

# Yosemite Guide



Double Rainbow, Tunnel View, Yosemite National Park, photo by Keith Walklet



Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

May 17, 2017 – June 20, 2017 Volume 42, Issue 4

US Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
PO Box 577  
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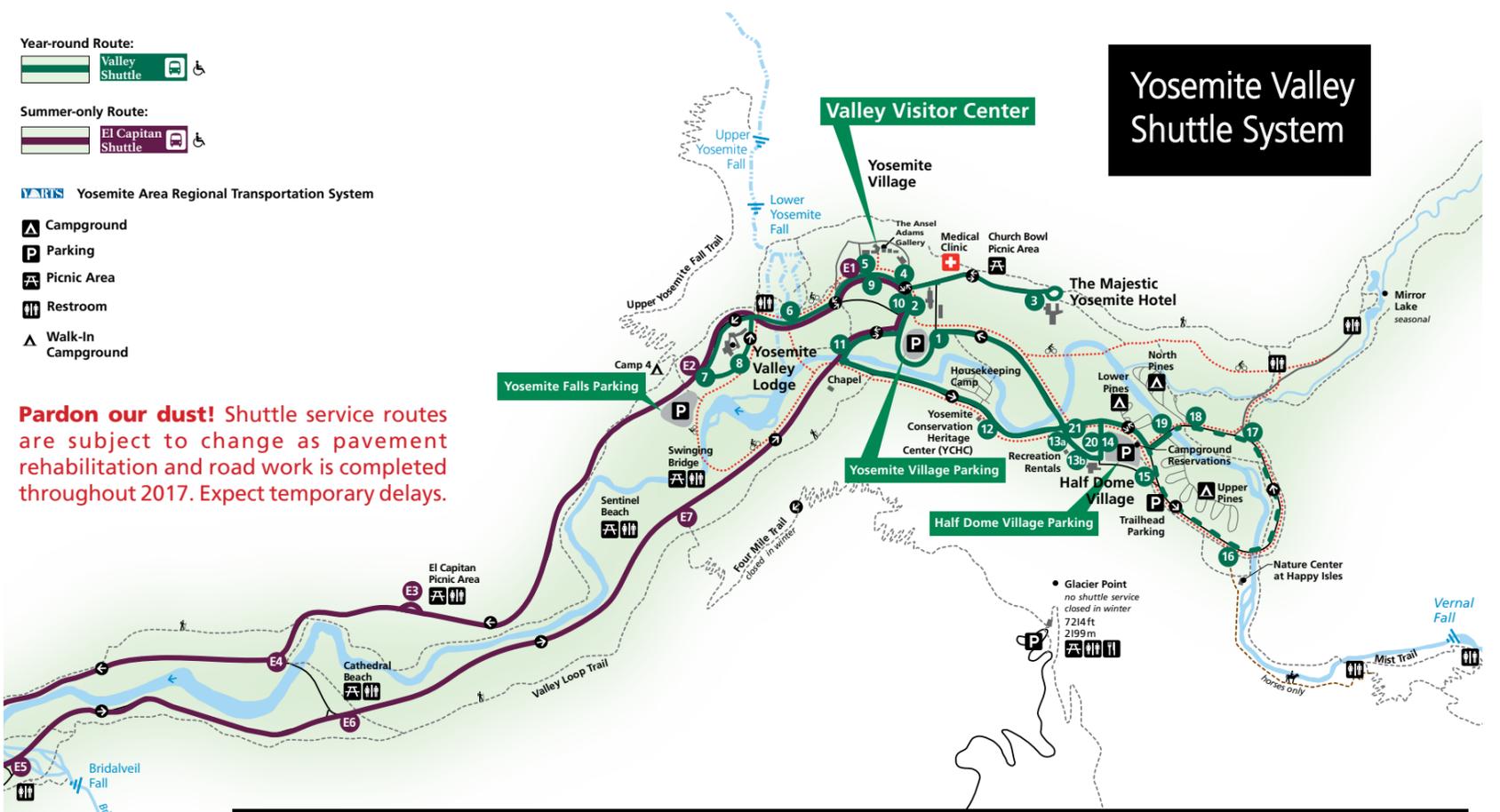
**Year-round Route:**  
Valley Shuttle

**Summer-only Route:**  
El Capitan Shuttle

Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System

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

**Pardon our dust!** Shuttle service routes are subject to change as pavement rehabilitation and road work is completed throughout 2017. Expect temporary delays.



The Yosemite Valley Shuttle operates from 6:30am to 10pm and serves stops in numerical order. Shuttles run daily every 10 to 20 minutes, depending on time of day. The El Capitan Shuttle runs from 9am to 5pm, every 30 minutes, beginning May 26. See schedules posted at shuttle stops.

| Stop # | Location                           | Stop # | Location  | Stop # | Location                 |
|--------|------------------------------------|--------|---|--------|--------------------------|
| 1      | Yosemite Village Parking           | 11     | Sentinel Bridge   | 16     | Happy Isles / Mist Trail |
| 2      | Yosemite Village                   | 12     | Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center / Housekeeping Camp | 17     | Mirror Lake Trailhead    |
| 3      | The Majestic Yosemite Hotel        | 13a    | Recreation Rentals  | 18     | North Pines Campground   |
| 4      | Degnan's Deli                      | 13b    | Half Dome Village   | 19     | Pines Campgrounds        |
| 5      | 9   Valley Visitor Center          | 14     | 20 Half Dome Village Parking                              | E3     | El Capitan Picnic Area   |
| 6      | Lower Yosemite Fall                | 15     | Upper Pines Campground / Trailhead Parking                | E4     | E6 El Capitan Crossover  |
| 7      | E2 Camp 4 / Yosemite Falls Parking |        |   | E5     | Bridalveil Fall          |
| 8      | Yosemite Valley Lodge              |        |   | E7     | Four Mile Trailhead      |

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# Seasonal Highlights

Keep this Guide with you to get the most out of your trip to Yosemite National Park

## Earth Day Everyday!

On April 22, 2017, Yosemite National Park enthusiastically celebrated Junior Ranger Day and Earth Day with visitors. Fun was had by all while learning about how to protect bears, how to be safe while recreating in the park, how to be good park stewards, and more. At Yosemite, park management aims to exercise Earth Day practices everyday. For instance, the Zero Landfill Initiative at Yosemite National Park has reduced the amount of trash that goes to the landfill every year! Join us in being a steward of Yosemite by helping make Yosemite the first Zero Landfill park in the country.

## Adventure Out with the 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 Yosemite 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 for hiking, backpacking and rock climbing. Reservations required. Call 209/372-8344 or email yms@aramark.com

## 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.)

## 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.



Children play with toys made from recyclable items at Yosemite's Zero Landfill Initiative booth on Earth Day. NPS Photo

## Get outside and enjoy your park!

Summer offers spectacular views of waterfalls, great hiking, and other endless opportunities for recreation. Find the adventures that will make lasting Yosemite memories for years to come.

## 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

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching and fun plein air art sessions held Monday-Saturday from 9:45am to 2pm in Yosemite Valley. There is a registration fee of \$15 per workshop/person. To register in advance, call 209/372-4207. 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 to 4pm (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 guides will 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](http://yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures) or 209/379-2317 x10 to find your adventure today. See page 6 for details.

## Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center

Formerly known as LeConte Memorial Lodge, the Center is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10am to 4pm. Free evening programs occur on Friday and Saturday evenings at 8pm. Seating is available for 50 guests. The Center, located at shuttle stop #12, has a natural history library, a children's corner, and historical exhibits. Call 209/372-4542 for program details.

## Volunteer Drop-In Program

Be part of the solution and keep your park beautiful! 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 and closed-toe shoes. A hat and sun protection are 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: [yose\\_volunteers@nps.gov](mailto:yose_volunteers@nps.gov) or 209/379-1850.

## Access for People with Disabilities

Accessible parking, lodging, tours, and activities are available throughout the park.

For a complete list of accessible services, recreational opportunities, and exhibits, pick up an updated Yosemite Accessibility Guide which is available at park entrance stations, visitor centers, and online at [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm), or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 for more information.



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.



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.

## 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 9am to 7pm for primary and urgent care needs. Ambulance available 24 hours by calling 9-1-1. Medical Clinic Phone: 209/372-4637.

## 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](mailto:yose_lostandfound@nps.gov)

## What's Inside:

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# Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

## Entrance Fees

**Non-commercial car, 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  
\$25/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

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

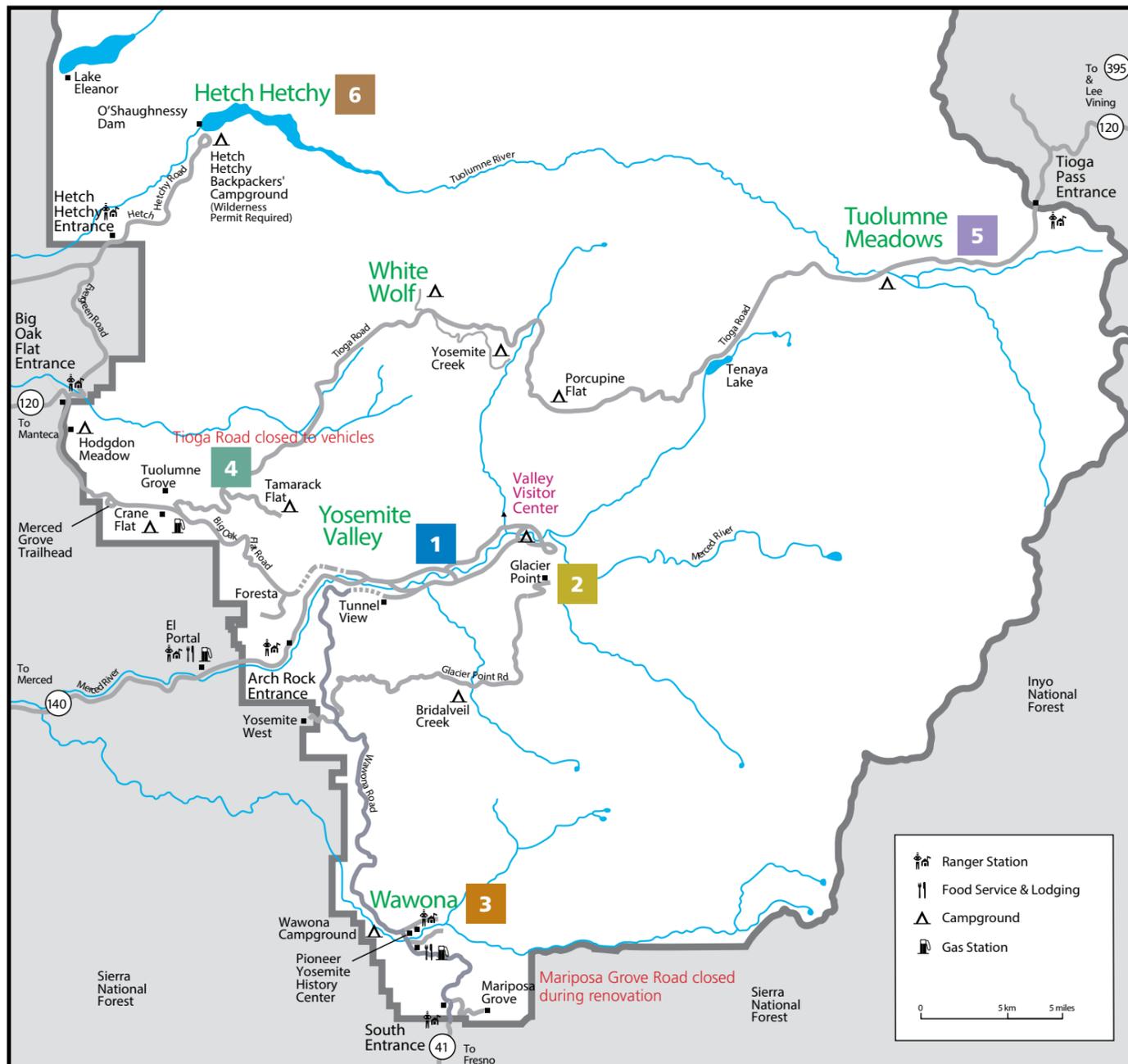
**Highway 132/49**  
**Coulterville Visitor Center**  
209/878-3329

**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

**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 a 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.



Eastern view of Yosemite Valley with Lupine. 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.



Half Dome view from Glacier Point. Photo by Armand Williams

## 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. *As of July 6, 2015, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is closed for restoration, see page 8 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. Enjoy a horse-drawn stage ride, watch blacksmiths at work, or hike one of the scenic trails. For more information, 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.



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 feet to nearly 10,000 feet. 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. *Tioga Road may not be open in May and June due to snow and ice.*



Tenaya Lake. NPS Photo

## 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 Tuolumne Meadows Hikers' Bus from Yosemite Valley. *Tioga Road may not be open in May and June due to snow and ice.*



Tuolumne River at Tuolumne Meadows. Photo by Ryan Alonzo

## 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. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open 7am to 9pm, May 1 through Labor Day. Wilderness permits and bear canisters are available while the road is open. 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, RVs and other vehicles over 8 ft. wide are not allowed on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.



Hetch Hetchy. Photo by Sheree Peshlakai

### DID YOU KNOW

- Drownings are the number one cause of accidental death in the National Park Service and at Yosemite National Park.
- Most Yosemite drowning victims were not swimming or boating but accidentally slipped into the water.
- Yosemite's swift water is more powerful than any swimmer and streams are full of dangerous entrapments.
- Yosemite's highly trained swift water rescue team members are not allowed within one body length of swift water unless they are wearing a personal flotation device (PFD) and helmet, and are tethered to keep out of the water in the event of an accidental slip. (Hint: how close should you be to swift water?)
- Next to drowning, motor vehicle crashes are the second leading cause of accidental deaths in the National Park Service.
- A little planning and preparation for your outdoor activities can make the difference between your success and failure.

### ZERO LANDFILL INITIATIVE

Be a steward of Yosemite by helping make Yosemite the first Zero Landfill park in the country. Through the Zero Landfill Initiative, Yosemite National Park is reducing the amount of trash that goes to the landfill every year. In partnership with Yosemite Hospitality, we are making it easier for visitors and staff to participate by adding more recycling containers with better labels. We are also working to reduce the amount of waste we generate in park management operations.

Here are 3 things you can do to help:

1. Get rid of excess packaging by repacking food in reuseable containers before you leave home.
2. Use refillables! Bring a refillable water bottle and travel mug. Camping? Use refillable propane canisters.
3. Put trash and recycling in the right containers



# Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas and the heart of the park

## 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.

### TOURS

Tours listed below depart from Yosemite Valley Lodge and are weather dependent.

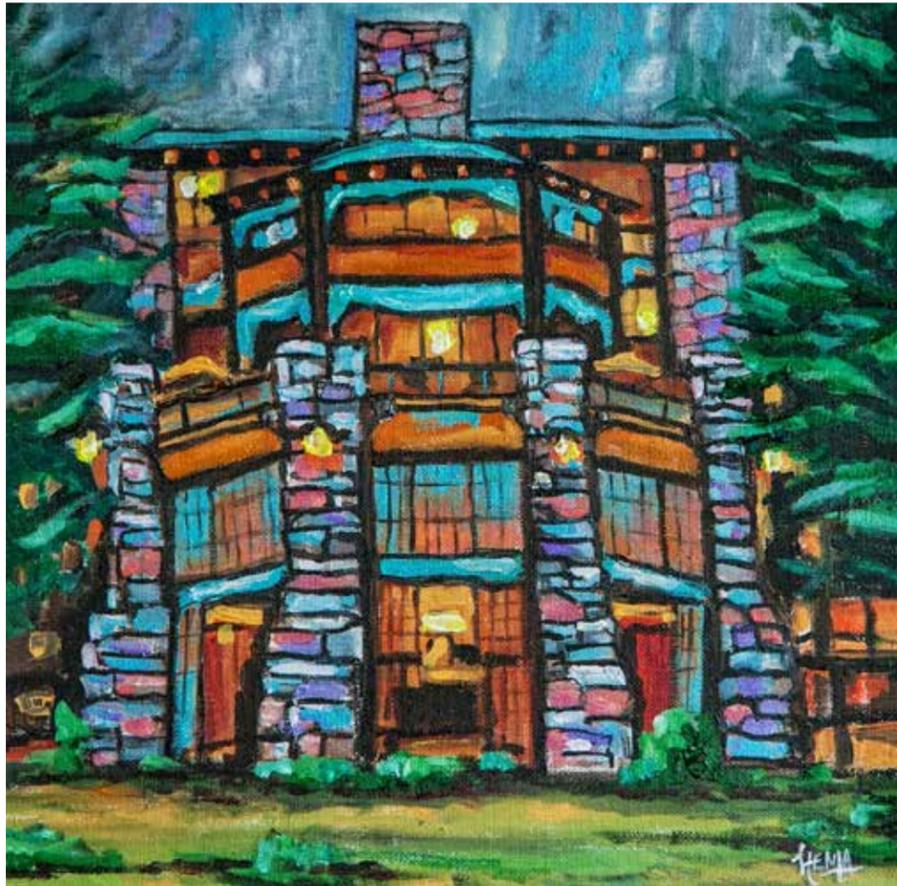
The **Valley Floor Tour** is a 26-mile, two-hour open-air tram tour narrated by a park ranger, weather permitting. The tour departs Yosemite Valley Lodge several times daily. Check any Tour and Activity Desk for times. Be sure to ask about Moonlight Tours and Starry Skies Tours, as well!

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

Call 209/372-1240 to make reservations or inquire at the tour desks at Yosemite Valley Lodge, Yosemite Village, and Half Dome Village.

### RAFTING

Rafting is a great way to see Yosemite Valley. Rafts can be rented at Half Dome Village beginning May 19, from 10am to 4pm, conditions permitting. If you plan to bring your own raft, please see page 15 for safety and regulatory information.



Hema Sukumar, *Ahwahnee Glow*, acrylic, was on display at the Yosemite Renaissance 32 Exhibition in Yosemite Valley. The Exhibit has since moved on to the Kings Art Center in Hanford, CA, and will open on June 3.

## 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.

### BICYCLING

Several miles of bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. You can use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Valley Lodge or Half Dome Village, open 8am to 7pm, weather permitting. Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

### SIGHTSEEING

Some 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. Cross the footbridges onto the isles or wander through indoor and outdoor 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.

### YOSEMITE RENAISSANCE 32

The Yosemite Renaissance 32 exhibit left Yosemite in late April and is moving on! It has been a great honor to present this unique art exhibit at the Yosemite Museum for 32 years. The show will travel to the Kings Art Center in Hanford, the Carnegie Art Center in Turlock, and Gallery 5 in Oakhurst, completing our 2017 traveling exhibit, see website for details. Yosemite Renaissance is dedicated to supporting the arts in Yosemite and the Yosemite Gateway communities, presenting contemporary artistic interpretations of Yosemite and the Sierra. The call to artists for Yosemite Renaissance 33 will begin this fall. Visit [yosemiterenaissance.org](http://yosemiterenaissance.org) to learn more.

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

### FOOD & BEVERAGE

#### Yosemite Village

##### Degnan's Delicatessen

7am to 9pm

##### Village Grill

11am to 6pm

#### The Majestic Yosemite Hotel

##### 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.*

Phone: 209/372-1489

##### Coffee Bar

7am to 10:30am

##### The Majestic Bar

11:30am to 11pm

#### Yosemite Valley Lodge

##### Food Court

Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am

Lunch: 11am to 4:30pm

Dinner: 4:30pm to 10pm

##### Mountain Room Lounge

Monday - Friday

4:30pm to 11pm

Saturday & Sunday

Noon to 11pm

##### Mountain Room Restaurant

*Reservations taken for 8 or more,*

*209/372-1281 or 209/372-1403*

Dinner: 5pm to 10pm

Sunday Brunch: 9am to 1pm

*Subject to closure for private events*

#### Half Dome Village

##### Coffee Corner/Ice Cream

6am to 10pm,

*ice cream service begins at 11am*

##### Half Dome Village Bar

11am to 10pm

##### Pavilion

Breakfast: 7am to 10am

Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

##### Pizza Deck

11am to 10pm

##### Meadow Grill

11am to 8pm

### BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

#### Yosemite Village

##### The Ansel Adams Gallery

9am to 6pm

##### Yosemite Art Center

9am to 4pm,

*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 10pm

#### The Majestic Yosemite Hotel

##### The Gift Shop

8am to 10pm

##### The Sweet Shop

7am to 10pm

#### Yosemite Valley Lodge

##### Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm

#### Half Dome Village

##### Mountain Shop

8am to 8pm

##### Half Dome Village Gift/Grocery

8am to 10pm

#### Happy Isles

##### Nature Center at Happy Isles

9am to 5pm, *beginning May 26*

# 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, in the Theater behind the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

## Yosemite Museum

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

### INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

Open daily from 9am to 5pm, *may close for lunch*. Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite's Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present.

### YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE

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

## Wilderness Center

Open daily from 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.

### NATURE CENTER AT HAPPY ISLES

Open 9am to 5pm, beginning May 26. Designed for nature-exploring children and their families, the nature center offers natural-history exhibits and a bookstore. Located a short walk from shuttle stop #16.

### YOSEMITE CONSERVATION HERITAGE CENTER

Open Wednesday through Sunday from 10am to 4pm, with free evening programs Friday and Saturday at 8pm. The center has a library, a children's corner, and a new climate change exhibit. The center is located at shuttle stop #12.

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

### EXHIBIT:

*Celebrating Wildness: Photographs by Bob Kolbrener*

April 16, 2017 - May 27, 2017

The wilderness instills in us the feeling of being uninhibited, creative and free; we are completely reliant on collective abilities in these places to undertake, protect and enjoy such an experience. And in turn, the wilderness shows us the

meaning of grandeur and wonder and self. In this tradition, Bob Kolbrener has been exploring the wilderness through his lens since a discovery of Ansel Adams and Mr. Adams' landscape legacy that was at its own apogee in the Yosemite backcountry. Together with his wife Sharon, Bob continues to seek out adventure which has continued for 50 years. The Ansel Adams Gallery is excited to exhibit a collection of Mr. Kolbrener's work with "Celebrating Wildness." Original silver gelatin photographs on display will include a number of larger scale images made in Yosemite as well as the American West, showcasing the landscape in its grandest form.

### NEW EXHIBIT:

*Keith Walklet*

May 28, 2017 - July 8, 2017

Keith S. Walklet is recognized as one of the most prolific photographers to have ever entered Yosemite National Park, and throughout his career, *Double Rainbow*, *Tunnel View* (See Cover Photo) has become his most successful, collected fine print, as well as finding its way into books and multiple presentations about the rewards and challenges of photographing an aesthetic icon like Yosemite Valley.

To celebrate that image and the many memorable moments that he was fortunate to witness during those years, The Ansel Adams Gallery will feature a collection of Keith's most popular images in the exhibit *Chasing Rainbows - A Thirty-Year Arc*. True to the exhibit's name, there will be rainbows, such as *El Capitan*, *Rainbow*, recorded in the midst of the wild thunderstorm that punctuated

a historic ascent of Half Dome by Mike Corbett and Mark Wellman in September of 1991, and another bow echoing the dramatic gesture of the iconic Jeffrey Pine on the summit of Sentinel Dome. Other favorites will be featured, such as *Frosty Pines*, *Yellowstone*, taken just weeks before Keith and his sweetheart Annette Bottaro-Walklet left Yosemite to live in their new home of Boise, Idaho in 1998. Keith has written: "As I photographed that rainbow thirty years ago, I was wondering how I could consider going anywhere else. I'm fortunate that I get to come back so often to teach for the Gallery and continue to share the park's beauty. It's transformative." The Gallery will be hosting an Artist's Reception for Keith, which will be open to the public, on June 3 between 3pm and 5pm.

## VALLEY SERVICES

### GARAGE

Yosemite Village

8am to 5pm, *Closed for 1 hour at noon*  
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 Valley Lodge

**Post Office**  
Monday-Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm

### GROCERIES AND TOURS

Yosemite Village

**Village Store**

8am to 10pm

**Degnan's Deli**

7am to 9pm

**Tour Desk - Village Store**

7:30am to 3:30pm

Yosemite Valley Lodge

**Gift/Grocery**

8am to 8pm

**Tour Desk**

7:30am to 7pm

**Bike Rentals**

8am to 7pm, *weather permitting*

Half Dome Village

**Gift/Grocery**

8am to 10pm

**Tour Desk**

7:30am to 3pm

**Bike Rentals**

8am to 7pm, *weather permitting*

Housekeeping Camp

**Gift/Grocery**

8am to 8pm

### SHOWERS, LAUNDRY, AND INTERNET

**Housekeeping Camp**

Showers - 7am to 10pm

Laundry - 8am to 10pm

**Half Dome Village**

Showers open 24 hours

**Internet Kiosks**

Degnan's Deli - 7am to 9pm

Yosemite Valley Lodge - Open 24 hours

# SCHEDULED EVENTS IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

May 17, 2017 - June 20, 2017



## Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy's year-round, naturalist-led Outdoor Adventures offer something for every park explorer. Upcoming outings include:

- May 18-21** *Yosemite Photography: Capture the Spring Light. Three-day photo workshop.*
- June 2-3** *Dine and Discover: Geology Underfoot. Evening presentation and day hike.*
- June 9-10** *Yosemite Photography: Magic of the "Moonbow". Capture a natural phenomenon.*
- June 17-18** *Yosemite Miwok-Paiute Basketry: Two-Day Workshop. Learn traditional techniques.*

Find detailed information about these programs and register at [yosemiteconservancy.org/outdoor-adventures](http://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 Conservancy's theater program offers entertainment and inspiration through live performances, educational presentations and beautiful films. All shows start at 7pm at the Yosemite Theater, located behind the Valley Visitor Center, shuttle bus stops #5 & #9. Get your tickets (\$10 per person, free tickets for children under age 12) at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Bookstore or at the theater before show time.

*Yosemite Search and Rescue* (Tuesdays). Hear stories about emergency response missions in the park and safety advice from Yosemite's expert Search and Rescue rangers.

*John Muir Series: Conversation with a Tramp* (Wednesdays). Sit with John Muir in the early 1900s as he receives news on the fate of Hetch Hetchy Valley. Live performance by Lee Stetson.

*John Muir Series: Stickeen and Other Fellow Mortals* (Thursdays) Enjoy Muir's tales about adventures with wild animals, including the brave little dog named Stickeen. Live performance by Lee Stetson.

*Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey* (Fridays & Saturdays) Join rock-climber Ron Kauk for an inspirational film and conversation celebrating Yosemite's vertical world.

## Yosemite Art Center (YC)

Enjoy a hands-on creative experience at the Art Center in Yosemite Village! Join us for one or more of our upcoming expert-led classes, Monday through Saturday from 10am to 2pm:

- May 15-20** *Impressions of Yosemite in Acrylic, with Marcy Wheeler*
- May 22-27** *Watercolor Spring in Yosemite, with Sonja Hamilton*
- May 29-June 3** *Rushing Water, Silent Stone: Yosemite Watercolor, with Roger Folk*
- June 5-10** *Painting from the Heart: Watercolor, with Robert Dvorak*
- June 12-17** *Watercolor Yosemite: As You See It, with JoAnn Formia*
- June 19-24** *Yosemite on Silk, with Tina Gleave*

Register at the Art Center or sign up online at [yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center](http://yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center), by phone at 209/372-4207 or by email at [artcenter@yosemiteconservancy.org](mailto:artcenter@yosemiteconservancy.org). Registration is \$15 per person, per day. Art supplies are available for rent or purchase. Workshops are typically held outside, and walk-ins are welcome if space is available. Recommended age: 12 years and up.

Looking for an art activity for the whole family? Come by any day between 10am and 3pm (closed for lunch from 12-1pm) for one of our drop-in craft programs for families, children and teens. There is a suggested donation of \$10 per family.

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES

**YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Resident Minister - Pastor Brent Moore  
209/372-4831 • [www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org](http://www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org)  
[www.YosemiteValleyChapelWeddings.org](http://www.YosemiteValleyChapelWeddings.org)  
SUNDAY SERVICES IN THE YOSEMITE CHAPEL:  
9:15am - Sunday School available  
11am - NO Sunday School available  
6:30pm - Evening Service/Bible Study in chapel  
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  
Rectory Phone: 209/372-4729  
SATURDAY (Memorial Day to Labor Day)  
6pm - Lower Pines Amphitheater, shuttle stop #19  
SUNDAY  
10am - East Auditorium behind Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, shuttle stops #5/#9

**CHURCH OF CHRIST** (Non-denominational)  
SUNDAY - 11am, El Portal Chapel  
209/379-2100

**SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST**  
Christian Sabbath Worship at Lower River Amphitheater, Saturday May 27-Sep 2  
9:45am - Music/Sabbath School  
11am - Worship, 12:30pm Potluck  
[www.facebook.com/YosemiteSDAChurch](http://www.facebook.com/YosemiteSDAChurch)

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
Sacrament Meeting, Sundays 1pm to 1:45pm  
May 28 to Sep 3, Yosemite Valley Chapel

## SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
Yosemite Valley Chapel  
Sunday - 8pm, Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30pm

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

| MORNING  |  |
|--|--|
| Sunday   | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Except May 21 and 28) 1 hr. The Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿   |
|  | 9:30am <b>Adventure Hike - Vernal/Nevada Falls</b> 6 hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk. Half Dome Village Mountaineering School. (YH) \$  |
|  | 10:00am <b>DROP-IN CRAFTS</b> Yosemite Art Center. Daily drop-in programs for families, children and teens. Stop by between 10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm to create a Yosemite-themed craft. Suggested donation of \$10. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$ |
| Monday   | 9:00am <b>Bike to Hike Tour</b> 2.5 hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk. Half Dome Village Bike Stand. (YH) \$  |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Except May 22 and 29) 1 hr. The Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿   |
|  | 9:30am <b>Ranger Hike</b> (Except May 22 and 29) 3 hrs. Easy to moderate hike around the Mirror Lake loop, Mirror Lake shuttle stop #17. (NPS)   |
|  | 10:00am <b>Daily Art Class</b> 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. Drop-in or register online: <a href="http://yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center">yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center</a> . See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$           |
|  | 10:00am <b>DROP-IN CRAFTS</b> Yosemite Art Center. Daily drop-in programs for families, children and teens. Stop by between 10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm to create a Yosemite-themed craft. Suggested donation of \$10. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$ |
| Tuesday  | 8:15am <b>Adventure Hike - Panorama Trail With One-Way Glacier Point Bus Ride</b> 8 hrs. Yosemite Valley Lodge Tour Desk. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YH) \$   |
|  | 8:30am <b>Naturalist Bird Walk</b> 2 hrs. Go bird-watching with Yosemite Conservancy's resident naturalist. No pre-registration needed. Meet at Yosemite Art Center. \$10/person. (YC) \$  |
|  | 9:00am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (TAAG) ♿   |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Except May 23 and 30) 1 hr. The Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿   |
|  | 10:00am <b>Daily Art Class</b> 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. Drop-in or register online: <a href="http://yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center">yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center</a> . See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$           |
|  | 10:00am <b>DROP-IN CRAFTS</b> Yosemite Art Center. Daily drop-in programs for families, children and teens. Stop by between 10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm to create a Yosemite-themed craft. Suggested donation of \$10. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$ |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">                     Programs printed in <b>ALL CAPS AND COLOR</b> are especially for children and their families.                 </div>                           |  |
| Wednesday  | 9:00am <b>Bike to Hike Tour</b> 2.5 hrs. Half Dome Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YH) \$  |
|  | 9:30am <b>Ranger Hike</b> (June 7 and 14 Only) 3 hrs. Easy to moderate hike around the Mirror Lake loop, Mirror Lake shuttle stop #17. (NPS)   |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (June 7 and 14 Only) 1 hr. The Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿   |
|  | 9:30am <b>Ranger Hike</b> (June 7 and 14 Only) 3 hrs. Easy to moderate hike around the Mirror Lake loop, Mirror Lake shuttle stop #17. (NPS)   |
|  | 10:00am <b>Daily Art Class</b> 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. Drop-in or register online: <a href="http://yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center">yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center</a> . See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$           |
|  | 10:00am <b>DROP-IN CRAFTS</b> Yosemite Art Center. Daily drop-in programs for families, children and teens. Stop by between 10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm to create a Yosemite-themed craft. Suggested donation of \$10. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$ |
| Thursday   | 8:30am <b>Naturalist Bird Walk</b> 2 hrs. Go bird-watching with Yosemite Conservancy's resident naturalist. No pre-registration needed. Meet at Yosemite Art Center. \$10/person. (YC) \$  |
|  | 9:00am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) ♿  |
|  | 9:00am <b>Discovery Hike - Vernal Falls Bridge</b> 3.5 hrs. Half Dome Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YH) \$  |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (June 8 and 15 Only) 1 hr. The Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿   |
|  | 10:00am <b>Daily Art Class</b> 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. Drop-in or register online: <a href="http://yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center">yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center</a> . See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$           |
|  | 10:00am <b>DROP-IN CRAFTS</b> Yosemite Art Center. Daily drop-in programs for families, children and teens. Stop by between 10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm to create a Yosemite-themed craft. Suggested donation of \$10. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$ |
| Friday   | 9:00am <b>DROP-IN VOLUNTEER PROGRAM</b> . Meet in front of the Visitor Center to spend an hour or three giving back to the park you love. See Seasonal Highlights page for details. (NPS)  |
|  | 9:30am <b>Adventure Hike - Vernal/Nevada Falls</b> 6 hrs. Half Dome Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YH) \$  |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (June 9 and 16 Only) 1 hr. The Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿   |
|  | 10:00am <b>Daily Art Class</b> 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. Drop-in or register online: <a href="http://yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center">yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center</a> . See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$           |
|  | 10:00am <b>DROP-IN CRAFTS</b> Yosemite Art Center. Daily drop-in programs for families, children and teens. Stop by between 10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm to create a Yosemite-themed craft. Suggested donation of \$10. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$ |
| Saturday   | 9:00am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) ♿   |
|  | 9:00am <b>Bike to Hike Tour</b> 2.5 hrs. Half Dome Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YH) \$  |
|  | 9:30am <b>Ranger Hike</b> (June 10 and 17 Only) 3 hrs. Easy to moderate hike around the Mirror Lake loop, Mirror Lake shuttle stop #17 (NPS)   |
|  | 9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (June 10 and 17 Only) 1 hr. The Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿  |
|  | 9:30am <b>Ranger Hike</b> (June 10 and 17 Only) 3 hrs. Easy to moderate hike around the Mirror Lake loop, Mirror Lake shuttle stop #17. (NPS)  |
|  | 10:00am <b>Daily Art Class</b> 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. Drop-in or register online: <a href="http://yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center">yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center</a> . See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$           |
| 10:00am <b>DROP-IN CRAFTS</b> Yosemite Art Center. Daily drop-in programs for families, children and teens. Stop by between 10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm to create a Yosemite-themed craft. Suggested donation of \$10. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$ |  |

- AAC** American Alpine Club
- YH** Yosemite Hospitality LLC
- NPS** National Park Service
- SC** Sierra Club
- TAAG** The Ansel Adams Gallery
- YC** Yosemite Conservancy
- \$** Programs offered for a fee



Indicates facilities accessible to visitors in wheelchairs. Short, steep inclines may be encountered.



A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of hearing visitors. Contact 209/379-5250 (v/txt) to request an interpreter. Advance notice of 2 weeks is requested.



Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advanced request. Inquire at a visitor center.



Audio tours are available for the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Refer to the Accessibility Guide for details

|           | AFTERNOON  | EVENING   |
|-----------|--|---|
| Sunday    | <p>12:30pm <b>Ask A Climber</b> 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>2:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Except May 21 and 28) 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm <b>Ranger Walk - Rivers and Waterfalls</b> (Except May 21 and 28) 1.5 hrs. Lower Yosemite Fall shuttle stop #6. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>Historic Majestic Hotel Tour</b> 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>FAMILY RANGER TALK - MEET YOUR YOSEMITE</b> 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p>   | <p>6:00pm <b>Naturalist Stroll</b> 1 hr. Uncover Yosemite's natural and cultural history on a guided hike! Meet on the Majestic Yosemite Hotel back lawn. (YH) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 mins. Stories/activities for kids 10 &amp; under. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Evening Program: A Century of Climbing in Yosemite</b> (May 21 and June 11 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. Yosemite Valley Lodge Amphitheater. (AAC) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Ranger Evening Program</b> (Except May 21 and 28) 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>9:00pm <b>NIGHT PROWL</b> 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$</p> <p>9:00pm <b>STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$ ♿</p>   |
| Monday    | <p>12:30pm <b>Ask A Climber</b> 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 <b>Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$</p> <p>1:00pm <b>Discovery Hike - Less Traveled Lower Valley Loop</b> 4 hrs. Yosemite Valley Lodge Amphitheater. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YH) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Except May 22 and 29) 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm <b>Ranger Walk - Yosemite's First People</b> 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Wild About Bears</b> 1.5 hrs. Shuttle stop #7. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>Historic Majestic Hotel Tour</b> 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>FAMILY RANGER TALK - MEET YOUR YOSEMITE</b> 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p>   | <p>6:00pm <b>Naturalist Stroll</b> 1 hr. Uncover Yosemite's natural and cultural history on a guided hike! Meet on the Majestic Yosemite Hotel back lawn. (YH) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 mins. Stories/activities for kids 10 &amp; under. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Evening Program: A Century of Climbing in Yosemite</b> (May 22 and June 12 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. Yosemite Valley Lodge Amphitheater. (AAC) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Ranger Program</b> (Except May 22 and 29) 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>9:00pm <b>NIGHT PROWL</b> 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$</p> <p>9:00pm <b>STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> (Except June 5) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$ ♿</p>   |
| Tuesday   | <p>12:30pm <b>Ask A Climber</b> 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 <b>In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Photography Class</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$</p> <p>1:00pm <b>Naturalist Botany Walk</b> 2 hrs. See spring flora with Yosemite Conservancy's resident naturalist. No pre-registration needed. Meet at Yosemite Art Center. \$10/person. (YAC) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Except May 23 and 30) 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm <b>Ranger Walk - Geology</b> (Except May 23 and 30) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>Historic Majestic Hotel Tour</b> 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>FAMILY RANGER TALK - MEET YOUR YOSEMITE</b> 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p>   | <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater - Yosemite Search and Rescue</b> 1.5 hrs. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore or Yosemite Theater. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 mins. Stories/activities for kids 10 &amp; under. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Ranger Program</b> (Except May 23 and 30) 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>9:00pm <b>NIGHT PROWL</b> 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$</p> <p>9:00pm <b>STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> (Except June 6) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$ ♿</p>  |
| Wednesday | <p>12:30pm <b>Ask A Climber</b> 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 <b>Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$</p> <p>1:00pm <b>Discovery Hike - Vernal Falls Bridge</b> 3.5 hrs. Half Dome Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YH) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (June 7 and 14 Only) 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm <b>Ranger Walk - Legacy Walk: Yosemite's Past</b> (June 7 and 14 Only) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Wild About Bears</b> 1.5 hrs. Shuttle stop #7. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>Historic Majestic Hotel Tour</b> 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>FAMILY RANGER TALK - MEET YOUR YOSEMITE</b> 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p>   | <p>7:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE</b> (June 7 and 14 Only) 1 hr. Campfire ring, near shuttle stop #16, look for temporary signs. (NPS)</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater - John Muir Series: Conversation with a Tramp</b> 1.5 hrs. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore or Yosemite Theater. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 mins. Stories/activities for kids 10 &amp; under. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>9:00pm <b>NIGHT PROWL</b> 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$</p> <p>9:00pm <b>STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> (Except June 7) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$ ♿</p>   |
| Thursday  | <p>12:30pm <b>Ask A Climber</b> 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 <b>Naturalist Botany Walk</b> 2 hrs. See spring flora with Yosemite Conservancy's resident naturalist. No pre-registration needed. Meet at Yosemite Art Center. \$10/person. (YAC) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Using Your Digital Camera</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (June 8 and 15 Only) 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm <b>Bike to Hike Tour</b> 2.5 hrs. Half Dome Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YH) \$</p> <p>2:30pm <b>Ranger Walk - Trees</b> (June 8 and 15 Only) 1.5 hrs. Shuttle stop #3, near the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>Historic Majestic Hotel Tour</b> 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>FAMILY RANGER TALK - MEET YOUR YOSEMITE</b> 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p>   | <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater - John Muir Series: Stickeen and Other Fellow Mortals</b> (Except June 1) 1.5 hrs. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore or Yosemite Theater. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater - Yosemite Search and Rescue</b> (June 1 Only) 1.5 hrs. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore or Yosemite Theater. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 mins. Stories/activities for kids 10 &amp; under. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Ranger Program</b> (June 8 and 15 Only) 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Search and Rescue Rangers talk about safety in Yosemite! Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (NPS/YH) ♿</p> <p>9:00pm <b>NIGHT PROWL</b> 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$</p> <p>9:00pm <b>STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> (Except June 8) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$ ♿</p>  |
| Friday    | <p>12:30pm <b>Ask A Climber</b> 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>2:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (June 9 and 16 Only) 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm <b>Ranger Walk - Wildlife</b> (June 9 and 16 Only) 1.5 hrs. Front of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Wild About Bears</b> 1.5 hrs. Shuttle stop #7. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>Historic Majestic Hotel Tour</b> 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>FAMILY RANGER TALK - MEET YOUR YOSEMITE</b> 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p>   | <p>6:00pm <b>Naturalist Stroll</b> 1 hr. Uncover Yosemite's natural and cultural history on a guided hike! Meet on the Majestic Yosemite Hotel back lawn. (YH) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE</b> (June 9 and 16 Only) 1 hr. Campfire ring, near shuttle stop #16, look for temporary signs. (NPS)</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater - Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey</b> 1.5 hrs. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore or Yosemite Theater. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 mins. Stories/activities for kids 10 &amp; under. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>YOSEMITE BEARS: A TALE OF REWILDING</b> (May 19 Only) 1 hr. Dr. Rachel Mazur, YNP Wildlife Biologist, Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge), limited to 50 guests. Shuttle Stop #12. (SC)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>The Wilder Muir. Forgotten Stories and Letters Written by John Muir</b> (May 26 Only) 1 hr. Dr. Bonnie Gisel, Author of The Wilder Muir. The Curious Nature of John Muir, Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge), limited to 50 guests. Shuttle Stop #12. (SC)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Rustic-style Architecture in Yosemite: Rediscovering Architect Herbert Maier.</b> (June 2 Only) 1 hr. A New Deal Renaissance of Arts and Crafts Architecture in the National Parks by Dr. Gray Brechin, Department of Geography, UC Berkeley, Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge), limited to 50 guests. Shuttle Stop #12. (SC)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>AMERICAN INDIAN FLUTE AND STORYTELLING</b> (June 9 Only) 1.5 hrs. Ben Cunningham-Summerfield, YNP Interpretive Ranger, Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge), limited to 50 guests. Shuttle Stop #12. (SC)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Search and Rescue in Yosemite</b> (June 16 Only) 1.5 hrs. John Dill, YNP, Search and Rescue Ranger, Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge), limited to 50 guests. Shuttle Stop #12. (SC)</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Ranger Program</b> (June 9 and 16 Only) 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Film - Ansel Adams</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Valley Lodge, check local listing for venue. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>9:00pm <b>NIGHT PROWL</b> 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$</p> <p>9:00pm <b>STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> (Except June 9) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$ ♿</p> |
| Saturday  | <p>12:30pm <b>Ask A Climber</b> 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 <b>Discovery Hike - Less Traveled Lower Valley Loop</b> 3.5 hrs. Yosemite Valley Lodge Amphitheater. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YH) \$</p> <p>1:00pm <b>In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Photography Class</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (June 10 and 17 Only) 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm <b>Ranger Walk - NPS Centennial Stroll, Ahwahneechee Games and Stories</b> 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Fine Print Viewing</b> 1 hr. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. Very limited space. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>Historic Majestic Hotel Tour</b> (Except May 27) 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>FAMILY RANGER TALK - MEET YOUR YOSEMITE</b> 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> | <p>6:00pm <b>Naturalist Stroll</b> (Except May 27) 1 hr. Uncover Yosemite's natural and cultural history on a guided hike! Meet on the Majestic Yosemite Hotel back lawn. (YH) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE</b> (June 10 and 17 Only) 1 hr. Campfire ring, near shuttle stop #16, look for temporary signs. (NPS)</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater - Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey</b> 1.5 hrs. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore or Yosemite Theater. See pg. 4 for details. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> (Except May 27) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 10 and under. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Photographs of Yosemite, Muir Woods, Vasco Caves, Mt. Diablo, Tilden Botanical Garden, Coastal California</b> (May 20 Only) 1 hr. Stephen Joseph, California Landscape Photographer, Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge), limited to 50 guests. Shuttle Stop #12. (SC)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Rise and Fall of Sierra Nevada Glaciers</b> (June 3 Only) 1 hr. Dr. Greg Stock, YNP Geologist, Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge), limited to 50 guests. Shuttle Stop #12. (SC)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>John Muir Ramble Route: Hiking San Francisco to Yosemite in the Footsteps of John Muir</b> (June 10 Only) 1 hr. Donna Thomas and Peter Thomas, authors of John Muir's Ramble Route and California Book Artists, Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge), limited to 50 guests. Shuttle Stop #12. (SC)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Galen Clark: Yosemite's Guardian</b> (June 17 Only) 1 hr. Pete Devine, Yosemite Conservancy Naturalist, Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge), limited to 50 guests. Shuttle Stop #12. (SC)</p> <p>8:30pm <b>Evening Program</b> (Except May 27) 1 hr. Half Dome Village Amphitheater. (YH) ♿</p> <p>9:00pm <b>NIGHT PROWL</b> (Except May 27) 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$</p> <p>9:00pm <b>STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> (Except May 27) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (YH) \$ ♿</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 cocoa. Use this time to plan your day or to get other questions answered. See page 9 for schedule.

#### EVENING PROGRAMS

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 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 19, 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 Big Trees Lodge, Hill's Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th-century landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the lodge or park at the Big Trees Lodge Store parking area and follow the path up the hill. Until May 19, wilderness permits for Wawona trailheads can be obtained by self-registration on the front porch of Hill's Studio and bear canisters can be rented inside the bookstore.

### 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. Five dollars for adults and \$4 for children ages 3 to 12-years-old.

#### 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, the Mariposa Grove is the park's largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees in the grove.

#### 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 began with hopes

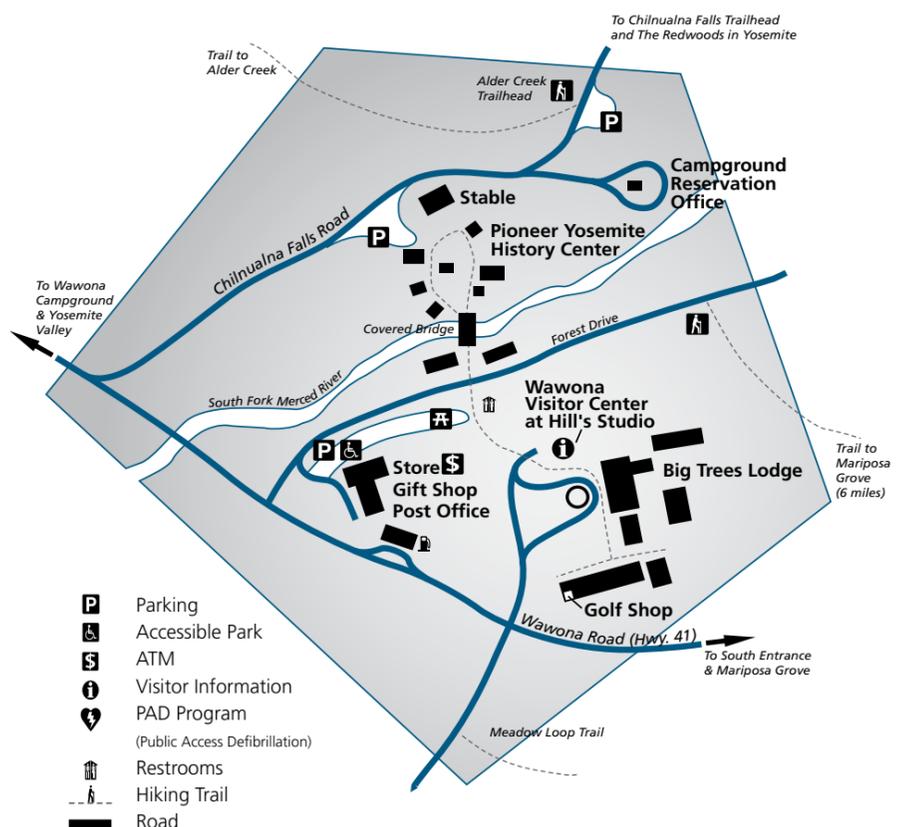
to re-open in late 2017. The restoration project will improve the habitat and restore the hydrology of the Mariposa Grove and improve visitors' experience and enjoyment of the grove. Trails will be improved providing universal access along with improved restrooms.

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

### 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, ranger walks, and sunset talks are all offered for your enjoyment at this stunning location. See next page for times and for more information.





Geology Hut. Photo courtesy Yosemite Research Library

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**

**Big Trees Lodge Dining Room**

Breakfast: 7am to 10am  
Lunch: 11am to 3pm  
Dinner: 5pm to 9pm

Reservations taken for 6 or more.

Lounge Service: 5pm to 9:30pm

Saturday BBQ: 5pm to 7pm, weather permitting

**Swimming Pool**

Daylight hours, weather permitting

**Golf Shop & Snack Stand**

8am to 6pm, weather permitting

**Glacier Point**

**Snack Stand**

9am to 7pm, conditions permitting

**GROCERIES**

**Big Trees Store & Pioneer Gift Shop**

8am to 8pm

**GIFTS & APPAREL**

**Wawona**

**Big Trees Store & Pioneer Shop**

8am to 8pm

**Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio Bookstore**

9am to 5pm

**Glacier Point**

**Gift Shop**

9am to 7pm, conditions permitting

**Snack Stand**

9am to 7pm, conditions permitting

**POST OFFICE**

**Wawona Post Office**

Monday-Friday: 9am to 5pm

Saturday: 9am to noon

**GAS STATION**

**Big Trees Lodge Service Station**

8am to 5pm, Diesel & propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

**GOLF**

**Big Trees Lodge Golf Course**

8am to 6pm, weather and conditions permitting. Nine-hole, par-35 course. Phone: 209/375-6572

**STABLES**

**Wawona Stable**

7am to 5pm, beginning June 2

|                  | WAWONA & MARIPOSA GROVE  | GLACIER POINT  |
|------------------|--|--|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | 10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (May 28, June 4, 11, and 18 Only) 10 mins. each. Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center, \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12. (NPS) \$<br>10:00am - 1:00pm / 2:00pm to 5:00pm <b>Blacksmithing Demonstration</b> (June 11 and 18 Only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center. (NPS) ♿<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk</b> (June 18 Only) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly. (NPS) ♿   | 10:00am <b>Hike to Hidden Illilouette Fall</b> (Except May 21 and 28) 3.5 hrs. Moderately difficult. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop. (NPS)<br>7:45pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Except May 21) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)<br>9:00pm <b>GLACIER POINT STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> (June 4, 11 and 18 Only) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky at Glacier Point Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. Shuttle services available. (YH) \$ ♿                         |
| <b>Monday</b>    | 8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk</b> (June 19 Only) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly. (NPS) ♿<br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                         Programs printed in <b>ALL CAPS AND COLOR</b> are especially for children and their families.                     </div>   | 2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk</b> (Except May 22 and 29) 1.5 hrs. A short walk to a great view of El Capitan. Moderately difficult. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop. (NPS)<br>7:45pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Except May 22) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)<br>9:00pm <b>GLACIER POINT STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> (June 5, 12 and 19 Only) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky at Glacier Point Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. Shuttle services available. (YH) \$ ♿  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | 5:30pm <b>Vintage Music</b> 4 hrs. Pianist/singer Tom Bopp performs songs and stories from Yosemite's past in the Big Trees Lodge lobby. Historical programs available by request are usually given at 8:30pm. For details or to request a program, drop by the piano before 8pm, while Tom's performing.<br>6:30pm <b>Evening Ranger Program</b> (June 13 and 20 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) ♿<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk</b> (June 13 and 20 Only) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly. (NPS) ♿  | 2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Cliffs and Domes</b> (Except May 23 and 30) 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/ Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road. (NPS)<br>7:45pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Except May 23 and 30) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)<br>9:00pm <b>GLACIER POINT STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> (June 6, 13 and 20 Only) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky at Glacier Point Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour and activity desk. Shuttle services available. (YH) \$ ♿     |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 2:00pm - 4:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (June 14 Only) 10 mins. each. Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center, \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12. (NPS) \$<br>2:00pm - 5:00pm <b>Blacksmithing Demonstration</b> (June 7 and 14 Only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center. (NPS) ♿<br>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music</b> 4 hrs. Pianist/singer Tom Bopp performs songs and stories from Yosemite's past in the Big Trees Lodge lobby. Historical programs available by request are usually given at 8:30pm. For details or to request a program, drop by the piano before 8pm, while Tom's performing.<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk</b> (June 14 Only) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly. (NPS) ♿   | 2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Cliffs and Domes</b> (Except May 17, 24 and 31) 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/ Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road. (NPS)<br>7:45pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Except May 17, 24 and 31) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)<br>9:00pm <b>GLACIER POINT STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> (June 7 and 14 Only) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky at Glacier Point Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour and activity desk. Shuttle services available. (YH) \$ ♿ |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | 10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (June 15 Only) 10 mins. each. Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center, \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12. (NPS) \$<br>10:00am - 1:00pm / 2:00pm to 5:00pm <b>Blacksmithing Demonstration</b> (June 8 and 15 Only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center. (NPS) ♿<br>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music</b> 4 hrs. Pianist/singer Tom Bopp performs songs and stories from Yosemite's past in the Big Trees Lodge lobby. Historical programs available by request are usually given at 8:30pm. For details or to request a program, drop by the piano before 8pm, while Tom's performing.<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk</b> (June 15 Only) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly. (NPS) ♿  | 9:00pm <b>GLACIER POINT STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE</b> (June 8 and 15 Only) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky at Glacier Point Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour and activity desk. Shuttle services available. (YH) \$ ♿  |
| <b>Friday</b>    | 10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (May 26, June 2, 9 and 16 Only) 10 mins. each. Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center, \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12. (NPS) \$<br>10:00am - 1:00pm / 2:00pm to 5:00pm <b>Blacksmithing Demonstration</b> (June 9 and 16 Only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center. (NPS) ♿<br>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music</b> 4 hrs. Pianist/singer Tom Bopp performs songs and stories from Yosemite's past in the Big Trees Lodge lobby. Historical programs available by request are usually given at 8:30pm. For details or to request a program, drop by the piano before 8pm, while Tom's performing.<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk</b> (June 16 Only) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly. (NPS) ♿   | 2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk</b> (Except May 19 and 26) 1.5 hrs. Short walk to a Great View of El Capitan. Moderately difficult. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop. (NPS)<br>7:45pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Except May 19) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)<br>8:30pm <b>Stars Over Yosemite</b> (Except May 19 and 26) Glacier Point amphitheater. Canceled if overcast. (NPS)   |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | 8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger (Hot Cocoa too!)</b> (June 17 Only) ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. (NPS) ♿<br>9:00am <b>Nature Walk with a Ranger</b> (June 17 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)<br>9:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM</b> (June 17 Only) 1.5 hrs. Especially for ages 7-12. Meet at Wawona Campground Amphitheater. (NPS) ♿<br>10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (May 27, June 3, 10 and 17 Only) 10 mins. each Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center, \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12. (NPS) \$<br>10:00am - 1:00pm / 2:00pm to 5:00pm <b>Blacksmithing Demonstration</b> (June 10 and 17 Only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center. (NPS) ♿<br>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music</b> 4 hrs. Pianist/singer Tom Bopp performs songs and stories from Yosemite's past in the Big Trees Lodge lobby. Historical programs available by request are usually given at 8:30pm. For details or to request a program, drop by the piano before 8pm, while Tom's performing.<br>8:00pm <b>Campfire Talk</b> (June 17 Only) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly. (NPS) ♿ | 2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Cliffs and Domes.</b> (Except May 20 and 27) 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/ Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road. (NPS)<br>7:45pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Except May 20) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)<br>8:30pm <b>Stars Over Yosemite</b> (Except May 20 and 27) Glacier Point amphitheater. Canceled if overcast. (NPS)  |

# North of Yosemite Valley

Ranger programs and spectacular vistas



View from Lookout Point, looking down to Hetch Hetchy. Photo by Sheree Peshlakai

Hidden in Yosemite National Park’s peaceful northwest corner, Hetch Hetchy Valley is a treasure worth visiting in all seasons. Hetch Hetchy boasts one of the longest hiking seasons in the park and is an ideal place for spring waterfalls and wildflower displays.

## HETCH HETCHY, HODGDON MEADOW, AND CRANE FLAT

Programs start May 28, *conditions permitting*. See local postings for additional naturalist walks and campfire programs.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Sunday</b>  | 9:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM</b> 1 hr. All ages welcome. Exploration of the Hodgdon Meadow area, games, stories, etc. Meet at the Hodgdon Meadow Campground campfire circle near the group campsites. Wear sturdy footwear and be prepared to walk. (NPS)  |
| <b>Monday</b>  | 9:00am <b>Hetch Hetchy Wildflower Bloom Monitoring Walk</b> 2 hrs. Join a ranger-naturalist to learn to identify wildflowers and help update a weekly bloom list for the first mile of trail towards Wapama Falls from the O’Shaughnessy Dam. Wear sturdy footwear and bring sun protection and water. Meet at the dam at 9am or catch up along the way. (NPS)<br>7:00pm <b>Twilight Meadow Observation and Sketching Walk</b> 1 hr. Meet at the Hodgdon Meadow Campground campfire circle near the group campsites. Leisurely walk with stops. Wear sturdy footwear. Supplies provided if needed. (NPS)  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | 4:00pm – 5:00pm <b>Ranger on the Dam</b> Stop by anytime during this hour and talk with a ranger-naturalist to learn about the Hetch Hetchy Valley and O’Shaughnessy Dam. (NPS)<br>8:30pm <b>Yosemite Night Sky</b> 2 hrs. Crane Flat area. Make reservations at the Big Oak Flat info station 209/379-1899. (NPS)  |
| <b>Wednesday</b>   | 2:00pm – 4:00pm <b>Ranger in the Grove</b> Anytime during this 2 hours, meet up with A ranger-naturalist in the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias to learn about these amazing trees. One mile hike downhill from trailhead to grove. Wear sturdy footwear and bring water. (NPS)  |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">                     Programs printed in <b>ALL CAPS AND COLOR</b> are especially for children and their families.                 </div> |   |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | 1:00pm <b>Fire and Sequoias Walk</b> 2 hrs. Join a Ranger Naturalist for a walk down into and through the Tuolumne grove. Meet at the model of the cross-section of a sequoia tree at the parking lot. Moderately difficult, 2.5 miles round trip. Wear sturdy footwear and bring drinking water. (NPS)<br>7:00pm <b>Waterside Chat</b> 1 hr. O’Shaughnessy Dam. A ranger-naturalist will discuss a range of topics relevant to the natural and cultural history of the Hetch Hetchy area. Bring a chair if you’d like. Allow 45 mins. drive-time from Big Oak Flat Visitor Information Station. (NPS) &  |
| <b>Friday</b>  | 7:00pm <b>Bears and Other Wildlife Walk</b> 1 hr. Learn about some of the amazing creatures who call Yosemite home. Meet at the Hodgdon Meadow Campground campfire circle, near the group campsites. Wear sturdy footwear. (NPS)  |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | 8:00am – 9:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> Stop by anytime during this hour to learn about the park. Bring your own mug and your questions. Hodgdon Meadow Campground. Check kiosk posting for location. (NPS)<br>10:00am <b>Wildflower Walk</b> 2 hrs Meet at the O’Shaughnessy Dam. 2 miles round trip. Moderately difficult. Wear sturdy footwear and bring sun protection and water. (NPS)<br>1:00pm – 3:00pm <b>Ranger in the Grove</b> Anytime during this 2 hours, meet up with A ranger-naturalist in the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias to learn about these amazing trees. One mile hike downhill from trailhead to grove. Wear sturdy footwear and bring water. (NPS) |

# North of Yosemite Valley

## Services and things to do



View from Mt. Hoffman on April 23, 2017. NPS Photo

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.

## Tuolumne Meadows

*\*Due to the amount of snow, it is very likely that Tuolumne Meadows programs, services, and trailheads may not be available before May or June, check local postings for opening dates.*

## When Can I Go To The High Country?

You may be wondering when Tioga Road will open and when those high country adventures can commence in Tuolumne Meadows. Fortunately, Yosemite National Park has experienced record snowfall this past winter, aiding in the recovery from the drought conditions the park has been experiencing for the past four years. Here is a glimpse at the winter stats as of April 26, 2017:

Season Totals: Nov 1, 2016 - April 26, 2017

Total Snowfall: 493 inches

Total Water: 51.13 inches\*

\*Most recorded in Tuolumne Meadows

So, although the birds are singing and flowers are blooming at lower elevations, spring will arrive later than usual in the Tuolumne Meadows vicinity. What does this mean? Well, to those dreaming of high

country adventures, be advised that there is still over 100 inches of snow on the ground in late April, which means it will take time for the snow to melt and for those high elevation areas to be reachable.

Those planning treks in the Sierra Nevada this summer should anticipate many hazards. High water crossings, snow bridges, hard snow on mountain passes, are just a few of the hazards visitors may encounter. Please, come prepared, make good decisions and do not put others at risk when visiting the wilderness this summer.

As far as the roads, beginning in late April, road crews started the tedious job of clearing snow from Tioga Road, a process that could take anywhere from one to two months. It is impossible to predict when the road may open, even in late spring, due to spring weather affecting the plowing process. As soon as the road is cleared and open, there'll be additional time needed to get services up and running.

Don't fret. It won't be long before the animals are scrambling about, working quickly to get their seasonal tasks done before winter sets in, once again, and before you'll be able to view those high country vistas along Tioga Road.

## Big Oak Flat

### Big Oak Flat Information Station

On May 19, the Information Station will be open daily from 8am to 5pm. The station offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps.

## Tuolumne Grove

The trailhead for the Tuolumne Grove, which consists 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. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile nature trail. There is no potable water available. 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 3.5 miles north of Crane Flat and 4.5 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.

### SERVICES AT CRANE FLAT

*\*Due to the amount of snow, it is very likely that Tuolumne Meadows programs, services, and trailheads may not be available before May or June.*

### GROCERIES

Crane Flat  
Store  
8am to 7pm, (conditions permitting)

### GAS STATION

Crane Flat  
8am to 7pm, conditions permitting  
Diesel & propane available.  
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

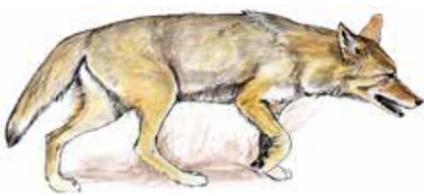
# Become a Junior Ranger

Follow these steps to earn your Junior Ranger badge.\*

Yosemite National Park offers a 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

illustrations by Tom Whitworth

## Follow these steps to earn your Junior Ranger badge.\*

*Did you already finish this page and earn your Junior Ranger badge? Are you ready for more Junior Ranger activities? Drop by a visitor center desk and pick up the free PSAR Junior Ranger booklet or Legacy Junior 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!

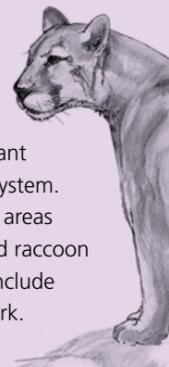
To report bear sightings, improper food storage, trash problems, and other bear-related problems, leave a message for the Bear Management Team at 209/372-0322. Your call can be made anonymously. For more information regarding bears and proper food storage, visit the park's website ([www.nps.gov/yose/bears](http://www.nps.gov/yose/bears)).

### Coyotes

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

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

## MOUNTAIN LIONS



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

### For your safety:

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

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

### What should you do if you meet a mountain lion?

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

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

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

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

### How to Store Food

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

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

## KEEP WILDLIFE WILD



Respect animals at a distance  
Never feed or approach them

# 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.

### ENJOYING YOSEMITE IN LATE SPRING

Late spring is a vibrant season in Yosemite. Every detail of nature seems to be reaching its peak. Streams and waterfalls are at peak flow, refreshing life throughout the Park. This is a gorgeous time to visit Yosemite and create wonderful safe and healthy memories.

### WEATHER

While there is ample snow still on the ground in the higher elevations—it is unlikely to fall from the sky this time of year. Hotter and drier weather is more likely at all elevations. Prevent dehydration by sipping lots of water throughout the day and frequently eating salty, easy-to-digest snacks. Thunderstorm season is here. Remember, there is no safe place outside when you can hear thunder. Follow the saying, “when thunder roars, go indoors.” If you cannot reach a building or car (with a hard top), hike down and away from ridges and outcroppings. Do not be the tallest object or near a tall object.

### RIVERS AND STREAM

Yosemite’s streams are a huge temptation for the curious, the photographer, and the overheated and weary hiker simply wanting to cool tired feet. Do not be fooled! Yosemite’s water is deceptively dangerous and unforgiving. Visitors are strongly urged to enjoy moving or falling water from a safe distance. Please: DO NOT LEAVE THE TRAIL OR DEVELOPED AREAS.

### BOATING / FLOATING

Before boating or floating, please check the Park’s website at <https://www.nps.gov/yose> for allowable locations and conditions. We strongly urge you to wear a Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) when on the water. Mishaps occur so suddenly that you will not have time to put on your PFD. Lastly, make sure your watercraft is suitable for water conditions.

### YOSEMITE'S TRAILS

Yosemite’s 800 miles of trails wind through natural areas and endure all the forces of nature including flooding, fire, and slides. High country trails can still be under snow and exposed trails may be damaged due to erosion or fire. Always carry a good topo map and compass (GPS optional) and be prepared to turn around if conditions are beyond your comfort zone.

### YOSEMITE'S ROADS

What does your home town and Yosemite National Park have in common? Answer: the traffic can be just as dangerous here plus we have other hazards such as rock fall and abundant wildlife, including deer and bears. Moreover, there are many sites to distract drivers. If you cannot devote 100 percent of your attention to your driving, please pull completely off the road into designated pull-offs and parking areas. Also, Buckle up! Park rangers enforce California’s Motor Vehicle Code on park roads.

### 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 – Carry more water than you need; stay hydrated and snack frequently – make sure you have plenty of food and water. If you are sweating, replace lost salts with 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 plan, 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 be looking for you.

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

### 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.

### 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 for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness, even in winter. For summer trips, reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of \$5 per permit plus \$5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Go to [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits) to check trailhead availability and for more information on how to make a reservation. Reservations can be made by fax, phone or mail starting November 14, 2016. To make a reservation by phone, call 209/372-0740, Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm. Starting May 26, phones will be answered Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm, and Saturday from 9am to 4pm. For more information, visit [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm), the Leave No Trace website at [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org), or the Friends of Yosemite Search and Rescue website at [www.friendofyosar.org](http://www.friendofyosar.org)

#### 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 2017, May 26 through October 10, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 pre-season lottery permits have already been issued for 2017. 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 1pm. To apply, visit [Recreation.gov](http://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 10am to 6pm 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 over 5 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](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm) and find a copy of the Superintendent's Compendium. This document is a compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions made by the superintendent, in addition to what is contained in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7 and 34), and other applicable federal statutes and regulations.

# 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.

### 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 7am Pacific time. Log onto the website or call as soon as possible as some campgrounds fill within a few minutes of the opening period.

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

For campground reservations, visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or call 877/444-6777 or TDD 877/833-6777 from 7am to 9pm, Pacific time, March through October, or from 7am to 7pm, November through February. Call 518/885-3639 if you're dialing from outside the U.S. and Canada.

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

### Yosemite Valley

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

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

### Camping in Areas Surrounding Yosemite

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

### Group Campgrounds

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



## GENERAL CAMPING INFORMATION

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

### Services

- 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 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 in length are not recommended for Tamarack Flat, Yosemite Creek, and Porcupine Flat campgrounds. 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 10pm to 6am.
- Where permitted, pets must be on a leash and may not be left unattended.

### Campfires

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

## Campgrounds in Yosemite National Park\*

| CAMPGROUND               | OPEN 2017 (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              | All Year                 | \$26       | 238        | Yes  | Tap          |
| Lower Pines              | Mar 29 - Nov 1     | 40 ft           | 35 ft              | Yes                      | \$26       | 60         | Yes  | Tap          |
| North Pines              | Apr 3 - Nov 6      | 40 ft           | 35 ft              | Yes                      | \$26       | 81         | Yes  | Tap          |
| Camp 4                   | All year           | No RVs/trailers |                    | First-come, first-served | \$6/person | 35         | No   | Tap          |
| SOUTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY |                    |                 |                    |                          |            |            |      |              |
| Wawona                   | All year           | 35 ft           | 35 ft              | April 10 - Oct 9         | \$26       | 93         | Yes  | Tap          |
| Bridalveil Creek         | Aug 1 - Sep 18     | 35 ft           | 24 ft              | First-come, first-served | \$18       | 110        | Yes  | Tap          |
| NORTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY |                    |                 |                    |                          |            |            |      |              |
| Hodgdon Meadow           | All year           | 40 ft           | 30 ft              | Apr 10 – Oct 10          | \$26       | 105        | Yes  | Tap          |
| Crane Flat               | Jul/Aug - Oct 9    | 40 ft           | 30 ft              | Yes                      | \$26       | 166        | Yes  | Tap          |
| Tamarack Flat            | Jul/Aug - Oct 15   | No RVs/trailers |                    | First-come, first-served | \$12       | 52         | No   | Creek (boil) |
| White Wolf               | Jul/Aug - Sep 25   | 27 ft           | 24 ft              | First-come, first-served | \$18       | 74         | Yes  | Tap          |
| Yosemite Creek           | Jul/Aug - Sep 4    | No RVs/trailers |                    | First-come, first-served | \$12       | 75         | Yes  | Creek (boil) |
| Porcupine Flat           | Jul/Aug – Oct 15   | No RVs/trailers |                    | First-come, first-served | \$12       | 52         | Yes  | Creek (boil) |
| Tuolumne Meadows         | Aug 1 - Sep 25     | 35 ft           | 35 ft              | 50%                      | \$26       | 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 to 3 hours   | Strenuous 1,000-foot gain            |
| Top of Upper Yosemite Fall                 | Same as above                       | 7.2 miles round-trip, 6 to 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 to 2 hours   | Moderate, 400-foot gain              |
| Top of Vernal Fall                         | Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16        | 3 miles round-trip, 2 to 4 hours   | Strenuous 1,000-foot gain            |
| Top of Nevada Fall                         | Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16        | 7 miles round-trip, 5 to 6 hours   | Strenuous 1,900-foot gain            |
| Top of Half Dome                           | Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16        | 14 miles (via Mist Trail) or 16.3 miles (via John Muir Trail) round-trip, 10 to 12 hours | Extremely Strenuous, 4,800-foot gain |
| Valley Floor Loop                          | Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6 | 13 miles full loop, 5 to 7 hours full loop   | Moderate                             |

## Day Hikes Outside of Yosemite Valley

| TRAIL / DESTINATION         | STARTING POINT  | DISTANCE / TIME                  | DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| WAWONA                      |   |                                  |                        |
| <b>Wawona Meadow Loop</b>   | Big Trees Lodge   | 3.5 miles round-trip, 1.5 hours  | Easy                   |
| <b>Swinging Bridge Loop</b> | Wawona Store / Pioneer Yosemite History Center Parking Area | 4.75 miles round-trip, 2 hours   | Moderate               |
| HETCH HETCHY                |   |                                  |                        |
| <b>Wapama Falls</b>         | O'Shaughnessy Dam   | 5 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours | Easy to Moderate       |

## It's still winter!

Yosemite received more than double the average amount of snow this past winter, making for winter-like conditions in areas around Tuolumne Meadows and Glacier Point—even now. If you plan to hike or backpack above 8,000 feet, expect snowy, flooded, and/or muddy conditions. (Go to a visitor center or wilderness center to check current conditions.) When hiking in snowy conditions, the trail may be completely obscured by snow, requiring navigation by map and compass (even if you have a GPS). Hiking in snow is difficult, slow, and can be dangerous: postholing is not only frustrating, but can lead to serious leg injuries.



Tenaya Lake and the Cathedral Range, April 23, 2017.

## 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.

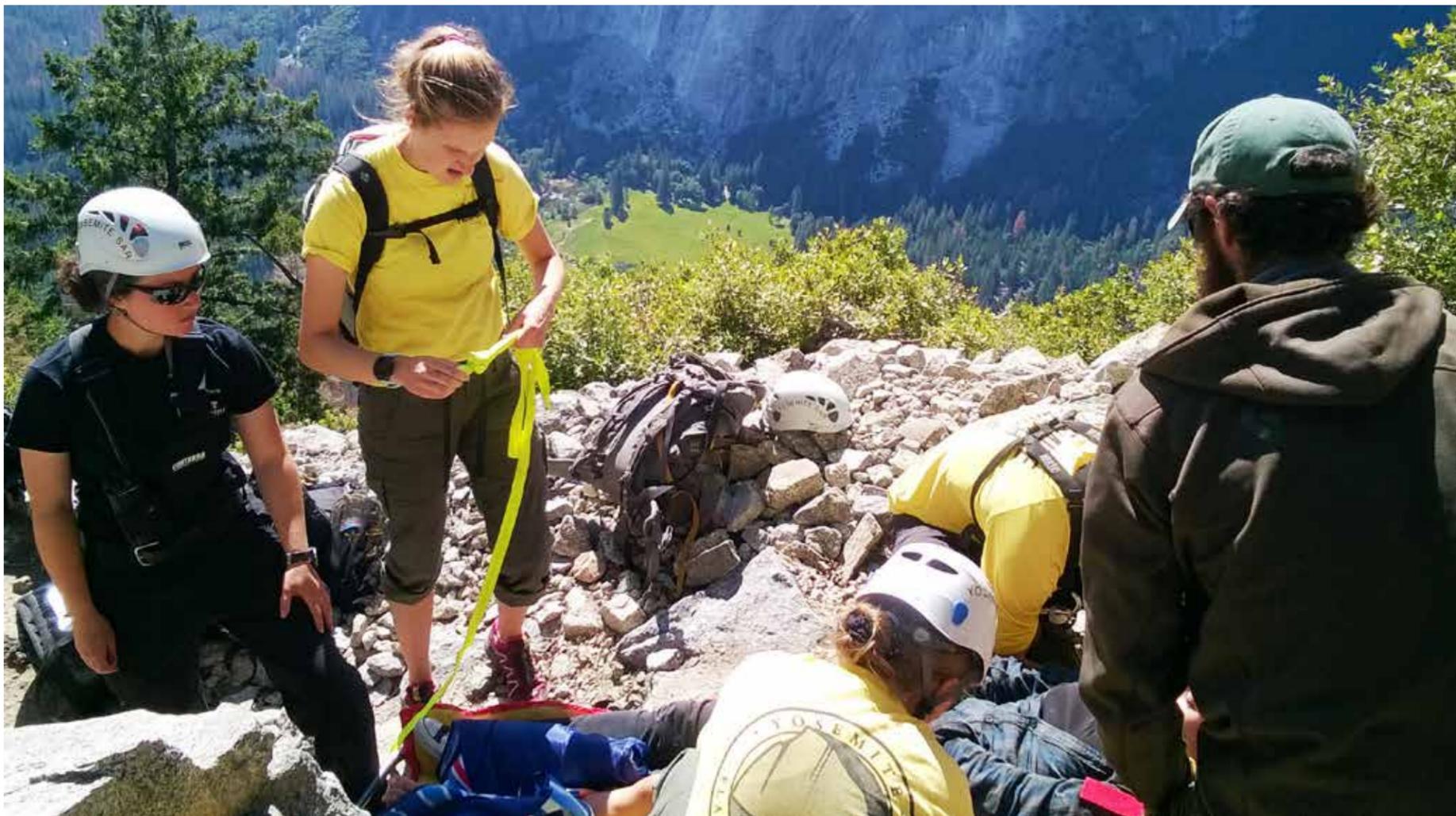
#### Things to know before you go:

- 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 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.

# Preventive Search and Rescue:

## Volunteers Making Yosemite A Safer Place

Story by Alan Hageman



Rescuers assist a hiker with a broken leg on the Four Mile trail, prepping for a litter carryout to an ambulance waiting at the trailhead. NPS Photo

What draws you to Yosemite National Park? Is it the stunning scenery? How about the park's outdoor recreational opportunities? Yosemite certainly offers some of the finest scenery and recreation anywhere. However, the very features that draw us to this outdoor paradise can also threaten our safety and health.

Every year, trained park rangers respond to more than 200 search and rescue (SAR) calls within the park. SARs range from dehydrated hikers to water emergencies to ground level falls to lost hikers. More important than what happens is what you can do to enjoy your Yosemite experience and not become the subject of a SAR. Because the park contains hazards of which not every visitor is aware, Yosemite developed a Preventive Search and Rescue (PSAR) program to help visitors understand and avoid unsuspected hazards. However, even though PSAR seeks to prevent injuries and illnesses, the constant which remains is that you are responsible for your safety.

PSAR is staffed almost entirely by volunteers whose primary goal is enhancing visitors' experience by preventing SARs. You can recognize PSAR volunteers by their yellow t-shirts

and green ball caps. They patrol trails, river banks, and other areas where visitors frequent. PSAR volunteers not only provide safety advice, they are there to answer your questions and give directions. While on patrol, volunteers help with chores ranging from picking up litter to helping reunite separated hiking parties. Several PSAR volunteers have advanced training and certifications as SAR technicians, emergency medical technicians, and wildland fire fighters.

PSAR volunteers provide safety messages. What are the messages that our volunteers find themselves discussing with visitors? Number one is to stay on the trail or developed areas. Yosemite's most serious injuries occur when someone leaves the trail. Hikers sometimes abandon the trail to approach Yosemite's unforgiving waters. Accidental slips too close to the water have caused disastrous consequences. Other hikers have left the trail to seek a shortcut and have become lost or ended up in dangerously steep terrain. Off trail travel is not only dangerous but it also permanently damages vegetation. Trails promote safety and protect our scenery.

Another frequent and necessary PSAR message is to always have plenty of water and salty, easy-to-digest snacks.

Yosemite's most common SAR calls are from hikers who are dehydrated, exhausted, or have fallen causing a broken bone, sprain, or dislocation. Lots of ground level falls are probably secondary to diminished physical performance from being dehydrated or exhausted. Although most of these on-trail SARs are not life threatening, they are miserable and often extremely painful experiences and a sure recipe to destroy an otherwise perfect vacation.

How do you avoid becoming one of Yosemite's on-trail SAR statistics? Drink lots of water. One quart or liter of water for every two to three hours of physical activity is reasonable but do not ration water and when your water is half gone, your hike should be past the half way point. Frequently enjoy light salty snacks to replace salts lost through sweating. Also, hike within your physical limitations. Do not let your brain write checks that your body cannot cash; the fastest and fittest person should not set the pace.

The most important measure you can take is your preparation before you start out for your activity. There is plenty of easy to locate Yosemite information in the visitor centers, book stores, and reliable websites including the Yosemite website at [https://](https://www.nps.gov/yose)

[www.nps.gov/yose](https://www.nps.gov/yose). Goals are fine but how much effort is it going to take to reach your destination and what will you need to pack? It is important to know distance but also know how much elevation you need to gain; the higher up you are, the faster you will tire which will degrade your performance and judgment. Always check the latest weather forecast. Did you leave your hiking plan, which includes your route, destination, and when you are due to return, with a reliable person? Just a little pre-planning for your park adventure can make the difference between a terrific outing and a miserable experience.

Back to Yosemite's PSAR volunteers, please say "hi" if you encounter one. They are giving their own time to promote your Yosemite experience. Most of all, do stay safe and healthy and enjoy your Yosemite experience.



# Supporting Your Park

## Enhance the Visitor Experience

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

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



### The Ansel Adams Gallery



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

### Yosemite Hospitality LLC



Yosemite Hospitality, a subsidiary 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 is committed to providing park stewardship in collaboration with the National Park Service in effort to protect and preserve the park for millions of park visitors to enjoy. Visit [www.TravelYosemite.com](http://www.TravelYosemite.com) for more information.

### NatureBridge



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

### Yosemite Conservancy



*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. 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 \$113 million in grants to Yosemite National Park. Learn more at [www.yosemiteconservancy.org](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org) or call 415/434-1782.

## Contact Us

#### Yosemite National Park

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

#### The Ansel Adams Gallery

PO Box 455  
Yosemite, CA 95389  
209/372-4413  
209/372-4714 fax  
[www.anseladams.com](http://www.anseladams.com)

#### Yosemite Hospitality L.L.C.

PO Box 306  
Yosemite, CA 95389  
888/304-8993  
[www.aramarkleisure.com](http://www.aramarkleisure.com)

#### Yosemite Conservancy

101 Montgomery Street,  
Suite 1700  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
415/434-1782  
415/434-0745 fax  
[www.yosemiteconservancy.org](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org)

#### NatureBridge

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

## Yosemite Volunteers: Serving Yosemite

Over 12,407 volunteers donated more than 174,885 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](http://www.nps.gov/yose/getinvolved/volunteer.htm) or call the volunteer office at 209/379- 1850.



## Yosemite Name Changes

The names of the following facilities in Yosemite have changed. The changed names are:

- Half Dome Village (formerly Curry Village)
- 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)

## Lost and Found

To inquire about items lost or found at one of Yosemite's restaurants, hotels, lounges, shuttle buses or tour services, call 209/372-4357. For items lost or found in other areas of the park, call 209/379-1001 or email [yose\\_lostandfound@nps.gov](mailto:yose_lostandfound@nps.gov).

