



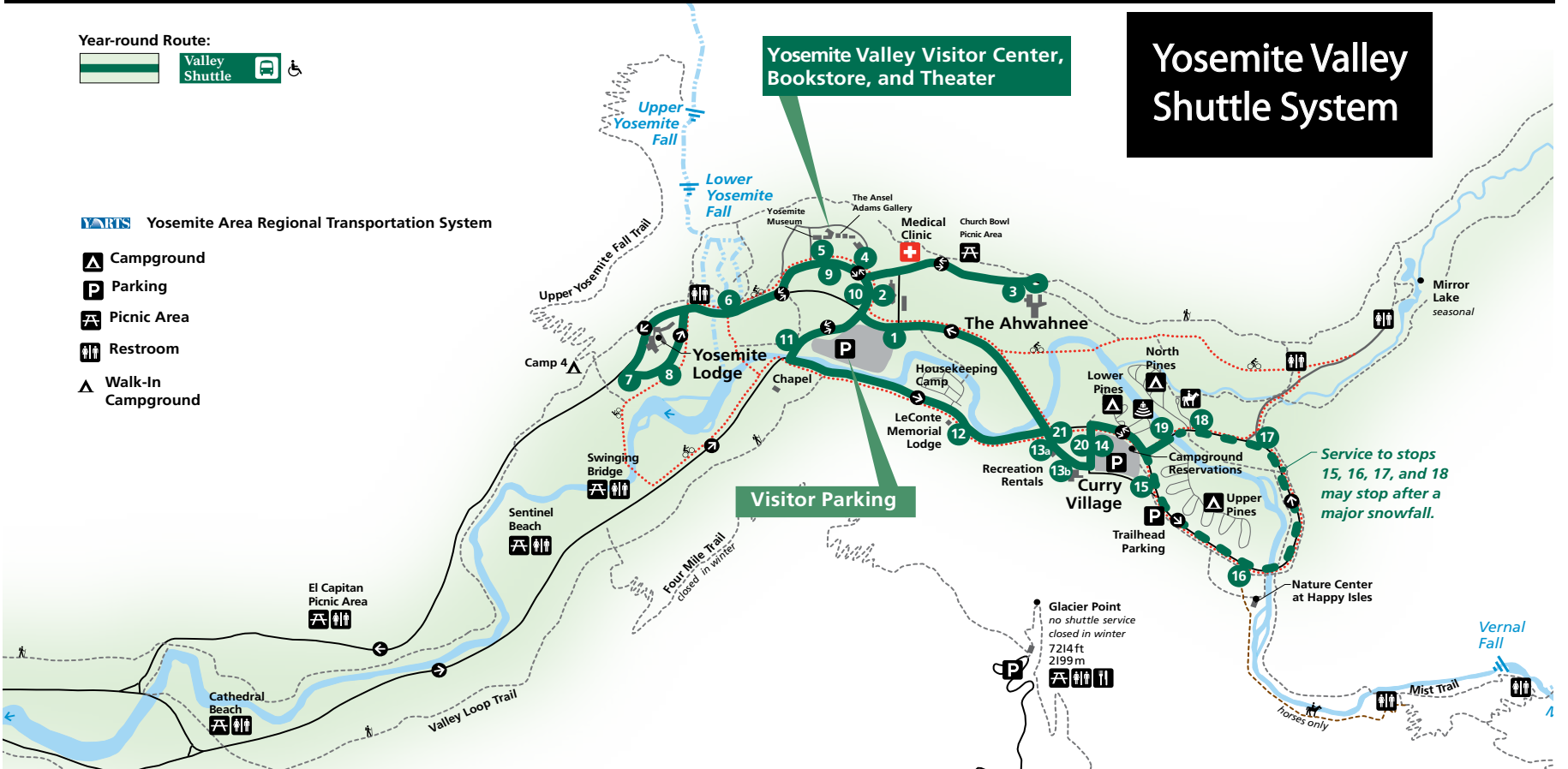
Youth from the Peninsula Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula enjoy their first Yosemite experience! Photo Courtesy of Parks in Focus



## Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Guide February 11, 2015 - April 7, 2015

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



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	YARS Yosemite Lodge	16	Happy Isles
2	10 Yosemite Village	11	Sentinel Bridge	17	Mirror Lake Trailhead
3	YARS The Ahwahnee	12	LeConte / Housekeeping Camp	18	Stable
4	Degnan's Deli	13a	21 Recreation Rentals	19	Pines Campgrounds
5	9 YARS Valley Visitor Center	13b	YARS Curry Village		
6	Lower Yosemite Fall	14	20 Curry Village Parking		
7	Camp 4	15	Upper Pines Campground		

Third Class Mail  
Postage and Fee Paid  
US Department of the Interior  
G 83

# Seasonal Highlights

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

**W**hat can you do with your time in Yosemite during late winter and early spring? Check out the following seasonal highlights for a great list of ideas.

## Ski Badger Pass

### Conditions Permitting

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. Badger Pass is scheduled to close on March 29, conditions permitting. Downhill ski lifts operate from 9am to 4pm. Call 209/372-1000 for current snow conditions. Equipment rentals and lift tickets are available from 8:30am to 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 11am, noon to 2:30 pm, 3:30pm to 6pm, 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 for the season on March 1, conditions permitting.*

## Take the Bus

Free shuttles, which are environment-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 your hands free and able to capture that perfect photo of Half Dome.

## 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. Spend a weekend observing the lives of birds or summit Half Dome with an expert leading



Mirror Lake Reflection/ Photo by Dee Shorter

Late winter and early spring are great times to visit. Yosemite's waterfalls boom in early spring, and lower elevation wildflowers are a riot of color.

you every step of the way. Looking for a custom Yosemite experience? Contact us to plan a Custom Adventure for your family or group. Visit [yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures](http://yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures) or 209/379-2317 x10 to find your adventure today.

## Yosemite Art Center Workshops

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching and fun art workshops. The Art Center will open for the season Sunday, March 29. There is a registration fee of \$10 per visitor. For more information about our programs call 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 9am to 4:30pm (closed at 12pm for lunch). *See page 6 for details.*

## 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.)*

## Lose something in Yosemite?

File a lost report by sending an email to [yose\\_lostandfound@nps.gov](mailto:yose_lostandfound@nps.gov). 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, email [yose\\_lostandfound@nps.gov](mailto:yose_lostandfound@nps.gov).

## Tour The Ahwahnee...

Step back to an earlier era of history as you explore this 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.

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

The Ahwahnee has three grand fireplaces that have always provided heat to offset the year's most frigid temperatures. Bring a book and a warm drink and find a cozy niche in front of the fire, the perfect place to warm your hands and toes.

## Fee Changes

As of March 1, 2015, a new fee structure will be implemented for Yosemite National Park. Entrance fees will be as follows:

### Entrance Fee (Passes good for 7 days)

#### Vehicle

- March 2015 = \$25
- April 2015 – October 2015 = \$30
- November 2015 – March 2016 = \$25
- April 2016 – October 2016 = \$30
- November 2016 – March 2017 = \$25
- April 2017 = \$30 year round

#### Motorcycle (as of March 1) = \$15

*Covers one or two people on a single motorcycle; valid for seven days*

#### Individual (as of March 1) = \$15

*In a bus, on a bicycle, horse, on foot*

### Campground Fees\*: (As of March 1)

- 6 person site (fully staffed, water, flush toilets) \$20 fees all change to \$26
- 6 person site (non staffed, water, flush toilets) \$14 increase to \$18
- 6 person site (non-staffed primitive, no water, vault toilets) \$10 increase to \$12
- Group Sites \$40 fees all increase to \$50
- Horse Sites \$25 fees all increase to \$30
- Camp 4 and Backpackers Camps \$5/person increase to \$6/person

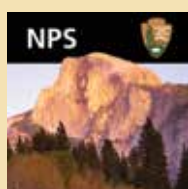
*For more information on fee changes, please visit our website at [nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/fees.htm](http://nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/fees.htm)*

*\*Interagency Senior/ Interagency Access Pass holders receive a 50% discount on all sites (except group sites)*

Want the Guide on your Apple or Android device?

## Get the App!

Search **NPS-Yosemite** in app stores or at [nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit](http://nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit) to download the official park app for up-to-date listings of programs, services, an interactive map, and more!



iPhone/iPad



Android

# Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

## Entrance Fees\*

\*Effective March 1, 2015, entrance fees will change in Yosemite National Park. Please visit our website at [nps.gov/yose/playourvisit/fees.htm](http://nps.gov/yose/playourvisit/fees.htm) for more information.

**Vehicle** Valid for 7 days  
 Through February 28, 2015 \$20  
 March 1-31, 2015 \$25  
 April-October 2015 \$30

**Motorcycle** Valid for 7 days  
 Through February 28 \$10/person  
 After March 1, 2015 \$15/motorcycle

**Individual** Valid for 7 days  
 Through February 28 \$10  
 After March 1, 2015 \$15  
 In a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse.

**Yosemite Pass**  
 Through February 28 \$40  
 After March 1, 2015 \$60  
 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 dependents

## 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)

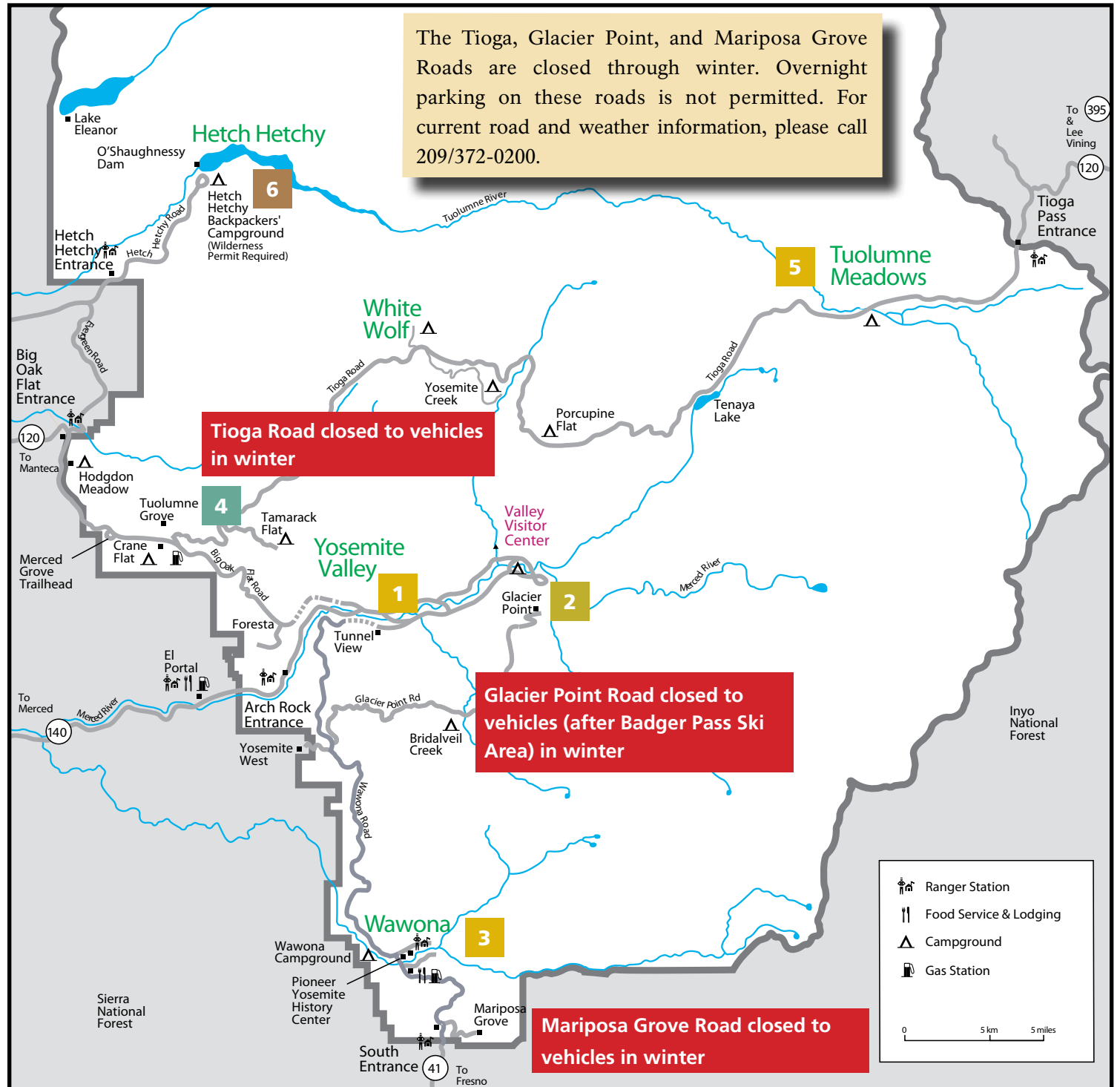
**Highway 132/49 Coulterville Visitor Center**  
 209/878-3074

**Highway 140/49 Calif. Welcome Center, Merced**  
 800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104  
[www.yosemite-gateway.org](http://www.yosemite-gateway.org)

**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)



The Tioga, Glacier Point, and Mariposa Grove Roads are closed through winter. Overnight parking on these roads is not permitted. For current road and weather information, please call 209/372-0200.

## 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 in awe 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 Yosemite's high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley. **The road stays open as weather permits, however, overnight parking along it ends October 15.** When the road is snow-covered and conditions permit, a system of cross-country ski tracks are 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 view looking down 3,214 feet into Yosemite Valley.



The view from Glacier Point. Photo by Jessica Cole

## 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. The grove road is closed to vehicles after the first big snowstorm, making it a peaceful hike or snowshoe for winter adventurers. 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.



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

## 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 (see page 7 for parking lot closure dates) 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 deep freeze. Photo by Wendy Malone

## 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.



Cathedral Peak. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Hetch Hetchy

**6** Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is 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. The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles (1 hour 15 minutes) from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120W) and the Evergreen Road. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open from 8am to 7pm through October 31, then 8am to 5pm through March 31. Vehicles and/or trailers over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not permitted on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.



Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. NPS photo by Erik Skindrud

### Did You Know?

Yosemite National Park features an amazing array of youth and education programs designed to meet the learning objectives of educators, inspire participants, and create meaningful connections to national parks and all public lands while supporting the development of a life-long stewardship ethic. Yosemite features programs for youth beginning at age 4 and continuing up to young adults, age 25.

For more information on youth and education programs offered within Yosemite National Park, as well as other inspiring ways for youth to connect to the park please contact the Education Branch at 209/375-9503 or email [yose\\_education@nps.gov](mailto:yose_education@nps.gov).

Photo (right) by: Josue (age 12), Sequoia YMCA, Courtesy of Parks in Focus



*Parks in Focus® is a program of the Udall Foundation that connects youth to nature through photography. For more information, visit <http://pif.udall.gov>.*

# Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas in the heart of the park

## Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and bookstore are open from 9am to 5pm. They are located west of the main post office, near 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.

### YOSEMITE FILMS

Two films are shown daily, every half hour beginning at 9:30am (except on Sundays, when the first showing is at noon). The last film is at 4:30pm. "Ken Burns' Yosemite - A Gathering of Spirit" plays on the hour and "The Spirit of Yosemite" plays on the half hour, in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

## Wilderness Permits

Wilderness permits are required year-round. Permits and bear canisters are available at the Valley Visitor Center daily from 9am to 5pm

*For more information on wilderness travel and safety please see page 8 of this Guide.*

## Yosemite Museum

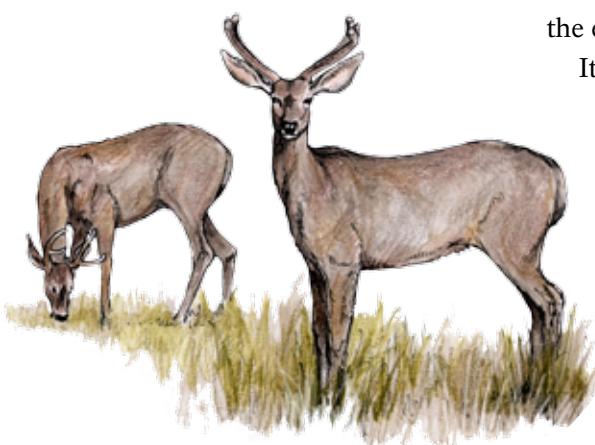
Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center. The museum is open daily from 9am to 5pm (*may close for lunch*).

### INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite's Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present. The Indian Cultural Museum is open from 9am to 5pm (*may close for lunch*).

### YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE

The store offers books and traditional American Indian arts, crafts and jewelry. Open daily from 9am to 5pm (*may close for lunch*).



Penny Otwell, Spring Storm, Mt. Dana/ from Yosemite Renaissance XXX Exhibit

## 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 MUSEUM GALLERY EXHIBIT

#### Yosemite Renaissance XXX Art Exhibition

Yosemite Renaissance XXX opens on February 28 at the Yosemite Museum Gallery. This art exhibit continues through May 10. The official opening will be preceded by a reception and awards ceremony from 5:30 to 7:30pm on Friday, Feb. 27 at the Gallery. The public is cordially invited to attend this reception. Yosemite Renaissance is an annual exhibit, now in its thirtieth 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 approximately 750 entries, resulting in an exhibit of 49 paintings, graphics, photographs and 3-dimensional pieces by artists throughout the country.

## The Ansel Adams Gallery

The Ansel Adams Gallery is rehabilitating our facilities this winter, and during this construction period will be operating out of the Wilderness Center next door. We will move back into our historic facility upon completion of the rehabilitation project. Check local listings for hours of operation. For more information call 209/372-4211 or visit [www.anseladams.com](http://www.anseladams.com).



### 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 - 1pm & 1:30pm - 3pm
  - Saturday-Sunday: Closed
- Wawona Post Office
  - Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm
  - Saturday: 9am to noon

### BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

- Yosemite Village
  - The Ansel Adams Gallery**
  - 10am to 5pm
  - Yosemite Bookstore**
  - Inside Yosemite Visitor Center
  - 9am to 5pm
  - Yosemite Museum Store**
  - 9am to 5pm, *may close for lunch*
  - Village Store** 8am to 8pm
  - Habitat Yosemite** 11am to 4pm *Opens March 27*
  - Yosemite Village Sport Shop**
  - 10am to 4pm, *Opens March 27*
- The Ahwahnee
  - The Ahwahnee Gift Shop**
  - 8am to 8pm
  - The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop**
  - 7am to 10pm
- Yosemite Lodge
  - Gift/Grocery** 8am to 7pm
  - Nature Shop** 11am to 6pm
- Curry Village
  - Mountain Shop** 9am to 4pm
  - Curry Village Gift/Grocery**
  - 9am to 7pm
- Wawona Area
  - Wawona Store and Pioneer Gift Shop** 8am to 5pm
- Crane Flat Area
  - Crane Flat Grocery** 10am to 4pm, *Opens March 27*

# Events and Programs

Where to go and what to do

Day	Time	Event/Program
Sunday	8:30am	<b>Beginner Backcountry Lesson- Ski to Tempo Dome</b> 5 hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, tickets/info at any tour and activity desk. (YMS) \$
	9:00am	<b>Adventure Hike-Snowshoe to Dewey Point</b> 6½ hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, tickets/info at any tour and activity desk. (YMS) \$
	9:00am	<b>A Walk with Galen Clark: Mysteries of Yosemite Valley's West End</b> (March 29 Only) 7 hrs. Explore the Valley's secrets on this 5-mile hike on the bridle trail, west of El Capitan Bridge. Camping is included, if needed. Lodging reserved for an extra fee, if needed. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 x10 (YC) \$
	10:00am	<b>JUNIOR RANGER TALK</b> 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿
	10:30am	<b>Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter</b> (Except 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	<b>Discovery Snowshoe Hike</b> 3 hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, tickets/info at any tour and activity desk (YMS) \$
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Bears</b> 1.5 hrs. Shuttle stop #6. (NPS) ♿
	6:30pm	<b>Full Moon Snowshoe Walk</b> (March 1 Only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and info at any tour desk. (DN) \$
	7:00pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DN) ♿
	8:30pm	<b>Starry Skies over Yosemite</b> (Begins March 8) 1 hr. Tickets and info at any tour desk. (DN) \$ ♿
Monday	9:00am	<b>Camera Walk</b> - Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ahwahnee Hotel 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) ♿
	10:00am	<b>Art Workshop</b> (April 6 Only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center (YC) \$ <i>For more information see page 6.</i>
	10:30am	<b>Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter</b> (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)
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Yosemite's First People</b> 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿
	2:30pm	<b>WEE WILD ONES</b> (Except March 23) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge. (DN) ♿
	4:00pm	<b>Naturalist Stroll</b> (Except March 2) 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DN) ♿
	6:30pm	<b>Full Moon Snowshoe Walk</b> (March 2 Only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and info at any tour desk. (DN) \$
	7:00pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (NPS) ♿
8:30pm	<b>Starry Skies over Yosemite</b> (Begins March 9) 1 hr. Tickets and info at any tour desk. (DN) \$	
Tuesday	9:00am	<b>Camera Walk</b> Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) ♿
	10:00am	<b>Art Workshop</b> (April 7 Only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center (YC) \$ <i>For more information see page 6</i>
	10:30am	<b>Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter</b> (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)
	12:30pm	<b>In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Geology</b> 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿
	6:30pm	<b>Full Moon Snowshoe Walk</b> (March 3 Only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and info at any tour desk. (DN) \$
7:00pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (NPS) ♿	
Wednesday	9:00am	<b>Adventure Hike- Snowshoe to Dewey Point</b> 6.5 hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, Tickets/info at any tour and activity desk (YMS) \$
	10:30am	<b>Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter</b> (Except April 1) Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; Snowshoes provided. (NPS)
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk – Inspiring Generations</b> 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿
	6:30pm	<b>Full Moon Snowshoe Walk</b> (March 4 Only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and info at any tour desk. (DN) \$
	7:00pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (NPS) ♿
Thursday	9:00am	<b>Camera Walk</b> Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) ♿
	10:30am	<b>Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter</b> (Except April 2) Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; Snowshoes provided. (NPS)
	12:30pm	<b>Using Your Digital Camera</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Trees</b> 1.5 hrs. The Ahwahnee shuttle stop #3 (NPS)
	6:30pm	<b>Full Moon Snowshoe Walk</b> (March 5 Only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and info at any tour desk. (DN) \$
	7:00pm	<b>FIRESIDE STORYTELLING</b> (February 12, 19, March 5 & April 2 Only) 1 hr. For children and adults. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge. (DN) ♿
7:00pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DN) ♿	
Friday	9:00am	<b>Day Hike through Spring Canyon Wildflowers</b> (March 27 Only) 7 hrs. Hike through hills of wildflowers with an expert guide in the Merced River Canyon west of Yosemite Valley. Camping is included, if needed. Lodging reserved for an extra fee, if needed. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 x10 (YC) \$
	10:30am	<b>Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter</b> (Except April 3) Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; Snowshoes provided. (NPS)
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Wild About Wildlife</b> 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿
	7:00pm	<b>Film - Ansel Adams</b> 1hr. Check local listing for venue (TAAG) ♿
	7:30pm	<b>Yosemite Photography: Magic of the "Moonbow"</b> (April 3 Only) 4 hrs. Join us for an adventurous nighttime pursuit of Yosemite's famous moonbows. Camping is included if needed. Lodging reserved for an extra fee if needed. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 x10 (YC) \$
8:30pm	<b>Starry Skies over Yosemite</b> 1 hr. Tickets and info at any tour desk. (DN) \$ ♿	
Saturday	8:00am	<b>Snowshoe Yosemite: Vistas Atop Dewey Point</b> (March 7 & 21 Only) 8 hrs. Snowshoe from Badger Pass to Dewey Point for a dramatic view from on the rim of Yosemite Valley's west end. Camping is included, if needed. Lodging reserved for an extra fee, if needed. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 x10 (YC) \$
	8:30am	<b>Adventure Hike- Snowshoe in Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias</b> 5 hrs. Meet at Yosemite Lodge at the Falls, Badger Pass Nordic Center Tickets/info at any tour and activity desk (YMS) \$
	9:00am	<b>Camera Walk</b> - Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) ♿
	10:00am	<b>JUNIOR RANGER TALK</b> 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿
	10:30am	<b>Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter</b> (Except April 4) Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; Snowshoes provided. (NPS)
	12:30pm	<b>In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$
	1:00pm	<b>Discovery Snowshoe Hike</b> 3 hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, Tickets/info at any tour and activity desk (YMS)\$
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Ahwahneechee Stories and Games</b> 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿
	2:30pm	<b>WEE WILD ONES</b> (Except Feb 14, 21, & 28) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge. (DN) ♿
	4:00pm	<b>Naturalist Stroll</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DN) ♿
7:00pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DN) ♿	
8:30pm	<b>Night Prowl</b> 1 hr. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and info at any tour desk. (DN) \$ ♿	

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



## 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/playourvisit/accessibility.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/playourvisit/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
- DN** Delaware North
- TAAG** The Ansel Adams Gallery
- YC** Yosemite Conservancy
- \$** Programs offered for a fee

# Things to Do

## Yosemite Valley and Beyond



Great Blue Heron/ Photo by Cindy Jacoby

### Yosemite in Winter and Early Spring

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite National Park. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery. See page 6 for more information on park programs and visitor services available.

#### Naturalist Programs

Naturalists 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

Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. 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.

#### Sightseeing

Some of the famous landmarks in Yosemite Valley include:

- **Lower Yosemite Fall** is an easy 30-minute loop trail starting 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.
- **Bridalveil Fall** is a year-round waterfall that can be visited on your way into or out of the Valley. Winds swirling about the cliff blow the wispy water into a delicate free-fall.
- **El Capitan** is a massive granite monolith that 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 stay on foot paths to avoid damaging delicate meadows.*

- **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 iconic feature into what we see today. Cook's Meadow, Sentinel Bridge and Glacier Point all provide stunning views of Half Dome.
- **Happy Isles** is easily reached by the free shuttle bus at stop #16. Cross the footbridges onto the Isles or wander through outdoor exhibits detailing Yosemite's geologic story. *Shuttle buses may not go to stop #16 when road is snow-covered or icy.*
- **Tunnel View**, along the Wawona Road (Hwy 41), provides a view that showcases Yosemite Valley. Capture breathtaking views of El Capitan, Bridalveil Fall and Half Dome. It is particularly spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

#### Tours

Tours listed depart from Yosemite Lodge, weather permitting. Check Tour and Activity Desk for times.

**The Valley Floor Tour** is a 26-mile, two-hour, guided tour of Yosemite Valley. It departs several times daily. Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at the Tour and Activity Desk in the Yosemite Lodge, 7:30am to 7pm.

### Yosemite Outdoor Adventures (YC)

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

**Feb 19-22**

Yosemite Photography: Horsetail Fall & Winter Landscapes

**March 7**

Snowshoe Yosemite: Valley Vistas atop Dewey Point – Trip 1

**March 21**

Snowshoe Yosemite: Vistas atop Dewey Point – Trip 2

**March 27**

Day Hike through Spring Canyon Wildflowers

**March 29**

A Walk with Galen Clark: Mysteries of Yosemite Valley's West End

**April 3**

Yosemite Photography: Magic of the "Moonbow" – Trip 1

Find more information about these programs at [www.yosemiteconservancy.org/outdoor-adventures](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org/outdoor-adventures) or call 209/379-2317 x10. Camping (if needed) 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.

### Yosemite Art Center (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to enjoy a hands-on art experience in Yosemite Valley. Celebrated artists lead workshops from 10am to 2pm, starting April 6 and continuing through October. There is a registration fee of \$10 per visitor, supplies are available for purchase.

**April 6-11**

Catch Yosemite's Light in Watercolor Steve Curl

### Bike Rentals

See the Valley by bike. Bring your own or rent one from the Yosemite Lodge Bike Rental Stand. Opens *March 27, conditions permitting.*

### Winter Sports

Badger Pass Ski Area opens on December 12, conditions permitting, and the ice rink at Curry Village is open through March, conditions permitting. Live information on winter sports is available by calling 209/372-8340, or recorded information is available at 209/372-1000.

### Badger Pass A-Frame

Open 9:00am to 4:00pm 7 days a week when Badger Ski Area is open. Wilderness permits, Ostrander Ski Hut check-in and cross-country ski trail information available. Starting point for ranger led snowshoe walks.

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 10am

Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm

Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Sunday Brunch: 7am to 2pm

*Appropriate attire required for dinner. Reservations recommended for dinner and Sunday Brunch. 209/372-1489.*

**The Coffee Bar** 7am to 10:30am

**The Ahwahnee Bar** 2pm to 10pm,

Open 11:30am to 11pm Feb 14-16

**Yosemite Lodge**

**Food Court**

Breakfast: 6:30am to 10:30am

Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm

Dinner: 5pm to 8pm

*\*last 30 minutes are grab and go only*

**Mountain Room Lounge**

Monday - Friday, 4:30pm to 11pm

Saturday - Sunday, noon to 11pm

**Mountain Room Restaurant**

5pm -8pm

*Reservations taken for 8 or more.*

209/372-1281

**Curry Village**

**Pavilion**

Breakfast: 7am to 10am

beginning March 28

Dinner: 5:30pm to 8pm

beginning March 27

**Pizza Deck**

Fri 5pm to 9pm and Sat 12pm to 9pm

(and Feb 16),

Mon - Fri 5pm to 9pm, Sat & Sun 12pm

to 9pm beginning March 21

**Coffee Corner**

Sat & Sun (and Feb 16) 7am - 11am;

daily 7am - 11am beginning March 21

**Curry Village Bar**

5pm to 9pm Mon thru Fri and 12pm to

9pm on Sat and Sun beginning March

21

**Wawona**

**Wawona Hotel Dining Room**

Breakfast: (opens April 3) 7:30am to 10am

Lunch: (opens April 3) 11:30am to 1:30pm

Dinner: (opens April 2) 5:30pm to 9pm

*Reservations taken for 6 or more, 209/375-1425*

Lounge Service: (opens April 2) 5pm to 9:30pm

**GROCERIES**

**Yosemite Lodge**

**Gift/Grocery**

8am to 7pm

**Yosemite Village**

**Village Store**

8am to 8pm

**Curry Village**

**Gift/Grocery**

9am to 7pm

**Wawona**

**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**

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



Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias/ NPS Photo

## Wawona & Mariposa Grove

### Wilderness Permits

Wilderness permits are available by self-registration on the front porch of Hill's Studio. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

### 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 year.

### 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.

### 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.*

### 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 the ground is snow-covered, access is limited to foot, snowshoe, or ski.

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

## Big Oak Flat Big Oak Flat Information Station

Wilderness permits are available by self-registration on the front porch of the information station. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

### Merced Grove

Yosemite's quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of approximately 20 big trees accessible only on foot. It's a three-mile round-trip hike, ski, or snowshoe into the grove. The trail drops down 1.5 miles, making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion. There is no potable water in the area so be sure to bring drinking water with you. The grove is located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat and 4½ miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance along the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). The trail is marked by a sign and a post labeled B-10.

### Tuolumne Grove

The trailhead for this grove of approximately 25 sequoias is near the intersection of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga roads at Crane Flat. The moderately strenuous trail leads downhill from the \*parking area into the grove and drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail. There is no potable water in the area so be sure to bring drinking water with you.

**GENERAL SERVICES**

**VILLAGE GARAGE**

8am to 5pm Towing 24 hours. Propane available until 4:30pm. 209/372-1160

**YOSEMITE MEDICAL CLINIC**

The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm and is closed on Saturday and Sunday. 24-hour emergency ambulance service continues to be available. For emergency care after 5pm, call 9-1-1. For more information call 209/372-4637.

**RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

**YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH (YOSEMITE CHAPEL)**

Pastor Brent Moore Resident Minister, 209/372-4831 www.yosemitevalleychapel.org

**EASTER WEEK-April 2-5**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** Service, April 2 - 7pm

**GOOD FRIDAY** Service, April 3 - 12:15pm-1pm and 7pm-8pm

**EASTER SUNDAY**

7am Upper Pines Amphitheater  
9:15am and 11am Chapel Service

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

9:15am (Sunday School available).  
6:30pm Sunday Evening Service/Bible Study

**TUESDAY BIBLE STUDIES**

Women's and Men's Bible Studies, 7pm call for location

**THURSDAY EVENING SERVICE 7PM**

Various Bible Studies during the week call for times and locations.

**ROMAN CATHOLIC**

**SUNDAY MASS CELEBRATIONS:**

Sunday, 10am, Theater behind Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, 209/372-4729

**CHURCH OF CHRIST (NONDENOMINATIONAL)**

El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am  
Info: 209/379-2100

**SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS**

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

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

**LIONS CLUB**

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



# Protecting yourself...



Eleven-year-old skier Sylvie on the way to Ostrander Lake/ Photo by Karen Amstutz

## 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 swift waters. Keep children from wandering near these natural hazards. Never swim or wade upstream from 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. Mountain water is very cold, no matter what time of year it is. Yosemite's rivers are fed by melted snow, and even expert swimmers can quickly lose their strength in the icy water. Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

### Avoid Hypothermia

Sierra winters are comparatively mild, but temperatures can drop into dangerous territory with little warning. Winter sports require a high degree of preparation and training.

- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter 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
- Avoid dehydration; carry and drink plenty of water at least three liters of water per person, and bring 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 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, arrow, and winding. When traveling on park roads you can protect yourself, other visitors, and park wildlife by obeying 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.

### Hiking, Backpacking, Backcountry Snow Travel, and Rock Climbing

It is starting to get dark early, which means temperatures will drop fast. Prepare yourself with a headlamp and extra layers, even on day hikes. Also, trails may be closed after the first winter storm, due to either ice or rockfall hazards. For your safety, please respect these closures and do not bypass them. Here are a few more reminders before you hit the trails.

- Tell someone your plan and when you hope to return.
- Be prepared for icy travel before conditions arise. Bring crampons, ice axe, climbing skins, and other traction devices.
- Carry a map and compass and know where you are at all times, with a planned route.
- Altitude sickness can develop at altitudes as low as 8,000 feet. Descend to a lower elevation should it develop.
- Know the weather and prepare for changes. Snow can occur with little warning, and can make route finding very difficult.
- Avoid dehydration; 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.
- Bring a flashlight in case you need to stay on the trail longer than expected.
- Admire wildlife from a distance to prevent injury to you or animals.

### Stay Safe

Many accidents occur because visitors leave a trail or pathway. Off trail travel can be extremely dangerous, especially next to

waterways where rocks have been polished. Scrambling on boulders, wading across streams or rivers, and traveling beyond railings or other barriers may put you one slip away from a fatal accident. Avoid shortcuts. Visitors commonly get "ledged out" after cutting across trails.

### Wilderness Permit Details

Wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Please see 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. Go to [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits) for trailhead availability and more information on how to make a reservation. Reservations can be made by fax, phone or mail starting December 1. To make a reservation by phone, call (209) 372-0740 Mon-Fri from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Information about Half Dome permits is available on our website at [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits).

#### More Information

- [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm)
- Leave No Trace [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)
- Friends of Yosemite Search and Rescue [www.friendofyosar.org](http://www.friendofyosar.org)

### Half Dome Permit Information

The Half Dome Cables are down for the season. They will be put back up May 22, 2015 conditions permitting. Permits are required 7 days a week when the cables are up. The pre-season lottery application period for 2015 permits begins March 1, 2015 and ends March 31, 2015. To apply for permits visit [recreation.gov](http://recreation.gov) or call 877/444-6777. More information about the Half Dome permit process is available at: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm>.

### 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 to humans via the droppings, urine, or saliva of infected rodents. Not all rodents are infected with hantavirus, but infected rodents have been found throughout the US. In California, deer mice are the primary carrier of the virus that causes HPS. You may come into close proximity to rodents during your visit, so it is important you take steps to protect yourself from HPS. HPS risk is greater inside of buildings or other enclosures where deer mice are present.

If staying in guest lodging, please tell the housekeeping staff if you see evidence of mice in your accommodations. Do not clean up the area yourself. Keep doors to guest lodging shut and do not bring food into your cabin that is not in a sealed container. If you are camping and backpacking, do not pitch tents near rodent burrows or droppings. HPS often begins with flu-like symptoms such as aches, fever, and chills one to seven weeks after exposure, progressing to cough and difficulty in breathing. Seek medical attention immediately if you experience these symptoms, and mention any potential rodent exposures to your physician. For more information on hantavirus and other environmental safety hazards visit: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm>

### Avoid contact with wildlife and keep food and trash stored properly.

Wild animals in Yosemite can transmit numerous diseases, including plague, rabies, and hantavirus. Keeping your distance and your food from wildlife not only protects them, it also protects you from injury and exposure to diseases.

If you encounter a mammal, particularly a raccoon, skunk, fox, coyote, or bat, that is behaving erratically, don't touch the animal. Instead, report the sick animal to a park employee. In addition to keeping bears away, storing your food properly also reduces your exposure to rodents and their fleas, which may carry plague.

# ...and Yosemite



Coyote in snow/Photo by Caitlin Lee-Roney

## 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.**

## Yosemite Guardians

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

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

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

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

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm) and find a copy of the Superintendent's Compendium. This document is a compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions made by the superintendent, in addition to what is contained in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7 and 34), and other applicable federal statutes and regulations.

### 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.

## 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 <b>Trail to Columbia Rock</b>	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

# Youth in Yosemite

By Shauna Potocky



One of Yosemite's youth programs, Parks In Focus, uses photography as a teaching tool to connect participants to nature. / *Parks in Focus*

**Y**osemite changes lives. It does not take long to realize that the amazing array of youth and education programs in Yosemite National Park have great potential to change lives. In fact, there is no shortage of transformational stories when you talk to students and teachers who participate in Yosemite's programs.

"Yosemite helped me experience a whole new world I was not aware of. Yosemite allowed me to reflect and write in a journal, and helped me experience who I really am." Jesus Angel Dolores, a University of California Merced student and participant in the Yosemite Leadership Program Summer Internship.

The park is well known for its inspiring geology, waterfalls, and wildlife. What is less known is that Yosemite, with all of its incomparable features, also serves as the ultimate classroom to thousands of students and young adults. Nearly thirty different youth programs serve participants from age 4 to 25 through a variety of engaging opportunities from Junior Ranger programs, environmental education, and field opportunities, to college internships, professional development, and the California Conservation Corps.

Each year the park serves over 26,000 students through education programs and more than 24,000 youth in Junior Ranger and other field based programs. It is no wonder the opportunities are so diverse, since nearly every subject can be taught in Yosemite—from ecology,

geology, wildlife biology, natural and cultural history to art, literacy, and leadership.

***Youth and education programs connect students to the environment, stewardship and public lands in deep and profound ways that are also exciting and transformational.***

From innovative programs such as Adventure Risk Challenge, a rigorous academic program that focuses on literacy and leadership, to Parks in Focus, a program that utilizes photography as a teaching tool for learning natural history, ecology, stewardship, and the legacy of public lands there are great ways to connect youth to Yosemite.

For those seeking ranger-led curriculum based programs, Parks As Classrooms, are designed for visiting youth and school groups from kindergarten through college. Topics include climate change, park management, watershed science, wildlife, Indian Cultural Programs, and much more. These programs allow students to have a hands-on learning experience right here in the park. For groups who cannot travel to the park, the Yosemite National Park education team has a solution: Parks As Classrooms programs can be delivered via Skype right into a classroom or youth program meeting!

"Students all over the country read about and study National Parks for classroom projects, and Skype gives Yosemite the chance to make student studies come alive," shares ranger Sharon Miyako.

"Education rangers have Skyped with schools in California, and across the United States, answering questions about

wildlife, land management, and careers. It's exciting to see students making positive connections with a place they've never stepped foot in."

And the opportunities do not end there! NatureBridge, one of the parks' education partners, offers an exciting array of programs for students including 2 to 5 day residential programs and summer field courses. Students hike through the dramatic landscapes of Yosemite, explore ancient groves of giant sequoias, ski across snowy meadows, and challenge themselves to reach the tops of waterfalls. Through active student engagement, NatureBridge instructors teach science, history, and the arts that give these subjects context through personal experience. For youth interested in obtaining an internship, the Student Conservation Association commonly features internship opportunities in Yosemite and for some college students; some schools, including Stanford University and the University of California Merced, may have an already established a connection with the park. For example, a dynamic collaboration between U.C. Merced and Yosemite National Park led to the

development of the Yosemite Leadership Program, which provides U.C. Merced students with the opportunity to develop leadership skills through on-campus and in-park programs that include outdoor education, stewardship projects, and professional development. Participants build valuable skills that serve both their academic and professional careers. In addition, some students participate in a 12-week internship in which they live and work in Yosemite National Park.

With a wide variety of programs serving various ages and learning objectives, there is something for just about everyone and the best way to experience what Yosemite has to offer is to explore the options or get involved. Start now and explore some of the opportunities in Yosemite for the youth in your life and help them become connected to their national park—Yosemite, because when you learn in the ultimate classroom, it just might be life-changing.

For a full list of Youth In Yosemite programs and contact information, please contact the Yosemite National Park Education Office at (209) 375-9505 or via email at [yose\\_education@nps.gov](mailto:yose_education@nps.gov). We look forward to helping connect you to an array of inspiring programs!

*The Yosemite Conservancy is a generous supporter of many Youth in Yosemite programs.*

# 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](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.anseladams.com](http://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](http://www.anseladams.com)

**Delaware North**  
 PO Box 578  
 Yosemite, CA 95389  
 801/559-5000  
[www.yosemitepark.com](http://www.yosemitepark.com)

**Yosemite Conservancy**  
 101 Montgomery Street,  
 Suite 1700  
 San Francisco, CA 94104  
 800/469-7275  
 415/434-0745 fax  
[www.yosemiteconservancy.org](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org)

**NatureBridge**  
 PO Box 487  
 Yosemite, CA 95389  
 209/379-9511  
 209/379-9510 fax  
[www.yni.org](http://www.yni.org)

### Delaware North

Delaware North (DN) 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. DN encourages its employees to develop a strong relationship with the park during their tenure.

For more information and employment opportunities with Delaware North visit online at [www.YosemitePark.com](http://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](http://www.naturebridge.org/yosemite)



### Yosemite Conservancy

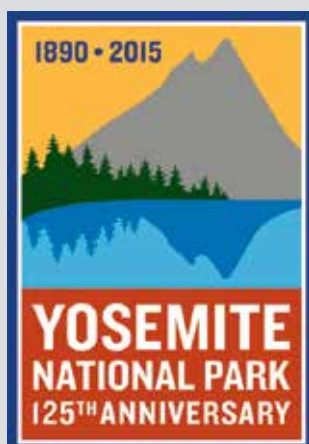
Through the support of donors, Yosemite Conservancy provides grants and support to Yosemite National Park to help preserve and protect Yosemite today and for future generations. The work funded by Yosemite Conservancy is visible throughout the park, from trail rehabilitation to wildlife protection and habitat restoration. The Conservancy is dedicated to enhancing the visitor experience and providing a deeper connection to the park through outdoor programs, volunteering and wilderness services. Thanks to dedicated supporters, the Conservancy has provided more than \$92 million in grants to Yosemite National Park. Donate now or learn more at [www.yosemiteconservancy.org](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org) or call 800/469-7275.



**YOSEMITE CONSERVANCY**

*Providing For Yosemite's Future*

## Celebrating Yosemite's 125th Anniversary!



On October 1, 2015, the park will commemorate the 125th anniversary of the establishment of Yosemite National Park. President Benjamin Harrison signed the legislation, thereby creating the nation's third National Park. The establishment of Yosemite National Park preserved over 1,500 square miles of land including Tuolumne Meadows, the park's high country, Hetch Hetchy and lands surrounding Yosemite Valley.



**Like us on Facebook**  
[facebook.com/YosemiteNPS](http://facebook.com/YosemiteNPS)



**Follow us on Twitter**  
[twitter.com/YosemiteNPS](http://twitter.com/YosemiteNPS)



**Follow us on Instagram**  
[instagram.com/YosemiteNPS](http://instagram.com/YosemiteNPS)



**Subscribe to us on YouTube**  
[youtube.com/yosemitenationalpark](http://youtube.com/yosemitenationalpark)



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