times.)

### 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.)

## 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), or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 or 209/372-0645 for more information.



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. Please contact the Park Accessibility COordinator (listed above) to request an interpreter. Advance notice is requested. Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advance request. Inquire at a visitor center.

Audio tours are available for the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an Accessibility Coordinator for more information.

### Emergency Information

#### Emergency Dial 911

Medical Clinic (in Yosemite Valley) Open 7 days per week from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM for primary and urgent care needs. Phone: 209/372-4637

Dental Clinic (In Yosemite Valley) 209/372-4200

**For up-to-date road, weather, and park information: 209/372-0200**

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 conditions

#### 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

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

## Entrance Fees

Reservations are NOT required to enter Yosemite. The park is open year-round, 24 hours/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](http://www.recreation.gov)

### Lodging Reservations

801/559-5000

[www.yosemitepark.com](http://www.yosemitepark.com)

## Regional Info

### Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)

[www.yarts.com](http://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](http://www.tcvb.com)

### Highway 41

Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau  
559/683-4636

[www.yosemitethisyear.com](http://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](http://www.homeofyosemite.com)

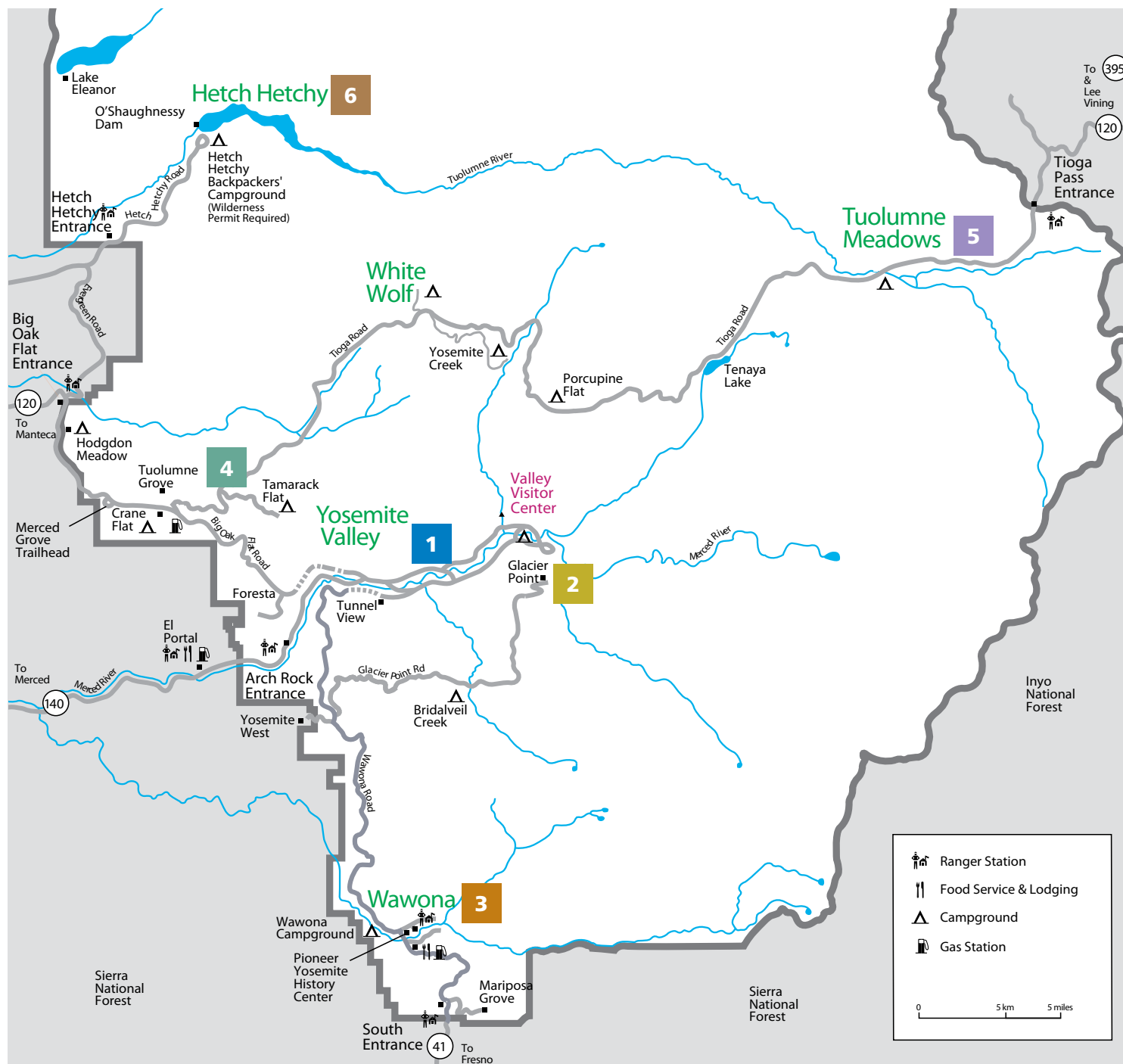
### Highway 120 East

Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center, 760/647-6629  
[www.leevining.com](http://www.leevining.com)

### Calif. Welcome Center, Merced

800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104

[www.yosemite-gateway.org](http://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. 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. 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. 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.



Cathedral Peak. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Tuolumne Meadows

**5** Tuolumne Meadows provides a glimpse of the High Sierra. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River 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.



Bridge over the Tuolumne River at Tuolumne Meadows. Photo by John Sun

## 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, however. 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?

- In Wawona and downstream, the South Fork Merced River provides habitat for a rare plant, the Sierra sweet bay (*Myrica hartwegii*). This special status shrub is found in only five Sierra Nevada counties. In Yosemite, it occurs exclusively on sand bars and river banks along the South Fork Merced River downstream from Wawona and on Big Creek.

- Descending from Yosemite Valley, the Merced River becomes a continuous cascade in a narrow gorge littered by massive boulders. Arch and Elephant rocks and other landmarks rise above, all visible from the river and its banks. Dropping 2,000 feet in 14 miles, canyon walls rise steeply from the river and have many seasonal waterfalls cascading down to the river. Spring and fall bring special parades of colors, from redbuds and other plants warmly flowering in spring to bigleaf maples and other trees turning bright colors in fall.

- In Yosemite Valley, dropping over 594-foot Nevada Fall and then 317-foot Vernal Fall, the Merced River creates what is known as the "Giant Staircase." Such exemplary stair-step river morphology is characterized by a large variability in river movement and flow, from quiet pools to the dramatic drops of the waterfalls themselves.

# Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas and the heart of the park



## The Incomparable Yosemite Valley

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

### Yosemite Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery. See pages 5, 6, and 7 for more information on program topics and visitor services available.

#### Ranger Programs

Rangers give walks and talks every day about Yosemite's natural and cultural history. See pages 6 and 7 for scheduled walks, 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 bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. You can use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Lodge or Curry Village. Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

#### Tours

(Tours listed below depart from Yosemite Lodge. Tours may be weather dependent.

The **Valley Floor Tour** is a 26-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 209/372-1240 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 7:30 am to 5 pm daily. Information: 209/372-8348 (reservations strongly recommended).

#### Sightseeing

Some of the famous landmarks in Yosemite Valley include:

- **Yosemite Falls** gives the Valley an extra touch of life when it's flowing

with spring runoff. You can walk to its base or take the strenuous trail to its top (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.

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

5pm to 9pm Monday through Friday, 12pm-9pm Saturday and Sunday

###### Degnan's Delicatessen

7am to 5pm

###### Degnan's Cafe

11am-6pm

###### Village Grill

11am to 5

##### 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 required for dinner.

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

###### Ahwahnee Breakfast 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 9:30pm (Grab and Go only 8:30-9:30pm)

###### Mountain Room Lounge

Monday – Friday

4:30pm to 11pm

Saturday – Sunday

Noon to 11pm

###### Mountain Room Restaurant

5:30pm to 9:30pm

Reservations taken for 8 or more. 209/372-1281

##### Curry Village

###### Coffee Corner

6am to 10pm

###### Curry Village Bar

Noon to 10 pm

###### Pavilion Buffet

Breakfast: 7am to 10am

Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

###### Pizza Deck

Noon to 10pm

###### Taqueria

11am to 5pm

###### Happy Isles Snack Stand

11am to 7pm

#### BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

##### Yosemite Village

###### The Ansel Adams Gallery

9am to 6pm

###### Yosemite Art & Education Center

9am to 4:30pm closed for lunch 12pm to 1pm

###### Yosemite Bookstore

Inside Yosemite Visitor Center

9am to 7:30pm

###### Yosemite Museum Store

9am to 5pm

###### Valley Wilderness Center

7:30am to 5pm

###### Village Store

8am to 10pm

###### Habitat Yosemite

10am to 5pm

###### Sport Shop

9am to 6pm

##### Ahwahnee

###### The Ahwahnee Gift Shop

8am to 10pm

###### The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop

7am to 10pm

##### Yosemite Lodge

###### Gift/Grocery

8am to 10pm

###### Nature Shop

10am to 8pm

##### Curry Village

###### Mountain Shop

8am to 8pm

###### Curry Village Gift/Grocery

8am to 10pm

##### Nature Center at Happy Isles

Exhibits and store, 9:30am to 5pm

# Yosemite Valley

Where to go and what to do



Biking in Yosemite Valley, Photo by Deniene

## Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

Visitor center and bookstore hours are 9 am to 7:30pm. 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.

### 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.

### VIEWS & VISITORS: THE YOSEMITE EXPERIENCE IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY

This summer the museum gallery exhibit focuses on the Yosemite visitor experience from 1900 to 1946, an era of great change for the park. Photographs, paintings, ephemera, and historic artifacts from that era will be exhibited. Oral histories, digital slide shows

and film footage will supplement the artifacts on exhibit. The exhibit will be open from June 8 to September 30, daily from 9 to 5; October 1 to 31, daily from 10 to 12 and 1 to 4.

## 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.

July 14th – August 31st New Exhibit: "Within the Stone" by Bill Atkinson.

The show will consist of polished rock photos including newest work, plus a few of the existing favorites.

Artist's Reception: July 20th, 3-5 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

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 7:30 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 5 pm through September. 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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 7:30pm

#### Yosemite Museum Store

9am to 5pm (May close for lunch)

#### Village Store Gift/Grocery

8am to 10pm

#### Habitat Yosemite

10am to 5pm

#### Sport Shop

9am to 6pm

#### Tour Desk - Village Store

7:30am to 3pm

The Ahwahnee

#### The Ahwahnee Gift Shop

8am to 10pm

#### The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop

7am to 10pm

Yosemite Lodge

#### Gift/Grocery

8am to 10pm

#### Nature Shop

10am to 8pm

#### Tour Desk

7:30am to 7pm

Curry Village

#### Mountain Shop

8am to 8pm

#### Gift/Grocery

8am to 10pm

#### Tour Desk

7:30am to 3pm

Housekeeping Camp

#### Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm

# SCHEDULED EVENTS IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

June 29, 2011 - August 2, 2011



An NPS Interpretive Ranger engages young park visitors during a Junior Ranger Day Program. NPS Photo

## Yosemite Outdoor Adventures (YC)

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.

- July 8-10 White Wolf Botany, flowers and more for casual botanists
- July 13-15 North Dome Moonrise Photo Backpack Trip, a unique time and place
- July 14-17 Tuolumne Meadows Pastel Painting, with Yosemite's Moira Donohoe
- July 22-24 Sierra Natural History, with David Lukas, the guy who wrote the book
- July 22-24 Half Dome Backpack, take it to the top with author Suzanne Swedo
- July 23-26 Family Camping Jamboree 1, we'll cook and do the activities for you
- July 28-31 Family Camping Jamboree 2, just bring the kids and the tent
- July 30 Tuolumne Flowers, Exploring the delights of the subalpine
- July 31-Aug 6 Advanced Backpack: Tenaya Lake to El Capitan with Dick Ewart

Find all the details at [www.yosemiteconservancy.org](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org), or call 209/379-2646. Park entry and camping are included, hotel rooms have already been set aside for these courses. The Conservancy also arranges Custom Adventures for individuals, families and groups: [adventures@yosemiteconservancy.org](mailto:adventures@yosemiteconservancy.org).

## Yosemite Art and Education Center Classes (YAEC)

The Yosemite Art & Education Center is open daily 9am-4:30pm (closed for lunch from 12-1PM). Workshops are offered from 10am to 2pm Tuesday through Saturday. Register for classes in advance: 209/372-1442. Suggested Donation of \$5, supplies extra. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Be prepared to work outdoors. Information on classes is also available on line at <http://www.yosemiteart.blogspot.com>.

- June 28-July 2nd Margaret Mohr, Capture the Beauty, Watercolor
- July 5th-July 9th Ann Raglan Bowns, Silk Painting
- July 12th-16th Byron Spicer, Abstract Fun with Landscape, Watercolor/Acrylic
- July 19th-23rd Linda Mitchell, Enjoying Watercolor
- July 26th- 30th Dana Childs, The Many Faces of Half Dome

## Yosemite Mountaineering School (YMS)

YMS offers rock climbing classes, guided climbs, custom backcountry trips, and daily hikes. Experience the park with a professional guide: 209/372-8344.

## LeConte Memorial Lodge (SC)

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 begin at 8pm and are free. The Lodge has a library, children's corner, and a climate change exhibit. The Lodge is located at shuttle stop #12.

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES

**YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Valley Chapel, Sunday 9:15am, 11am, 6:30pm;  
Thursday 7pm; ACMNP Campground Services 9am  
Lower Pines; Vacation Bible School June 20-24  
9am; Bible Study throughout week. For wedding  
& general information: Pastor Brent Moore, [www.yosemitevalleychapel.org](http://www.yosemitevalleychapel.org), 209/372-4831

**ROMAN CATHOLIC**  
Mass: Saturday, 6 pm at Lower Pines  
Amphitheater; Sunday, 10am at Valley Visitor Center  
Wednesday & Friday, 6:30 pm, 9006 Cedar Ct. in  
Yosemite Village, 209/372-4729.

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

**SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST**  
Lower River Amphitheater-Saturdays (EXCEPT JULY 16)  
9:45 am Music/Sabbath School,

11 am Worship, 12:30pm potluck  
209-586-4325 or 209-743-5522

**LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
Sacrament meetings. Sunday 1pm.  
Memorial Day - Labor Day. Yosemite Chapel.

**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   | 8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hours. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)   |
|  | 9:00am <b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) free  |
|  | 9:00am <b>Discovery Hike- Vernal Falls Bridge</b> 3½ hrs. Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) \$  |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)  |
| 10:30am <b>PROGRAM, LECONTE MEMORIAL LODGE, SUSAN BARRY, "DRAWING BEARS"</b> (July 3 only) 1 hr. (SC) limited to 25. Preregistration at LML required   |   |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">                     Programs printed in <b>ALL CAPS AND COLOR</b> are especially for children and their families.                 </div> |   |
| Monday   | 8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hours. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ahwahnee Hotel   |
|  | 9:00am <b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)   |
|  | 9:00am <b>Bike to Hike Tour</b> 2½ hrs. Curry Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) \$   |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (except August 1) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)  |
| 9:30am <b>FAMILY CRAFT PROGRAM</b> 1 1/2 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center. (YAEC)  |   |
| Tuesday  | 8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hours. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)  |
|  | 9:30am <b>Adventure Hike- Vernal &amp; Nevada Falls</b> 6 hrs. Yosemite Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) \$  |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)  |
|  | 10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (4 hrs) Yosemite Art and Education Center. Details at left. (YAEC) \$5 Donation   |
| Wednesday  | 9:00am <b>HABITAT PROTECTORS OF YOSEMITE (HaPY)</b> Up to 3 hrs. Drop-in program. Vegetation restoration field work for volunteers. Meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center. Wear closed toe shoes and long pants; bring water and snacks. (NPS) |
|  | 9:00am <b>Bike to Hike Tour</b> 2½ hrs. Curry Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) \$   |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)  |
|  | 10:00am <b>Welcome to Yosemite with Ranger Shelton Johnson</b> (except June 29) 2hrs. Drop-in conversation and orientation about Yosemite. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS)   |
| 10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (4 hrs) Yosemite Art and Education Center. Details at left. (YAEC) \$5 Donation  |   |
| Thursday   | 8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hours. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery.  |
|  | 9:00am <b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> 1 hr. Lower River Amphitheater; shuttle stop #12, across river from Housekeeping Camp (DNC)  |
|  | 9:00am <b>Discovery Hike- Vernal Falls Bridge</b> 3½ hrs. Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) \$  |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)  |
|  | 10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (4 hrs) Yosemite Art and Education Center. Details at left. (YAEC) \$5 Donation   |
| 11:00am <b>CHILDREN'S PHOTOGRAPHY WALK</b> 1 hr. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. Children must be accompanied by an adult.  |   |
| Friday   | 9:00am <b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)   |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)  |
|  | 9:30am <b>Adventure Hike - Yosemite Falls</b> 6 hrs. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater Stage. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) \$   |
|  | 10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (4 hrs) Yosemite Art and Education Center. Details at left. (YAEC) \$5 Donation   |
|  | 10:30am <b>PROGRAM, LECONTE MEMORIAL LODGE, SUSAN BARRY, "DRAWING BEARS"</b> (July 1 and July 29 only) 1 hr. (SC), limited to 25. Pre-registration at LML required.   |
| 10:30am <b>PROGRAM, LECONTE MEMORIAL LODGE, STEVE RILEY, CHILDREN'S BOOK AUTHOR "LITTLE TYCOONEY &amp; THE BIG YOSEMITE RACE"</b> (July 29 only) 1 hr. (SC)  |   |
| Saturday   | 8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hours. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery   |
|  | 9:00am <b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)   |
|  | 9:00am <b>Bike to Hike Tour</b> 2½ hrs. Curry Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) \$   |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)  |
|  | 10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (4 hrs) Yosemite Art and Education Center. Details at left. (YAEC) \$5 Donation   |
| 10:30am <b>PROGRAM, LECONTE MEMORIAL LODGE, SUSAN BARRY, "DRAWING BEARS"</b> (July 2 only) 1 hr. (SC), limited to 25. Preregistration at LML required.   |   |

**NPS** National Park Service

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

**AAG** The Ansel Adams Gallery

**AAC** American Alpine Club

**SC** Sierra Club

**YC** Yosemite Conservancy

**YMS** Yosemite Mountaineering School

**\$** 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.





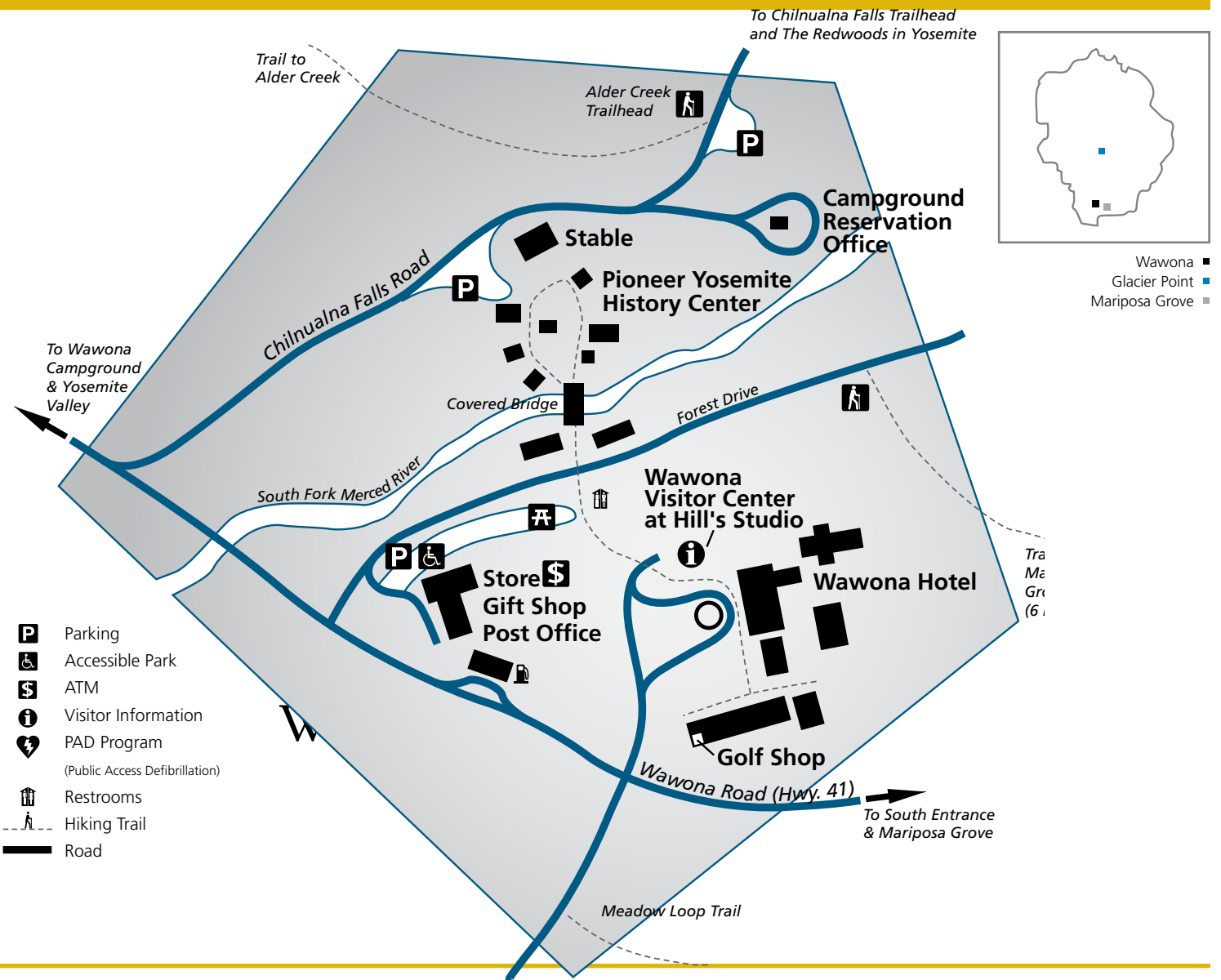
# Wawona, Mariposa Grove, and Glacier Point



Sequoias. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Explore History Discover Giant Trees Find Amazing Vistas

These park areas offer endless opportunities for amazing experiences.



## Wawona & Mariposa Grove

### 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 to get other questions answered. Every morning from 8:00 am to 8:45 am

### Evening Programs

Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Wawona Hotel lobby from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm, Tuesday through Saturday, as he performs songs and 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 the history of Wawona with slide or music accompaniment. Check with Tom at the piano for dates and times.

### Ranger Evening Programs

Join a ranger around a campfire for an hour of nature, history, and insight into Yosemite. Topics vary nightly. See page 9 for dates, times, and locations.

### Wawona Information Station at Hill's Studio

Open 8:30 am to 5 pm. The Wawona 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

## Pioneer Yosemite History Center

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

**BLACKSMITH SHOP** Smell the burning coal, hear the ring of the hammer on the anvil, and watch a demonstration of the ancient art of blacksmithing.

### OLD-FASHIONED FOURTH OF JULY!

You are cordially invited to join the staff of the Pioneer Yosemite History Center for an old fashioned celebration

of the 4th of July! Activities will include a parade, speeches, and games, such as Gunny Sack Races, Three-Legged Races, Egg Toss, and Tug-of-War. A fun time will be enjoyed by people of all ages. This celebration takes place at the Pioneer Yosemite History Center on July 4th between 2 and 4 pm.

## Mariposa Grove

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

### Getting to Mariposa Grove

Allow 1½ hours driving time to reach the grove from the Valley. Cars are prohibited beyond the grove parking lot. The access road to the grove may close intermittently due to limited parking.

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

## Mariposa Grove Museum

Open 10 am to 4 pm. Located in the Upper Mariposa Grove, the museum offers information, displays on giant sequoias.

## Walking through the Grove

Trails into the grove extend uphill from the trailhead at the far end of the parking area. Interpretive signs between the trailhead and the California Tree provide a self-guiding tour. Written translations are available at the trailhead in Spanish, German, French, and Japanese.

**Dogs or bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Grove**





Geology Hut. Photo courtesy Yosemite Research Library

## Glacier Point

### Evening Programs

Meet a ranger to enjoy the lengthening shadows in Yosemite Valley 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 (limited menu): 1:30pm-4:30pm

Lounge Service 5pm-9:30pm

Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm

Saturday BBQ: 5-7pm

##### Golf Shop & Snack Stand

9am to 5pm when golf course is open

#### Glacier Point

##### Snack Stand

Will open when potable water becomes available  
9am to 4pm

### GROCERIES

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop  
8am to 8pm

### GIFTS & APPAREL

#### Wawona

##### Wawona Store & Pioneer Shop

8am to 8pm

##### Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio (Information and Books)

8:30am to 5pm

#### Glacier Point

##### Gift Shop

9am to 6pm

#### Mariposa Grove

##### Mariposa Grove Museum

10am to 4pm

##### Big Trees Gift Shop

9am to 6pm

### POST OFFICE

#### Wawona Post Office

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

### GAS STATION

#### Wawona Gas Station

8am to 6pm Diesel & propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

### GOLF

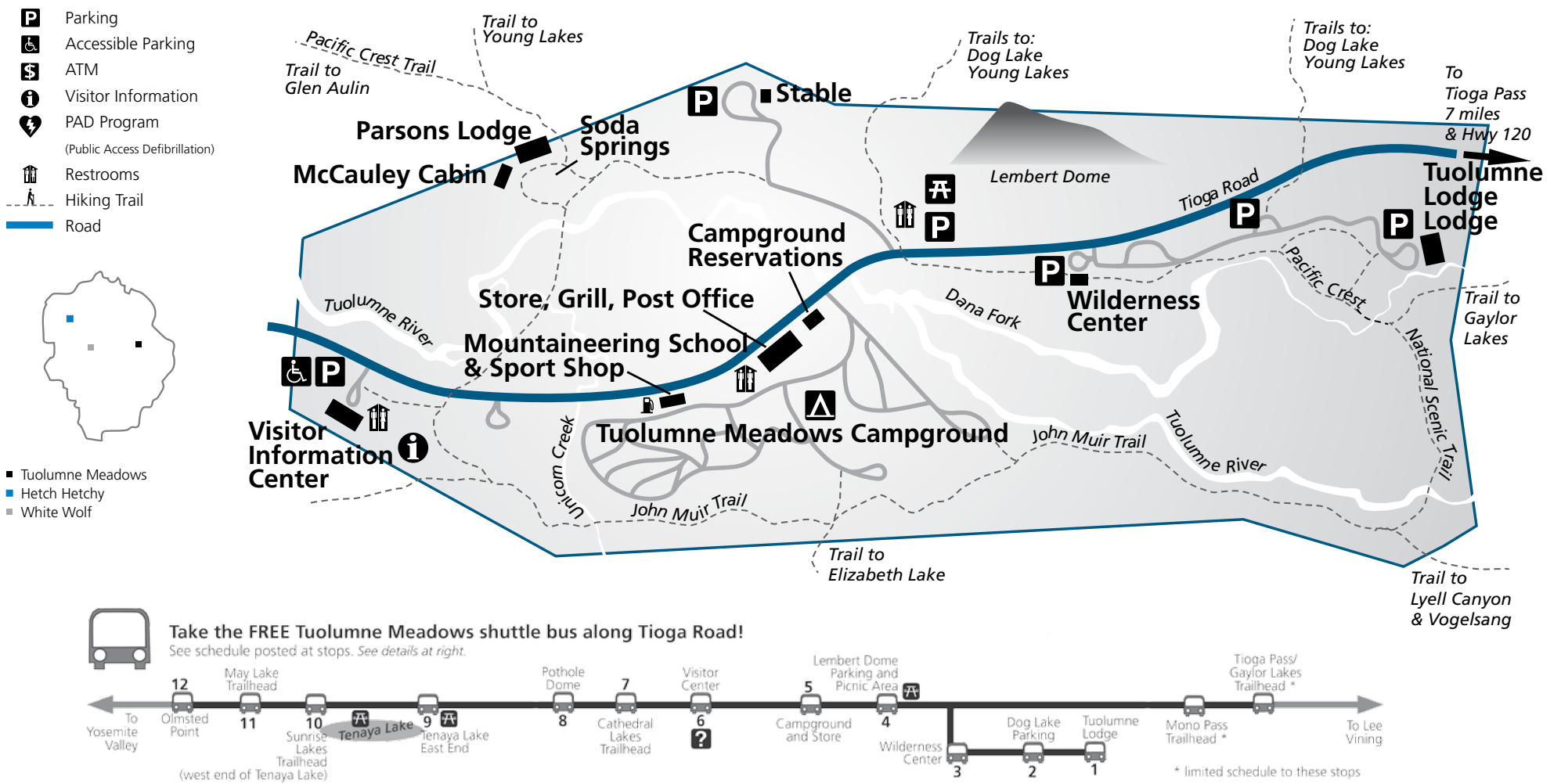
#### Wawona Hotel Golf Course

9am to 5pm, 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>10:00am – Noon / 2:00pm – 4:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>10:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm – 5:00pm <b>Blacksmithing Demonstration</b> 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>3:00pm <b>Wawona History Stroll</b> 1 hr. Wawona Hotel Fountain (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>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk with a Ranger</b> 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly (NPS) ♿</p>   | <p>11:00am <b>Hike to the Hidden Illilouette Fall</b> 3½ hrs. Moderately difficult. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop (NPS)</p> <p>7:00pm <b>GLACIER POINT STARGAZING TOUR</b> 4 ½ hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (July 31 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point raiting, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:45pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (except July 31) ½ hr. Glacier Point raiting, overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p>   |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> (except Aug. 1) ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am-noon <b>Visit Yosemite's Past</b> (July 4 only) Yosemite's history comes to life at the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> (except July 11 and Aug. 1) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>2:00pm-4:00pm <b>OLD-FASHIONED FOURTH-OF-JULY CELEBRATION</b> (July 4 only). Speeches, games, races, &amp; fun! Pioneer Yosemite History Center (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>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk with a Ranger</b> (except Aug. 1) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly (NPS) ♿</p> <p>9:00pm <b>STARRY SKIES OVER WAWONA</b> (Except July 4) 1-1 ½ hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ ♿</p>  | <p>2:00pm <b>A Short Walk to a Great View of El Capitan</b> (except Aug. 1) 1½ hrs. Easy. Meet in front of the Glacier Point Gift Shop (NPS)</p> <p>7:00pm <b>GLACIER POINT STARGAZING TOUR</b> 4 ½ hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Campfire Program</b> (except Aug. 1) 1 hr. Bridalveil Campground, Loop C (NPS)</p>  |
| <b>Tuesday</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>6:30pm <b>Evening Ranger Program</b> 1 hr. Meet at The Redwoods In Yosemite office on Chilnualna Falls Road. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk with a Ranger</b> 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly (NPS) ♿</p>  | <p>10:00am <b>Ranger Wildflower Walk to McGurk Meadow</b> 2 hrs. Meet at phone booth in Bridalveil Campground. (McGurk Trailhead if campground is closed.) (NPS)</p> <p>7:00pm <b>GLACIER POINT STARGAZING TOUR</b> 4 ½ hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (August 2 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point raiting, overlooking the Valley. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:45pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (except August 2) ½ hr. Glacier Point raiting, 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>9:30am <b>Wawona History Stroll</b> 1 hr. Wawona Hotel Fountain (NPS)</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>2:00pm – 4:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (except July 6) 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>2:00pm – 5:00pm <b>Blacksmithing Demonstration</b> 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>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk with a Ranger</b> 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly (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>7:00pm <b>GLACIER POINT STARGAZING TOUR</b> 4 ½ hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (July 27 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point raiting, overlooking the Valley. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:45pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (except July 27) ½ hr. Glacier Point raiting, 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>10:00am – Noon / 2:00pm – 4:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>10:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm – 5:00pm <b>Blacksmithing Demonstration</b> Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>1:30pm <b>Ranger Walk – Discover a “Wilderness” Meadow!</b> (Except June 30) Learn about the history, hydrology and inhabitants of Wawona Meadow. 2 hrs. Meet at the Wawona Hotel Fountain (NPS)</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk with a Ranger</b> 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly (NPS) ♿</p>   | <p>2:00pm <b>A Short Walk to a Great View of El Capitan</b> 1½ hrs. Easy. Meet in front of the Glacier Point Gift Shop (NPS)</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Full Moon Hike to Sentinel Dome</b> (July 14 only) 2 hrs. Dress warmly. Meet at Sentinel Dome parking area. (NPS)</p> <p>7:00pm <b>GLACIER POINT STARGAZING TOUR</b> 4 ½ hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Campfire Program</b> (except July 14) 1 hr. Bridalveil Campground, Loop C (NPS)</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>10:00am – Noon / 2:00pm – 4:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>10:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm – 5:00pm <b>Blacksmithing Demonstration</b> 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>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk with a Ranger</b> 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly (NPS) ♿</p>  | <p>10:00am <b>Ranger Wildflower Walk to McGurk Meadow</b> 2 hrs. Meet at phone booth in Bridalveil Campground. (McGurk Trailhead if campground is closed.) (NPS)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (July 29 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point raiting, overlooking the Valley. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:45pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (except July 29) ½ hr. Glacier Point raiting, overlooking the Valley. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Stars Over Yosemite</b> (except July 15) Glacier Point amphitheater. Canceled if overcast. (NPS) ♿</p> |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>9:00pm <b>Nature Walk with a Ranger</b> 2 hrs. Meet at The Redwoods In Yosemite office on Chilnualna Falls Road. (NPS)</p> <p>9:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM</b> 1 ½ hrs. Wawona Campground Amphitheater Especially for kids 7-13 (NPS)</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>10:00am – Noon / 2:00pm – 4:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>10:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm – 5:00pm <b>Blacksmithing Demonstration</b> Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>1:00pm <b>A Glimpse of the Wawona Miwok Indians</b> (July 16 only) 1 hr. Meet at Mountaineer's Cabin, 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>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk with a Ranger</b> 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly (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>7:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (July 30 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point raiting, overlooking the Valley. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:45pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (except July 30) ½ hr. Glacier Point raiting, overlooking the Valley. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Stars Over Yosemite</b> (except July 16) Glacier Point amphitheater. Canceled if overcast. (NPS) ♿</p>                                 |

Programs printed in **ALL CAPS AND COLOR** are especially for children and their families.

# Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, and Crane Flat



## Tuolumne Meadows

### Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center

Opening date pending, 9 am to 6 pm. Park orientation, trail information, books, maps, and displays.

### Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center

Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center will open once the Tioga Road opens for the season. For updated opening information and hours, please visit the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm>.

### 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 may be open from 10 am to 4 pm beginning in early July. Soda Springs are small, naturally-carbonated springs that attract birds and deer, especially at sunrise and sunset.

### Just for Kids

Programs for children include Junior Rangers, a two-hour, ranger-led program for children (ages 7-12), and Campfire for Kids. Check local postings for program schedule possibly beginning July 9. Campfire for Kids begins when the campground opens.

### 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. On Friday, end your day with a Music Walk. This easy stroll will inspire and delight. Check local postings for program schedule possibly beginning July 9.

### 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). These programs begin when the campground opens.

### Mule and Horseback Rides

Horse or mule rides begin at the Tuolumne Meadows stable. Stable hours are 7 am to 5 pm once open for the season. Information: 209/372-8427.

### Parsons Memorial Lodge Summer Series 2011

*All programs, unless otherwise noted, last approximately one hour. Allow 30 minutes walking time to Parsons Memorial Lodge from either Lembert Dome parking area or the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. Admission is free.*

### Sunday, July 17

Nutcrackers and Pines: Why Mutualisms Matter, 2:00pm  
*Slide presentation by Shawn McKinney, Ecologist, National Park Service Inventory and Monitoring, Sierra Nevada Network*

### Saturday, July 23

Drawing Timberline Species, 2:00pm  
*Slide presentation by artist Valerie P. Cohen with text by Michael P. Cohen, writer*

### Sunday, July 24

Biomimicry: Sustainable Innovation Inspired by Nature, 2:00pm – 3:30pm  
*Slide presentation and discussion with Karen Allen, naturalist and Certified Biomimicry Professional*

### Saturday, July 30

An Entirely Synthetic Fish: How Rainbow Trout Beguiled America and Overran the World, 2:00pm-3:30pm  
*Slide presentation by Anders Halverson, author, University of Colorado Center of the American West*

### Sunday, July 31

The High Country of the Mind, 2:00pm  
*Slide presentation, reading, and discussion with David Gilligan, naturalist and writer, Sterling College*

Sunset Stories and Starry Tales, 7:30pm  
*Performance by Ane Carla Rovetta, illustrator and master storyteller*

## Big Oak Flat

Open 8 am to 5 pm. The information station offers general park information, books, and maps. It also provides wilderness permits, bear canister rentals, and backpacking information.

## 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.

*\*Programs and facility openings will occur as conditions permit.*

Check local postings for changes to hours of operation.

**FOOD & BEVERAGE**

**Tuolumne Meadows**

**Tuolumne Meadows Grill**  
8am to 5pm\*  
**Tuolumne Meadows Lodge Dining Room**  
Breakfast: 7am to 9am\*  
Dinner: 5:45pm to 8pm\*  
Meals are served family style, and reservations are strongly recommended.  
Call 209/372-8413

**White Wolf**

**White Wolf Lodge**  
Breakfast: 7:30am to 9:30am\*  
Take-out Lunch: noon to 2pm\*  
Dinner: 6pm to 8pm\*  
Reservations recommended.  
Call 209/372-8416.

**GROCERIES**

**Tuolumne Meadows**

**Store**  
8am to 8pm\*  
**Crane Flat Store**  
8am to 8pm

**GIFTS & APPAREL**

**Tuolumne Meadows**

**Mountaineering School and Sport Shop**  
8:30am to 6pm\*  
**Tuolumne Meadows Bookstore**  
Inside the Visitor Center  
9am to 6pm\*  
**Tuolumne Meadows Store**  
8am to 8pm\*  
**Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center**  
8am to 4:30pm daily, closed for lunch.\*

**POST OFFICE**

**Tuolumne Meadows**

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

**GAS STATIONS**

**Tuolumne Meadows**

Gas and propane available.  
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

**Crane Flat**

8am to 8pm  
Diesel & propane available.  
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

**FREE SHUTTLE BUS**

Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass  
See map, page 10. Free shuttle service is available along the Tioga Road from Olmsted Point to Tioga Pass. Service begins when conditions permit.

Shuttles travel between Tuolumne Meadows Lodge and Olmsted Point with stops along the Tioga Road, including Tuolumne Meadows Campground and the visitor center. The shuttle also makes morning and afternoon runs to Tioga Pass.

Service begins at the Lodge at 7 am. Shuttles arrive at approximately 30-minute intervals between 7 am and 7 pm.

|                  | <b>TUOLUMNE MEADOWS</b><br><i>Programs tentatively begin July 9. Check local postings.<br/>*Programs happen only when the Tuolumne Meadows Campground is open. Welcome to Tuolumne! talks begin when the visitor center opens for the season.</i>  | <b>WHITE WOLF</b><br><i>*Pending White Wolf campground opening.</i>  | <b>CRANE FLAT/ HODGDON MEADOW/ HETCH HETCHY</b><br><i>*Pending Crane Flat campground opening.</i>   |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | 8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger*</b> 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup. (NPS)<br>10:00am <b>Ranger Hike—Lembert Dome</b> (starting July 10) 3 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 3 miles. Dog Lake parking, shuttle stop #2. Bring snacks and water. (NPS)<br>10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Sketching in Tuolumne</b> (starting July 10) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring sunglasses, notebook, pen, and pencil. (NPS)<br>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>2:00pm <b>Parsons Summer Series Program</b> (starting July 17) 1-3 hrs. See details on preceding page (NPS)<br>3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>7:30pm <b>Parsons Summer Series Program</b> (July 31 only) See details in Yosemite Guide newspaper. (NPS)<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire*</b> 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)  | * 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGERS</b><br>1.5 hrs. White Wolf campfire circle (NPS)  | * 10:00am <b>Ranger Walk –Bears and Other Wildlife</b><br>1.5 hrs. Crane Flat Campground kiosk (NPS)<br><br>2:00pm <b>Giant Sequoias</b><br>2 hrs. Meet a ranger in the Tuolumne Grove for answers to your questions (NPS)<br><br>8:30pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b><br>1 hr. Crane Flat Campground (NPS)                                      |
| <b>Monday</b>    | 7:30am <b>Photographing Tuolumne Meadows</b> (except July 4 and Aug. 1) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center porch (NPS)<br>10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Indians in the High Country</b> (except July 4 and Aug. 1) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)<br>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except July 4 and Aug. 1) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Bears and Other Wildlife</b> (except July 4 and Aug. 1)) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Campground Reservation Office (NPS)<br>3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except July 4 and Aug. 1) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire*</b> (except Aug. 1) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)<br>8:30pm <b>Stars Over Mono</b> 1 1/2 hrs. Meet at South Tufa in Mono Basin. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. (NPS) ♿   | * 7:00pm <b>CAMPFIRE FOR KIDS</b><br>(except Aug. 1) ¾ hr. White Wolf campfire circle (NPS)<br><br>*9:00pm <b>Night Prowl</b><br>(except Aug. 1) 1 hr. Explore nature after dark. Sign up in advance by calling 209/379-1899 | 9:30am <b>Ranger Hike – Hetch Hetchy</b><br>(except Aug. 1) 2 hrs. Bring water. O’Shaughnessy Dam (NPS)<br><br>7:00pm <b>Twilight Stroll</b><br>1.5 hrs. Hodgdon Meadow Group Campground (NPS)<br><br>9:00pm <b>Starry, Starry Night</b><br>1.5 hrs. Crane Flat area. Limited to 30 people. Sign-up required; Call 209/379-1899 (NPS)             |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | 9:00am <b>Ranger Hike—Glen Aulin</b> (starting July 12) 6-8 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 12 miles. Meet at Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring lunch, water, raingear, and shoes that can get wet for creek crossings. (NPS)<br>10:00am <b>Botanical Walk with Cathy Rose</b> 2 hrs. (NPS)<br>July 12: <b>Parsons Lodge</b> Meet at Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center shuttle stop #6.<br>July 19: <b>Pothole Dome</b> Shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29<br>July 26: <b>Bennettville</b> Meet at junction of Saddlebag Lake Road and Tioga Pass Road.<br>August 2: <b>Elery Lake</b> Meet at dam on east end of Elery Lake outside Tioga Pass.<br>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>2:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (starting July 12) 2 hrs. Ages 7-12. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS)<br>3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>7:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Sunset</b> (starting July 12) ¾ hr. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire*</b> 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)                                | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; background-color: #fff;"> <p>Programs printed in <b>ALL CAPS AND COLOR</b> are especially for children and their families.</p> </div>                                    |   |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 7:30am <b>Ranger Walk—Birds</b> (starting July 13) 2 1/2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area Binoculars available. (NPS)<br>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger*</b> (starting July 13) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup. (NPS)<br>10:00am <b>DISCOVERY WALK FOR LITTLE CUBS</b> (starting July 13) 50 minutes Ages 4-6. Tuolumne Meadows Campground Reservation Office (NPS)<br>10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Geology of Tuolumne Meadows</b> (starting July 13) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS)<br>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>1:30pm <b>Ranger Walk—Along the Tuolumne River</b> (starting July 13) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)<br>3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>7:00pm <b>CAMPFIRE FOR KIDS*</b> ¾ hr. Conness Circle, Loop C in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS) ♿<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire*</b> 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)<br>9:30pm <b>Ranger Talk—Stars*</b> 1 hr. Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. (NPS) | * 7:00pm <b>CAMPFIRE FOR KIDS</b><br>¾ hr. White Wolf campfire circle (NPS)<br><br>* 9:30pm <b>Stars over White Wolf</b><br>1 hr. Meet at White Wolf Campground entrance (NPS)   | 8am <b>Birding with a Ranger</b><br>2 hrs. Hodgdon Meadow Campground kiosk. Binoculars available (NPS)<br><br>9:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGERS</b><br>1.5 hrs. Hodgdon Meadow Group Campground (NPS)<br><br>2:30pm <b>History &amp; the Big Trees</b><br>1.5 hrs. Meet a ranger in the Merced Grove of Giant Sequoias for answers to your questions (NPS) |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | 10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—History of Tuolumne Meadows</b> (starting July 14) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center shuttle stop #6 (NPS)<br>11:00am <b>Ranger Hike—Twin Bridges Loop</b> (starting July 14) 3-4 hrs. Easy. 3 miles. Tuolumne Meadows Campground Reservation Office. Bring lunch, water, and raingear. (NPS)<br>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Lake Exploration</b> (starting July 14) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS)<br>3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire*</b> 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)  | * 7:00pm <b>Twilight Stroll</b><br>1.5 hrs. Meet at White Wolf Campground entrance (NPS)   | * 10:00am <b>Ranger Walk –Wildflowers</b><br>1.5 hrs. Crane FlatCampground Kiosk (NPS)<br><br>1:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b><br>(except June 9)<br>15 min. Short talk on a park topic. Big Oak Flat Information Station (NPS)<br><br>5:00pm <b>Ranger Walk –Bears and Other Wildlife</b><br>1.5 hrs. Hodgdon Meadow Group Campground (NPS)      |
| <b>Friday</b>    | 8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger*</b> 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup. (NPS)<br>10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (starting July 15) 2 hrs. Ages 7-12. Dog Lake parking, shuttle stop #2. (NPS)<br>10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Domes and Meadows</b> (starting July 15) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS)<br>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>1:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Along the Tuolumne River</b> (July 15 only) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)<br>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Wildflowers</b> (starting July 15) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)<br>3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>6:30pm <b>Ranger Walk—Music for Parks</b> (starting July 15) (except July 29) 1 1/4 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire*</b> 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)  | * 8:30pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b><br>1 hr. White Wolf Campground (NPS)   | 2:00pm <b>Giant Sequoias</b><br>2 hrs. Meet a ranger in the Tuolumne Grove for answers to your questions (NPS)<br><br>* 8:30pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b><br>1 hr. Crane Flat Campground (NPS)  |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | 7:30am <b>Ranger Walk—Birds</b> (starting July 9) 2 1/2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area. Binoculars available. (NPS)<br>9:15am <b>Ranger Hike—Mono Pass</b> (starting July 9) 6-8 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 8 miles. Meet at Mono Pass trailhead. Bring lunch, water, raingear, and shoes that can get wet for creek crossings. (NPS)<br>10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (starting July 9) 2 hrs. Ages 7-12 Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)<br>12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>2:00pm <b>Parsons Summer Series Program</b> (starting July 23) 1-3 hrs. See details on preceding page (NPS)<br>3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) ♿<br>7:00pm <b>CAMPFIRE FOR KIDS*</b> ¾ hr. Conness Circle, Loop C in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS) ♿<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire*</b> 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)<br>9:30pm <b>Ranger Talk—Stars*</b> 1 hr. Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. (NPS)  | * 8:30 am <b>Coffee with a Ranger.</b><br>Bring your cup!<br><br>* 8:30pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b><br>1 hr. White Wolf Campground (NPS)  | 9:30am <b>Ranger Hike – Hetch Hetchy</b><br>2 hrs. Bring water. O’Shaughnessy Dam (NPS)<br><br>1:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b><br>15 min. Short talk on a park topic. Big Oak Flat Information Station (NPS)<br><br>* 8:30pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b><br>1 hr. Crane Flat Campground (check at kiosk for location) (NPS)                   |

# Become a Junior Ranger

Ages 3 and up can earn a badge while exploring the park

Yosemite National Park offers a wide variety of 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 wild animals. If you see one, make a note by the animal's picture below. If you don't see any of these wild animals during your visit, choose one you did see and 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

## 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 Yosemite Conservancy bookstore.

# Bears and Wildlife

Enjoying wildlife safely and responsibly



Sow and Cub. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Keep Wildlife Wild!

Black bears, coyote, deer, and grey squirrels are just a few of the many animal species in the park that are active year round. Learn how to help protect Yosemite's wildlife.

### Store Your Food Properly.

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.

### 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.

### 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.

### Report Bear Sightings!

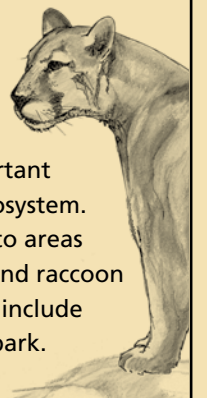
To report bear sightings, improper food storage, trash problems, and other bear-related problems, leave a message for the Bear Management Team at 209/372-0322. Your call can be made anonymously. For more information regarding bears and proper food storage, visit the park's website ([www.nps.gov/yose/bears](http://www.nps.gov/yose/bears)).

### Coyotes

Watching a coyote hunting for mice in one of Yosemite's many meadows can be an amazing wildlife experience. Coyotes are opportunistic carnivores that primarily prey on small mammals. Like bears, their diets change throughout the year with food availability.

Unfortunately, coyotes sometimes change their natural behavior to try to obtain human food. Approaching, and/or feeding coyotes can cause them to lose their natural fear of humans. Please do not stop to feed coyotes that you see along the sides of the roads. This encourages them to frequent roadsides to beg for food, endangering both coyotes and drivers.

## 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!

Mountain Lions are magnificent creatures and native to Yosemite. Generally, they 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.  |



# Protect Yourself...

Keep safety in mind as you explore the park



## Permit Required to Hike Half Dome

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are now required seven days per week when the cables are up. This is an interim measure to increase safety along the cables while the park develops a long-term plan to manage use on the Half Dome Trail. **The Half Dome Trail Stewardship Plan Environmental Assessment will be available for public review late summer 2011.** The environmental assessment will detail the proposed alternative methods of managing use on the Half Dome Trail and their potential affects on the environment and visitors. To find out more about the plan visit [www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/hdp.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/hdp.htm).

Permits for May and June were available on March 1; July, on March 1; August, on May 1; September, on June 1; and October, on July 1. Permits are not available in the park or on a first-come, first-served basis. We encourage permit holders unable to use their permits to make them available for other visitors by canceling them. You may cancel a permit or check for availability online at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or by calling 877/444-6777. Up to four permits will be available per web session or phone call. Each permit has a service fee of \$1.50. 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. More information is available 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.

### Around Water

- Stay away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards. 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.

### Water Quality

To protect yourself from disease, treat any surface water before drinking. Treatment methods include boiling for five minutes, use of a Giardia-rated water filter, or iodine-based purifier. To prevent the spread of Giardia and other water-borne disease organisms, use restroom facilities where available, and always wash hands afterwards with soap and water. In natural areas where facilities are not available, wash, camp, and bury human waste at least 100 feet away from any water source or trail, burying human waste six inches deep and pack out any toilet paper.

### Traffic Safety

Roads leading to the park are two-lane, narrow, and winding. When traveling on park roads you can protect yourself, other visitors, and park wildlife by observing the following simple rules: Please obey posted speed limits. Yosemite's roads are used by both visitors and park wildlife. Use turnouts

to pull completely out of the road, to take photos, consult the park map, or simply enjoy the park's scenery and wildlife.

### Effects of Altitude

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

### Hiking, Backpacking, River and Creek Crossings, and Rock Climbing

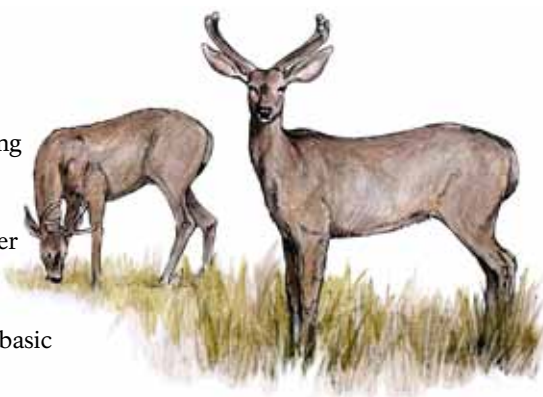
With the heavy winter be prepared for full or partial snow cover well into the summer. Good navigation skills are necessary. While a trail may start out snow free be prepared for patches of snow or for the snow to become continuous. Hikers may lose the trail when crossing a stretch of snow and subsequently become disoriented while searching for the trail. Stay oriented by using landmarks and a map. The large amounts of water from snow melt will keep rivers high and mosquitoes around for a much longer period time.

- Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back.
- Carry and know how to use a map and compass.
- Check weather forecasts.
- Avoid dehydration or heat exhaustion; carry and drink plenty of water, and bring high-energy food.
- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.
- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

• During spring runoff and high water any unbridged river or creek crossing can be hazardous. Always take extra time and use good judgment when crossing rivers and creeks.

### Wilderness Permit Information

Wilderness permits are required year round for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Permits are issued and bear canisters are available for rent at the Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center, the Big Oak Flat Information Center, Hill's Studio in Wawona, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station during hours of operation. Self registration permits are available at the Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station until the Tioga Road opens for the season. Call the park's main phone line at 209/372-0200, or check the web at [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm), for additional information. 60% of the trailhead quota is available in advance. Reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of \$5 per permit plus \$5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Check the park's website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740. 40% of the trailhead quota is available for first come first serve. First come first serve permits are available the day of at opening and the day before starting at 11am.



# ...and Yosemite

## Protecting park resources



### Protecting Yourself and the 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 and those designed for your safety.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### Bicycling

Bike rentals at Curry Village and Yosemite Lodge are open 8:30am to 8pm. Each season, plants are crushed from bicycle travel in meadows, campgrounds, and picnic areas. Please respect park resources and keep bicycles on paved roads and paved bicycle trails. Bikes are not allowed to travel off paved trails. Mountain biking opportunities are available in designated areas outside of Yosemite.

#### Yosemite Guardians

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park's most important guardians. With 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/playourvisit/yoursafety.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/playourvisit/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.



Upper Yosemite Fall, NPS photo



# Camping



Camping in Yosemite. Photo by Ray Santos

## 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 November for campsites in Yosemite Valley's car campgrounds and summer through fall for Hodgdon Meadow, Crane Flat, Wawona, and half of Tuolumne Meadows. All other campgrounds (except group and stock campgrounds) are first-come, first-served. 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.

## General Info...

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 5 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.

## Campgrounds in Yosemite National Park\*

| CAMPGROUND               | OPEN 2011 (APPROX) | 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 28         | \$20      | 238        | Yes  | Tap          |
| Lower Pines              | April 8-Nov 1      | 40 ft           | 35 ft              | Yes                      | \$20      | 60         | Yes  | Tap          |
| North Pines              | April 15-Oct 3     | 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 20 – Oct 3         | \$20      | 93         | Yes  | Tap          |
| Bridalveil Creek         | July – 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 10 – Oct 16          | \$20      | 105        | Yes  | Tap          |
| Crane Flat               | July – Oct 12      | 35 ft           | 27 ft              | Yes                      | \$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 12      | 27 ft           | 24 ft              | First-come, first-served | \$14      | 74         | Yes  | Tap          |
| Yosemite Creek           | July – Sep 12      | 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 – Sep 28      | 35 ft           | 35 ft              | 50%                      | \$20      | 304        | Yes  | Tap          |

\* Exact campground opening and closing dates are subject to conditions.

# Hiking



Hikers on the Mist Trail, Yosemite National Park. Photo by Brian Ward

## 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                           | 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.

## Meet Your Yosemite: Trail Crew

The maintenance and restoration of Yosemite's 800 miles of trails is in the hands of the Yosemite Trail Crew. This is a huge job that requires the hard work and dedication of many men and women. Remo Fickler, one of Yosemite's Trail Crew Supervisors, reveals what it takes to keep trails up to par:

*Q: What does trail work involve?*

A: Maintaining trail tread, drainages, and stabilizing slopes, mostly to control erosion; brushing vegetation from growing in the trail; clearing the trail of fallen trees and boulders; repairing and reconstructing footbridges; breaking, shaping, and laying rock into terrace steps, retaining walls, and water breaks using dry stone masonry techniques.

*Q: How many workers are on each crew?*

A: Anywhere from 8 to 15

*Q: What is your crew's current project?*

A: We are working on reconstructing retaining walls on the Mist Trail and on the John Muir Trail, below Nevada Fall

*Q: What is the most challenging part of trail work?*

A: Manually moving a rock from point A to point B

*Q: How much does a cubic foot of granite weigh?*

A: 170 lbs on average

*Q: Which trail is your favorite hike?*

A: Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne

*Q: Do you have any advice for visitors looking for an enjoyable day hike?*

Snow Creek Trail, it's steep, but it gives you a neat perspective of Half Dome and you get to see evidence of Yosemite's active geology – Another good day hike is Porcupine Creek to North Dome; it is not nearly as steep and you still get great views – also bring plenty of water!

So when you are out hiking and admiring Yosemite's scenery, take a minute to look down and admire Yosemite's trail work!

# River of Mercy

By: Marea Ortiz



*"Nature is ever at work building and pulling down, creating and destroying, keeping everything whirling and flowing, allowing no rest but in rhythmical motion, chasing everything in endless song out of one beautiful form into another."*

– John Muir

For many people, summer means vacation. Vacation destinations often include some body of water, or interaction with water at some point. Chances are, if you are reading this you are on vacation. There is also a good chance that your time in Yosemite will involve water. It may be a river or creek, perhaps a high alpine lake, or saturated meadow. Maybe it is an enormous granite landform, sculpted by the power of water in the form of glaciers thousands of years ago.

Regardless, your view is most likely associated with water in one form or another.

Many Yosemite visitors are drawn to the Merced River and its South Fork – apparent and unmistakable in Yosemite Valley, El Portal, and Wawona. Originating on the slopes of Mount Lyell and the Clark Range, the Merced River shapes its earthen cradle as much today as when it embraced its first drop of water. This river has cut and carved, peeled and plucked, flooded and froze its way down and through these mountains. Two million to twenty thousand years ago, rivers of ice traced the path of the ancestral Merced River. Several periods of glaciations over that time have helped shape awe inspiring cliffs. Along the way it has left behind precipitous drops and serene canyons. The mighty Merced, born from winter's snow, flows freely.

For nearly the past eight thousand years the replenishing waters of the Merced have helped support human life. In 1987, Americans felt this river deserved wild and scenic river status and laws were put into place to protect it. Now it is time for the current generation to continue a legacy for a river that so many people have deemed special over time.

Today, it is up to us to assure that the Merced River will always flow freely and cleanly. That it will continue to support the special components that it is responsible for the survival of these rare and unique qualities that depend on the river or are related to it in some way or another. Such biological phenomena as the Valley oaks in El Portal, the natural settings that allow for wilderness or educational activities, or the cultural aspects deemed unique such as the historic Wawona Covered Bridge.

How do we protect a river that has been here much longer than us?

Or how do we protect the river from ourselves?

The Merced River is at the heart of many competing interests and values. Some may favor utilizing the river and its banks for recreation, such as floating, swimming, fishing, or camping. Maybe you enjoy hiking along the water's edge, getting drenched by the mist of Vernal Fall in spring. Others may pursue more creative outlets, with the river as a backdrop for painting or writing. Some might prefer hiring a mule to go up the John Muir Trail, or perhaps you'd rather venture into Yosemite's Wilderness to indulge in a more primitive experience. Do you see yourself described here?

We have to keep in mind the interest of the river and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to which it is protected under. We must protect the plant and animal species that rely on a healthy river and associated riparian and meadow habitats, such as harlequin ducks, black swifts, or the Sierra sweet bay. We must protect and plan for the natural processes that exist, like flooding and rockfall, and we need to acknowledge the past by protecting the resources left behind by those before us. We must also recognize that each action, each proposed change, has a consequence. How do we give to future generations such a special gift that has been passed on to us?

- We share our opinions and experiences.
- We study.
- We learn from what nature can teach us through science and research.
- We bring together our collective wisdom.
- We participate and stay involved.

Pull up a chair, visit our website, and join us on this journey.

Photo, top left, Vernal Fall, NPS Photo

## Planning for the Future of the Merced River

In 1987 the U.S. Congress designated the Merced a Wild and Scenic River to preserve its free-flowing condition and to protect and enhance the unique values that made it worthy of special protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Both the Merced River above, through, and below Yosemite Valley, and the South Fork Merced River above, through, and below Wawona have this special status.

In accordance with the law, the National Park Service (NPS) is preparing the Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (Merced River Plan/EIS) for the 81 miles of the river within Yosemite National Park. When completed, the plan will guide future management of activities in the river corridor, including site-specific planning needed to protect the river in Yosemite Valley, El Portal, Wawona, and the Merced Lake High

Sierra Camp. The overarching goal of the Merced River Plan (MRP) is to protect and enhance the values for which the river was designated wild and scenic, leaving the river unimpaired for future generations.

### MRP to Date:

Each of the completed steps to develop the Merced River Plan has involved public help and input – join in later this summer as we look to you to help us formulate alternatives for this plan!

- Public outreach (to solicit input and ideas) occurred during the public scoping period [2009-2010]
  - We identified the rare and unique values that need to be protected by this plan. These values are related to, or dependent on the river (Outstandingly Remarkable Values). [Draft Revised Outstandingly Remarkable Values – January 2011]
  - We collected data and conducted research to fill in any remaining gaps of knowledge about the river and associated corridor (1/4 mile from the banks of the river).

[Draft Baseline Conditions Report – April 2011]

### What Can You Do?

Join us later this summer for the initial work to begin developing the alternatives that will shape this plan. Information will become available electronically and in-person, followed by public workshops where your participation will be needed!



Wawona Covered Bridge, South Fork of the Merced River, NPS Photo

# Supporting Your Park

## Enhance the Visitor Experience

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

This publication was made possible by the Yosemite Park Partners listed on this page. Read more below or visit [www.yosemitepartners.org](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 Conservancy

Yosemite Conservancy is the non-profit 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 60 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, wilderness permits, wildlife preservation, 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 go online at: [www.yosemiteconservancy.org](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org)



YOSEMITE  
CONSERVANCY

*Providing For Yosemite's Future*



### 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  
INSTITUTE

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## Want to get involved?

Join park and partner staff to learn about projects and plans at a free monthly public **Open House!** Open Houses will be held at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Auditorium on:

**June 29, 1-4pm Open House:** Highlighted projects will include: The Ansel Adams Gallery Rehabilitation, Tenaya Lake Area Plan, and Badger Pass Rehabilitation

**July 27, 1-4pm, Open House:** Highlighted projects will include: Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehabilitation, Curry Village Rockfall Hazard Zone Structures, Half Dome Trail Stewardship, Mariposa Grove Restoration Plan, and the Tuolumne River Plan. Park fees are waived for those attending. For more information, visit us on the web at <http://www.nps.gov/yose/>

**June 21, 5-8pm Adventure Risk Challenge Poetry Reading, Lower Pines Amphitheater.** Join us for a public poetry reading celebrating extraordinary teens whose observations of nature, preceptions of self-identity and connection to community will inspire and leave you awestruck by their experience in the Adventure Risk Challenge (ARC) program.

**June 30, 1-5pm: Wawona Hotel Sunroom (above the Golf Shop)**

**The Sierra Nevada Research Institute Annual Open House** is a great chance to learn about the collaborative research projects and educational programs affiliated with the University of California's first research facility located in Yosemite National Park. Now in its 6th summer of operation, UC Merced's Yosemite Field Station (YFS) programs represent an extraordinary partnership among UC Merced, Yosemite National Park, Delaware North Companies, and the Yosemite Conservancy. The 2011 Open House will feature presentations by high school and university students participating the innovative Adventure Risk Challenge Program and Yosemite Leadership Program, a unique performance exploring the interface of art and scientific research, and a chance to learn about the nascent National Parks Institute. The morning will include the opportunity to tour the field station facilities in Wawona. There will be ample time to meet the students, summer artists in residence, YFS researchers, and others involved in running and supporting the YFS programs.