



Yosemite Guide

Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

May 20, 2015 - June 23, 2015



Experience Your America Volume 40, Issue 4

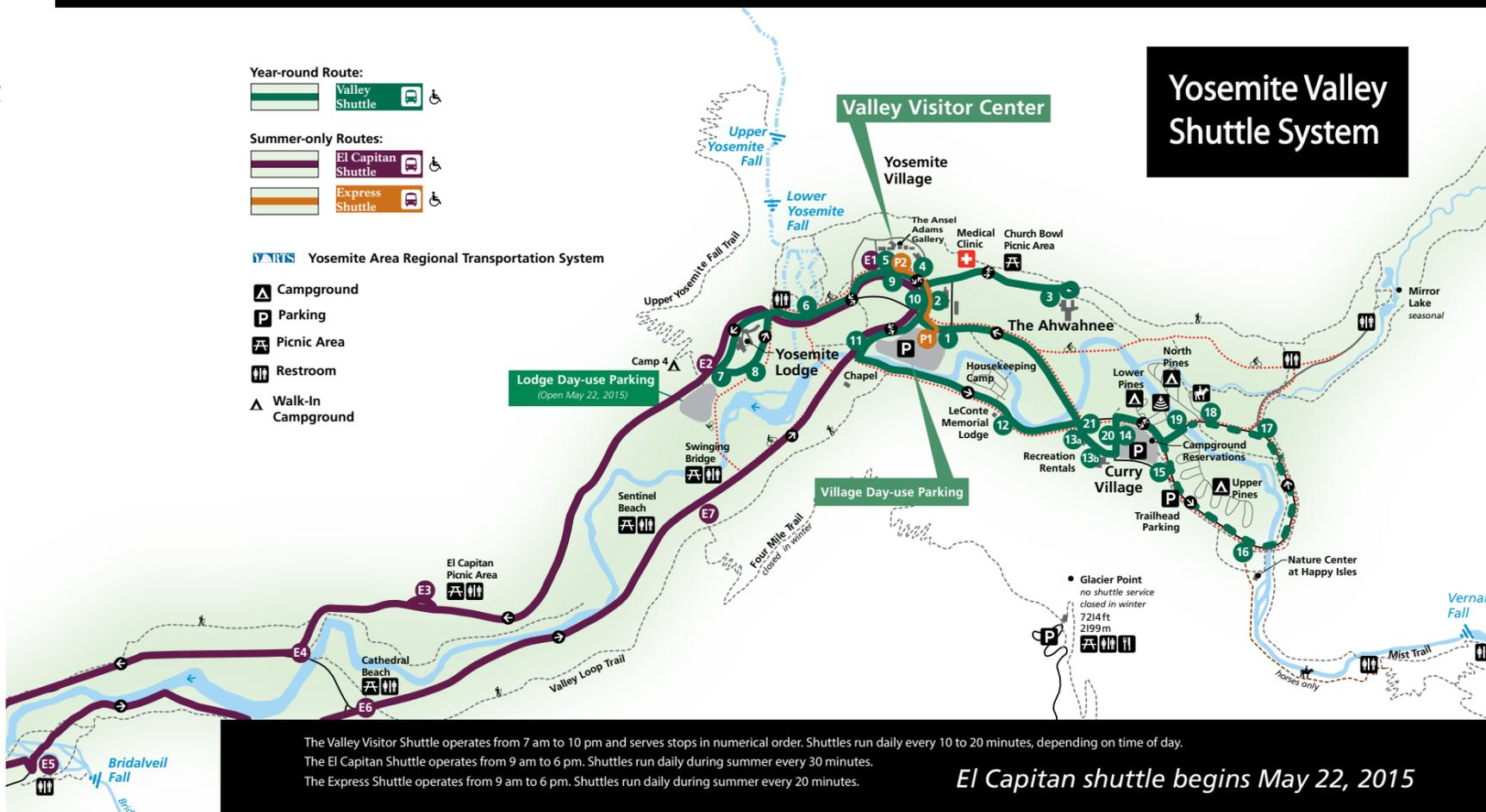
US Department of the Interior
National Park Service
PO Box 577
Yosemite, CA 95389

Yosemite Valley Shuttle System

- Year-round Route:**
- Valley Shuttle
- Summer-only Routes:**
- El Capitan Shuttle
 - Express Shuttle

YARS Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System

- Campground
- Parking
- Picnic Area
- Restroom
- Walk-In Campground



The Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7 am to 10 pm and serves stops in numerical order. Shuttles run daily every 10 to 20 minutes, depending on time of day.
The El Capitan Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttles run daily during summer every 30 minutes.
The Express Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttles run daily during summer every 20 minutes.

El Capitan shuttle begins May 22, 2015

| Stop # | Location | Stop # | Location | Stop # | Location |
|--------|---------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--------|------------------------|
| 1 | Visitor Parking | 8 | Yosemite Lodge | 16 | Happy Isles |
| 2 | 10 Yosemite Village | 11 | Sentinel Bridge | 17 | Mirror Lake Trailhead |
| 3 | YARS The Ahwahnee | 12 | LeConte / Housekeeping Camp | 18 | Stable |
| 4 | Degnan's Deli | 13a, 21 | Recreation Rentals | 19 | Pines Campgrounds |
| 5 | 9 E1 YARS Valley Visitor Center | 13b | Curry Village | E3 | El Capitan Picnic Area |
| 6 | Lower Yosemite Fall | 14 | Curry Village Parking | E4, E6 | El Capitan Crossover |
| 7 | E2 Camp 4 | 15 | Upper Pines Campground | E5 | Bridalveil Fall |
| | | | | E7 | Four Mile Trail |

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 trip to Yosemite National Park

Celebrate Yosemite's 125th Birthday!

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. Check out the special pull out anniversary calendar section included in this issue, or check the Anniversary Website at www.nps.gov/yose/anniversary for information about events happening all year.

Great things are happening in the Mariposa Grove!

In July 2015, the Restoration of the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias Project will enter a new phase that will require the temporary closure of the grove for up to 24 months. The restoration project aims to restore giant sequoia habitat and hydrology in the grove. The project will also improve restrooms, parking, and accessible trails.

Visit the Yosemite Museum

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.

Stroll with a Ranger

Learn about the wonders of the park on a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are offered daily throughout the park on a variety of topics including waterfalls, trees, bears, geology, Yosemite Indians and more. (See pages 6, 7, 9, and 11 for details.)



Upper Yosemite Fall NPS Photo

Get outside and enjoy your park!

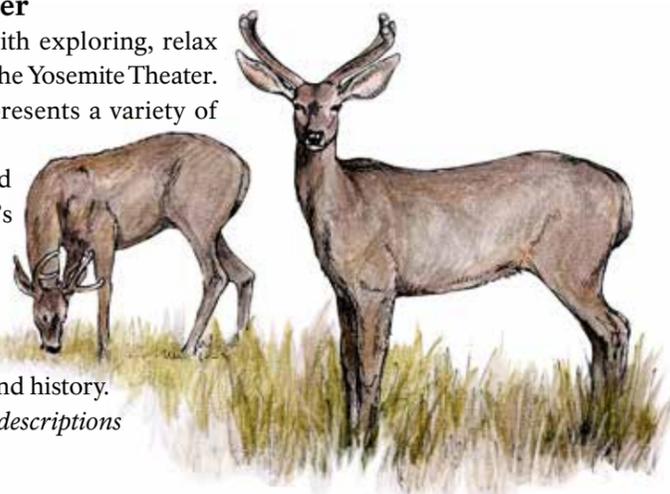
Summer offers spectacular views of waterfalls, great hiking, and endless other opportunities for recreation.

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.)

Go to the Theater

After a day filled with exploring, relax and enjoy a show at the Yosemite Theater. Yosemite Theater presents a variety of performances, including plays based on some of the park's most colorful characters, inspiring films, and celebrations of Yosemite's culture and history. (See page 6 for show descriptions and schedules.)



Yosemite Art Center Workshops

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching and fun plein air art sessions held Monday-Saturday from 9:45am-2pm in Yosemite Valley. There is a registration fee of \$10 per workshop/person. To register in advance, call 209/372-1442. Walk-ins are welcome when space is available. Workshops begin at the Yosemite Art Center located next to the Village Store. Come by and browse our selection of art supplies, gifts, and original art. Open daily 9am-4:30pm (closed at 12pm for lunch). (See page 6 for details.)

Get Outdoors with Yosemite Conservancy

Are you looking for a memorable way to explore Yosemite, tailored to your interests and ability? Our expert naturalist-guides will deeply enhance your understanding of the park as you walk among Yosemite's famous cliffs, trees and waterfalls. Whether you'd rather explore the park's flora and fauna during a gentle saunter along the river or learn about Yosemite's geology while taking an exhilarating and vigorous hike, we'll help you create the perfect outdoor experience. Contact us to plan a Custom Adventure for your family or group. Visit yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or 209/379-2317 x10 to find your adventure today. (See page 6 for details.)

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. Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an Accessibility Coordinator for more information.

Emergency Information

Emergency Dial 911

Yosemite Village Garage offers 24-hour emergency roadside assistance

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

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

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

Lost and Found

To inquire about items lost or found at one of Yosemite's restaurants, hotels, lounges, shuttle buses or tour services, call 209/372-4357. For items lost or found in other areas of the park, email yose_lostandfound@nps.gov

What's Inside:

- 01 Seasonal Highlights
- 04 Yosemite Valley
- 08 Wawona
- 09 Tuolumne Meadows
- 12 Become a Junior Ranger
- 13 Wildlife
- 16 Camping
- 17 Hiking
- 18 Feature Story
- 19 Supporting Your Park

Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Entrance Fees

Non-commercial car, pickup truck, RV, or van with 15 or fewer passenger seats Valid for 7 days
(No per-person fee)

\$30/vehicle April through October
\$25/vehicle November through March

Motorcycle Valid for 7 days
\$15/motorcycle

Individual Valid for 7 days
\$15
(In a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse)

Yosemite Pass
\$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

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

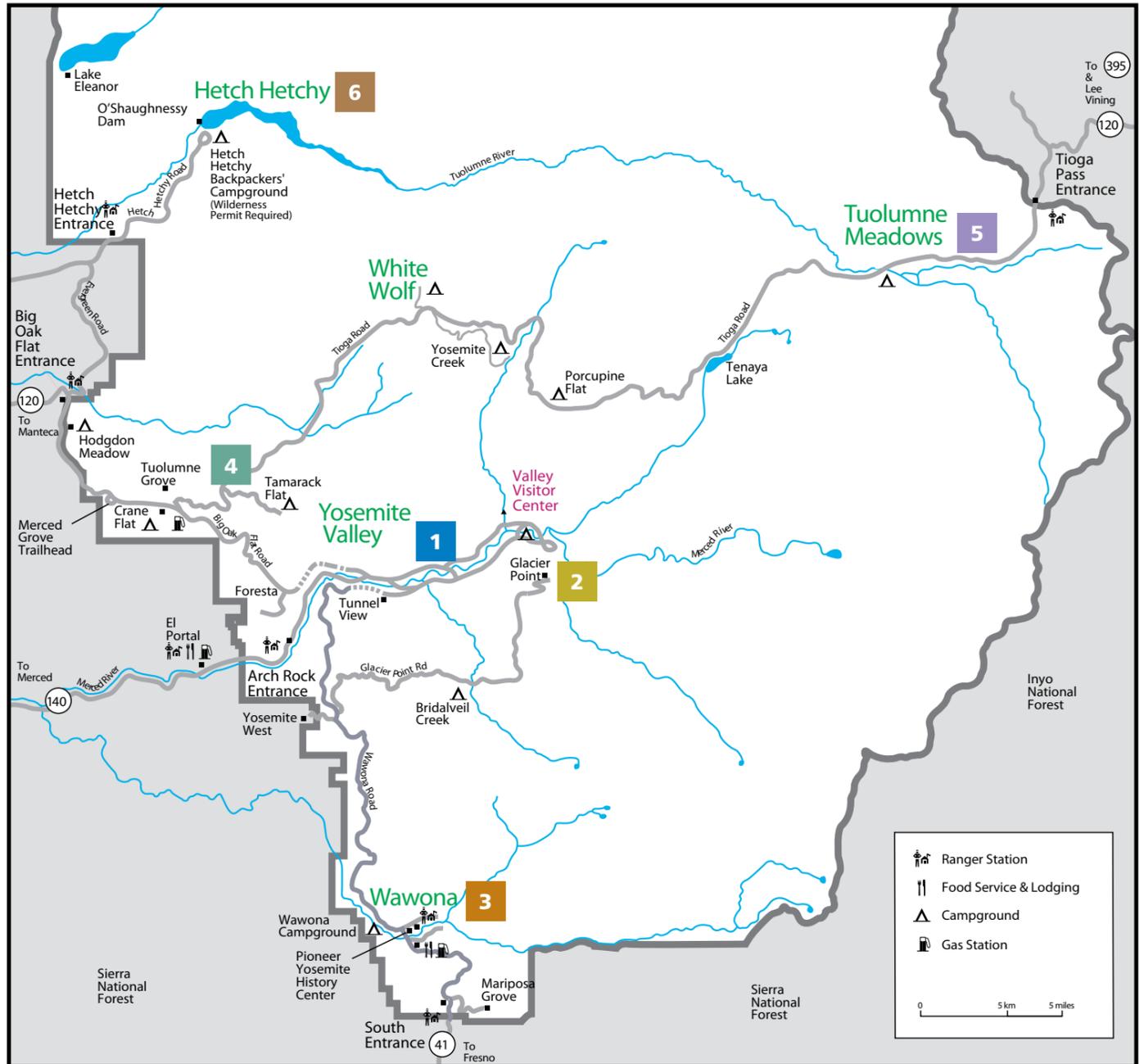
Highway 132/49 Coulterville Visitor Center
209/878-3329

Highway 140/49 Calif. Welcome Center, Merced
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104
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

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



Yosemite Valley

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



Mirror Lake and Mount Watkins. Photo by Christine White Loberg

Glacier Point

2 Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the Yosemite's high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley or Wawona. To get there from either of these places, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), to Chinquapin, then turn onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating—some might say unnerving—view 3,214 feet down to Yosemite Valley below.



View from Glacier Point. Photo by Christine White Loberg

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

3 The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park's South Entrance. **Starting July 6, 2015, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias will close for restoration.** The nearby Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite. Enjoy a horse-drawn stage ride, watch blacksmiths at work at the blacksmith shop, or hike one of the scenic trails. For more information, visit the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio, adjacent to the historic Wawona Hotel. This was once a painting studio for the 19th-century artist Thomas Hill.



The Mariposa Grove Museum. Photo by Pam Meierding

Tioga Road and Tuolumne Grove

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



Cathedral Peak. Photo by Christine White Loberg

Tuolumne Meadows

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



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

Hetch Hetchy

6 Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the city of San Francisco, is also home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. Due to its importance as a municipal water supply, no swimming is permitted, however. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open 7am to 9pm May 1 through Labor Day, with reduced hours during the rest of the year. Hetch Hetchy Road is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen Road and is approximately a 1 ¼-hour drive from Yosemite Valley. Trailers, vehicles over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not allowed on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.



Hetch Hetchy. Photo by Clarisa Flores

DID YOU KNOW:

The National Park Service is a leader in citizen science and offers many opportunities for park visitors to learn about and participate in scientific research. Read the Feature Story on page 18 of this *Yosemite Guide* to find out more about citizen science in Yosemite, and check out the websites below to find out how you can get involved at home!

- <http://www.nature.nps.gov/rlc/>
- <http://www.nature.nps.gov/rlc/citizenscience.cfm>
- For teachers: <http://www.nps.gov/teachers/index.htm>

Want the Guide on your Apple or Android device?

Get the App!

Search **NPS-Yosemite** in app stores or at 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

Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas and the heart of the park



The Incomparable Yosemite Valley

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

Yosemite Valley

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

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

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

Bicycling

Several miles of bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. You can use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Lodge or Curry Village. Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

Tours

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

The **Valley Floor Tour** is a 26-mile, two-hour open-air tram tour narrated by a park ranger (weather permitting). The tour departs Yosemite Lodge several times daily. Check Tour & Activity Desk for times.

The **Glacier Point Tour** leaves Yosemite Lodge at 8:30 am, 10 am, and 1:30 pm daily when the Glacier Point Road is open. One-way tickets are available for those who want to hike down from Glacier Point.

The **Grand Tour** includes the Valley, Glacier Point, and the Mariposa Grove. An experienced guide narrates each tour. The tour departs Yosemite Lodge at 8:45 am daily.

Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at the tour desks at Yosemite Lodge, Yosemite Village, Curry Village, and The Ahwahnee.

Mule & Horseback Rides

Horse or mule rides begin at the stable near North Pines Campground. Stable hours are 7:30 am to 5 pm daily. Information: 209/372-8348 (reservations strongly recommended).

Sightseeing

Some of the famous landmarks in Yosemite Valley include:

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

with spring runoff. You can walk to its base or take the strenuous trail to its top (see page 17).

- **Half Dome**, Yosemite's most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook's Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, Tunnel View, and Glacier Point, are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome.
- **El Capitan**, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan.
- **Happy Isles** is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16 or by walking from Curry Village. Cross the footbridges onto the isles or wander through outdoor and indoor exhibits detailing Yosemite's geologic story.
- **Tunnel View**, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

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

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Yosemite Village

Degnan's Loft, opens for season May 22

Monday - Friday
11am to 9pm

Degnan's Delicatessen
7am to 6pm

Degnan's Cafe
11am-5pm, opens for season May 22

Village Grill
11am to 5pm

The Ahwahnee

Dining Room

Breakfast: 7am to 10am

Lunch: 11:30am to 3pm

Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm

Sunday Brunch: 7am to 3pm

Appropriate attire respectfully

required for dinner.

Reservations **strongly** recommended for

dinner and Sunday Brunch. 209/372-1489

Ahwahnee Breakfast Bar

7am to 10:30am

The Ahwahnee Bar

11:30am to 11pm

Yosemite Lodge

Food Court

Breakfast: 6:30am - 11am

Lunch: 11:30am - 2pm

Dinner: 5pm to 9pm

(Grab and Go only 8:30pm to 9pm)

Mountain Room Lounge

Monday - Friday

4:30pm to 11pm

Saturday & Sunday

Noon to 11pm, food service until 10pm

Mountain Room Restaurant

5pm to 9pm

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

or 209/372-1403

Curry Village

Coffee Corner/Ice Cream

6am to 10pm - with ice cream service beginning

at 11am

Curry Village Bar

Noon to 10pm

Pavilion

Breakfast: 7am to 10am

Dinner: 5:30pm to 8pm (5:30pm - 8:30pm

beginning May 22)

Pizza Deck

Noon to 10pm

Meadow Grill

11am to 5pm (11am - 7pm beginning May 23)

Happy Isles Snack Stand

11am to 7pm

BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

Yosemite Village

The Ansel Adams Gallery

9am to 6pm

Yosemite Art Center

9am to 4:30pm, closed for lunch at 12pm

Yosemite Bookstore

Inside Yosemite Visitor Center

9am to 5pm

Yosemite Museum Store

9am to 5pm

Valley Wilderness Center

8am to 5pm

Village Store

8am to 9pm, 8am to 10pm beginning May 22

Habitat Yosemite

11am to 4pm Th/Fri/Sat/Sun, 10am to 5pm daily

beginning May 22

Sport Shop

10am to 5pm, 9am to 6pm beginning May 22

Ahwahnee

The Ahwahnee Gift Shop

8am to 9pm, 8am to 10pm beginning May 22

The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop

7am to 10pm

Yosemite Lodge

Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm, 8am to 10pm beginning May 22

Nature Shop

10am to 7pm, 10am to 8pm beginning May 22

Curry Village

Mountain Shop

8am to 6pm, 8am to 8pm beginning May 22

Curry Village Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm, 8am to 9pm beginning

May 22

Nature Center at Happy Isles

opens for season May 22

Exhibits and store, 9am to 5pm

Yosemite Valley

Where to go and what to do



Half Dome NPS Photo

Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

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

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. Valley Visitor Center Theater.

Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center.

INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

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

YOSEMITE MUSEUM GALLERY

Yosemite Viewed: 19th and 20th Century Landscape Paintings

This exhibit features a selection of landscapes from the Yosemite Museum collection ranging from Thomas Ayres' 1855 drawing to contemporary artwork by participants of the Yosemite Artist-in-Residence program. Works by

Albert Bierstadt, Thomas Moran, Chris Jorgensen, Chiura Obata, and others will be included. The Cosmopolitan Register, which includes signatures of prominent visiting artists, and the Cosmopolitan interactive, will be part of the display. Yosemite Museum Gallery, June 1 through September 30, open daily from 9am to 5pm; from October 1 through November 1, open daily from 10am to noon, and 1pm to 4pm.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE

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

Wilderness Center

Open 8am to 5pm. Visit the wilderness center to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, and rent bear canisters. The Valley Wilderness Center is located in Yosemite Village in between the post office and the Ansel Adams Gallery.

LeConte Memorial Lodge

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

Nature Center at Happy Isles

9:30am to 5pm, beginning May 23 through September. Designed for nature-exploring children and their families, the nature center offers natural-history exhibits and a bookstore. The nature center is a short walk from shuttle stop # 16.

The Ansel Adams Gallery

In Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9am to 6pm. The gallery offers the works of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other artists. See page 6 for photo walk times. For more information, call 209/372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com.

NEW EXHIBIT: Taken With Water

Yosemite National Park would not have come to pass if not for the overwhelming tenacity and power of water. From the glaciers that carved the valley to the rivers that refined it, water has played a vital role in the geologic and ecological architectures that are touchstones of the park, and trademarks of the National Park system. To celebrate this great element of nature, The Ansel Adams Gallery will be hosting a new exhibition, "Taken With Water," featuring a compilation of images from a variety of artists. This exhibition will open on May 18th and run through June 28th. And with water taking

center stage in both state and national debates, we hope you stop by the gallery to appreciate the beauty of this precious resource.

Yosemite Mountaineering School

Yosemite Mountaineering School provides outdoor adventures for people of all experience levels. We are here to help you learn how to enjoy the woods safely and responsibly. Give us a call to join one of our group classes or schedule a custom outing designed specifically for your group. We offer professional guides from hiking, backpacking and rock climbing. Reservations required, please call 209-372-8344 or email yms@dncinc.com

VALLEY SERVICES

GARAGE

Yosemite Village
8am - 5pm / 24 hour AAA towing available
Propane service available until 4:30pm.
209/372-1060

POST OFFICES

Yosemite Village
Main Office
Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
Saturday: 10am to noon
Yosemite Lodge
Post Office
Monday-Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm

GROCERIES AND TOURS

Yosemite Village
Village Store Gift/Grocery
8am to 9pm, 8am to 10pm beginning May 22
Degnan's Deli
7am to 6pm
Tour Desk - Village Store
7:30am to 3pm
Yosemite Lodge
Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm, 8am to 10pm beginning May 22
Tour Desk
7:30am to 7pm
Curry Village
Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm, 8am to 9pm beginning May 22
Tour Desk
7:30am to 3pm
Housekeeping Camp
Gift/Grocery
8am to 6pm, 8am to 7pm beginning May 22

SHOWERS, LAUNDRY, AND INTERNET

Housekeeping Camp
Showers 7am to 10pm
Laundry 8am to 10pm
Curry Village
Showers open 24 hours
Internet Kiosks
Degnan's Deli - 7am to 6pm
Yosemite Lodge Lobby - open 24 hours

SCHEDULED EVENTS IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

May 20, 2015 - June 23, 2015



Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing the wonders of Yosemite through our Outdoor Adventures. From backpacking to basket-weaving to bird-watching, our wide range of programs offers something for every Yosemite adventurer.

- May 30-31: Explore Spring in Yosemite: Birds & Blooms
- June 5-7: Bird Banding: Songbird Conservation in Yosemite
- June 13-14: Yosemite Fires: Changing Landscapes
- June 20-21: Backpack to Mt. Watkins: Yoga and Summer Solstice Overnight
- June 20-21: Yosemite Miwok-Paiute Basketry: Two-Day Workshop

Find detailed information about these programs and register at yosemiteconservancy.org/outdoor-adventures or call 209/379-2317 x10. Camping and park entry are included; additional lodging options are 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 Theater (YC)

Yosemite Theater offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live performances. Revel as park ranger Shelton Johnson and other performers bring the park's adventures to life! All shows start at 7pm. Tickets: \$8 adults, \$4 children, available at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Bookstore.

- Sundays (May 3-Sept. 27) **Yosemite Through the Eyes of a Buffalo Soldier.** Park ranger Shelton Johnson stars in a film and presentation about the experiences of Yosemite's Buffalo Soldiers.
- Mondays (May 4-Oct. 5) **Yosemite Search and Rescue.** Veteran Yosemite park ranger John Dill engages the audience in an informative and entertaining presentation about emergency response missions in the park.
- Tuesdays (April 14-June 23) **Meet Galen Clark: Yosemite's First Guardian.** Expert Yosemite naturalist Pete Devine stars in a performance about the life of Yosemite's first protector.
- Wednesdays (April 8-June 17) **The Spirit of John Muir.** John Muir's most popular stories about his adventures in the western wilderness come to life in a show starring Lee Stetson.
- Thursdays (April 9-June 18) **Ask John Muir.** Actor Lee Stetson embodies John Muir and answers audience questions in an entertaining and interactive performance.
- Fridays & Saturdays, 7pm (April 10-June 20) **Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey.** Renowned rock-climber Ron Kauk presents a stirring film about one of Yosemite's most popular sports.

Yosemite Art Center Workshops (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to join one of our celebrated artists for a hands-on art experience in Yosemite Valley. Art workshops are held outside (weather and media permitting) Monday through Saturday, starting at 9:45am and ending at 2pm.

- May 18-23: Sonja Hamilton, **Watercolor Spring in Yosemite**
- May 25-30: Roger Folk, **Rushing Water, Silent Stone: Watercolor in Yosemite**
- June 1-6: Robert Dvorak, **Painting From the Heart Watercolor**
- June 8-13: JoAnn Formia, **Watercolor Yosemite: As You See It**
- June 15-20: Tina Gleave, **Yosemite on Silk**
- June 22-27: Byron Spicer, **Playful Acrylic Landscape**

All workshops meet at the Yosemite Art Center, located next to the Village Store in Yosemite Village. The registration fee is \$10 per participant per day, and art supplies are available for purchase. Find detailed information at yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sundays:
9:15am (Sunday School available)
11am (Memorial Day-Labor Day ONLY, no Sunday School)
6:30pm Sunday Evening Service/Bible Study
Women's and Men's Bible Studies, Tuesday 7:00 P.M. call chapel for location, Thursday Midweek Service 7:00 P.M. Various Bible Studies during the week call for times and locations. 209-372-4831, Pastor Brent Moore Resident Minister

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Saturday, 6pm, Lower Pines Amphitheater, Shuttle Bus stop #19
Sunday, 10am at Valley Visitor Center Auditorium, 209/372-4729

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Christian Sabbath Worship at Lower River Amphitheater, Saturday May 23-Sept 5 (No Service July 18)
9:45am Music/Sabbath School
11am Worship, 12:30pm Potluck
www.facebook.com/YosemiteSDAChurch

LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Sacrament Meeting, Sundays 1PM-1:45PM
May 24th to Labor Day, Yosemite Valley Chapel

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

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

7:30pm Sunday, Tuesday, & Thursday
DN General Office Bldg. Yosemite Village.

LIONS CLUB

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

MORNING

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---|
| Sunday | 9:00am | CHILDREN'S THEATER LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE! 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DN) ♿ |
| | 9:30am | Adventure Hike-Vernal/ Nevada Falls 6 hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk. Curry Village Mountaineering School.(DN) \$. |
| | 9:30am | JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) ♿ |
| Monday | 9:00am | Camera Walk - Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ahwahnee Hotel 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) ♿ |
| | 9:00am | CHILDREN'S THEATER LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE! 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DN) ♿ |
| | 9:00am | Bike to Hike Tour 2.5hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk. Curry Village Bike Stand. (DN) \$. |
| | 9:45am | Art Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See left for details. (YC) \$ |
| Tuesday | 11:00am | CHILDREN'S ART PROGRAM (begins June 8) 1 hr. Yosemite Art Center, ages 6-9. (YC) \$ |
| | 8:15am | Adventure Hike - Panorama Trail with one-way Glacier Point Bus ride. 8 hrs. Yosemite Lodge Tour Desk. Tickets/info at any tour desk.(DN) \$. |
| | 8:30am | Yosemite Bird Walk (May 21, 26 & 28 only) 2hrs. Meet at the Yosemite Art Center for an easy stroll to explore the springtime birds of Yosemite Valley. (YC) \$ |
| | 9:00am | Camera Walk - Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) ♿ |
| Wednesday | 9:45am | Art Workshop 4hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See left for details. (YC) \$ |
| | 11:00am | CHILDREN'S ART PROGRAM (begins June 9) 1 hr. Yosemite Art Center, ages 6-9. (YC) \$ |
| | 9:00am | Bike to Hike Tour 2.5 hrs. Curry Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DN) \$. |
| Thursday | 9:45am | Art Workshop 4hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See left for details. (YC) \$ |
| | 11:00am | CHILDREN'S ART PROGRAM (begins June 10) 1hr. Yosemite Art Center, ages 6-9. (YC) \$ |
| | 8:30am | Yosemite Bird Walk (May 21, 26 & 28 only) 2hrs. Meet at the Yosemite Art Center for an easy stroll to explore the springtime birds of Yosemite Valley. (YC) \$ |
| | 9:00am | Discovery Hike - Vernal Falls Bridge 3.5 hrs. Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) \$. |
| Friday | 9:00am | Camera Walk - Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) ♿ |
| | 9:45am | Art Workshop 4hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See left for details. (YC) \$ |
| | 11:00am | CHILDREN'S ART PROGRAM (begins June 11) 1hr. Yosemite Art Center, ages 6-9. (YC) \$ |
| Saturday | 9:30am | Adventure Hike - Vernal/Nevada Falls. 6 hours Curry Village Mountaineering School Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DN) \$. |
| | 9:45am | Art Workshop 4hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See left for details. (YC) \$ |
| | 9:00am | Bike to Hike Tour 2.5 hrs. Curry Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DN) \$. |
| Saturday | 9:00am | Camera Walk - Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) ♿ |
| | 9:45am | Art Workshop 4hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See left for details. (YC) \$ |
| | 9:00am | Camera Walk - Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) ♿ |

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

| | | | |
|-------------|---|---|---|
| AAC | American Alpine Club |  | Indicates facilities accessible to visitors in wheelchairs. Short, steep inclines may be encountered. |
| DN | Delaware North at Yosemite, Inc. | | |
| NPS | National Park Service | | |
| SC | Sierra Club | | |
| TAAG | The Ansel Adams Gallery |  | A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Contact 209/372-4726 (TTY) or 209/ 379-1035 to request an interpreter. Advance notice of 2 days is requested. |
| YAC | Yosemite Art Center | | |
| YC | Yosemite Conservancy | | |
| YMS | Yosemite Mountaineering School | | |
| \$ | Programs offered for a fee |  | Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advanced request. Inquire at a visitor center. |

| | AFTERNOON | EVENING |
|------------------|--|--|
| Sunday | <p>12:30pm Ask A Climber 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) & \$</p> <p>1:30pm Beginner Art Workshops 2.5 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$</p> <p>2:30pm THE GREAT YOSEMITE FAMILY ADVENTURE (begins June 14) 2.5 hrs. Guided treasure hunt with clues and GPS units. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) \$</p> <p>3:00pm Ranger Walk – Bears 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19</p> <p>3:30pm CHILDREN'S THEATER LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE! 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DN) &</p> | <p>6:00pm Naturalist Stroll (begins June 7) 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DN) &</p> <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theater Yosemite Through the Eyes of a Buffalo Soldier 1.5 hrs. Film and presentation by ranger Shelton Johnson. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm WEE WILD ONES (begins June 14) 45 min. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>7:00pm WEE WILD ONES (begins June 14) 45 min. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>8:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>8:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN and ACC) &</p> <p>9:00pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (begins June 7) 1 hr. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) & \$</p> |
| Monday | <p>12:30pm Ask A Climber 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) &</p> <p>1:00pm Using Your Digital Camera 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$</p> <p>1:00pm Discovery Hike - Less traveled lower valley loop 4 hrs. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) \$.</p> <p>1:30pm YOUTH ART PROGRAM (begins June 8) 1.5 hrs. Yosemite Art Center, ages 10+. (YC) \$</p> <p>2:30pm THE GREAT YOSEMITE FAMILY ADVENTURE (begins June 1) 2.5 hrs. Guided treasure hunt with clues and GPS units. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) \$</p> <p>3:00pm JR. RANGER WALK 1hr Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) &</p> <p>3:30pm CHILDREN'S THEATER LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE! 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DN) &</p> | <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theater Yosemite Search and Rescue 1.5hrs. An important and entertaining presentation by Yosemite Search and Rescue rangers. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm WEE WILD ONES (begins June 1) 45 min. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>8:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. (May 25 only) Check local listings for topic. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>8:30pm Ranger Evening Program 1 hr. Yosemite's Wilderness (begins June 1) Curry Village Amphitheater. (NPS) &</p> <p>8:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN and ACC) &</p> <p>9:00pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (begins June 1) 1 hr. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) & \$</p> |
| Tuesday | <p>12:30pm Ask A Climber 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) &</p> <p>1:00pm Yosemite Plants Walk (May 21, 26 & 28 only) 2hrs. Meet at the Yosemite Art Center for an easy stroll to explore the springtime plants and flowers of Yosemite Valley. (YC) \$</p> <p>1:00pm In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$</p> <p>1:30pm YOUTH ART PROGRAM (begins June 9) 1.5hrs. Yosemite Art Center, ages 10+. (YC) \$</p> <p>2:30pm THE GREAT YOSEMITE FAMILY ADVENTURE (begins June 2) 2.5 hrs. Guided treasure hunt with clues and GPS units. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) \$</p> <p>2:30pm LOWER YOSEMITE FALL FAMILY ACTIVITIES (begins June 9) 2 hrs. Informal learning activities for kids and adults, along the Lower Yosemite Falls Trail. (DN) &</p> <p>3:00pm Ranger Walk – Bears 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19</p> | <p>6:00pm Naturalist Stroll (begins June 2) 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DN) &</p> <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theater Meet Galen Clark: Yosemite's First Guardian. 1.5hrs. A live performance about the life of Yosemite's first protector, starring expert Yosemite naturalist Pete Devine. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm WEE WILD ONES (begins June 2 & 23 only) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>7:00pm WEE WILD ONES (begins June 9) 45 min. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>8:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Curry Village Amphitheater (NPS) &</p> <p>8:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>9:00pm NIGHT PROWL (begins June 2) 1 hr. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour desk (DN) \$</p> <p>9:00pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (begins June 2) 1 hr. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) & \$</p> |
| Wednesday | <p>12:30pm Ask A Climber 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) &</p> <p>1:00pm Discovery Hike - Vernal Falls Bridge 3.5 hrs. Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk.</p> <p>1:30pm YOUTH ART PROGRAM (begins June 10) 1.5hrs. Yosemite Art Center, ages 10+. (YC) \$</p> <p>2:30pm THE GREAT YOSEMITE FAMILY ADVENTURE (begins June 3) 2.5 hrs. Guided treasure hunt with clues and GPS units. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) \$</p> <p>3:00pm Ranger Walk – Bears 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19</p> | <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theater The Spirit of John Muir 1.5hrs. Hear John Muir's most popular stories about his adventures in the wild, starring Lee Shelton. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm WEE WILD ONES (begins June 10) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>8:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Curry Village Amphitheater (NPS) &</p> <p>8:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>9:00pm NIGHT PROWL (begins June 3) 1 hr. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour desk (DN) \$ &</p> <p>9:00pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (begins June 2) 1 hr. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) & \$</p> |
| Thursday | <p>12:30pm Ask A Climber 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) &</p> <p>1:00pm Yosemite Plants Walk (May 21, 26 & 28 only) 2hrs. Meet at the Yosemite Art Center for an easy stroll to explore the springtime plants and flowers of Yosemite Valley. (YC) \$</p> <p>1:00pm Using Your Digital Camera 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$</p> <p>1:30pm YOUTH ART PROGRAM (begins June 11) 1.5hrs. Yosemite Art Center, ages 10+. (YC) \$</p> <p>2:00pm Bike to Hike tour 2.5 hrs. Curry Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) \$</p> <p>3:00pm Ranger Walk – Bears 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19</p> | <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theater Ask John Muir 1.5hrs. In this interactive performance, ask John Muir anything you want, and be entertained by his tales and opinions of yesteryear and present day. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm WEE WILD ONES (begins June 4) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>8:30pm Ranger Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Curry Village Amphitheater. (NPS) &</p> <p>8:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>9:00pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (begins June 4) 1 hr. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) & \$</p> <p>9:00pm NIGHT PROWL (begins June 11) 1 hr. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour desk (DN) \$ &</p> |
| Friday | <p>12:30pm Ask A Climber 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) &</p> <p>1:30pm FAMILY CRAFTS PROGRAM 2hrs. Drop-in program at Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$</p> <p>2:30pm THE GREAT YOSEMITE FAMILY ADVENTURE (begins June 5) 2.5 hrs. Guided treasure hunt with clues and GPS units. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) \$</p> <p>3:00pm Ranger Walk – Bears 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19</p> <p>3:30pm CHILDREN'S THEATER LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE! 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DN) &</p> | <p>6:00pm Naturalist Stroll (begins June 5) 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DN) &</p> <p>7:00pm CHILDREN'S THEATER LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE! 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DN) &</p> <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theater Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey 1.5hrs. Film screening and discussion with renowned climber Ron Kauk. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm WEE WILD ONES (begins June 5) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>8:00pm Evening Program Christine Loberg, Photographer, Ansel Adams Photography Instructor, Inspiration for Preservation of Yosemite Valley (May 29 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.</p> <p>8:00pm Evening Program Dr. Greg Stock, Yosemite National Park Geologist (June 5 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.</p> <p>8:00pm EVENING PROGRAM Ben Cunningham-Summerfield, California Tribal Member, American Indian Storytelling & Flute Playing (June 12 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.</p> <p>8:00pm EVENING PROGRAM Michael Bryant & Robin Pliskin, Northern California Musicians, Concert & Sing-Along: Songs about Nature (June 19 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.</p> <p>8:30pm Film - Ansel Adams 1hr. Check local listing for venue (TAAG) &</p> <p>9:00pm NIGHT PROWL (begins June 5) 1 hr. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour desk (DN) \$ &</p> <p>9:00pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (begins June 5) 1 hr. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) & \$</p> |
| Saturday | <p>12:30pm Ask A Climber 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) &</p> <p>1:00pm Discovery Hike – Less traveled lower valley loop 3.5 hours. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater. Tickets/info at any tour desk.</p> <p>1:00pm In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$</p> <p>1:30pm FAMILY CRAFTS PROGRAM 2hrs. Drop-in program at Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$</p> <p>2:30pm THE GREAT YOSEMITE FAMILY ADVENTURE (begins June 6) 2.5 hrs. Guided treasure hunt with clues and GPS units. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) \$</p> <p>3:00pm JUNIOR RANGER WALK 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) &</p> <p>3:30pm CHILDREN'S THEATER LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE! 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DN) &</p> <p>4:30pm WEE WILD ONES Steve Riley: CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATION WORKSHOP. 1hr. Activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> | <p>6:00pm Naturalist Stroll (begins June 6) 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DN) &</p> <p>7:00pm EVENING PROGRAM Interactive Storytelling with Ty Cooney. 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theater Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey 1.5hrs. Film screening and discussion with renowned climber Ron Kauk. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm WEE WILD ONES (begins June 6) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>8:00pm Evening Program Ken Yager, Director, Yosemite Climbing Association, Yosemite Climbing: Meeting Heroes & Giving Back (May 30 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.</p> <p>8:00pm Evening Program John Dill, YNP Search & Rescue Ranger: Search and Rescue in Yosemite (June 6 only) 1½ hrs. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.</p> <p>8:00pm Evening Program Bill Carroll, Yosemite National Park Post Master, Mail Must Go Through: Postal Delivery in Yosemite (June 13 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.</p> <p>8:00pm EVENING PROGRAM Dr. Tyler Nordgren, Professor of Astronomy, University of the Redlands, Experiencing Astronomy in Yosemite (June 20 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.</p> <p>8:30pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) &</p> <p>9:00pm NIGHT PROWL (begins June 6) 1 hr. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour desk (DN) \$ &</p> <p>9:00pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (begins June 6) 1 hr. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) & \$</p> |

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

Wawona, Mariposa Grove, and Glacier Point



Explore History, Discover Giant Trees, and Find Amazing Vistas

These park areas offer endless opportunities for amazing experiences.

Wawona

Coffee with a Ranger

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

Evening Programs

Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Wawona Hotel lobby from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm, Tuesday through Saturday, as he performs songs and stories from Yosemite's past. Once or twice a week, he will present an hour-long interpretive program on the vintage songs of Yosemite or the history of Wawona with slide or music accompaniment. Check with Tom at the piano for dates and times.

Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio

The Bookstore only is open daily from 9am to 5pm. On May 22nd, Hill's Studio will be open daily from 8:30am to 5pm. The visitor center offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. Located on the grounds of the Wawona Hotel, Hill's Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th-century landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the hotel or park at the Wawona store parking area and follow the path up the hill.

Pioneer Yosemite History Center

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

Experience Horse-Drawn Travel

Travel into history by taking a 10-minute horse-drawn stage ride. Tickets may be purchased at the Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. See page 9 for dates, times, and locations. \$5/adults and \$4/child (ages 3-12)

Blacksmith Shop

Smell the burning coal, hear the ring of the hammer on the anvil, and watch a demonstration of the ancient art of blacksmithing. See page 9 for dates, times, and locations.

Mariposa Grove

Located near Yosemite's South Entrance, allow 1½ hours driving time to reach the grove from the Valley. Cars are prohibited beyond the grove parking lot. The access road to the grove may close intermittently due to limited parking. Trailers are prohibited on the Mariposa Grove Road. Private vehicles longer than 25 feet are not permitted on this road. Starting July 6, 2015, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias will close for restoration.

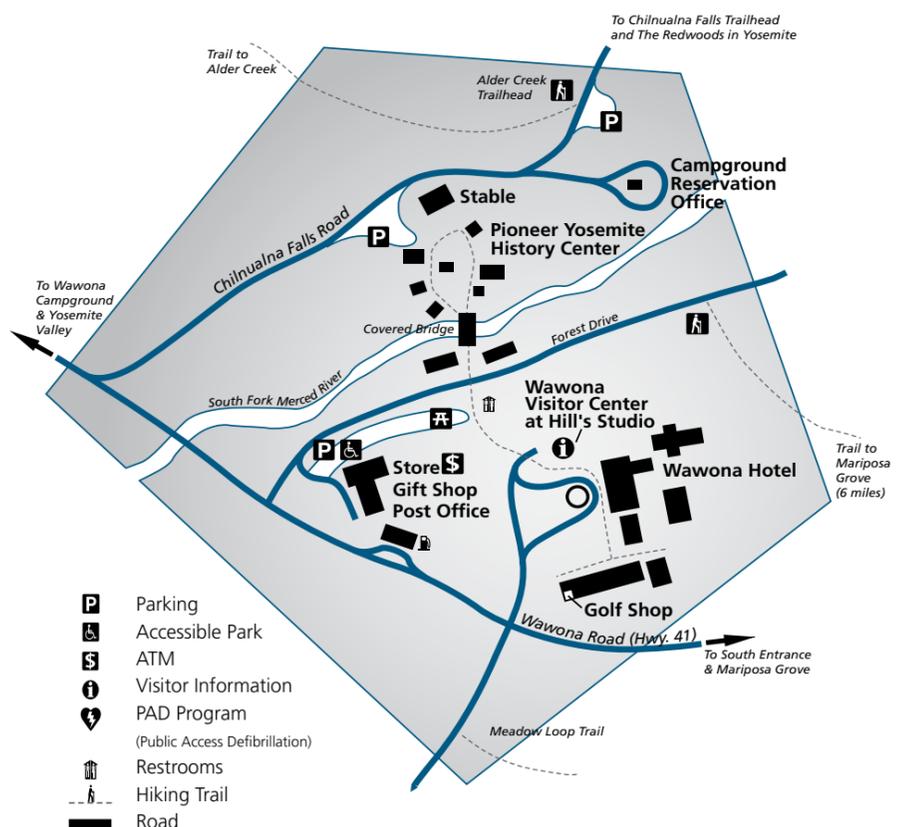
Free Mariposa Grove to Wawona Shuttle

A shuttle stops at the Wawona Store, South Entrance, and Mariposa Grove. Visitors may park at the Wawona Store to board the bus. Shuttles operate beginning at 9am, and the last shuttle leaves the grove at 7pm. The last day of scheduled shuttle service from Wawona is July 5, 2015.

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

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.





Geology Hut. Photo courtesy Yosemite Research Library

Glacier Point

Evening Programs

Meet a ranger to enjoy the lengthening shadows in Yosemite Valley and the alpenglow (or moonrise) on the Sierra high country. Stargazing programs are offered, as well. Details at right.

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

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Wawona

Wawona Hotel Dining Room

Breakfast: 7:00am to 10am
Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm
Lounge Service 5pm-9:30pm
Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm
Reservations taken for 6 or more.
Saturday BBQ: 5pm-7pm, beginning May 23

Golf Shop & Snack Stand

9am to 5pm weather and conditions permitting
Glacier Point
Snack Stand
10am to 5pm, conditions permitting

GROCERIES

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop

8am to 6pm, 8am to 8pm beginning May 22

GIFTS & APPAREL

Wawona

Wawona Store & Pioneer Shop

8am to 6pm, 8am to 8pm beginning May 22

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

9am to 5pm, 8:30am to 5pm beginning May 22

Glacier Point

Gift Shop

9am to 6pm

Snack Stand

10am to 5pm, conditions permitting

POST OFFICE

Wawona Post Office

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

GAS STATION

Wawona Gas Station

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

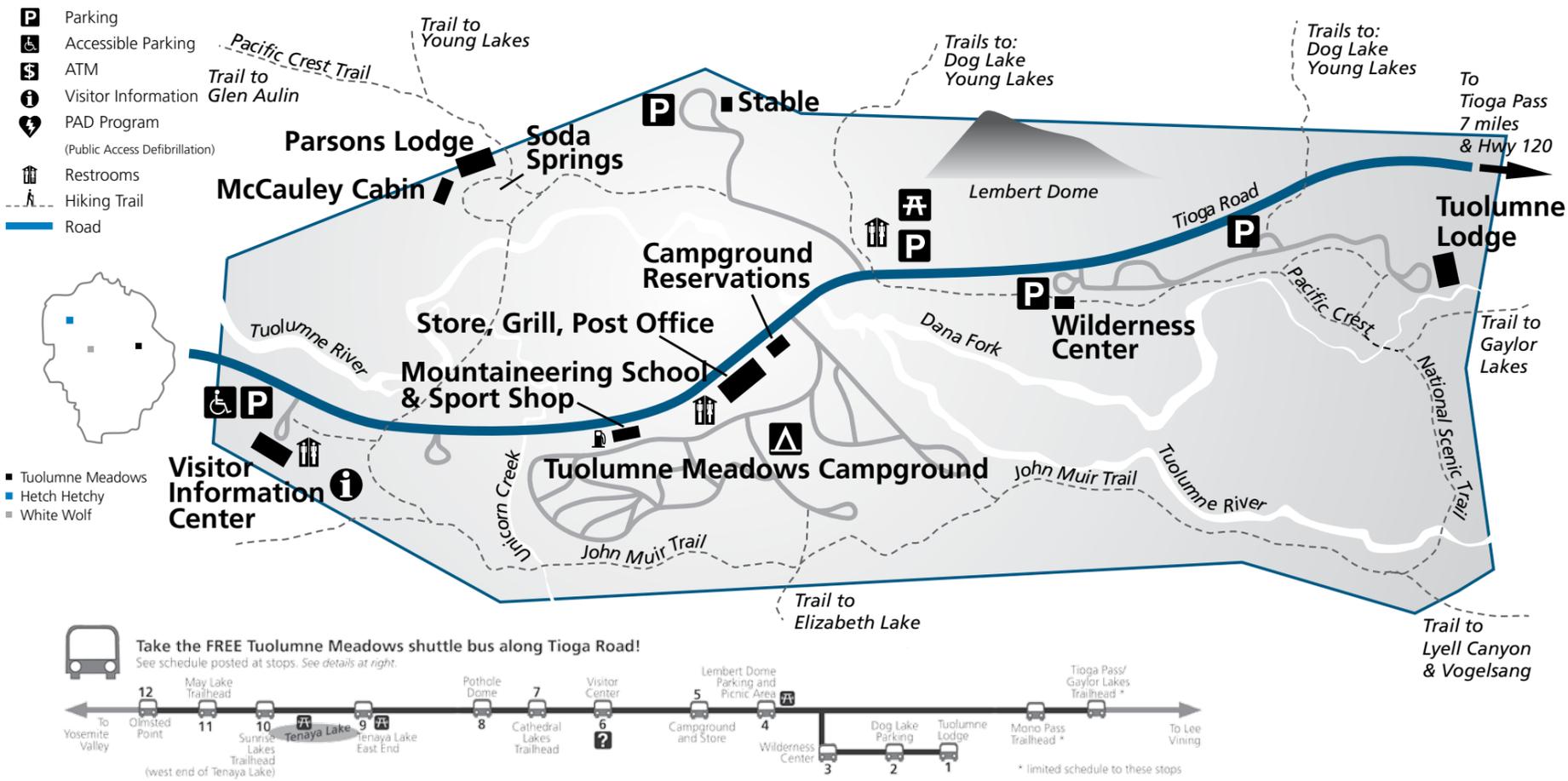
GOLF

Wawona Hotel Golf Course

9am to 5pm, weather and conditions permitting. Nine-hole, par-35 course.

| | WAWONA & MARIPOSA GROVE | GLACIER POINT | |
|------------------|---|--|---|
| Sunday | 10:00am – 2:00pm Horse-Drawn Stage Rides 10 min each Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12 (NPS) \$ 10:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm to 5:00pm Blacksmithing Demonstration (June 14 & 21 only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) ♿ 10:00am Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (except May 24 & 31) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 2:00pm Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (except May 24 & 31) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 3:00pm Wawona History Stroll (June 21 only) 1 hr. Wawona Hotel Fountain (NPS) | 10:00am Hike to the Hidden Illilouette Fall (starting in June) 3½ hrs. Moderately difficult. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop (NPS) 7:00pm GLACIER POINT STARGAZING TOUR (June 21 only) 4½ hrs. Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) ♿ 7:45pm Sunset Ranger Talk (starting in June) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) | |
| Monday | 10:00am Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (except May 25 & June 1) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 2:00pm Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (except May 25 & June 1) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 9:00pm STARRY SKIES OVER WAWONA (begins June 1) 1 hr. Explore the night sky in Wawona! Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) ♿ \$ | 2:00pm Ranger Walk — (starting in June) Short Walk to a Great View of El Capitan 1½ hrs. Moderately difficult. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop. (NPS) 7:00pm GLACIER POINT STARGAZING TOUR (June 22 only) 4½ hrs. Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) ♿ 7:45pm Sunset Ranger Talk (starting in June) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking Yosemite Valley (NPS) | |
| Tuesday | 10:00am Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (except May 26 & June 2) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 2:00pm Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (except May 26 & June 2) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 5:30pm Vintage Music at Wawona 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/ singer Tom Bopp. Programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge (DN) ♿ 6:30pm Evening Ranger Program (June 16 only) 1 hr. Meet at The Redwoods In Yosemite Vacation Home Rentals office on Chilnualna Falls Road. For questions please call (855) 290-3499 (NPS) ♿ | 2:00pm Ranger Walk - Cliffs and Domes (starting in June) 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/ Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road. (NPS) | |
| Wednesday | 9:30am Wawona History Stroll (June 17 only) 1 hr. Wawona Hotel Fountain (NPS) 10:00am Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (June 10 & 17 only) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 2:00pm Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (June 10 & 17 only) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 2:00pm-4:00pm Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (June 10 & 17 only) 10 min each Purchase tickets in Stage Office in Pioneer Yosemite History Center \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12 (NPS) \$ 2:00pm to 5:00pm Blacksmithing Demonstration (June 10 & 17 only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) ♿ 5:30pm Vintage Music at Wawona 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/ singer Tom Bopp. Programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge (DN) ♿ | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families. </div> | |
| Thursday | 10:00am-2:00pm Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (June 11 & 18 only) 10 min each Purchase tickets in Stage Office in Pioneer Yosemite History Center \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12 (NPS) \$ 10:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm to 5:00pm Blacksmithing Demonstration (June 11 & 18 only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) ♿ 10:00am Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (June 11 & 18 only) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 2:00pm Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (June 11 & 18 only) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 5:30pm Vintage Music at Wawona 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/ singer Tom Bopp. Programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge (DN) ♿ | | |
| Friday | 10:00am – 2:00pm Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (except May 22) 10 min each Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12 (NPS) \$ 10:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm to 5:00pm Blacksmithing Demonstration (June 12 & 19 only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) ♿ 10:00am Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (June 12 & 19 only) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 2:00pm Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (June 12 & 19 only) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 5:30pm Vintage Music at Wawona 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/ singer Tom Bopp. Programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge (DN) ♿ | | 2:00pm Ranger Walk—Cliffs and Domes (starting in June) 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road. (NPS) 7:45pm Sunset Ranger Talk (starting in June) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) 8:30pm Stars Over Yosemite (starting in June) Glacier Point amphitheater. Canceled if overcast. (NPS) |
| Saturday | 8:00am Coffee with a Ranger (Hot Cocoa too!) (June 20 only) ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿ 9:00am Nature Walk with a Ranger (June 20 only) 2 hrs. Meet at The Redwoods In Yosemite Vacation Home Rentals office on Chilnualna Falls Road. For questions please call (855) 290-3499 (NPS) 9:00am JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM (June 20 only) 1.5 hrs. Especially for ages 7-12. Meet at Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿ 10:00am – 2:00pm Horse-Drawn Stage Rides 10 min each Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12 (NPS) \$ 10:00 am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm to 5:00pm Blacksmithing Demonstration (June 13 & 20 only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) ♿ 10:00am Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (except May 23 & 30) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 2:00pm Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (except May 23 & 30) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS) 5:30pm Vintage Music at Wawona 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/ singer Tom Bopp. Programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge (DN) ♿ | | 2:00pm Ranger Walk—Cliffs and Domes (starting in June) 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road. (NPS) 7:45pm Sunset Ranger Talk (starting in June) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) 8:30pm Stars Over Yosemite (starting in June) Glacier Point amphitheater. Canceled if overcast. |

Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, and Crane Flat



Tuolumne Meadows

- Please walk on official trails to protect fragile meadow ecosystems.
- Pets, bicycles, and strollers are only allowed on roads open to vehicles.
- Day-hikers and backpackers must go to the bathroom at least 100 feet away from water, trail, and camp areas; bury human waste six inches deep; pack out toilet paper and all other trash.

Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center
 Once open for the season, hours will be 9am to 5pm. Park orientation, trail information, books, maps, and displays available.

Parsons Memorial Lodge, McCauley Cabin, and Soda Springs
 Two trails, both flat and 3/4-mile long, lead to this historic area accessible only by walking. Parsons Memorial Lodge will be open from 10am to 4pm beginning mid-June. Soda Springs are small, naturally-carbonated springs that attract birds and deer, especially at sunrise and sunset.

Just for Kids

Programs for children include Junior Rangers, a two-hour, ranger-led program for children (ages 7-12), and Campfire for Kids. Program schedule begins June 27.

Ranger Walks

Join a ranger to explore new areas and learn about geology, birds, flowers, history, the Tuolumne River, and more. These walks range from one to eight hours and, except for the long walks, are fairly easy. Program schedule begins June 27.

Evening Activities

Come to a traditional, ranger-led campfire program for stories, songs, and insight into Yosemite. Program topics vary and are posted at the campground, Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. End your day with a star program—bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. Program schedule begins June 27.

Mule and Horseback Rides

Horse or mule rides begin at the Tuolumne Meadows stable. Stable hours are 7am to 5pm starting May 29, conditions permitting. 209/372-8427.

Wilderness Center

Open 8 am to 5 pm. Visit the wilderness center to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, and rent bear canisters. The Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center is located just south of Tioga Road, along the road to Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, across from shuttle stop #3.

Big Oak Flat

Big Oak Flat Information Station
 Open 8am to 5pm. The visitor center offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. The center is located just inside the park entrance on Hwy 120W.

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 former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from the parking area into the grove. The trail drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The way down can seem much easier than the uphill return to the parking lot. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill

portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile long nature trail. There is no potable water at the parking area or in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you.

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 (about three hours) 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 at the parking area or down in the grove. 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

Take the Hiker's Bus to Tuolumne Meadows!

Ask about this regular service (beginning May 22) at any Tour Desk or Visitor Center.

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Tuolumne Meadows
 (Open May 22, conditions permitting)
Tuolumne Meadows Grill
 (Open May 22, weather and conditions permitting)
 8am to 5pm
Tuolumne Meadows Lodge Dining Room
 Breakfast - Reservations recommended - 7am-9am
 Dinner-Reservations Strongly Recommended - 5:45pm - 8pm
 209/372-8413

White Wolf
 Closed 2015 for building renovation.

GROCERIES

Tuolumne Meadows Store
 (Open May 22, conditions permitting)
 9am to 5pm
Crane Flat Store
 9am -5pm, open 9am to 7pm beginning May 22.
 24 Hour Pay at the Pump available

GIFTS & APPAREL

Tuolumne Meadows Mountaineering School and Sport Shop
 (Open May 22, conditions permitting)
 9am to 4pm
Tuolumne Meadows Bookstore
 Inside the Visitor Center
 9am to 5pm, once Visitor Center is open
Tuolumne Meadows Store
 (Open May 22, conditions permitting)
 9am to 5pm

POST OFFICE

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

GAS STATIONS

Tuolumne Meadows
 (Open May 22 conditions permitting)
 9am to 5pm, gas and propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Crane Flat
 9am to 5pm, 9am to 7pm beginning May 22. Diesel & propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

FREE SHUTTLE BUS

Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass
 Shuttle service scheduled to begin May 22, conditions permitting.

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

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

Service begins at the Lodge at 7am. Shuttles arrive at approximately 30-minute intervals between 7am and 7pm. Stop times posted at bus stops.

| TUOLUMNE MEADOWS | WHITE WOLF, CRANE FLAT/ HODGDON MEADOW/ HETCH HETCHY |
|--|---|
| Ranger Programs will be listed locally. | Ranger Programs will be listed locally. Campfire programs, Ranger in the Grove (Tuolumne and Merced Groves of Sequoias), Ranger on the Dam (at Hetch Hetchy), bird walks, bear walks, flower walks, Listening to Bats evening walk (citizen science), and many more programs will be offered throughout the area. For more information visit one of the park’s visitor centers, check local postings or call 209/ 379-1899 |



Spring in the High Country

Upon your arrival in Tuolumne Meadows or the high country of the Sierra, take a moment to notice how your first breath of fresh mountain air feels. Can you sense the welcome of a place where the current season is unlike that of the lower elevations?

You have found your way to 8600 feet (2621m) above sea level, in Tuolumne Meadows, where even the seasons progress differently! Look around you as you walk the trails and see if you can find signs of the season unfolding.



What season is it? Winter is typically longer here, persisting for as long as 7 months in the recesses hidden from the sun. Plants and animals must act quickly to get their seasonal “work” done. Their distinctive adaptations make it possible for them to survive and try to reproduce through the variable and often extreme conditions of their elevation range. Some of the perennial plants take a few or many years to produce seeds! Animals have different strategies for survival and conserving energy too. Among these are being furry to keep warm; living underground on north facing slopes to keep cool in summer; being small to get development completed quickly. These are some of the ways plants and animals have adapted to the unique challenges of their high country home. Typically during this season, you might observe birds courting or building nests or even feeding babies in late June or July! If you are lucky you might catch a glimpse of a bear or deer in search of food in this sparse habitat. You could witness tiny young squirrels in the meadows chasing each other or a chubby marmot soaking up the morning sun on a boulder.

You might find eager, green shoots of sedge or miniature wildflowers pushing up through the soft meadow soils. See if you can see a plant as small as a pin. Feel the wildness of the season here.

This year, drought will add a different set of challenges to all life in the high meadows and forests. Look around for stressed looking plants and animals and think about how they will get through this year and possibly more dry years to come. This past winter saw the lowest snowpack on record for the Tuolumne River watershed. The opening of the Tioga Road was relatively early compared to the average opening date of May 27.

While we are here as visitors to the high country, there are things we can do to help care for the vulnerable wildlife and plants by simply being aware of them and our place among them. Protect meadows, and forest floor by walking ONLY on established trails. Think about where your feet fall as you explore. Signs we leave after our visit can and should be limited to only our dusty footprints on established trails. If we act with intention and respect while we are here, the high country beauty that offers us peace and renews our spirit, will endure, for future generations to enjoy.

Become a Junior Ranger

Follow these steps to earn your Junior Ranger badge.*

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

Programs printed in **ALL CAPS & COLOR** are especially for Children and their Families

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



Coyote



Black bear



Golden-mantled ground squirrel

All issue illustrations by Tom Whitworth

Follow these steps to earn your Junior Ranger badge.*

Finished this page and have your Jr. Ranger badge? Ready for more Jr. Ranger activities? Drop by a visitor center desk and pick up the free PSAR Junior Ranger booklet or Legacy Jr. Ranger page to earn special patches!

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

Write the name of the trail you walked. _____

2. Explore with your senses! Record the following.

I see: _____

I hear: _____

I smell: _____

I touch: _____

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

4. Ask a Ranger! What President signed the Yosemite Grant Act on June 30, 1864, setting aside Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove for special protection? _____

5. Learn more. Go to a ranger-led program or visit with an Indian Cultural Demonstrator. What program did you attend? Have the ranger or demonstrator sign below.

Signed by: _____

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

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

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

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

Bears and Wildlife

Enjoying wildlife safely and responsibly



Black bear "logging in." Photo by Karen Amstutz

Keep Wildlife Wild!

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

Store Your Food Properly.

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

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

You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away: Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If there is more than one person, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear.

If you see a bear anywhere else, consider yourself lucky—but keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will be helping the bear become used to being around people.

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

Drive the speed limit.

The most common human-related cause of death for a black bear in Yosemite is being hit by a car. Slow down! Driving too fast is almost always the cause of these accidental deaths.

Red Bear, Dead Bear

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

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

Backpackers:

Save Your Food, Save A Bear

Bear resistant food canisters are 2.7-pound containers that can be used to store five or more days of backpacker food when meals are carefully planned. Canisters have an inset lid that bears are unable to

open. When used correctly, bears learn that—although they smell like food—the canisters are not worth investigating.

Report Bear Sightings!

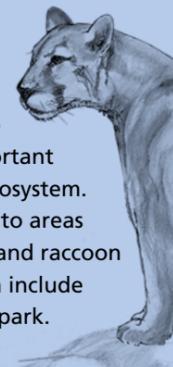
To report bear sightings, improper food storage, trash problems, and other bear-related problems, leave a message for the Bear Management Team at 209/372-0322. Your call can be made anonymously. For more information regarding bears and proper food storage, visit the park's website (www.nps.gov/yose/bears).

Coyotes

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

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

Mountain Lions



Mountain lions are a normal and important part of the park ecosystem. They are attracted to areas with healthy deer and raccoon populations, which include many areas of the park. Although lion attacks on humans are extremely rare, they are possible, just as is injury from any wild animal.

For your safety:

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

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

What should you do if you meet a mountain lion?

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

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

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

Mountain lions are magnificent creatures and native to Yosemite. Generally, they are calm, quiet, and elusive. Sightings are rare, so if you spot one, consider yourself privileged!

How to Store Food

"Food" includes any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This may include items that you do not consider food, such as canned goods, bottles, drinks, soap, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unwashed items used for preparing or eating meals.

| LOCATION | FOOD STORAGE | WHY? |
|---|---|--|
| 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. Never leave unattended food strapped to the outside of a vehicle or in a pickup truck bed. | 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. |



Protect 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 WATER

Every year unsuspecting people drown or are swept over waterfalls to their death. Reasons people end up in or too close to the water include:

- Wading (or swimming) in water with unseen hazards including strong hidden currents and slippery rocks.
- Refilling drinking water.
- Getting a better photograph or posing for a picture.
- The simple attraction to water.

Dry rocks near the river are highly polished causing falls into the water. Mountain water is very cold with strong currents and even expert swimmers are no match for it. Persons who have fallen victim to Yosemite's waters all shared common mistakes:

- They got off the trail.
- They ignored hazards.
- They never thought disaster would happen to them.

The good news: water tragedies are very preventable; stay on the trail and away from water. Keep children from wandering near these natural hazards. Bring plenty of water so that you will not need to draw more water during your hike. Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

DRINKING WATER

California is in a serious drought. Natural water sources you might have used in the past may be dried up by early summer. Avoid dehydration by carrying plenty of extra water. Dehydration can be a serious condition but even in its earliest stages dehydration can reduce performance making you more vulnerable to injuries. Mild thirst and dry lips are early signs of dehydration and is a warning to start sipping water more frequently. Again, carry plenty of extra water so that rationing will not become necessary. No matter how clear mountain water appears, it can contain parasites or hidden contaminants that make you very ill. To protect yourself from disease, treat water before drinking by boiling for five minutes, using a Giardia-rated water filter, or iodine-based purifier. To prevent the spread of water-borne disease, use restroom facilities where available, and always wash hands afterwards with soap and water. 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.

AVOID HYPOTHERMIA

Hypothermia often happens in above freezing temperatures and it can still be a threat as temperatures drop at night. Hypothermia is preventable with a little preparation:

- Wear synthetic or wool next to your skin. Cotton absorbs sweat and precipitation and should be avoided.
- Layer your clothing so that you can add or shed layers as your comfort dictates.
- Know symptoms of hypothermia and first aid to treat it.
- Bring a dry shirt to put on for the way down.
- Take high energy food.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

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 off the road to take photos, consult the park map, or simply enjoy the park's scenery and wildlife.

HIKING, BACKPACKING, BACKCOUNTRY TRAVEL, AND ROCK CLIMBING

Here are a few reminders before you hit the trails.

- Tell someone your plan and when you intend to return.
- Carry a map and compass and know where you are at all times, with a planned route.
- Altitude sickness can develop at elevations as low as 8,000 feet. Descend to a lower elevation should it develop.
- Check the latest weather forecast and prepare for changes.
- Bring a headlamp or flashlight and a warm clothing layer 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 ON TRAILS

Many accidents occur because visitors leave the trail. Off trail travel can be extremely dangerous, especially near waterways where rocks are 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.

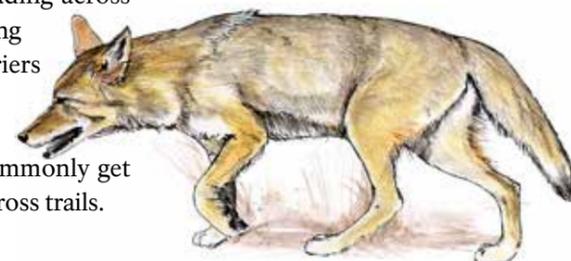
Avoid shortcuts. Visitors commonly get "ledged out" after cutting across trails.

HANTAVIRUS INFORMATION

Mice are an important part of the ecosystem, but can carry diseases 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. 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's Wild Places

Protecting park resources



Protecting Yourself and the Park

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

Wilderness Permit Details

Wilderness permits are required year round for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Permits are issued and bear canisters are available for rent at the Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center, the Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center, the Big Oak Flat Information Center, Hill's Studio in Wawona, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station during hours of operation. Check the website at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm or call the park's main phone line at 209/372-0200, for additional information. 60% of the trailhead quota is available in advance. Reservations are taken from 26 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of \$5 per permit plus \$5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Check the park's website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740. 40% of the trailhead quota is available for first come first serve. First come first serve permits are available the day of at opening and the day before starting at 11am.

Permit Required to Hike Half Dome

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are required seven days a week when the cables are up for 2015, May 22 through October 12, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 pre-season lottery permits have already been issued for 2015. In addition, approximately 50 permits will be released by daily lottery throughout the season based on estimated under-use and cancellation rates (exact number may change throughout the summer). Applications for daily lotteries will be accepted 2 days prior to the desired hiking date between midnight and 1 pm. To apply, visit Recreation.gov or call 877/444-6777. A non-refundable application fee applies to all submissions and a use fee applies to winning applicants. Finally, a daily quota of 75 Half Dome permits will be available to overnight users with an appropriate

wilderness permit (use fee applies). These permits may be acquired through early reservations (50 per day) or day before walk-up (25 per day). Rock climbers who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area may descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit.

More information is available at: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm>. For backpackers more information is available at: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdwildpermits.htm>.

Rafting

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

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

Fishing

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

- Trout season runs through November 15 (except Frog Creek near Lake Eleanor, which opens June 15).
- Special fishing regulations apply on the

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

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

Pets

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

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

Bicycling

Each season, plants are crushed from bicycle travel in meadows, campgrounds, and picnic areas. Please respect park resources and keep bicycles on paved roads and paved bicycle trails. Bikes are not allowed to travel off paved trails. Mountain biking opportunities are available in designated areas outside of Yosemite.

Yosemite Guardians

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park's most important guardians. With 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
- Possessing or using marijuana, including medical marijuana
- Operating an unmanned aircraft system ("drone")

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.

Camping



Camping in Yosemite. Photo by Ray Santos

An adventurous overnight experience

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

General Info...

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

Services

- All sites include picnic tables, firepits with grills, and a food locker (33" d x 45" w x 18" h). See page 5 for food storage regulations.
- Toilets are available in campgrounds; however, Tamarack Flat, Yosemite Creek, and Porcupine Flat have non-flushing vault toilets only and no potable water.
- Shower and laundry facilities are available year-round in Yosemite Valley.
- RVs over 24 feet are not recommended for Tamarack Flat, Yosemite Creek, and Porcupine Flat campgrounds, and RVs are not permitted in walk-in and group campsites. There are no hookups in Yosemite campgrounds, but there are sanitary dump stations in Yosemite Valley (all year), and summer only in Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows.

Regulations

- Proper food storage is required 24 hours a day.
- A maximum of six people (including children) and two vehicles are allowed per campsite.
- Quiet hours are from 10 pm to 6 am.
- Where permitted, pets must be on a leash and may not be left unattended.

Campfires

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

Camping Reservations

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

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

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

Hours:

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

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

Camping in Areas Surrounding Yosemite

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) operates a variety of campgrounds on a seasonal basis near Yosemite. For additional information, contact Groveland Ranger Station at 209/962-7825; Mariposa Ranger Station at 209/966-3638; Mono Lake Ranger Station at 760/647-3044; or Oakhurst Ranger Station at 559/683-4636. For private campgrounds outside Yosemite, call the respective chamber of commerce or visitor bureau listed on page 10.

Group Campgrounds

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



Yosemite Valley

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

Camp 4 is a walk-in campground and is open all year on a first-come, first-served basis; these campsites are not wheelchair accessible. Sites are available on a per-person basis, and six people will be placed in each campsite, regardless of number of people in your party. Camp 4 often fills before 9 am each day, May through September.

Campgrounds in Yosemite National Park*

| CAMPGROUND | OPEN 2014 (APPROX) | MAX RV LENGTH | MAX TRAILER LENGTH | RESERVATIONS REQUIRED? | DAILY FEE | # OF SITES | PETS | WATER |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------|------------|------|--------------|
| YOSEMITE VALLEY | | | | | | | | |
| Upper Pines | All year | 35 ft | 24 ft | March 15- Dec 2 | \$20 | 238 | Yes | Tap |
| Lower Pines | Mar 26- Oct 27 | 40 ft | 35 ft | Yes | \$20 | 60 | Yes | Tap |
| North Pines | Apr 2 - Nov 3 | 40 ft | 35 ft | Yes | \$20 | 81 | Yes | Tap |
| Camp 4 | All year | No RVs/trailers | n/a | First-come, first-served | \$5/pers. | 35 | No | Tap |
| SOUTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY | | | | | | | | |
| Wawona | All year | 35 ft | 35 ft | April 17- Oct 7 | \$20 | 93 | Yes | Tap |
| Bridalveil Creek | July - Sep 8 | 35 ft | 24 ft | First-come, first-served | \$14 | 110 | Yes | Tap |
| NORTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY | | | | | | | | |
| Hodgdon Meadow | All year | 35 ft | 27 ft | Apr 17 - Oct 15 | \$20 | 105 | Yes | Tap |
| Crane Flat | Jul 11 - Oct 14 | 35 ft | 27 ft | Yes | \$20 | 166 | Yes | Tap |
| Tamarack Flat | June/July- Oct 15 | No RVs/trailers | | First-come, first-served | \$10 | 52 | No | Creek (boil) |
| White Wolf | Jul?y Sep 15 | 27 ft | 24 ft | First-come, first-served | \$14 | 74 | Yes | Tap |
| Yosemite Creek | July - Sep 8 | No RVs/trailers | | First-come, first-served | \$10 | 75 | Yes | Creek (boil) |
| Porcupine Flat | July - Oct 15 | 24 ft (limited) | 20 ft | First-come, first-served | \$10 | 52 | No | Creek (boil) |
| Tuolumne Meadows | Jul 11 - Sep 28 | 35 ft | 35 ft | 50% | \$20 | 304 | Yes | Tap |

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

Hiking



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

Choose your adventure

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

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

| TRAIL / DESTINATION | STARTING POINT | DISTANCE / TIME | DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Bridalveil Fall | Bridalveil Fall Parking Area | 0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes | Easy |
| Lower Yosemite Fall | Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6 | 1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes | Easy |
| Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock | Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7 | 2 miles round-trip, 2–3 hours | Strenuous 1,000-foot gain |
| Top of Upper Yosemite Fall | Same as above | 7.2 miles round-trip, 6–8 hours | Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain |
| Mirror Lake (a seasonal lake) | Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17 | 2 miles, 1 hour round-trip to Mirror Lake, 5 miles, loop around lake | Easy |
| Vernal Fall Footbridge | Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16 | 1.4 miles round-trip, 1–2 hours | Moderate, 400-foot gain |
| Top of Vernal Fall | Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16 | 3 miles round-trip, 2–4 hours | Strenuous 1,000-foot gain |
| Top of Nevada Fall | same as above | 7 miles round-trip, 5–6 hours | Strenuous 1,900-foot gain |
| Top of Half Dome | same as above | 14 mi (via Mist Trail) or 16.3 mi (via John Muir Trail) round-trip, 10–12 hours | Extremely Strenuous, 4,800-foot gain |
| Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point | Southside Drive | 4.8 miles one-way, 3–4 hours one-way | Very Strenuous, 3,200-foot gain |
| Valley Floor Loop | Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6 | 13 miles full loop, 5–7 hours full loop | Moderate |

Day Hikes Outside of Yosemite Valley

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

¹These are drop-off points via the Tuolumne Meadows Hikers' Bus.

Featured Hike

The Mist Trail to Vernal and Nevada Falls

Vernal Fall footbridge: 1.6 miles/2.6 km round-trip; 1.5 hours with 400 ft./122 m elevation gain

Vernal Fall: 2.4 miles/3.9km round-trip; 3 hours with 1,000 ft./366 m. elevation gain (via Mist Trail)

Nevada Fall: 5.4 miles/8.7km round-trip; 5 to 6 hours with 2,000 ft./610 m. elevation gain (via Mist Trail)

Begin at Happy Isles (**shuttle stop #16**)

Trail Description:

An excellent view of Vernal Fall is visible from the footbridge at 0.75 miles (1.3 km). Beyond the bridge, at 0.2 miles, the Mist Trail and the John Muir Trail diverge. To proceed directly to the top of Vernal Fall, follow the Mist Trail 0.5 mile (0.8 km) up a steep granite stairway of over 600 steps. Prepare for slippery footing and a tremendous amount of waterfall spray in spring and early summer. The top of Nevada Fall may be reached by continuing 1.3 miles (2.1 km) along the Mist Trail.

Things to know before you go:

- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.
- Stay away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards. Choose swimming areas carefully and swim only during low water conditions.
- Always supervise children closely.
- Avoid areas of whitewater, where streams flow over rocky obstructions.
- Never swim or wade upstream from of a waterfall, even if the water appears shallow and calm. Each year, unsuspecting visitors are swept over waterfalls to their deaths when swimming in these areas.

Yosemite Citizen Scientists Look for Mercury in Dragonflies



While you enjoy your vacation in Yosemite, research scientists are hard at work studying park ecosystems. Their interests range from the effects of climate change on Sierra snowpack and wildfires to declining frog populations and beyond. Such research is often carried out by PhD students or the Park Service itself, but occasionally there are opportunities for park visitors to assist with scientific projects in the park.

In recent years a citizen science movement has gained momentum across the nation. Everyday citizens from a diversity of backgrounds participate in projects that help us all better understand the world around us. Here in Yosemite, park visitors have been engaged in a number of such projects including the annual butterfly count, auditory monitoring of bats, and a project that is tracking the presence of harmful environmental contaminants in water bodies.

In 2011, a citizen science study was started to look at mercury levels in water bodies in National Parks. Mercury is a globally distributed contaminant that can negatively impact human and wildlife health. The main source of human-caused mercury in most remote national park environments is atmospheric deposition from coal-burning power plants nearby, or from as far away as Europe and Asia. Gold extraction, use of fungicides in mercury-containing latex paints and the paper and pulp industry are other anthropogenic sources of mercury in the atmosphere. Mercury threatens the same natural treasures that the National Park Service is charged with protecting.

In the summer of 2014, Yosemite joined this citizen science mercury project and dragonfly nymphs (larvae) were sampled at three different high elevation lakes by park visitors working side by side with park Interpretive Rangers and Resources Management staff. Why dragonflies? The most toxic form of mercury, methylmercury, increases in concentration as you move up the food chain. Dragonfly nymphs are relatively high up in the food chain since they are predators that eat a lot of smaller insects. They also live a long time in the larval stage (up to 5 years!), eating and accumulating mercury from their prey as they grow. For those who participated, this was a fascinating opportunity to (literally) get their feet wet for science in Yosemite on a project that has implications far beyond the park's boundaries.

Yosemite is continuing to participate in the dragonfly project this year with collection days scheduled for late July and early August. There will also be citizen science opportunities to help with auditory monitoring of bats throughout



the summer. (See White Wolf program postings in the *Yosemite Guide*.) We hope you might be able to join us for one of these great opportunities! So take off your city shoes, roll up your sleeves and meet us out there for a fun and educational few hours delving deeper into the wonders of this amazing place. find out how you can get involved at home!

- <http://www.nature.nps.gov/rlc/>
- <http://www.nature.nps.gov/rlc/citizenscience.cfm>
- *For teachers:* <http://www.nps.gov/teachers/index.htm>

Dragonflies are Not Always What They Seem!

A flitting dragonfly may inspire us to reflect on the ephemeral beauty of the world around us while we plod along in our ever-so-human way near a lake, wetland, pond or river. Rarely do we view dragonflies as the ferocious predators they truly are: an adult dragonfly can adeptly grab and devour another flying insect very efficiently, using four independently-manipulated wings, serrated jaws and legs with which it can trap that insect as if in a cage. Life is truly fleeting and fragile!

But the dragonflies we know so well from the lovely sun-dappled environs of lakes and ponds are merely the short-lived adult forms of creatures that spend most of their lives underwater. All dragonflies spend the early part of their lives in a larval form called a nymph (up to 5 years for some species) in freshwater environments eating just about any other thing that moves nearby (including each other). At some point in the life of a bumbling

dragonfly nymph it crawls out of the water and its life changes significantly. After a bit of stretching and waiting, its back splits open and an adult dragonfly awkwardly pushes its way out! The adult dragonfly pumps blood into its wings and body, thereby straightening out some intense wrinkles resulting from this new body's development tucked away within its childhood body. If no predators take advantage of these moments of weakness, it eventually flies away as a wholly different creature than that which first emerged from the water.

We face all sorts of challenging problems in the world today. We are learning about human-caused mercury contamination in National Parks through bio-accumulation in dragonfly nymphs. But perhaps an even more valuable outcome of citizen science projects such as this one comes from the opportunity to linger a little longer in a wilder part of Yosemite, and to pay a little closer attention to what's going on there. Maybe in this way we might start to comprehend something about Yosemite from the inside – from something approaching a dragonfly's perspective – if only in the smallest way.

Photo, top: Citizen scientists work with ranger Adrianna Hirtler to collect, identify species and measure the the dragon fly nymphs that will be sent to the lab. Left, An emerging dragonfly emerges from its exoskeleton (exuvia) leaving it clinging to the vegetation at Luken's Lake/Photos by Lisa Murphy

Supporting Your Park

Enhance the Visitor Experience

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

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



The Ansel Adams Gallery



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

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

Delaware North

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

Delaware North at Yosemite



Delaware North at Yosemite (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. DNC encourages its employees to develop a strong relationship with the park during their tenure.

For more information and employment opportunities with DN 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

Providing For Yosemite's Future

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. Learn more at yosemiteconservancy.org or call 1-800-469-7275.

Habitat Protectors of Yosemite (HaPY)

Be part of the solution! Join park staff to help protect Yosemite's habitat through ecological restoration and litter cleanup projects. Volunteers of all ages are welcome to work one to three hours. Volunteers must wear long pants, closed-toe shoes. A hat and sun protection is recommended, and we encourage volunteers to bring water and snacks. All tools will be provided. Groups larger than 10 should contact the volunteer program in advance: 209/379-1850.



Like us on Facebook
facebook.com/YosemiteNPS



Follow us on Twitter
twitter.com/YosemiteNPS



Follow us on Instagram
instagram.com/YosemiteNPS



Subscribe to us on YouTube
youtube.com/yosemitenationalpark

