Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

Yosemite

American Author Terry Tempest Williams referred to Yosemite NPS Rangers as "guardians of the miraculous" at Yosemite's NPS Centennial celebration on August 25, 2016. NPS Photo



Experience Your America Yosemite National Park Yosemite Guide October 5, 2016 - December 6, 2016 **Yosemite Name Changes NOTICE**: Shuttle service and traffic circulation subject to change with parking and road construction through Be aware that the names of the following facilities have been changed, mid-November. Expect temporary re-routes and delays the new names include: • Half Dome Village (formerly Curry Village) **Yosemite Valley Valley Visitor Center Shuttle System** Yosemite

Bridge

Sentinel Beach

• Yosemite Valley Lodge (formerly Yosemite Lodge) • The Majestic Yosemite Hotel (formerly The Ahwahnee) • Big Trees Lodge (formerly Wawona Hotel) • Yosemite Ski & Snowboard Area (formerly Badger Pass Ski Area) • Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge)

Year-round Route: <u>a</u> ė

Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System ▲ Campground

Parking Picnic Area

Restroom

US Department of the Interior National Park Service PO Box 577

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

▲ Walk-In Campground

Beach A

The Yosemite Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7am to 10pm and serves stops in numerical order. Shuttles run daily every 10 to 20 minutes, depending on time of day. See schedule posted at shuttle stops. In the event of snow and ice, busses may suspend service to shuttle stops #15 - #19. Location Stop # **Visitor Parking** Yosemite Village The Majestic Yosemite Hotel

El Capitan Picnic Area

8 MARTS Yosemite Valley Lodge Sentinel Bridge YCHC / Housekeeping Camp **Recreation Rentals** Half Dome Village Half Dome Village Parking

Happy Isles Mirror Lake Trailhead Stable **Pines Campgrounds**

The Majestic

Lower Pines

Village

Trailhead Parking

Half Dome 15

72I4ft 2I99m

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20 3 YARTS Degnan's Deli 9 YARTS **Valley Visitor Center** Lower Yosemite Fall

Camp 4

12 13a 21 13b MARIS 14 20 **Upper Pines Campground**

and.

Seasonal Highlights

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

Telebrating 100 Years of Service

 ■ The National Park Service turned 100-years-old on August 25, 2016! The Centennial kicked off a second century of stewardship of America's national parks and engaging communities through recreation, conservation, and historic preservation programs. Continue in the celebration to explore, learn, discover, and be inspired, in over 400 national parks. Visit www.nps.gov/yose/anniversary or www.FindYourPark.com for more information about celebration events happening through the rest of this year.



Find Your Park

The National Park Service and the National Park Foundation invite you to Find Your Park and discover the national parks and programs in your own backyard. Visit www. Find Your Park.com to find more information about NPS Centennial events happening in a national park near you, throughout the year, and also to share your pictures and stories once you've found your park.



Every Kid In A Park

Fourth graders, grab your family and go enjoy your national parks for FREE! The Every Kid In A Park initiative was launched to help the next generation of park visitors and supporters create positive attitudes towards public lands and to give every child the chance to explore America's great outdoors and unique history. Visit www. everykidinapark.gov for more information.

FREE Interagency 4th Grade Pass

A free annual pass for 4th grade students and their families, to have access to any federal land or water during the school year from September 1 to August 30. Print







Top: National Park Service employees, who do superior work in preserving and protecting Yosemite National Park, take a moment to celebrate the NPS Centennial on August 25, 2016. Above Left: American Author and Yosemite Centennial Ambassador Terry Tempest Williams gives an encouraging speech at the centennial celebration. Above Right: Honorary Park Ranger and Yosemite Centennial Ambassador Gabriel Lavan-Ying expresses his excitement to be back in Yosemite. NPS Photo

The centennial kicked off a second century of stewardship of America's national parks and engaging communities through recreation, conservation, and historic preservation programs.

entrance to obtain the pass. Visit www. everykidinapark.gov for details.

Get Outdoors with Yosemite Conservancy

Are you looking for a memorable way to explore Yosemite, tailored to your interests and abilities? Our expert naturalist-guides will enhance your understanding of the park as you walk among Yosemite's famous cliffs, trees and waterfalls. Whether you want to explore flora and fauna while taking a gentle saunter along the river or learn about natural history during an exhilarating hike, we'll help you create the perfect outdoor experience. Contact us to plan a custom adventure for your family

and present a paper voucher at any park or group. Visit yosemiteconservancy.org/ adventures or call 209/379-2317 Ext. 10 to find your adventure today.

Go to the Theater

After a day filled with exploring, relax and enjoy a show at the Yosemite Theater. Yosemite Conservancy's theater program presents a variety of experiences, including plays based on some of the park's most colorful characters, inspiring films, and celebrations of Yosemite's culture and history. Watch history come to life when John Muir takes the stage, learn about Search and Rescue in the park, or enjoy a movie showing the beauty of Yosemite's seasons through the eyes of a renowned rock-climber. See page 6 for details.

Yosemite Art Center Workshops

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching artistled workshops, held Monday through Saturday from 9:45am to 2pm, in Yosemite Valley. Meet at the Yosemite Art Center in the morning, then head outside (weather and media permitting) to capture the park's beauty in your art. Registration is \$10 per person per day. Call 209/372-4207 to sign up; walk-ins welcome when space is available. Can't make it for a workshop? Stop by to browse our selection of art supplies, gifts and original artwork! The Art Center is located next to the Village Store, and is open daily from 9am to 4:30pm Workshops offered through the end of October. See page 6 for details.

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 require fees. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. See pages 4 and 5 for details.

Visit the Yosemite Museum

Visit the Yosemite Museum and explore exhibits of California Indian culture, and talk with the Indian cultural demonstrator. Tour the outdoor Indian Village. You can also view changing exhibits of material in the gallery. The Museum is located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. See page 4 for details.

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 5, 6, and 7 for details.

Lose Something in Yosemite?

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

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 available upon request. Contact Deaf Services at 209/379-5250 (v/txt) or at yose_deaf_services@nps.gov. Two weeks advance notice preferred. Assistive Listening Devices available upon advance request, inquire at a visitor center.



Audio tours are available for the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias (closed until Summer 2017). Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an Accessibility Coordinator for more information.

What's Inside:

Page 1 Seasonal Highlights Page 5 **Events and Programs** Page 6 Things to Do Beyond The Valley Page 7 Page 8 Safety Information Valley Day Hike Page 9 Page 10 Feature Story Back Shuttle Map

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) Vehicle Valid for 7 days \$30/Vehicle

Motorcycle Valid for 7 days \$20/motorcycle

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

Yosemite Park Pass \$60 Valid for one year in Yosemite.

Interagency Annual Pass \$80 Valid for 1 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

Interagency 4th Grade Pass (Free) (Annual) For fourth graders and their families. Must present paper voucher.

Reservations **Campground Reservations**

877/444-6777 www.recreation.gov

Lodging Reservations 888/413-8869

www.travelyosemite.com Group Sales Office: 888/339-3481

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 rosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau 559/683-4636 www.yosemitethisyear.com

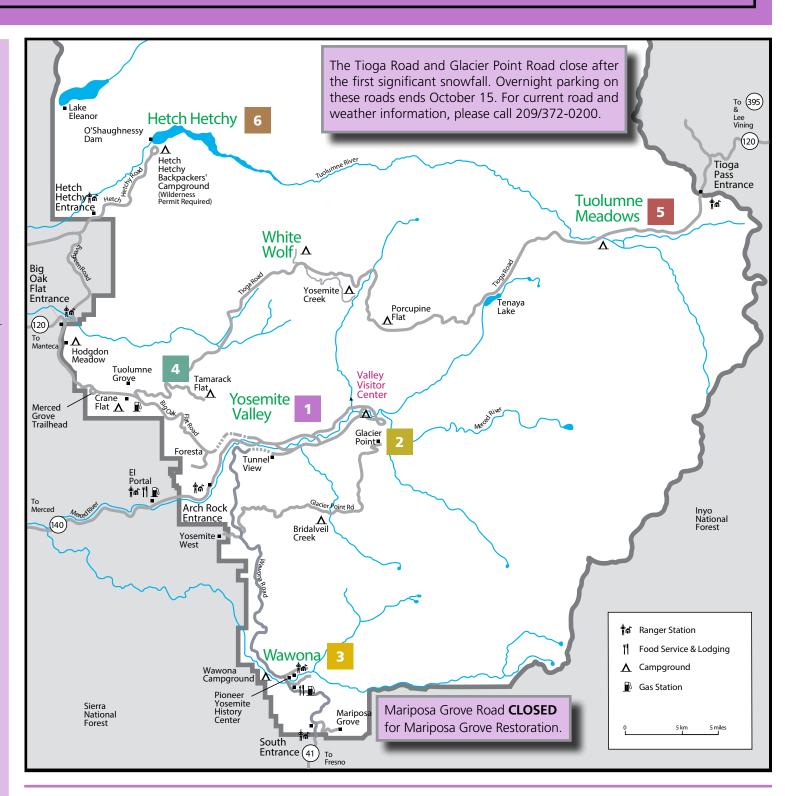
Highway 132/49 Coulterville Visitor Center 209/878-3329

Highway 140/49 California 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

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

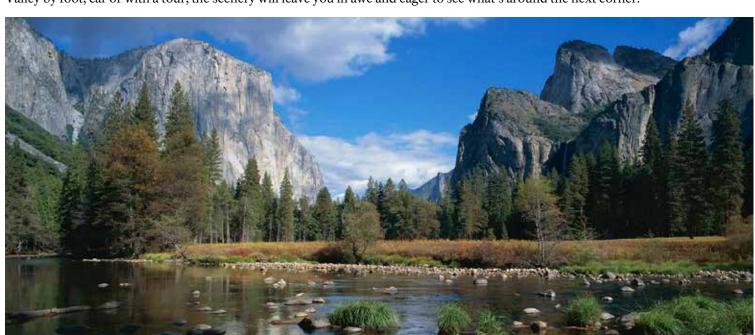


Photo by Christine Loberg

Glacier Point Road

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and Yosemite's high country, is located 30 miles (1 hour) from Yosemite Valley. The road stays open as weather permits, however, overnight parking along it ends October 15. Glacier Point Road closes beyond the Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area after the first significant snow fall. When the road is snow-covered and conditions permit, a system of cross-country ski tracks are maintained on it. From Yosemite Valley, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), then turn left onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, when the road is open, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating view looking down 3,214 feet into Yosemite Valley.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1½ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park's south entrance station. As of July 6, 2015, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is closed for restoration, see page 7 for details. The nearby Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite. For more information about hiking trails in the Wawona area, visit the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio, adjacent to the Big Trees Lodge. This was once a painting studio for the 19th-century artist Thomas Hill.

Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

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

Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road

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

Hetch Hetchy

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. The area's low elevation makes it a good place to hike in autumn and winter. The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles (1¼ hour) from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120W) and the Evergreen Road. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open from 8am to 7pm through October 31, then 8am to 5pm through March 31. Wilderness permits and bear canisters are available while the road is open. Vehicles and/or trailers over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not permitted on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.

DID YOU KNOW:

- The Merced River Plan calls for restoration of 180+ acres of meadow and riparian habitat and protection of culturally-sensitive sites.
- Park crews are out and about restoring meadow conditions and riverbank erosion within Yosemite Valley.
- Park crews will restore over an acre of wetland habitat in conjunction with improvements to the Yosemite Village day-use parking area.
- Traffic circulation improvements beginning fall 2016 include realignment of a portion of Southside Drive and addition of a roundabout near the Yosemite Village day-use parking area, improvements to the west of Yosemite Valley Lodge and Camp 4 parking areas, and road rehabilitation in Yosemite Valley.



The view from Glacier Point NPS Photo



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



Tuolumne Meadows deep freeze. Photo by Wendy Malone



Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. Photo by Sheree Peshlakai

Winter Weather and Driving in Yosemite

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

Chain Control Information:

You must have tire chains or cables in your possession when entering a designated chain control area, **even if you're driving a four-wheel drive or rental vehicle.**



R1 - Chains Required, unless you are driving a car, pickup truck, or SUV weighing less than 6,000 pounds AND your auto or pickup has mud/snow tires installed. (look for "M+S" on the wall of the tire)



NO EXCEPTIONS

R2 - Chains Required, unless you are driving a car, pickup truck, or SUV weighing less than 6,500 pounds AND your car has snow tires installed on all four wheels AND has four-wheel drive or all-wheel drive engaged.

R3 - Chains Required, on ALL vehicles (chains on 2 wheels of a 4-wheel drive).

Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas in the heart of the park



Binh Danh, Yosemite Falls, May 21, 2011, Daguerreotype, part of the LANDMARK exhibit at the Yosemite Museum beginning November 18, 2016.

Experience the Incomparable Yosemite Valley

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

Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

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

YOSEMITE FILMS

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

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 Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center is located in Yosemite Village between the post office and The Ansel Adams Gallery. The center will close for the season on October 23. Permits and bear canisters will then be available at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center daily from 9am to 5pm.

Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center. The museum is open daily from 9am to 5pm.

EXHIBIT

Why Yosemite Collects: 90 Years, 90 Objects, 90 Stories May 31, 2016 - November 1, 2016

This exhibit celebrates the 90th anniversary of the opening of the Yosemite Museum and features a display of the wide variety of artifacts, documents and specimens that the museum collects and preserves. Why do parks have collections? What does this museum have to do with the beginnings of philanthropy in national parks, the development of interpretive programs for visitors and scientific research in the park? Stop by and see, and vote for your favorite artifacts while you are visiting. This special summer exhibit was made possible through the generous support of Yosemite Conservancy donors. The museum gallery is open daily 10am to noon, and 1pm to 4pm.

NEW EXHIBIT

LANDMARK: Yosemite Through the Lens of Contemporary Landscape Photography November 18, 2016 - January 22, 2017

The Yosemite Museum is hosting this special display of contemporary landscape photography in celebration of the National Park Service centennial. This traveling exhibition, curated and organized by Cara Goger of the Mariposa County Arts Council, features the work of Binh Danh, Mark Klett, Byron Wolfe, Ted Orland, Millee Tibbs and Jerry Uelsmann. These contemporary artists bring new representation and varied voices to the genre of landscape photography, which has been such an integral part of the park's history. This exhibit was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Yosemite

Museum Gallery is open daily from 10am to noon, and 1pm to 4pm, except for holiday closures November 23-28, December 20-27, and December 31-January 2.

INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

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

YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE

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

The Ansel Adams Gallery

The Ansel Adams Gallery is open daily from 9am to 5pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other artists. For more information call 209/372-4211 or visit www.anseladams.com. See page 5 for photo walk and other event times.

Penny Otwell: Mountain Rhythm September 11, 2016- November 2, 2016

The "artistic interpretation" of Yosemite, a place steeped in hewing tradition, is not to be taken lightly. As a summation of this long standing relationship between park and art, local painter Penny Otwell has said: "Drawing and painting in Yosemite all these years has taught me to see well!" Pages upon pages of graphite, ink and gouache laced paper that turn into canvases caked with oils and acrylics have directly participated in the invention, reinvention and even rejuvenation of the ideal

of the National Parks. And helping to advance this historical path is Ms. Otwell - who has been painting Yosemite since 1964. This show includes en plein air and studio paintings that began as field sketches which outlined the structure of geologic forms at work in Yosemite National Park. We hope you have an opportunity to visit The Gallery in Yosemite Village to see Penny's work in person.

NEW EXHIBIT

Uncommon Photographs of a Common World November 6, 2016 - January 7, 2017

With a candid eye and compassionate vision, photographers Mark Citret and Kerik Kouklis have continually shared through their imagery a reverence for a world that is at once natural and urban, discreet and distinct, unique and ubiquitous, human and eternal. Their individual bodies of work each crisscross these themes diligently but with ease, their cameras finding earnest light on subjects many of us may take for granted -- whether it be a stoic Half Dome, lazy suburban lane, a melancholy motel bathroom, or simply an empty room. The Ansel Adams Gallery is excited to showcase photographs from these two distinguished and extraordinary artists. On display will be original gelatin silver and platinum prints from their arcing archives, including both new and familiar images made here in Yosemite to as far away as Mongolia. Please join us in Yosemite Village where the gallery is located, next door to the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

Monday - Friday, 8:30am to 5pm Saturday, 10am to noon

Monday - Friday, 12:30pm to 2:45pm

Monday - Friday, 8:30am to 5pm closed for lunch from 12:30pm to 1:30pm

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

The Ansel Adams Gallery

9am to 5pm

Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore Inside Yosemite Valley Visitor Center 9am to 5pm

Yosemite Museum Store 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch

Yosemite Art Center 9am to 4pm, Sunday-Thursday Beginning Oct 29, Closes for the season Nov 10

Village Store 8am to 10pm

Gift Shop

8am to 10pm, 8am to 8pm, Beginning Oct 11

Sweet Shop 7am to 10pm

Gift/Grocery

8am to 10pm, 8am to 8pm, Beginning Oct 30

Gift/Grocery 8am to 7pm, *Closes for the season Oct 10*

Gift/Grocery 8am to 10pm.

8am to 8pm, Beginning Oct 30

Big Trees Lodge General Store

8am to 8pm 8am to 7pm, Beginning Oct 30

Half Dome Village Showers

Housekeeping Camp Laundromat 8am to 10pm

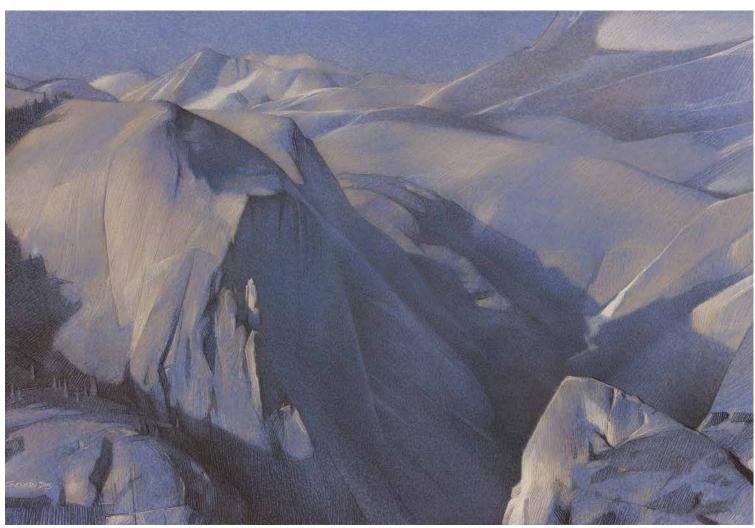
Events and Programs

Where to go and what to do

	YOSEMITE VALLEY							
Sunday	9:00am 10:00am 12:30pm 1:30pm 2:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 7:00pm 8:30pm 8:30pm 8:30pm 9:00pm	JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5. (NPS) & Ask A Climber (Oct 9 Only) 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. (NI Beginner Art Workshop (Oct 9, 16, 23, and 30 Only) 2 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. Ages 8 and up. (YC) \$ Ranger Walk- Wild About Bears 1.5 hrs. Explore the biology and history of Yosemite's black bears. Meet in front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5. (NPS) & Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Sign up at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) & Evening Program (Except Oct 9, 16, 23, and 30) 1 hr. Yosemite Valley Lodge Cliff Room. (YH) & Evening Program: A Century of Climbing in Yosemite (Oct 9 and 23 Only) 1 hr. American Alpine Club members present historic Yosemite climbing films and discuss the importance of Special history of Yosemite with the audience before and after the presentation. Yosemite Valley Lodge Amphitheatre. (AAC) & NIGHT PROWL (Except Oct 30) 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (YH) STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (Except Oct 30) 1 hr. Discover stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (YH)						
Monday	9:00am 9:45am 12:30pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 5:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 8:30pm 8:30pm 9:00pm	Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (TAAG) & Guest Artist Workshop (Oct 10, 17 and 24 Only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See page 6 for more information. (YC) \$ Ask A Climber (Oct 10 Only) 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) & Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class (Oct 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 Only) 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ Ranger Walk-Yosemite's First People 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stops #5/#9. (NPS) & Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Sign up at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) & Art Center End-of-Season Celebration 2 hrs. Stop by the Yosemite Art Center for a free reception to cap off another successful season of art programs. (YC) Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Uncover Yosemite's natural and cultural history on a guided hike! Meet on the Majestic Yosemite Hotel back lawn. (YH) & Evening Program (Except Oct 10, 17, 24, and 31) 1 hr. Yosemite Valley Lodge Cliff Room. (YH) & HALLOWEEN CEMETERY TOUR (Oct 31 Only) 1 hr. Meet in front of the Indian Cultural Museum, near shuttle stop #5/9. (YH) & Evening Program: A Century of Climbing in Yosemite (Oct 10 and 24 Only) 1 hr. American Alpine Club members present historic Yosemite climbing films and discuss the importance of this special history of Yosemite with the audience before and after the presentation. Yosemite Valley Lodge Amphitheatre. (AAC) & STARRY NIGHT PROWL (Except Oct 31) 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (YH) \$ & STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (Except Oct 17 and 31) 1 hr. Discover stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information avai						
Tuesday	9:00am 9:45am 12:30pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 8:30pm	Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) & Guest Artist Workshop (Oct 11, 18 and 25 Only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See page 6 for more information. (YC) \$ Ask A Climber (Oct 11 Only) 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) & In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ Ranger Walk-Geology 1.5 hrs. Uncover the geologic stories of Yosemite's granite walls. Meet in front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5. (NPS) & FIRESIDE STORYTELLING 1 hr. Gather by the fire and listen to the stories of Yosemite's past and present! The Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (YH) & Yosemite Theater -Yosemite Search and Rescue (Oct 11, 18 and 25 Only) 1.5 hrs. Presentation by Ranger Alan Hageman. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore or Yosemite Theater. (YC) \$ STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. (YH) \$ &						
Wednesday	9:45am 10:00am	Guest Artist Workshop (Oct 5, 12, 19 and 26 Only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See page 6 for more information. (YC) \$ JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5. (NPS) Ask A Climber (Oct 5 and 12 Only) 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) & Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ Ranger Walk-Inspiring Generations (Except Oct 5 and 12) 1.5 hrs. Learn how Yosemite helped inspire conservation. Meet in front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5. (NPS) & Ranger Talk-NPS Centennial Talk, Yosemite's Treasures (Oct 5 and 12 Only) 1.5 hrs. Front of the Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5. (NPS) & Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Sign up at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) & Ranger Program - Various Topics (Except Oct 5,12, 19 and 26) 1 hr. Yosemite Valley Lodge. (NPS) Yosemite Theater-John Muir: Conversation with a Tramp (Oct 5, 12, 19 and 26 Only) 1.5 hrs. Live stage performance starring Lee Stetson. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Book store or Yosemite Theater. (YC) \$ NIGHT PROWL (Oct 5 and 12 Only) 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. (YH) \$ & STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. (YH) \$ &						
Thursday	9:00am 9:45am 12:30pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 8:30pm	Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) & Guest Artist Workshop (Oct 6, 13, 20 and 27 Only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See page 6 for more information. (YC) \$ Ask A Climber (Oct 6 and 13 Only) 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) & Using Your Digital Camera 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ Ranger Walk-Trees 1.5 hrs. Find out which trees call Yosemite Valley home. Meet at The Majestic Yosemite Hotel, shuttle stop #3. (NPS) & Yosemite Theater-The Spirit of John Muir (Oct 6, 13, 20 and 27 Only) 1.5 hrs. Live stage performance starring Lee Stetson. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore or Yosemite Theater. (YC) \$ FIRESIDE STORYTELLING 1 hr. Gather by the fire and listen to the stories of Yosemite's past and present! The Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (YH) & STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. (YH) \$ &						
Friday	9:45am 12:30pm 1:30pm 2:00 pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 7:00 pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:30pm 8:30pm	Guest Artist Workshop (Oct 7, 14, 21 and 28 Only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See page 6 for more information. (YC) \$ Ask A Climber (Oct 7 and 14 Only) 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) & FAMILY CRAFTS PROGRAM (Oct 7, 14, 21 and 28 Only) 2 hrs. Drop-in session at Yosemite Art Center. Last session for the season is Oct. 29. (YC) \$ Ranger Walk-Wildlife 1.5 hrs. Experience a variety of habitats and learn about the animals that live in Yosemite. Meet in front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5. (NPS) & Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Sign up at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) & Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Uncover Yosemite's natural and cultural history on a guided hike! Meet on the Majestic Yosemite Hotel back lawn. (YH) & Ranger Program - Various Topics (Except Oct 7, 14, 21 and 28) 1 hr. Yosemite Valley Lodge. (NPS) FIRESIDE STORYTELLING 1 hr. Gather by the fire and listen to the stories of Yosemite's past and present! The Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (YH) & Yosemite Theater-Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey (Oct 7, 14, 21 and 28 Only) 1.5 hrs. Film and presentation by Ron Kauk. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore or Yosemite Theater. (YC) \$ Film - Ansel Adams 1 hr. Yosemite Valley Lodge, check local listing for venue. (TAAG) & NIGHT PROWL 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. (YH) \$ & STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. (YH) \$ & STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & act						
Saturday	9:00am 9:00am 9:45am 10:00am 12:30pm 1:00pm 1:30pm 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 8:30pm	Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) & Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventure: The Day of the Woodpecker (Dec 3 Only) 8 hrs. Discover Yosemite's diverse woodpecker species with an expert naturalist. See pg. 6 for details. (YC) \$ Guest Artist Workshop (Oct 8, 15, 22 and 29 Only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See page 6 for more information. (YC) \$ JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5. (NPS) & Ask A Climber (Oct 8 and 15 Only) 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) & In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ FAMILY CRAFTS PROGRAM (Oct 8, 15, 22, and 29 Only) 2 hrs. Drop-in session at Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$ Ranger Walk-Ahwahneechee Stories and Games 1.5 hrs. Learn about the culture of Yosemite's first people. Meet in front of the Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5. (NPS) & Fine Print Viewing 1 hr. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. Very limited space. (TAAG) & Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Sign up at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) & Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Uncover Yosemite's natural and cultural history on a guided hike! Meet on the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (YH) & Yosemite Hotel. (YH) & Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families. Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families. Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families. Programs with a fee. **YC** Yosemite Conservancy YH** Yosemite Hotel Naturalist Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. (YH) \$ & Yosemite Hotel Naturalist Advanced registration required, tickets an						

Things to Do

Yosemite Valley and Beyond



Kit Gentry, Mount Watkins from Glacier Point, pastel, Yosemite Renaissance 31

Yosemite in Winter

NATURALIST PROGRAMS

Naturalists give walks and talks about Yosemite's natural and cultural history, every day. See page 5 for scheduled walks, talks, and evening programs.

RANGER PROGRAM-YOSEMITE INSIDE

Join a ranger in an indoor venue for an indepth look into a Yosemite topic. Topics will vary from Yosemite wildlife, to climbing, to Yosemite artists. See page 5 for schedule and visit the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for specific topics.

WALKING AND HIKING

Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. Stop by a visitor center for trail maps and current trail conditions, or see page 9 for a list of popular Valley day h

SIGHTSEEING

Some of the famous landmarks in Yosemite Valley include:

- Lower Yosemite Fall is an easy 30-minute loop trail starting from shuttle stop #6. (Both Upper and Lower Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow return.) This hike features educational exhibits and a picnic area, and is accessible to the mobility impaired.
- Bridalveil Fall is a year-round waterfall that can be visited on your way into or out of the Valley. Winds, swirling about the cliff, blow the wispy water into a delicate free-fall.
- El Capitan is a massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan. Please stay on foot paths to avoid damaging delicate meadows.

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

TOURS

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

The Valley Floor Tour is a 26-mile, two-hour, guided tour of Yosemite Valley. It departs several times daily. The four-hour Glacier Point Tour departs at 8:30am and 1:30pm. Call 209/372-1240 or inquire at the Tour and Activity Desk in the Yosemite Valley Lodge between 7:30am and 7pm.

Yosemite Conservancy **Outdoor Adventures (YC)**

Yosemite Conservancy's year-round Outdoor Adventures offer something for every park explorer. Experience autumn in Yosemite on one of our upcoming adventures:

Yosemite Photography - Focus on Nature 101 November 3 - 6

Join two expert photographers for a long weekend of honing your camera skills while

exploring the park and enjoying magnificent autumn scenery. The program starts with an evening session on November 3, and includes three full days of instruction.

Day of the Woodpecker December 3

Did you know that Yosemite provides habitat for at least 11 woodpecker species? Spend a day learning about the lives of these fascinating birds with the Conservancy's resident naturalist. The program starts in El Portal, with carpooling to different areas of Yosemite.

Pre-registristration required. Please visit yosemiteconservancy.org/outdoor-adventures or call 209/379-3217 Ext. 10 to learn more, sign up and see our full adventure calendar, including snowshoe trips, wildflower walks and backpacking treks. Registration includes park entry, as needed, and camping; additional lodging options are available. Proceeds from all $Yo semite\ Conservancy\ programs\ help\ preserve$ and protect the park.

Yosemite Conservancy Art Center Workshops (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to join one of our celebrated artists for a hands-on art experience in Yosemite Valley. Workshops take place Monday through Saturday from 9:45am to 2pm, meet at the Yosemite Art Center in Yosemite Village, and are typically held outside (weather and media permitting). Registration is \$10 per person per day, and art supplies are available for purchase.

Ink Sketching with Water Oct 3-8 color with Pam Pederson Create a Yosemite Collage Oct 10-15

Plein Air Watercolor with Oct 17-22

John Hewitt

with June Rubin

Oct 24-29 Atmospheric Watercolor with Frank Eber

Can't get enough of the Art Center? Join us for our celebratory end-of-the-season party on October 10 from 5pm to 7pm, and stop by anytime between October 30 and November 10 to see the Employee Art Show and inventory sale. The Art Center is open daily, 9am to 4pm, through October 29; Sunday through Thursday, 9am to 4pm, from October 30 through November 10 (final day of the season). For more information, call 209/372-4207 or visit yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center.

Yosemite Theater (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy's theater program offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances, educational presentations and beautiful films. Revel as actors, rock-climbers and rangers bring adventures, culture, nature and history to life! All shows start at 7pm at the Yosemite Theater, located behind the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, shuttle bus stops #5/#9. Tickets \$10/adult (FREE tickets for children under age 12), available at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Bookstore or at the theater before show time.

Yosemite Search and Rescue Tuesdays (October 11 - 25)

Join Park Ranger Alan Hageman, who is in charge of Yosemite's Preventive Search and Rescue, for lively stories about emergency response missions in Yosemite, and cautionary tales sprinkled with solid advice to help you be safe in the wilderness.

John Muir Series: Conversation with a Tramp Wednesdays (October 5 - 26)

Enjoy stories of John Muir's childhood and nature discoveries, while he awaits news on the fate of Hetch Hetchy Valley. Live stage performance starring actor Lee Stetson. An NPS Centennial Celebration Show.

John Muir Series: The Spirit of John Muir Thursdays (October 6 - 27)

Hear John Muir's most popular stories about his adventures in the wild and the people and animals he encountered along the way. Live stage performance starring actor Lee Stetson. An NPS Centennial Celebration Show.

Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey Fridays & Saturdays (October 7 - 29) See the beauty of Yosemite in all four seasons with inspiring narrative in this stirring film, which is followed by a discussion with renowned rock-climber Ron Kauk.

Yosemite Renaissance 32, Call For Entries

Yosemite Renaissance is an annual juried competition/exhibition intended to encourage diverse artistic interpretations of Yosemite. Historically, the arts have played a very important role in the establishment of our State and National Parks. It is our hope that they can be just as important in future efforts to preserve and protect that heritage. Entries should be recent works of the landscape, environment, wildlife, and people of Yosemite or the Sierra Nevada. Both representational and non-representational submissions are accepted. Entries may be in any fine art medium including painting, photography, drawing, printmaking, textile and sculpture. Cash awards. Works accepted will be displayed at the Museum Gallery in Yosemite Valley during a two-month exhibition beginning the end of February 2017. For more information please visit our website, www.yosemiterenaissance.org.

Hours listed are core hours for facilities and may be extended during periods of peak

Village Grill

11am to 6pm, Closes for the season Oct 11

Dining Room

Breakfast: 7am to 10am Lunch: 11:30am to 3pm, 11:30am to 2pm, Beginning Oct 11 Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm Sunday Brunch: 7am to 3pm, 7am to 2pm, Beginning Oct 11 Appropriate attire required for dinner. Reservations recommended for dinner and Sunday Brunch, 209/372-1489.

The Majestic Bar

Morning Coffee Bar: 7am to 10:30am, in the Dining Room. Cocktail Service: 11:30am to 11pm, 11:30 am to 10pm, Beginning Oct 30, in the Great Lounge and on the East Terrace

Food Court

Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am Lunch: 11am to 4:30pm Dinner: 4:30pm to 10pm, 4:30pm to 9pm, Beginning Oct 11, 4:30pm to 8pm, Beginning Oct 30

Mountain Room Lounge

Monday-Friday: 4:30pm to 11pm, 5pm to 11pm, Beginning Oct 30 Saturday & Sunday: 12pm to 11pm

Mountain Room Restaurant

Dinner: 5pm to 10pm, 5pm to 9pm, Beginning Oct 11 Reservations taken for 8 or more. 209/372-1281

Pavillion

Closes for the season Oct 23 Breakfast: 7am to 10am Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Pizza Deck

Sunday - Friday: 5pm to 9pm Saturday: 12pm to 9pm Weekends only beginning Oct 10, Friday: 5pm to 9pm Saturday: 12pm to 9pm

Coffee Corner

6am to 11am, Closes for 3 weeks Nov 27 Half Dome Village Bar

Closes for the season Oct 30 Sunday - Friday: 5pm to 9pm Saturday: 12pm to 9pm

Lodge closes for 3 weeks beginning Nov 27 Breakfast: 7am to 10am Lunch: 11am to 3pm,

11:30am to 2pm, Beginning Oct 11 Dinner: 5pm to 9pm,

5:30pm to 9pm, Beginning Oct 11 Call 209/375-1425 for dinner reservations Lounge Service: 5pm to 9:30pm, Closes for 3 weeks beginning Nov 27

Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm, Beginning Oct 30

Village Store

8am to 10pm

Gift/Grocery 8am to 10pm.

8am to 8pm, Beginning Oct 30

Gift Shop and Snack Stand

10am to 6pm, Closes for the season Oct 16

Big Trees Lodge General Store

8am to 8pm,

8am to 7pm, Beginning Oct 30 **Golf Shop and Snack Stand**

8am to 5:30pm, Closes for the season Oct 23

8am to 6pm, Closes for the season Oct 23

8am to 5pm, Closes when Tioga Road Closes

NO gas in Yosemite Valley

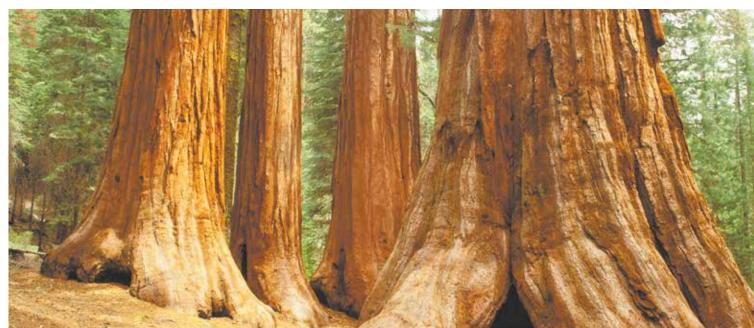
Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

8am to 5pm. Diesel & propane. Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card.

8am to 5pm, Diesel available. Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

Visitor Services

Beyond Yosemite Valley



Although the Mariposa Grove is closed for restoration, the Tuolumne and Merced Groves remain open and are considered park highlights. NPS Photo

Wawona & Mariposa Grove

VISITOR CENTER AT HILL'S STUDIO

Open 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 Big Trees Lodge, 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 Big Trees Lodge General Store parking area and follow the path up the hill. October 12 through October 16, the bookstore only will be open daily from 9am to 5pm. Wilderness permits will be available by self-registration on the front porch. Closes for the season October 16.

EVENING PROGRAM

Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Big Trees Lodge lobby from 5:30pm to 9:30pm, Tuesday through Saturday, as he performs songs and tells stories from Yosemite's past. Historical programs are available by request and are usually given at 8:30pm. For details or to request a program, drop by the piano early in the evening when Tom's performing. The Big Trees Lodge will be closed from November 28 to December 16.

PIONEER YOSEMITE HISTORY CENTER

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

EXPERIENCE HORSE-DRAWN TRAVEL

From Friday, October 7 through Sunday, October 9, between 10am and 2pm, travel into history by taking a 10-minute horsedrawn stage ride. Tickets may be purchased at the Grey Barn in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. Costs \$5/adults and \$4/child (ages 3-12).

Mariposa Grove

Located near Yosemite's South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park's largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees.

GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE MARIPOSA GROVE

The Restoration of the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias Project is now underway! On July 6, 2015, a temporary closure of the grove for up to 24 months began. The restoration project will improve the habitat and restore the hydrology of the Mariposa Grove and improve visitors' experience and enjoyment of the grove. Trails will be improved providing universal access along with improved restrooms.

The Mariposa Grove Road is closed to all public access, including bicycle and pedestrian traffic. Hiking trails within the grove are also closed.

Big Oak Flat **INFORMATION STATION**

Open from 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. The station will close for the season October 15. Wilderness permits will be available by self-registration on the porch.

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 threemile round-trip hike, ski, or snowshoe into the grove. The trail drops down 1.5 miles, making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion. There is no potable water in the area so be sure to bring drinking water with you. The grove is located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat and 4½ miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance along the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). The trail is marked by a sign and a post labeled B-10.

Tuolumne Grove

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

Tuolumne Meadows 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. The center will close for the season on October 14 and wilderness permits will be available by self-registration on the front

GENERAL SERVICES

YOSEMITE VILLAGE GARAGE

8am to 5pm, Towing 24 hours. Propane available until 4:30pm.

MEDICAL CLINIC (Yosemite Valley) Monday - Friday, 9am to 5pm Closed weekends and federal holidays. For emergency care after 5pm, call 9-1-1. Medical Clinic Phone: 209/372-4637.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CHURCH OF CHRIST (Non-denominational) El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am Info: 209/379-2100

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Pastor Brent Moore - Resident Minister 209/372-4831 • www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org www.YosemiteValleyChapelWeddings.org

SUNDAY SERVICES IN THE YOSEMITE CHAPEL: 9:15am - Sunday School and Nursery Available 6:30pm - Evening Service/Bible Study in Chapel

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY 7pm, Call for location

WEDNESDAY MID-WEEK SERVICE 7pm, at the Chapel

VARIOUS BIBLE STUDIES IN THE PARK Call for times and locations

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS Sunday, 10am, East Auditorium behind Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, shuttle stops #5/#9. Rectory Phone: 209/372-4729

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Yosemite Valley Chapel Sunday: 8pm to 9pm Tuesday and Thursday: 7:30pm to 8:30pm

LIONS CLUB

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

Protecting yourself...



A couple descending steps on the Mist Trail. NPS Photo

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.

ENJOYING AUTUMN IN YOSEMITE

Autumn in Yosemite is an exciting time for outdoor enthusiasts, photographers, and other artists. Lighting is gentle but colors are vibrant, temperatures are comfortable, and a gentle dusting of snow provides attractive accents to the rugged high Sierra Nevada. Rapid weather changes add to the excitement but also increases our need to prepare for weather extremes.

SUNLIGHT

Fall may create some outstanding outdoor opportunities but can also pose some unique challenges. With days becoming noticeably shorter, it is important to PLAN your outdoor activities accordingly. Always carry a flashlight and/or headlamp in case you're out longer than planned, Today's LED lights are small, inexpensive, and take up very little weight or bulk in your pack.

WEATHER

Comfortable daytime temperatures can drop with little warning. Unexpected storms can brew quickly, bringing wind, rain or snow down to the Valley floor. PREPARE for potential weather changes. To avoid hypothermia, a lifethreatening cooling of your body temperature, dress in layers. Be able to add or reduce layers as follows:

- Base layer synthetics, wool, or silk, never cotton. This layer is meant to pull moisture away from your skin so that you will feel dry.
- Mid layer insulation to keep warm. Many outdoor enthusiasts enjoy fleece or wool.
- Outer layer/shell protects you from outside moisture, i.e., rain and snow. Newer materials are designed to "breath" to reduce sweating while also keeping water from getting in.
- Hat one suitable for keeping your head warm and dry. A good knit hat that is long enough to cover your ears can make a big difference.
- Shoes wear sturdy hiking boots. It's important they protect your feet from rain, snow, and slush. Thick wool or synthetic socks help keep your feet warm and dry. Your boots should never be tight or you will lose circulation which will make your feet cold. Carry an extra pair of socks
- Gloves Keep a pair or two in your pack in case you need to keep your hands warm.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Swift water is dangerous any time of year, even during low flow rates. Do not be deceived; Yosemite's streams have strong and dangerous currents and are best enjoyed from the safety of the trail or other developed areas.

YOSEMITE'S ROADS

Wildlife can be quite active during the autumn season. This time of year is Yosemite wildlife's final opportunity to prepare for the long winter ahead. While this makes for good wildlife viewing, it also creates road hazards. Most vehicle versus deer strikes occur in the autumn.

Yosemite experiences ice and snow in the autumn. Moisture from rain or melting snow can freeze on the pavement even before the sun sets. When temperatures warm and the roadways thaw, spots of ice can remain in shaded areas throughout the day.

Yosemite provides many opportunities to distract your driving. Please give 100% of your attention to your driving and find a safe place to pull over to enjoy the scenery or wildlife. Drive within the designated speed limits and be prepared to reduce speed if conditions warrant. Park rangers enforce California's Motor Vehicle Code on park roads. ALWAYS buckle up.

FOR ALL SEASONS

- Stay on established trails or in developed areas - do not take trail shortcuts or approach the water. Almost all of Yosemite's non-traffic related serious injuries occur off trail.
- Rock scrambling leave this to the critters.
- Water and food Stay hydrated and snack frequently - take extra food and water. If you are sweating, eat salty, easy-to-digest snacks.
- "10 hiking essentials" including a flashlight or headlamp, sunglasses, sunscreen, navigation, and a signaling method (mirror and whistle).
- Let someone know always leave your travel and hiking plans, including your intended route and estimated time of return, with a trusted person. If no one knows you are missing, no one is going to look for you.

And remember this truism: you are responsible for your safety.

WILDERNESS PERMIT DETAILS

Wilderness permits are required year round for all overnight trips into Yosemite's Wilderness. Permits are issued and bear canisters are available for rent in Yosemite Valley (see page 4) and at the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station during hours of operation. Wilderness permits are also available at the Hill's Studio in Wawona and at the Big Oak Flat Information Station (see page 7). Call the park's main phone line at 209/372-0200, or check the web at www. nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits. htm, for additional information. For summer trips, reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of \$5 per permit plus \$5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Check the park's website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740.

HALF DOME PERMIT INFORMATION

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are required seven days a week when the cables are up for 2016, May 27 through October 10, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 preseason lottery permits have already been issued for 2016. 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.

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.

PLAGUE

Plague is an infectious bacterial disease that is carried by squirrels, chipmunks and other wild rodents and their fleas. When an infected rodent becomes sick and dies, its fleas can carry the infection to other warm-blooded animals including humans.

To protect yourself from plague, never feed wildlife, avoid dropping food scraps that attract rodents when eating outside, avoid pitching a tent near or disturbing rodent burrows, wear insect repellent with DEET, and tell a park ranger immediately if you see a dead animal.

Early symptoms of plague may include high fever, chills, nausea, weakness, painful swelling at the site of an insect bite or lymph node, and other flu-like symptoms. If you develop any of these symptoms within 6 days of visiting an area at risk for plague in the park, see your doctor and inform them you may have been exposed. Plague is treatable with antibiotics if given in time.

...and Yosemite



Keeping Bears Wild

Yosemite bears may still be active during the winter months. Please, keep Yosemite's black bears wild and alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

Store Your Food Properly.

The typical daily diet of most bears may consist of 4,000 to 20,000 calories worth of grasses, acorns, and grubs. It's easier for a bear to eat the thousands of calories of food in an ice chest than it is to spend all day nibbling on 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 see in color, so they recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food containers as potential food sources.

Drive the speed limit.

The most common human-related cause of death for a black bear in Yosemite is being

hit by a car. Slow down! Driving too fast is almost always the cause of these accidental deaths. Please report bear sightings by calling 209/372-0322.

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 are 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 luckybut 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.

Wilderness Etiquette: Using Your Backwoods Bathroom

When you "doo," make sure you're at least 200 feet away from any water source. Dig a hole that's at least six inches deep so you're able to bury your waste when you're done. Follow Leave No Trace protocol and always pack out toilet paper in ziplocked bags, never bury or burn it.

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 wellprotected 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.

How to Store Food

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

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

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

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

Yosemite Launches A Trio of Projects:

Implementing the Merced River Plan



A new comfort station will be constructed in the Yosemite Village day-use parking area. NPS Photo

fter two years of design and planning, the NPS is launching a trio of projects this fall to restore meadows, enhance riverbanks, and improve traffic circulation and parking in Yosemite Valley. The Merced River Plan, approved in 2014 after an extensive public involvement process, prescribed the actions along with a comprehensive suite of additional actions to protect and enhance the Merced River corridor.

RESTORING NATURAL CONDITIONS

Fall is the best time to conduct ecological restoration in Yosemite Valley, as water tables are low and many plants are dormant. In Ahwahnee Meadow, you'll see National Park Service teams relocating a foot trail/ abandoned roadbed out of the meadow to a nearby location and filling century-old ditches. These actions will enhance meadow saturation and increase meadow habitat Park teams are also addressing unnatural In 2017, the park will also improve the Record of Decision in 2014. widening of the Merced River channel below the Ahwahnee Bridge, where the river

has grown to over twice its width since the early 1900s. Resources management staff will rebuild the eroded riverbank to capture river sediments through time and foster vegetation growth.

IMPROVING THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Changes are occurring in Yosemite Village, beginning in September 2016. To improve way-finding and efficiency, the park will re-construct the Yosemite Village day-use parking area (also known as Camp 6) south of Southside Drive. A segment of Southside Drive will be realigned south of the parking area, allowing safe pedestrian access from the parking lot to the Yosemite Village area. Over an acre of wetland habitat will be restored. A round-about will enhance traffic circulation. Completion of the day-use parking area project is expected in spring 2017.

Yosemite Falls parking lot (west of Yosemite Valley Lodge) and at Camp 4 and rehabilitate portions of Northside and Southside Drive. During construction, temporary detours will guide you to your destination. All hiking trails and overnight parking for lodging and camping will remain open. Please follow signs to navigate safely around construction areas.

THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Merced River Plan is the result of many years of collaboration between planners, members of the public, American Indian tribes, stakeholder groups, scientists, agencies, and gateway partners. Release of the draft Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan generated about 30,000 comments from the public. The National Park Service considered these comments, along with the best available science and stewardship practices, and finalized the plan with a The centerpiece of the Merced River Plan is a multi-faceted program to protect and enhance the rare, unique, and exemplary qualities that serve as basis for the river's designation as a Wild and Scenic River. The plan calls for restoration of over 180 acres of meadow and riparian habitat and protection of culturally-sensitive sites. Visitors will continue to be able to access Yosemite Valley by private vehicle, with expanded options for public transit and shuttle bus service. The park will reduce traffic congestion through changes to traffic patterns, reorganized dayuse parking areas, and a strong commitment to managing user capacity in Yosemite Valley.

Initiation of the ecological restoration and parking and road improvements this fall is a first step to protect and enhance the river corridor and the experience of millions of present and future Yosemite visitors who enjoy opportunities for recreation, education, reflection, and inspiration in the sublime beauty of the Merced River corridor.



In the past, the construction of drainage ditches, trails, and roads have altered the hydrology and ecological processes of Ahwahnee Meadow. In order to improve meadow hydrology and restore meadow connectivity, native plant communities and wildlife habitat, we'll be removing conifers, drainage ditches, old road beds and social trails. NPS Photo.



Many species depend on the habitat that forms around trees and wood pieces that fall into the river. For years, large wood was removed from the river, however, we now realize the value of leaving large wood in place and plan to supplement naturally felled wood with placed wood structures. NPS Photo.



Since the late 1800s, many of Yosemite Valley's rivers and creeks were lined with large stones, called riprap, to prevent the river from widening. Riprap that is no longer functional will be removed or replaced with structures designed to incorporate live plants that will naturally stabilize the bank and enhance riparian habitat. NPS Photo.

Supporting Your Park

Providing for Yosemite's Future

Enhance the Visitor Experience

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

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



Half Dome, Christine White Loberg

The Ansel Adams Gallery

Yosemite Hospitality LLC NatureBridge

Yosemite Conservancy



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:







Yosemite Hospitality, a division of Aramark, operates lodging, food and beverage, retail, recreational activities, tours, interpretive programs, transportation, and service stations under contract with the U.S. Department of Interior with a focus on delivering authentic and memorable guest experiences. Yosemite Hospitality encourages employees to immerse themselves in the Park and all of the experiences offered

For more information on employment opportunities with Yosemite Hospitality at Yosemite National Park visit www. yosemitehospitalityjobs.com.

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 lifelong 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



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. Work funded by the Conservancy is visible throughout the park, in trail rehabilitation, wildlife protection and habitat restoration. The Conservancy is also dedicated to enhancing the visitor experience and providing a deeper connection to the park through outdoor programs, volunteering, wilderness services and its bookstores. Thanks to dedicated supporters, the Conservancy has provided more than \$100 million in grants to Yosemite National Park. Learn more at www. yosemiteconservancy. org or call 415/434-1782.

Contact Us

www.anseladams.com.

Yosemite National Park

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The Ansel Adams Gallery

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NatureBridge

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Yosemite Volunteers: Serving Yosemite

Over 10,800 volunteers donated more than 186,000 hours of service to Yosemite last year, restoring native habitat, working in visitor centers, serving as camp hosts, studying wildlife, cleaning up litter and more. Would you like to serve? We have group and individual volunteer opportunities, both short term and long term. Learn more at: www.nps.gov/yose/getinvolved/volunteer.htm or call the volunteer office at 209/379- 1850.







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