

Yosemite Guide

Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

February 12, 2014 - April 8, 2014



Parks in Focus, 2010 Lucia (age 12)

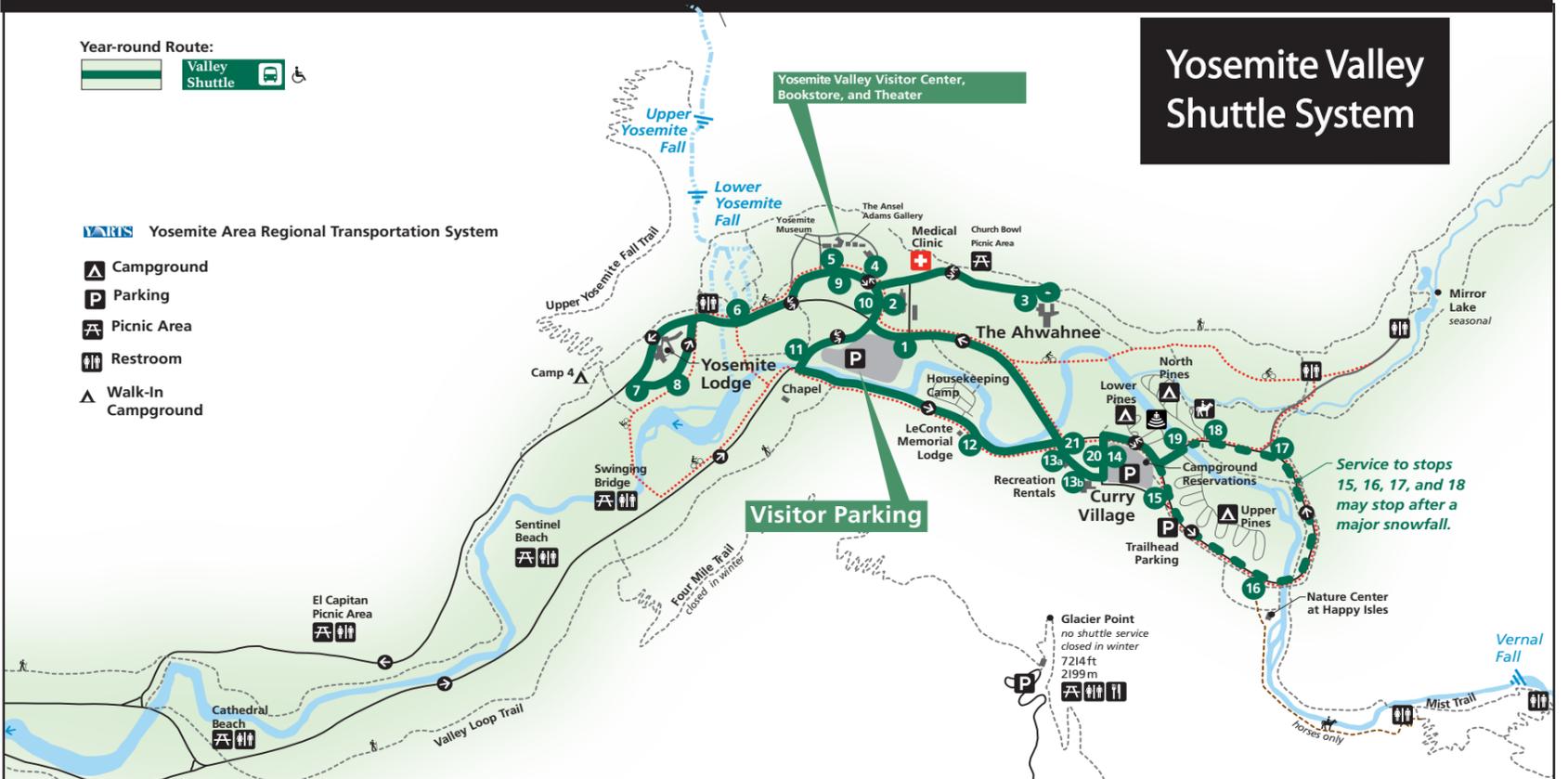
150 Years of Inspiring Generations



Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Guide February 12, 2014 - April 8, 2014

Yosemite Valley Shuttle System



Shuttles run daily every 10-20 minutes depending on the time of day. The Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7:00am - 10:00pm and serves stops in numerical order.

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

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

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Seasonal Highlights

What do you want to do with your special time in Yosemite? The choice is yours. Here are some popular activities for a day in Yosemite National Park.

Take the Bus!

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

Enjoy Winter Fun at Badger Pass

California's original ski resort, Badger Pass Ski Area is a perfect place for visitors of all ages and skill levels to play in the snow. Learn to ski with one of our lessons, get some practice in on 10 runs, or catch some air in one of two terrain parks. You can also set-out on an easy, guided snowshoe hike or embark on a cross-country skiing adventure from the Nordic Center. Downhill ski lifts operate from 9am to 4pm. Call 209/372-1000 for current snow conditions. Equipment rentals, the Cross Country Ski Center, and lift tickets are available from 8:30am to 4pm. Tubing is open daily from 11:30am - 1:30pm and 2pm - 4pm. (Closes March 30, 2014, conditions permitting.)

Take the Shuttle to Badger Pass

A free shuttle is available from the Yosemite Lodge to Badger Pass (Closes March 30, 2014, conditions permitting.)
Departs: Curry Village 8am, 10:30am, Yosemite Village 8:10am, 10:40am, Ahwahnee 8:15am, 10:45am / Yosemite Lodge 8:30am, 11am
Returns to Valley from Badger Pass: 2pm, 4pm

Visit the Ice Rink at Curry Village

Take the shuttle to Curry Village for a one-of-a-kind ice skating experience with a spectacular view of Half Dome. Four sessions are available on weekends and holidays: 8:30am to 11:00am, noon to 2:30 pm, 3:30pm to 6:00pm, and 7pm to 9:30pm. Monday through Friday, two sessions are available from 3:30pm to 6:00pm and 7:00pm to 9:30pm. (Closes March 30, 2014, conditions permitting.)

Explore a Sequoia Grove

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



Gateway Expressions, 2013 Katie Thompson

Whether you're looking for a cold-weather adventure, a warm fireplace, or a little of both, Yosemite is a magical place in early Spring!

Visit the Yosemite Museum

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

Stroll with a Ranger

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

Enjoy Winter on Snowshoes

Join a naturalist for a guided hike or rent or bring your own equipment for a fantastic winter experience. Be sure to check weather and snow conditions before you go. Snowshoe rentals are available at Badger Pass Ski Area. The Rental Shop is open from 8:30am to 4pm. For weather conditions, please call 209/372-0200 or check at any visitor center. (See page 5 for guided hike schedule.)

Tour The Ahwahnee...

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

... or Curl Up in Front of a Fireplace!

The Ahwahnee has three oversized fireplaces that match the proportion of the structure and that have always provided heat during the year's cooler months. Bring a book, a warm drink, or at least a pair of frosty hands for a good warm-up in front of the flames.

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

Get Outdoors With Yosemite Conservancy

Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing Yosemite's wonders. Join on us to explore Yosemite on snowshoe or capture the perfect shot with an experienced Yosemite photographer. Looking for a custom Yosemite experience? Contact us to plan a Custom Adventure for your family or group. Visit www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or 209/379-2317 ext. 10 to find your adventure today. See page 6 for details.

Yosemite Art Center Workshops

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching and fun art workshops. Beginning March 31st, workshops will be held Monday-Saturday in Yosemite Valley. There is a registration fee of \$10 per visitor. Register in advance by calling 209/372-1442. Workshops take place at the Yosemite Art Center located next to the Village Store. Art supplies, gifts and original art are available for purchase. Open daily 9am-4:30pm (closed at 12pm for lunch). See page 6 for details

Winter Weather and Driving in Yosemite

The Tioga, Glacier Point, and Mariposa Grove Roads are closed each year from after the first significant snowfall to about late May or early June. Other roads are generally plowed and maintained, but can close or present delays during storm periods. Motorists are advised to always carry chains and check weather and road conditions before travel. Icy and wet roadways can exist throughout the park! To check conditions, call 209/372-0200 for roads inside the park and 800/427-7623 or visit www.dot.ca.gov for highways connecting to Yosemite.

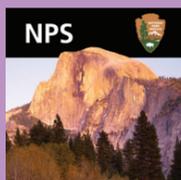
What's Inside the Guide

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Want the Guide on your Apple or Android device?

Get the App!

Search **NPS-Yosemite** in app stores to download the official park app. Download for up-to-date listings of programs, services, an interactive map, and more!



iPhone/iPad



Android

All issue illustrations by Tom Whitworth

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.

Interagency Military Pass (Free) (Annual) For active duty U.S. military and dependants

Reservations

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

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

Regional Info

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

Highway 120 West
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce
800/449-9120 or 209/962-0429

Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
800/446-1333
www.tcvb.com

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

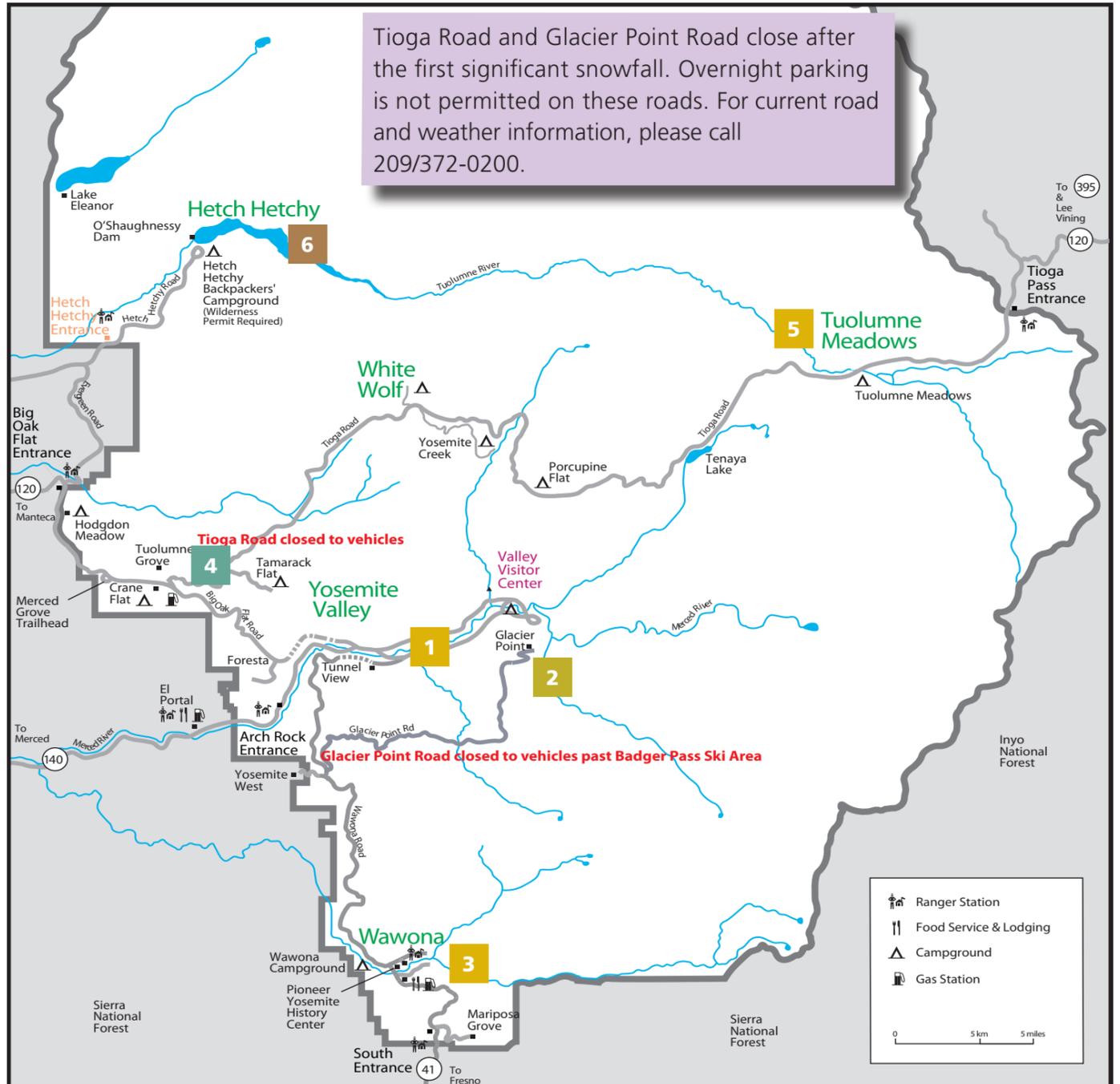
Highway 132/49
Coulterville Visitor Center
209/878-3074

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

Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau
209/742-4567
www.homeofyosemite.com

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

Calif. Welcome Center, Merced
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104
www.yosemite-gateway.org



Yosemite Valley

1 Yosemite Valley is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. It is open year round and may be reached via Highway 41 from Fresno, Highway 140 from Merced, Highway 120 west from Manteca, and via the Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) from Lee Vining. The Valley is known for massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, its plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and its attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow recharge it, a moderate hike will take you to Vernal and Nevada Falls. Yosemite's meadows are great places to see wildlife and to photograph fall colors. Admire El Capitan, the massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the Valley by foot, bike, car, or with a tour, the scenery will leave you breathless and eager to see what's around the next corner.



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

Glacier Point Road

2 Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the Yosemite's high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley. **The road stays open as weather permits, although overnight parking along it ends on Oct. 15.** When snow covers the road and conditions permit, a system of cross-country ski tracks is maintained on it. From Yosemite Valley, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), then turn left 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.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

3 The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park's South Entrance station. When weather permits, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is a short drive from Wawona. Help reduce congestion by taking the free shuttle from the Wawona Store, available weekends from 9am to 6pm as weather permits. The road to the grove is closed to vehicles after the first big snowstorm, making it a peaceful hike or snowshoe for winter adventurers. See page 7 for Mariposa Grove hiking details. 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.

Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

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

Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road

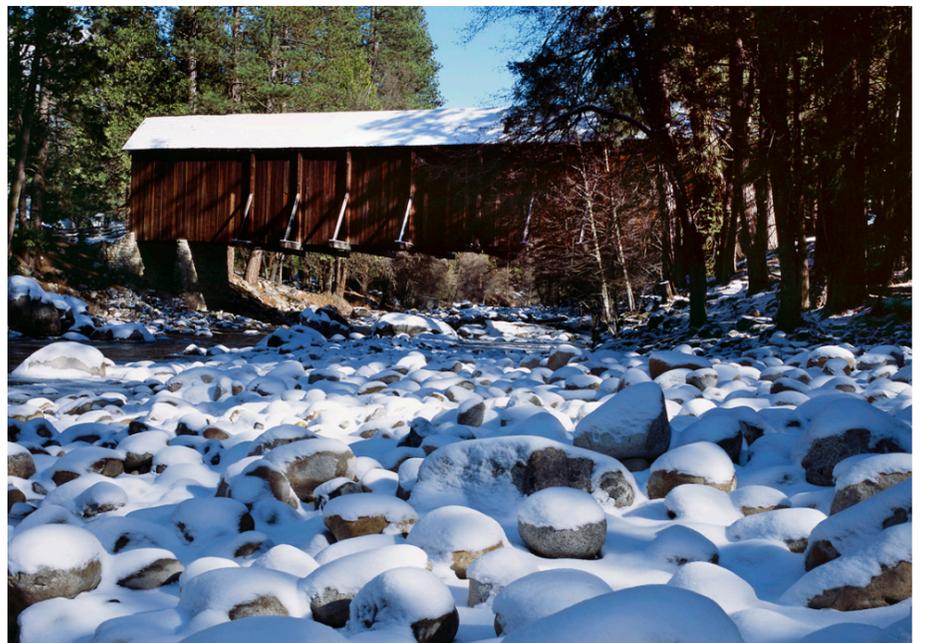
5 The Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. **The road closes after the first big snowfall, and overnight parking ends on October 15.** The road's elevation ranges from 6,200 to just under 10,000 feet. Tuolumne Meadows embodies the high-country of the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

Hetch Hetchy

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



The view from Washburn Point. Photo by Ken Watson



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



Tuolumne Meadows deep freeze. Photo by Wendy Malone



Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. NPS photo by Erik Skindrud

Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas in the heart of the park



Parks in Focus, 2013 Maria F. (age 12)

Experience the Incomparable Yosemite Valley

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

Yosemite Valley

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

The base of **Lower Yosemite Fall** is an easy walk from shuttle stop #6. (Both Upper and Lower Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow return.) This hike features educational exhibits and a picnic area, and is accessible to the mobility impaired. Although Yosemite Falls dries up by the end of the summer, **Bridalveil Fall** is a year-round waterfall that you can visit by car on your way into or out of the Valley. Winds swirling about the cliff lift and blow the falling water in a delicate free-fall.

El Capitan, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan. *Note: Please park on the paved road shoulder next to El Capitan Meadow. Delicate meadows are easily damaged by trampling, so please stay on footpaths.*

Half Dome, Yosemite's most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook's Meadow, Sentinel

Bridge, Tunnel View, Glacier Point, and Olmsted Point are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome.

Happy Isles is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16. Cross the footbridges onto the Isles or wander through outdoor exhibits detailing Yosemite's geologic story.

Shuttle buses may not travel to stop #16 when the road is snow-covered or icy.

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

To experience the Valley on foot, stop by a visitor center for a trail map and the most current trail conditions, or see page 9 for a list of popular Valley day hikes.



Gateway Expressions, 2013 Lizbeth Hernandez

POST OFFICE

Yosemite Village
Main Office
 Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
 Saturday: 10am to noon
 Yosemite Lodge
Post Office
 Monday-Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm
 El Portal
Post Office
 Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
 closed for lunch from 12:30 to 1:30
 Wawona Post Office
 Monday-Friday: 9am to 5pm
 Saturday: 9am to noon

BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

Yosemite Village
The Ansel Adams Gallery
 10am to 5pm
 9am to 5pm beginning March 9
Yosemite Bookstore
Inside Yosemite Visitor Center
 9am to 5pm
Yosemite Museum Store
 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch
 Closed for construction through early February
Village Store
 8am to 8pm
Habitat Yosemite
 11am to 4pm Thurs.-Sun. only
 Closed for the season through March 28, 2014
Sport Shop
 10am to 4pm
 Opens for the season March 28, 2014
 The Ahwahnee
The Ahwahnee Gift Shop
 8am to 8pm
The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop
 7am to 10pm
 Yosemite Lodge
Gift/Grocery
 8am to 7pm
 Closed February 18 - April 4, 2014
Nature Shop
 11am to 7pm
 Curry Village
Mountain Shop
 9am to 4pm
 Intermittent closures through Feb 13, 2014
Curry Village Gift/Grocery
 9am-7pm
 Crane Flat Grocery
 10am to 4pm
 Opens for the season March 28, 2014
 Wawona Area
Wawona Store and Pioneer Gift Shop
 8am to 5pm
 Badger Pass
Sport Shop
 9am to 4pm
 Closes for the season March 30, 2014

Events and Programs

Where to go and what to do

YOSEMITE VALLEY AND BEYOND			
Sunday	8:30am 9:00am 10:00am	Beginner Backcountry Lesson- Ski to Tempo Dome 5 hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, tickets/info at any tour and activity desk. (YMS) \$ Adventure Hike-Snowshoe to Dewey Point 6½ hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, tickets/info at any tour and activity desk. (YMS) \$ Secrets of the West Valley (March 30 only) 6 hrs. Camping included. Lodging reserved for an extra fee. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 ext. 10 (YC) \$ See page 6 for more information.	
	10:00am 10:30am	JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿ Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter (except March 30 and April 6) Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; snowshoes provided. (NPS)	
	1:00pm 1:30pm 2:00pm	Discovery Snowshoe Hike 3 hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, tickets/info at any tour and activity desk (YMS) \$ Beginner's Watercolor (March 30, April 6 only) 2 ½ hr Yosemite Art Center (YC)\$ Ranger Walk-Bears 1 1/2hrs. (bear sightings unlikely) Shuttle stop #6.(NPS) ♿	
	4:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm	Naturalist Stroll (Except Feb. 23, March 2, & March 9) 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC) ♿ Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DNC) ♿ Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (March 16 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$	
	8:30pm	NIGHT PROWL (Except Feb. 23, March 2, March 9, & March 16) 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$	
	Monday	9:00am 9:00am 10:00am 10:30am	Camera Walk Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ahwahnee Hotel 1 1/2 hrs. (TAAG) ♿ Using the Digital Darkroom: Landscapes and Lightroom 4hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$ Art Workshop (March 31, April 7 only) 4hrs Yosemite Art Center (YC) \$ For more information see page 6 Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter (except March 31 and April 7), Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; snowshoes provided. (NPS)
		1:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 4:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm	Historic Ahwahnee Tour 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿ Using Your Digital Camera 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$ Ranger Walk-Yosemite's First People 1 1/2hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿ Naturalist Stroll (Except Feb. 24, March 3, & March 10) 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC) ♿ Ranger Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for venue and topic, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls (NPS) ♿ STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE WALK (Except Feb. 24, March 3, & March 10)1 hr. Conditions permitting. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$
Tuesday		9:00am 10:00am 10:30am	Camera Walk Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1 1/2 hrs. (TAAG) ♿ Art Workshop (April 1, 8 only) 4hrs Yosemite Art Center (YC) \$ For more information see page 6 Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter (except April 1 and 8), Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; snowshoes provided. (NPS)
		1:00pm 2:00pm 7:00pm	In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$ Ranger Walk-Yosemite: Inspiring Generations 1 1/2hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿ Ranger Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for venue and topic, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls (NPS) ♿
		Wednesday	9:00am 10:00am 10:30am
1:00pm 2:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 7:30pm			Historic Ahwahnee Tour (Except Feb. 26, March 5, & March 26) 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿ Ranger Walk-Geology (except March 5), 1 1/2hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿ Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (Feb. 12 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$ Ranger Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for venue and topic, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls (NPS) ♿ Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (March 12 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$
Thursday			9:00am 10:00am 10:30am
	1:00pm 2:00pm 4:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:30pm		Using Your Digital Camera 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$ Ranger Walk-Trees 1 1/2hrs. The Ahwahnee shuttle stop #3. (NPS) Naturalist Stroll (Except Feb. 20) 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC) ♿ Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (Feb. 13 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$ Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DNC) ♿ Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (March 13 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$ NIGHT PROWL (March 6, March 20, March 27, & April 3 only) 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$
	Friday		9:00am 10:00am 10:30am
		1:00pm 2:00pm 2:30pm 6:30pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:00pm	Historic Ahwahnee Tour (Except Feb. 28) 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿ Ranger Walk-Wild about Wildlife 1 1/2hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿ WEE WILD ONES (Except Feb. 21, Feb. 28, & March 7) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge. (DNC) ♿ FIRESIDE STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES (February 21, March 7, March 21, March 28, & April 4 only) 1 hr. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge. (DNC) ♿ Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (Feb. 14 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$ Film Ansel Adams 1hr. Check local listing for venue (TAAG) ♿ Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (March 14 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$ STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE WALK (March 21, March 28, & April 4 only) 1 hr. Conditions permitting. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$
Saturday		8:00am	Snowshoeing Yosemite: Dewey Point (March 8 & 22 only) 8 hrs. Camping included. Lodging reserved for an extra fee. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 ext. 10 (YC) \$
		8:30am 9:00am 10:00am 10:00am 10:30am	Adventure Hike- Snowshoe in Merced Grove of Sequoias 5 hrs, Meet at Yosemite Lodge at the Falls, Badger Pass Nordic Center Tickets/info at any tour and activity desk (YMS) \$ Camera Walk Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1 1/2 hrs. (TAAG) ♿ Art Workshop (April 5 only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center (YC) \$ JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿ Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter (except March 29 and April 5) Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; snowshoes provided. (NPS)
		1:00pm 1:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 2:30pm 3:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:30pm	Discovery Snowshoe Hike 3 hrs, Badger Pass Nordic Center, Tickets/info at any tour and activity desk (YMS) \$ In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$ Historic Ahwahnee Tour 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿ Ranger Walk – Ahwahneechee Stories and Games 1 ½ hrs. Front of Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. WEE WILD ONES (Except Feb. 22 & March 1) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge. (DNC) ♿ Fine Print Viewing Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1 hr. Very limited space (TAAG) ♿ Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DNC) ♿ Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (March 15 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$ NIGHT PROWL (Except Feb. 22, March 1, March 8, & March 15) 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$

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, or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 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.

 Sign Language interpreting is available upon request. Contact Deaf Services at 209/379-5250 (v/txt) Two weeks 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.

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

Yosemite Valley

Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

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

YOSEMITE VALLEY THEATER

Films are shown regularly on the hour and half hour while the Visitor Center is open (except during Sunday mass). Check at the Valley Visitor Center for film schedule. **Closed for construction through early February.**

Wilderness Permits

Permits and bear canisters are available at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center daily from 9am to 5pm.

Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Open 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch. **Closed for construction through early February, 2014**

INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

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 (may close for lunch). The store offers books and traditional American Indian arts, crafts, jewelry, and books. **Closed for construction through early February, 2014**

Yosemite Renaissance XXIX Exhibition

Yosemite Renaissance XIX art exhibit opens on March 1 at the Yosemite Museum Gallery and continues through May 11. The official opening will be preceded by a reception and awards ceremony from 5:30 to 7:30pm on Friday, Feb. 28 at the Gallery. The public is cordially invited to attend the reception. Yosemite Renaissance is an annual exhibit, now in its twenty-ninth year, which encourages diverse interpretations of Yosemite and the environment of the Sierra Nevada. Its goals are to bring together the works of serious contemporary

artists that do not simply duplicate traditional representations; to establish a continuum with past generations of Yosemite artists; and to help re-establish visual art as a major interpretive medium of the landscape and a stimulus to the protection of the environment. For this year's competitive exhibit there were more than 720 entries, resulting in an exhibit of 49 paintings, graphics, photographs and 3-dimensional pieces by artists throughout the country.

The Ansel Adams Gallery

The gallery is located in Yosemite Village next to the visitor center and is open daily. Hours are 10am to 5pm. (9am to 5pm beginning March 9.) The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other fine artists. See page 7 for photo walk and other event times. For more information, call 209/372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com

EXHIBITS

November 17 - February 23

"Ansel Adams: In Pursuit of Latitude"

February 23

"Parallax Views: New Perspectives of an Icon," will be opening on Sunday, February 23rd at The Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. This show will commence our round of group exhibitions that are designed to celebrate of the 150th anniversary of the Yosemite Grant throughout 2014. And what better way to start, than a show that brings together a group of distinct and instinctive artists living in and around the park, and who explore it diligently. Those participating in the exhibition include gallery photographers Evan Russel, Mike Reeves, Christine Loberg, Michael Wise, Kirk Keeler and Phillip Nicholas, as well as local artists Kristal Leonard, Ryan Alonzo, MaryEllen Hackett, Robb Hirsch and more. We hope you have the opportunity during your stay to visit The Ansel Adams Gallery and enjoy these new perspectives of Yosemite.

A reception, open to the public, will be held at The Ansel Adams Gallery on Friday, February 28th from 3-5 PM. A number of artists will be in attendance. Light refreshments will be served.

Yosemite Art Center (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to enjoy a hands-on art experience in



"Yosemite Free!," acrylic from Yosemite Renaissance XXIX Susan J. Klein.

Yosemite Valley. Celebrated artists lead workshops from 10am -2pm Monday through Saturday. There is a registration fee of \$10 per visitor, supplies are available for purchase. Art Center opens March 23, workshops begin March 31st. **March 31-April 5** Spring Watercolor

Doug Castleman

April 7-12 Sketching with Watercolor

Floy Zittin

The Yosemite Art Center is located in Yosemite Village next to the Village Store.

Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing the wonders of Yosemite through our Outdoor Adventure programs. Join one of the many year-round programs available and explore everything Yosemite has to offer.

Feb. 27-March 2

Yosemite Photography: Nature's "Firefall" & Winter Landscapes *Capturing Yosemite's winter wonderland and a magical natural phenomenon*

March 8 Snowshoeing Yosemite: Dewey Point #1 *Winter scenery you can't miss*

March 22 Snowshoeing Yosemite: Dewey Point #2 *Explore an iconic vista*

March 28 Spring Canyon Flowers *Poppies glow like lava flowing down the hills*

March 30 Secrets of the West Valley *Discover the Yosemite you never knew*

April 4-5 Leave No Trace Trainer *Get your LNT certification now!*

Find detailed information about these programs at www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or call 209/379-2317, ext. 10. Camping and park entry are

included, additional lodging options available. Custom Adventures can also be arranged for individuals, families and groups. Proceeds support Yosemite Conservancy's work in the park; preserving and protecting Yosemite for generations to come.

Range of Light Film Festival

February 27 to March 2, 2014
www.ROLFF.org

The Range of Light Film Festival is a mid-winter celebration of film, music, storytelling, conservation, art and adventure, held in Yosemite Valley. This year's festival will take place in the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center's state-of-the-art digital theater and auditorium. Aside from more than a dozen films, there will also be artist and filmmaker panels, and live music by the Range of Light's favorite soul and funk collective, Jelly Bread. The theme is "150 Years of Yosemite," in honor of the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's signing of the Yosemite Grant in 1864. As a part of the ROLFF, come celebrate youth expression through film by attending the first-ever Youth in Yosemite Short Film Contest awards ceremony, which will be held Saturday, March 1, 2014. This event will feature a selection of youth film entries and will celebrate the efforts put forth by some of our youngest film producers!



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

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Yosemite Village

Degnan's Delicatessen 7am to 5pm

The Ahwahnee

Dining Room

Breakfast: 7am to 10:00am

Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm

Dinner: Sun - Thurs 5:30pm - 8:30pm

& Fri & Sat 5:30pm - 9pm

Sunday Brunch: 7am to 2pm

Appropriate attire required for dinner.

Reservations recommended for all meals, strongly recommended for dinner and Sunday Brunch.

209/372-1489.

The Ahwahnee Bar

2pm to 11pm

Open from 11:30am to 11pm

Feb 15-17

The Coffee Bar

7am to 10:30am

Yosemite Lodge

Food Court

Breakfast: 6:30am to 10:30am

Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm

Dinner: 5pm-8pm

(Grab and Go only after 7:30pm)

Mountain Room Lounge

Mon-Fri 4:30pm - 11pm / Sat & Sun

Noon - 11pm

Mountain Room Restaurant

5 - 8pm

Reservations taken for 8 or more.

209/372-1281

Curry Village

Coffee Corner

Sat & Sun (and Mon, Feb 17) 7am - 11am;

Open daily beginning March 22, 2014

Pizza Deck

Fri 5pm - 10pm and Sat

(and Sun, Feb 16) 12pm - 10pm

Wawona

Wawona Hotel Dining Room

Closed for the season

Badger Pass

Skiers Grill

8am to 4pm

Closes March 30, conditions permitting

GROCERIES

Yosemite Lodge

Gift/Grocery

8am to 7pm

Closed February 18 - April 4

Yosemite Village

Village Store

8am to 8pm

Curry Village

Gift/Grocery

9am to 7pm

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop

8am to 5pm

GAS STATIONS

Gas outside Yosemite Valley

El Portal

Diesel available

Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

Wawona Gas Station

8am to 6pm. Diesel & propane.

Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Crane Flat

Diesel available. Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY

Curry Village Showers

Open 24 hours

Housekeeping Camp Laundromat

8am to 10pm

Visitor Services

Beyond Yosemite Valley



Wawona

Visitor Center

Closed for the season.

Pioneer Yosemite History Center

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

Wilderness Permits

Wilderness permits can be obtained by self registration on the front porch of Hill's Studio and bear canisters are available for rent at the Wawona Store.

Mariposa Grove

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

Visitors can walk, ski, or snowshoe when the road is closed to vehicles.

GENERAL SERVICES

VILLAGE GARAGE

8am to 5pm Towing 24 hours. Propane available until 4:30pm. 209/372-8320

DENTAL SERVICES

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

YOSEMITE MEDICAL CLINIC

The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 9:00am and 5:00pm and is closed on Saturday and Sunday. 24 hour emergency ambulance service continues to be available. Emergency care: 24 hours daily. 209/372-4637

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH

(Yosemite Chapel) 209-372-4831

GETTING TO MARIPOSA GROVE

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

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

WALKING THROUGH THE GROVE

Trails into the grove extend uphill from the trailhead at the far end of the parking area. Interpretive signs between the trailhead and the California Tree provide a self-guiding tour. Written translations are available at the trailhead in Spanish, German, French, and Japanese. When snow covers the ground, access is limited to foot, snowshoe, or ski.

Dogs and bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Mariposa Grove.



Gateway Expressions, 2013 Nolan Lyle

YosemiteValleyChapel.org

Pastor Brent Moore-Resident Minister

SUNDAY SERVICES:

9:15am (Sunday School Available)

6:30pm Evening Chapel service

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY:

7:00pm Call for location

THURSDAY MID-WEEK SERVICE

7pm in the Chapel

ROMAN CATHOLIC

SUNDAY MASS CELEBRATIONS:

Sunday, 10am Visitor Center Theater, Shuttle

Stop # 5 or 9

DAILY MASS CELEBRATIONS: Call for times,

209-372-4729

CHURCH OF CHRIST

(NONDENOMINATIONAL)

El Portal Chapel/Worship: Sunday 11 am

Foresta Road, at top of Chapel Lane

Big Oak Flat

Big Oak Flat Information Station

Closed for the season.

Wilderness Permits

Starting October 15th, the Tioga Road from Crane Flat to Tioga Pass, including all parking lots, is closed to any overnight parking. Wilderness permits can be obtained by self registration on the front porch of the information station.

Merced Grove

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

Tuolumne Grove

The Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias is currently closed, due to the effects of the Rim Fire in Summer, 2013.

Information: 209/379-2100

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

7:30 pm Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday

DNC General Office Building

(Employee Training Center) Yosemite Village

AL-ANON MEETINGS

Saturday mornings at 8 am in the Loft (above

Degnan's).

LIONS CLUB

Meets the first Wednesday of each month at

noon, Yosemite Lodge. Call 209/372-4475.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Meets Wednesdays for lunch at noon in

The Ahwahnee Mural Room. Visiting Rotarian

families and guests welcome. For meeting

reservations or information, call 209/372-0282.

Protecting yourself...



Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.

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

Around Ice and Water

- Stay off of frozen lakes, rivers and streams and away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards.

Avoid Hypothermia

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

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

Water Quality

To protect yourself from disease, treat any surface water before drinking. Treatment methods include boiling for five minutes, use of a Giardia-rated water filter, or iodine-based purifier. To prevent the spread of Giardia and other water-borne disease organisms, use restroom facilities where available, and always wash hands afterwards with soap and water. In natural areas where facilities are not available, wash, camp, and bury human waste (6 inches deep) at least 100 feet away from any water source or trail.

Traffic Safety

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

Effects of Altitude

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

Hiking, Backpacking, Backcountry Snow Travel, and Rock Climbing

There are no scheduled winter patrols, so be prepared. Be honest about your abilities and plan with the least experienced member of your group in mind. Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back.

- Be prepared for icy travel before conditions arise. Bring crampons, ice axe, climbing skins, and other traction devices.

- Carry and know how to use a map and compass.

- Check weather forecasts. Snow can occur with little warning, and can make route finding very difficult.

- Avoid dehydration or heat exhaustion; carry and drink plenty of water, and bring high-energy food.

- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.

- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

Wilderness Permit Details

Free wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Please see Wilderness Permit Information on pages 6 and 7 of this Guide for more information about obtaining Wilderness Permits.

For summer trips, 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 (starting on Jan. 5).

Information about Half Dome permits is available on our website at www.nps.gov/yose.

More Information

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

HANTAVIRUS INFORMATION

Mice are an important part of the ecosystem, but can carry diseases that are harmful to humans.

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) is a rare but serious disease spread in the droppings and saliva of infected rodents. Not all rodents are infected with hantavirus, but infected rodents have been found throughout the US. You can be in close proximity to park rodents, so it is important you take steps to protect yourself from HPS.

Tell housekeeping staff if you see evidence of mice in your tent or cabin and do not clean up the area yourself. Keep doors shut and do not eat or bring food into your cabin that is not in a sealed container. Do not pitch tents near rodent burrows or droppings. HPS begins with aches, fever, and chills 1- 8 weeks after exposure, progressing to cough and difficulty breathing. Seek medical attention immediately if you experience these symptoms.

For more information, visit:

- go.nps.gov/hanta

...and Yosemite



Gateway Expressions, 2013 Alex Kunz

Keeping Bears Wild

Keep Yosemite's Black Bears Wild and Alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

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.

Please report bear sightings by calling 209/372-0322.

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?
Your Vehicle	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!
Your Campsite or Tent Cabin	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.
Picnic Areas & on the Trails	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.
Backpacking in the Wilderness	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.

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

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

Yosemite Guardians

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

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

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

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm 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.

Creative Connections

~Celebrating the Voice of Youth Through Art



Parks in Focus, 2013

The inspiration of Yosemite seems limitless—it has touched the human spirit and weaved itself into the patterns of baskets and found its way into countless writings, photographs and paintings. Today, this same inspiration touches the lives of students and provides them a “voice” to share with all of us—what Yosemite means to them.

Through youth and education programs, Yosemite has found a way to help keep the arts in classrooms of schools as well as provide new opportunities to explore the park and discover, look carefully, listen deeply, and form new understandings while making connections to this place and being transformed by it. Here you will find just a few examples of the diverse program offerings that strive to celebrate the creative voice of today’s youth.

The **Gateway Expressions Student Art and Poetry Contest** has become one of the park’s most celebrated annual youth programs. This event features original art and poetry from students associated with the local gateway community school districts, which means these students live closest to the park, yet, what might be unexpected, is that many of these youth have never had an opportunity to visit Yosemite. Working in partnership with The Ansel Adams Gallery, and local teachers, this program invites students to submit their original artwork for consideration in a special exhibit. In 2013, the program received over 140 individual entries.

Selected artwork from students in kindergarten through 12 grade, are placed on exhibit at The Ansel Adams Gallery and students are celebrated with a special awards ceremony. Each year the program grows, the artwork continues to inspire, and the voice of today’s youth show us, in profound ways, what Yosemite means to them.

The **Yosemite Parks In Focus** program is a partnership between the Udall Foundation and Yosemite National Park, this program utilizes photography as a teaching tool to connect youth to nature. Working with the Parks In Focus staff and in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula, each year cohorts of middle school youth from the Bay Area have an opportunity to visit Yosemite—equipped with a digital camera provided by the program, these students are mentored by program staff and The Ansel Adams Gallery staff photographers. They learn composition and photographic techniques that allow them to capture breath taking photos.

In addition, these students learn about the park through ranger-led education programs focused on wildlife, geology, watersheds and more; they build skills in hiking and camping, giving the students confidence and inspiring them to want to come back. Each year, the students also complete a stewardship project in the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias and this instills a deep connection to place and gives the students yet another reason to come back—and show their friends and families exactly what they

helped to protect in Yosemite National Park.

New in 2014! The Youth In Yosemite Short Film Contest—

a program sponsored by the National Park Foundation and the Yosemite Conservancy, invites youth from anywhere in the world to submit an original short film production focused on What Yosemite Means to Me or Celebrating Nature.

Today, many youth are connecting to technology and capturing their experience through video. This program celebrates this medium as a powerful way of expression and provides youth another venue to share their story with all of us.

One of the amazing aspects of video production is that you can add so many elements to it—mixing video footage with still photos, artwork, text and music. What we find is that each production is truly unique, capturing an essence and sharing it in ways that captivate the audience. It also allows for a diversity in presentation, providing avenues for storytelling, time lapse, or documentary style narratives.

You can see for yourself by attending the first-ever Youth In Yosemite Short Film Contest awards ceremony on Saturday, March 1, 2014, in Yosemite Valley. This event will feature some of the short films submitted to the contest and will be held in conjunction with the Range of Light Film Festival.

The creative connections do not end there—maybe you are looking for a way to make your own creative connection to Yosemite. Consider this an invitation to make that connection—slow down, write, draw, paint, take pictures. If you want some guidance, consider taking a photography class through The Ansel Adams Gallery or joining one of the classes at the Yosemite Art Center, where they feature weekly visiting artists. If you prefer to be self-directed, yet need a little inspiration or want to see some aspect of the park in a new way, consider joining a ranger walk and discovering something new through the connections a ranger can help make.

Whatever you do, please know you are invited to join us for one of these amazing events or to slow down and make your own creative connection to Yosemite.

Special thanks to the Yosemite Conservancy and the National Parks Foundation for making the above mentioned youth and education programs possible. These programs could not be held without their generous support and the support of their donors.

Much of the artwork featured in this issue of the Yosemite Guide was done by participants in Yosemite’s youth programs. For more information, visit nps.gov/yose/forteachers/index.htm

Supporting Your Park

Providing for Yosemite's Future

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 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.anseladams.com.



Contact Us

Yosemite National Park
PO Box 577
9039 Village Drive
Yosemite, CA 95389
209/372-0200
<http://www.nps.gov/yose/contacts.htm>

The Ansel Adams Gallery
PO Box 455
Yosemite, CA 95389
209/372-4413
209/372-4714 fax
www.anseladams.com

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite
PO Box 578
Yosemite, CA 95389
801/559-5000
www.yosemitepark.com

Yosemite Conservancy
101 Montgomery Street, Suite 1700
San Francisco, CA 94104
800/469-7275
415/434-0745 fax
www.yosemiteconservancy.org

NatureBridge
PO Box 487
Yosemite, CA 95389
209/379-9511
209/379-9510 fax
www.yni.org

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



NatureBridge

NatureBridge provides residential field science programs for youth in the world's most spectacular classroom - Yosemite National Park. Through active student engagement, our faculty teaches science, history, and the arts and gives these subjects context through personal experience. A NatureBridge learning adventure strives to foster a life-long connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it. Find out more about our year-round programs for schools and summer programs for individual teens at www.naturebridge.org/yosemite



Yosemite Conservancy

Yosemite Conservancy is the only philanthropic organization that is dedicated exclusively to the protection and preservation of Yosemite National Park and enhancement of the visitor experience. In recent years we have provided over \$81 million in grants to Yosemite from the generous support from donors, volunteers and foundations. The Conservancy works to restore trails, protect wildlife through scientific research and habitat restoration, and offers outdoor programs that provide visitors with unique ways to connect with the park. It has funded projects in areas including trail and habitat restoration, wildlife protection, education, volunteering, and the production of award-winning books and DVDs. Learn more at www.yosemiteconservancy.org



Providing For Yosemite's Future

Park Planning

Join us on Thursday, March 6 from 1 to 3pm for an Open House in the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Auditorium. Topic: Merced River Plan.

The park anticipates the release of the Merced Wild and Scenic River Final Comprehensive Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement in mid February. Park planners and the Superintendent will present the details of the final plan during the March 6 Open House.

For more information on park planning, visit:

- yose_planning@nps.gov
- www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/mrp.htm.

Park entrance fee will be waived for those attending the public Open House.



Lower right: Raven, Karen Kroner Amstutz; Top right: Half Dome, Christine White Loberg