Yosemite Guide

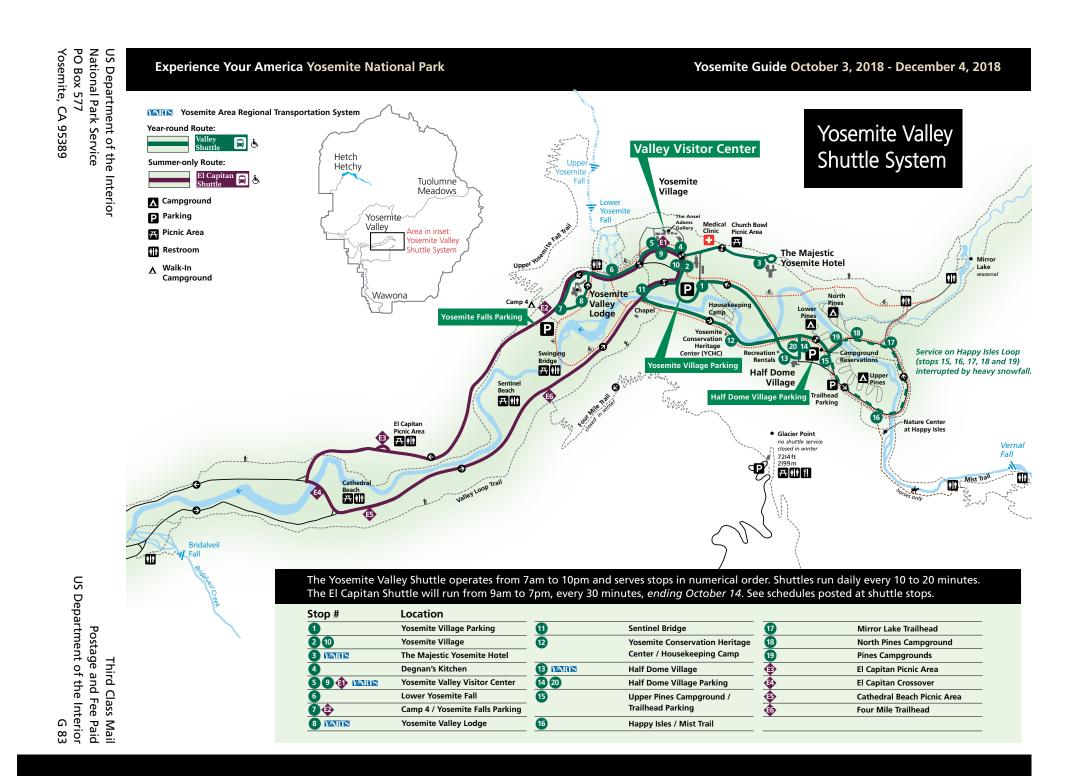






Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

October 3, 2018 - December 4, 2018 Volume 43, issue 8



Seasonal Highlights

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

WELCOME

You made it! You're here! The following information may help maximize your time in Yosemite. Be prepared to go wild!

Ask A Ranger at the Visitor Center

All visitor centers in Yosemite National Park are staffed with knowledgeable rangers and volunteers, ready to help answer your questions, provide directions, and hand out maps and brochures. Visitor centers are located in Yosemite Valley, Big Oak Flat, Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows. Seasonal hours will soon be going into effect, see pages 4 and 7 for hours and more information.

An Introduction to Yosemite via Films

Two films show daily in the Theater behind the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, Ken Burns' Yosemite: A Gathering of Spirit and *The Spirit of Yosemite*. See page 4 for times.

What's New? Mariposa Grove is Open!

After three years of restoration projects, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias has reopened. Take some time to walk among the Giants. See page 7 for details on when and how to visit the Mariposa Grove.

Feature Story - Celebrating 50 Years

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the National Trails Systems Act turned 50 this year! What is your favorite hiking trail? Read more about the 50th Anniversary on page 10.

ARTS & CULTURE

Go to the Theater

After a day filled with exploring, relax and enjoy a show at the Yosemite Theater. The 2018 season includes inspiring films, plays based on some of the park's most colorful characters, and celebrations of Yosemite's culture and history. See pages 5 and 6 for show descriptions and schedules.

Enjoy an Art Workshop

Get creative in Yosemite Valley! Head to Happy Isles Art and Nature Center (shuttle stop #16) to join Yosemite Conservancy for an outdoor workshop with a professional artist, or bring the kids for drop-in activities. Open Monday through Saturday, 9am to 4pm, through October 27. See pages 5 and 6. and 5 for more information.



The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River. Photo by Ryan Alonzo

Get outside and enjoy your park!

Whether you're looking for a cold-weather adventure, a warm fireplace, or a bit of both, Yosemite is a magical place in fall and winter!

Visit the Yosemite Museum

Learn the history of 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. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. See page 4 for hours.

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

GUIDED OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Adventure Out with the Yosemite **Mountaineering School**

The 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 to schedule a custom outing designed specifically for your group. We offer professional guides for hiking, backpacking and rock climbing. Reservations are required. Please call Yosemite Mountaineering School at (209) 372-8344 or email us at yms@aramark. Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. See pages 4 com for more information and to make reservations.

Get Outdoors with Yosemite Conservancy

Are you looking for a memorable way to explore the park? Go on a Custom Adventure with Yosemite Conservancy! These personalized guided programs are offered year-round, and are tailored to your interests and schedule. For details, visit yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures, or call (209) 379-2317, ext. 10. See page 6 for more ways to get outside with the Conservancy.

FAMILY FUN

Stroll with a Ranger

Learn about the wonders of the park on a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are offered daily throughout the park on various topics including bears, waterfalls, and more. See pages 5, 6, and 7 for details.

Explore Like A Junior Ranger!

Become a Junior Ranger and learn how you can help protect your park. To become a Junior Ranger, purchase a self-guided booklet, attend a guided program, collect a bag of trash, then take your oath and earn your badge. Guided programs listed on page 5.

Ice Rink at Half Dome Village

Take the shuttle to Half Dome Village for a one-of-a-kind ice skating experience with a spectacular view of Half Dome. The ice rink opens November 16, conditions permitting, and will be open daily from 3:30pm to 6pm and 7pm to 9:30pm. On weekends and holidays, the ice rink is open from 8:30am to 11am, in addition to the daily hours.

Curl Up in Front of a Fireplace

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

GETTING AROUND

Take the Free Shuttle

Park your car and let the free shuttle take you to the most scenic points in the valley. You will help cut down on traffic congestion, and will be able to capture the best pictures. See schedules posted at shuttle stops.

Access for People with Disabilities

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

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



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 9-1-1

Yosemite Village Garage - offers 24-hour emergency roadside assistance

For up-to-date road, weather, and park information:

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

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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

(No per-person fee)

Vehicle Valid for 7 days \$35/Vehicle

Motorcycle Valid for 7 days \$30/motorcycle

Individual Valid for 7 days \$20 (*In a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse*),

Yosemite Pass \$70, Valid for one year in Yosemite.

Interagency Annual Pass \$80 Valid for one year at all federal recreation sites.

Interagency Senior Pass \$80 (Lifetime) For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.

Interagency Annual Senior Pass \$20 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

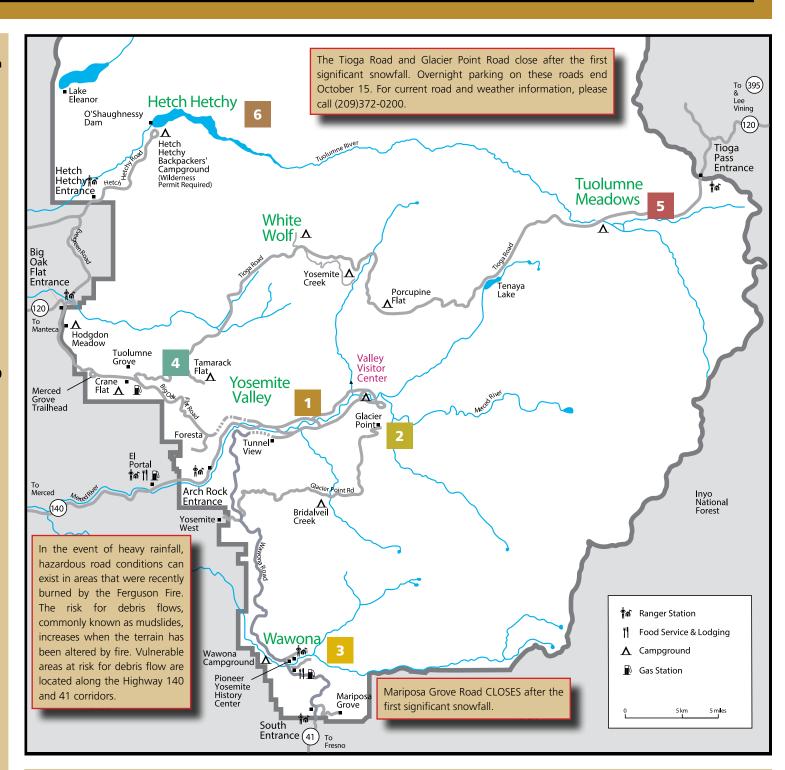
www.yosemite-gateway.org

Mariposa County Visitor Center
(866) 425-3366 or (209) 966-7081

(800) 446-5353 or (209) 724-8104

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

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



YOSEMITE VALLEY

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



Photo by Christine Loberg

GLACIER POINT ROAD

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

WAWONA AND MARIPOSA GROVE

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park's south entrance station. See page 7 for when and how to visit the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. The nearby Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite. For more information about hiking trails in the Wawona area, visit the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio, adjacent to the Big Trees Lodge. This was once a painting studio for the 19th-century artist Thomas Hill.

CRANE FLAT AND TUOLUMNE GROVE

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

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS AND TIOGA ROAD

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

HETCH HETCHY

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

DID YOU KNOW:

- There are over 800 miles of trail in Yosemite National Park alone.
- The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) was conceived in 1932 by Clinton Churchill Clarke, received official trail status under the National Trails System Act of 1968, but was not completed until 1993.
- The PCT is 2,659 miles long, a portion of which passes through Yosemite National Park, and ranges from around sea level to 13,153 ft. of elevation at Forester Pass, located on the boundary of the Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks.
- The National Historic Trails System now includes 30 Scenic and Historic Trails, including the Pacific Crest Trail, Appalachian Trail, Continental Divide Trail, the Trail of Tears, the Nez Pierce Trail, and others.
- There are over 1,300 National Recreational Trails, including a National Water Trails system. They occur in all 50 states. Do you know where your nearest National Water Trail is located?



Half Dome view from Glacier Point. Photo by Armand Williams



Giant Sequoias. Photo by Christine Loberg



Tenaya Lake along Tioga Road. Photo by Ken Karst



Tuolumne River in Tuolumne Meadows. Photo by Ryan Alonzo

WINTER WEATHER AND DRIVING IN YOSEMITE

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

Chain Control Information:

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



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



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

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

Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas in the heart of the park



POST OFFICE

Main Post Office

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

Post Office

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

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

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

BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

Yosemite Village

The Ansel Adams Gallery

9am to 5pm, closes at 3pm on Nov 22 Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

Yosemite Museum Store

9am to 5pm

Happy Isles Art and Nature Center Monday - Saturday, 9am to 4pm, closed for lunch from 12pm to 1pm Closes for the season Oct 27

8am to 9pm, 8am to 8pm Beginning Oct 8

ne Majestic Yosemite Hotel

8am to 9pm, 8am to 8pm beginning Oct 28 Sweet Shop 7am to 10pm

Gift/Grocery 8am to 8pm

Gift/Grocery 8am to 8pm

Big Trees Lodge Store 8am to 7pm

Yosemite Conservancy Depot 9am to

SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY

Half Dome Village Showers
Open 24 hours
Housekeeping Camp Laundromat
8am to 10pm

Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

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

YOSEMITE FILMS

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

Wilderness Center

Open 8am to 5pm. Visit the wilderness center to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, and rent bear canisters. The Valley Wilderness Center is located in Yosemite Village in between the post office and The Ansel Adams Gallery. The center will close for the season on October 21 and then permits and bear canisters will be available at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center daily from 9am to 5pm.

Yosemite Museum

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

The Museum Set: 45 Ansel Adams Prints
September 21, 2018 - November 25, 2018
This exhibit features prints that were selected and made by Ansel Adams as part of the Museum Set Edition of Fine Prints. Open daily from 10am to 4pm.

INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

Open daily from 9am to 5pm. Explore the living cultural history of Yosemite's native people. See Indian cultural exhibits and daily demonstrations of stone tool making, basket weaving, beadwork, and flutes. Follow a self-guided accessible trail through an active re-constructed Miwok Village behind the museum to learn about significant plants and structures.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE

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

The Ansel Adams Gallery

Open daily from 9am to 5pm (9am to 3pm on November 22), the gallery offers works of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other artists. Call (209)372-4211 or visit www.anseladams. com. for more details

NEW EXHIBIT

A Continuing Legacy in Yosemite Romanticism" New Oil Paintings by James McGrew

October 8, 2018 - November 25, 2018 This exhibition embraces not only our own roots as one of the longest running businesses in any National Park, but also pays homage to the role that art has had in the establishment of some of our most sacred lands.

In the early days of Yosemite's preservation and establishment, famous artists who painted the Yosemite landscape were most influenced by the $popular genres \, of Romanticism, Barbizon \,$ and Hudson River Schools. Such early paintings coupled with photography helped to establish Yosemite as a protected area for public enjoyment. Likewise, artist's images helped establish other early national parks and preserves like Yellowstone, Zion and Grand Canyon. In 1902 Landscape painter Harry Cassie Best first established the studio/gallery in Yosemite that would later lead to the Ansel Adams Gallery. Working to carry on on the historic legacy of inspiring connections and preservation, James McGrew paints in a style reminiscent of Yosemite's early artists, though uniquely his own and influenced by his background in natural sciences and a life-long love of Yosemite.

From the grand iconic views and features to less well known aspects of the park, McGrew interprets Yosemite through a diversity of perspectives depicting changing seasons. The show will consist of oil paintings produced throughout the past year, mostly painted en plein air. Like the historic artists, McGrew also used his plein air studies to create the larger studio works included in the exhibit. The artist has said of his work: "My goal is to convey not only a faithful visual representation of Yosemite throughout its many moods, majestic grandeur, light, atmosphere, but more importantly to interpret the emotion I felt while experiencing the events depicted in the paintings."

"A Continuing Legacy in Yosemite Romanticism" will open at The Ansel Adams Gallery on October 8 and run through November 25. A reception for the artist will be held on October 24 and Mr. McGrew will be in attendance. We hope to see you there!

To conclude 2018, we will display photographic work by Ted Orland, who has worked alongside Ansel Adams, Sally Mann and David Bayles just to name a few. This exhibition, "Unexpected Landscapes" will open on November 26th, with a reception for the artist on December 1 from 3-5pm at the gallery.

Events and Programs

Where to go and what to do

	Yosemite Valley				
Sunday	10:00am JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) & 2:30pm Ask-A-Climber (Oct 7 and 14 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop E4. (NP 8:00pm Ranger Walk – Merced Meanders 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) & 1:00pm Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) & 1:00pm Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Uncover Yosemite's natural and cultural history on a guided hike! Meet on the Majestic Yosemite Hotel back lawn. (YH) & 1:00pm Program (Except Oct 7, 14, 21, and 28) 1 hr. Yosemite Valley Lodge Cliff Room. (YH) & 1:00pm NIGHT PROWL 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. See pg. 6 for locations. (YH) \$ 1:00pm STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. See pg. 6 for locations. (YH)				
Monday	Art Workshop (Oct 8, 15 and 22 Only) 4 hrs. Expert-led workshop at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Register online. Drop-ins welcome if space is available. Ages 12+. See page 6. (YC) \$ 11:00am ART TABLE (Oct 8, 15 and 22 Only) Drop-in, collaborative Yosemite-themed table art for visitors of all ages at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center, shuttle stop #16. Daily, 11am to 3pm. (YC) 12:30pm Ask-A-Climber (Oct 8 and 15 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop E4. (NPS) 1:00pm Ask-A-Climber (Oct 8 and 15 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop E4. (NPS) 1:00pm Ask-A-Climber (Oct 8 and 15 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop E4. (NPS) 1:00pm Ask-A-Climber (Oct 8 and 15 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop E4. (NPS) 1:00pm Ask-A-Climber (Oct 8 and 15 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop E4. (NPS) 1:00pm Ask-A-Climber (Oct 8 and 15 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop #16. Daily 11. In the Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop #16. Daily 11. In the Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop #16. Daily 12. In the Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop #16. Daily 12. In the Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop #16. Daily 12. In the Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop #16. Daily 12. In the Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop #16. Daily 12. In the Capi				
Tuesday	9:00am Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (TAAG) & 10:00am JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) & 10:00am Art Workshop (Oct 9, 16 and 23 Only) 4 hrs. Expert-led workshop at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Register online. Drop-ins welcome if space is available. Ages 12+. See page 6. (YC) \$ 11:00am ART TABLE (Oct 9, 16 and 23 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop £4. (NPS) 10:00pm In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 2:00pm Ranger Walk - Geology 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) & 1:00pm Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) & 3:30pm Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Uncover Yosemite's natural and cultural history on a guided hike! Meet on the Majestic Yosemite Hotel back lawn. (YH) & 7:00pm Vosemite Theater - Yosemite Search and Rescue (Oct 9, 16 and 23 Only) 1.5 hrs. Buy tickets at Yosemite Conservancy Bookstores, any Tour & Activity Desk, or Yosemite Theater. See page 6. (YC) \$ 8:30pm NIGHT PROWL. (Oct 9, 16, and 23 Only) 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, get tickets and information at any tour & activity desk. See pg. 6 for locations. (YH) \$ 5TARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (Except Oct 30) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, get tickets and information at any tour & activity desk. See pg. 6 for locations. (YH) \$ 5PECIAL HALLOWEEN TOUR (Oct 30 Only) 2 hr. Meet in front of the Indian Cultural Museum, near shuttle stop #5/9. (YH) & 5TARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (Except Oct 30) 1 hr. Discover the stori				
Wednesday	10:00am Art Workshop (October 3, 10, 17 and 24 Only) 4 hrs. Expert-led workshop at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Register online. Drop-ins welcome if space is available. Ages 12+. See page 6. (YC) \$ 11:00am ART TABLE (Oct 3, 10, 17 and 24 Only) Drop-in, collaborative Yosemite-themed table art for visitors of all ages at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center, shuttle stop #16. Daily, 11am to 3pm. (YC) 12:30pm Ask-A-Climber (Oct 3, 10, and 17 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop E4. (NPS) 1:00pm Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 1:00pm Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 1:00pm Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 1:00pm Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 1:00pm Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 1:00pm Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 1:00pm Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 1:00pm Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 1:00pm Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 1:00pm Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 1:00pm Ansel Adams' Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams'				
Thursday	9:00am Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) & 10:00am Art Workshop (October 4, 11, 18 and 25 Only) 4 hrs. Expert-led workshop at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Register online. Drop-ins welcome if space is available. Ages 12+. See page 6. (YC) \$ 11:00am ART TABLE (Oct 4, 11, 18 and 25 Only) Drop-in, collaborative Yosemite-themed table art for visitors of all ages at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center, shuttle stop #16. Daily, 11am to 3pm. (YC) 12:30pm Ask-A-Climber (Oct 4, 11, and 18 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop E4. (NPS) 1:00pm Using Your Digital Camera (Except Nov 22) 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 2:00pm Ranger Walk – Trees 1.5 hrs. The Majestic Yosemite Hotel, shuttle stop #3 (NPS) & 3:30pm Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Uncover Yosemite's natural and cultural history on a guided hike! Meet on the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (YH) & 7:00pm Yosemite Theater – Join Muir Series: John Muir is Back! (October 4, 11, and 18 Only) 1.5 hrs. Purchase tickets at Yosemite Conservancy Bookstores, any Tour & Activity Desk, or at the Yosemite Theater. See page 6. (YC) \$ 8:30pm NIGHT PROWL (Oct 4, 11, 18, and 25 Only) 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, get tickets and information at any tour & activity desk. See pg. 6 for locations. (YH) \$				
Friday	STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. See pg. 6 for locations. (YH) 10:00am Art Workshop (Oct 5, 12, 19 and 26 Only) 4 hrs. Expert-led workshop at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Register online. Drop-ins welcome if space is available. Ages 12+. See page 6. (YC) \$ 11:00am ART TABLE (Oct 5, 12, 19 and 26 Only) Drop-in, collaborative Yosemite-themed table art for visitors of all ages at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center, shuttle stop #16. Daily, 11am to 3pm. (YC) 12:30pm Ask-A-Climber (Oct 5, 12, and 19 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop E4. (NP 2:00pm Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) \$ Ranger Walk – Discover Yosemite 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) \$ Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Uncover Yosemite's natural and cultural history on a guided hike! Meet on the Majestic Yosemite Hotel back lawn. (YH) \$ Yosemite Theater – The Spirited Life of Florence Hutchings (Oct 5, 12 and 26 Only) 1.5 hrs. Buy tickets at Yosemite Conservancy Bookstores, any Tour & Activity Desk, or Yosemite Theater. See page 6. (YC) \$ Film - Ansel Adams 1 hr. Yosemite Valley Lodge, check local listing for venue (TAAG) \$ NIGHT PROWL 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. See pg. 6 for locations. (YH) \$ STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour & activity desk. See pg. 6 for locations. (YH)				
Saturday	Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) & 9:00am The Day of the Woodpecker (Nov 17 Only) 6 hrs. Spend a day with Yosemite Conservancy's resident naturalist observing and learning about the park's woodpecker species. (YC) \$ 10:00am JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) & 10:00am Art Workshop (Oct 6, 13, 20 and 27 Only) 4 hrs. Expert-led workshop at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Register online. Drop-ins welcome if space is available. Ages 12+. See page 6. (YC) \$ 11:00am ART TABLE (Oct 6, 13, 20 and 27 Only) Drop-in, collaborative Yosemite-themed table art for visitors of all ages at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center, shuttle stop #16. Daily, 11am to 3pm. (YC) 12:30pm Ask-A-Climber (Oct 6 and 13 Only) 4 hrs. Stop by to view climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitan Bridge, shuttle stop £4. (NPS) 1:00pm In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$ 1:00pm Ranger Walk - Ahwahneechee Stories and Games 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #16. Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel Concierge. (YH) & 1:00pm Pine Print Viewing 1 hr. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. Very limited space (TAAG) & 1:00pm Pine Print Viewing 1 hr. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. Very limited space (TAAG) & 1:00pm Pine Print Viewing 1 hr. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. Very limited space (TAAG) & 1:00pm Pine Print Viewing 1 hr. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. Very limited space (TAAG) & 1:00pm Pine Print Viewing 1 hr. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. Very limited space (TAAG) & 1:00pm Pine Print Viewing 1 hr. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Ad				

Things to Do

Yosemite Valley and Beyond



Winter in Yosemite Valley. Photo by Christine Loberg

Experience the Incomparable Yosemite Valley

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

Yosemite in Winter

NATURALIST PROGRAMS

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

WALKING AND HIKING

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

SIGHTSEEING

Some of the famous landmarks in Yosemite Valley include:

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

from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this iconic feature into what we see today. Cook's Meadow, Sentinel Bridge and Glacier Point all provide stunning views of Half Dome.

- Happy Isles is easily reached by the free shuttle bus at stop #16. Cross the footbridges onto the Isles or wander through outdoor exhibits detailing Yosemite's geologic story. Shuttle busses may not go to stop #16 when road is icy.
- Tunnel View, along the Wawona Road (Hwy 41), provides a view that showcases Yosemite Valley. Capture breathtaking views of El Capitan, Bridalveil Fall and Half Dome. It is particularly spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

TOURS

Tours listed depart from Yosemite Valley Lodge, weather permitting. Inquire at the Tour and Activity Desk in the Yosemite Valley Lodge between 7:30am and 3pm.

The Valley Floor Tour is a 26-mile, twohour, guided tour of Yosemite Valley. It departs several times daily. The four-hour Glacier Point Tour departs at 8:30am and 1:30pm. For information call (209) 372-1240

YOSEMITE ART CENTER (YC)

Join Yosemite Conservancy for a range of activities at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Learn from a professional artist, stop by family-friendly crafts and activities, browse supplies and original artwork, and more. The center is open Monday through Saturday,

9am to 4pm, closed Sunday, through the end of October. Upcoming programs include:

Oct 1 - 6 Nature Drawing for Beginners with Sean Edgerton

Oct 8 - 13 Autumn Watercolor for Beginners and Returnees with Steve Curl Oct 15 - 20 Nature Up Close: Painting Natural

Specimens with Fiorella Ikeue Oct 22 - 27 Nature Up Close: Painting Natural

Specimens with Fiorella Ikeue

Daily art classes for ages 12 and up are taught by volunteer instructors Monday through Saturday, 10am to 2pm, and are typically held outside (\$20 per person, per class, materials and supplies not included in registration price). We also offer a drop-in Art Table (daily, 11am to 3pm). To learn more and register for any of our art programs, visit yosemiteconservancy. org/art, contact us at (209) 372-0631 or artcenter@yosemiteconservancy.org, or visit us at Happy Isles!.

YOSEMITE CONSERVANCY OUTDOOR ADVENTURES (YC)

Experience the park in a new way with Yosemite Conservancy's naturalist guides! Upcoming outings include:

Backpack to Half Dome: One-Night Summit Express

Oct 18 - 21 Yosemite Photography: Capturing the Autumn Light

Nov 17 Yosemite Birding: The Day of the Woodpecker

Dec 22 Full Moon Hike in Mariposa Grove

To learn more and to sign up, visit yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or call (209) 379-2317, ext. 10. Custom Adventures can be arranged for individuals and groups. Proceeds from all our programs help preserve and protect Yosemite.

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 at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, shuttle bus stops #5 and #9. Get your tickets (\$10 per person, free tickets for children under age 12) at Yosemite Conservancy Bookstores, Tour & Activity Desks (see page 5 for locations), or at the theater before show time. Yosemite Theater closes for the season on October 27.

Yosemite Search and Rescue Tuesdays (Oct 9, 16, & 23)

Hear stories about emergency response missions in the park from Yosemite's expert Search and Rescue rangers.

John Muir Series: Conversation with a Tramp Wednesdays (Oct 10 & 17)

Meet 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: John Muir is Back! Thursdays (Oct 11 & 18)

As modern-day environmental woes threaten his beloved planet, Muir urges us to become better stewards of the natural world. Live performance by Lee Stetson.

Growing Up in Yosemite: The Spirited Life of Florence Hutchings

Fridays (Oct 12, 19, & 26)

Travel to the 19th century to see what life was like for a spirited girl growing up in Yosemite Valley. Live performance by Audrey Davis.

Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey Saturdays (Oct 13, 20, & 27) Join rock-climber Ron Kauk for a film and talk celebrating Yosemite's vertical world.

YOSEMITE RENAISSANCE 34, CALL FOR ENTRIES

If you are an amateur or professional artist, this is a fabulous opportunity to share your vision! Yosemite Renaissance offers artists inspired by Yosemite and the California Sierra Nevada a unique opportunity to display their work. For over 150 years, artists have played an important role in the establishment of our state and national parks, inspiring people to visit iconic natural sites, and to protect our natural resources. The exhibit opens at the historic Yosemite National Park Museum Gallery in the heart of Yosemite Valley, then travels to other art centers across California. The exhibit includes painting, photography, textiles, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics and more. The call to artists begins September 1, 2018. \$5000 in cash awards will be presented at the reception in February 2019. Visit www. yosemiterenaissance.org to apply! Yosemite Renaissance is supported by Mariposa County, Ansel Adams Gallery, Visit Yosemite Madera County, and the National Park Service.

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

Degnan's Kitchen 7am to 6pm Degnan's Loft

12pm to 9pm, weekends only, from 2pm to

9pm, beginning Oct 12 Village Grill

11am to 5pm, closes for the season Oct 14

Dining Room Breakfast: 7am to 10am

Lunch: 11:30am to 3pm, 11:30am to 2pm beginning Oct 8 Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm, 5:30pm to 8:30pm beginning Oct 8 Sunday Brunch: 7am to 3pm, 7am to 2pm beginning Oct 7 Appropriate attire required for dinner. Reservations recommended for dinner and

Sunday Brunch, (209)372-1489. Coffee Bar 7am to 10:30am The Majestic Bar 11:30am to 11pm

Basecamp Coffee - Starbucks

Breakfast: 7am to 8pm **Basecamp Eatery**

Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am, Lunch: 11am to 4:30pm Dinner: 4:30pm to 8pm **Mountain Room Lounge**

Monday to Saturday: 5pm to 10pm, Sunday: 12pm to 11pm

Mountain Room Restaurant Reservations taken for 8 or more (209)372-1281 or (209)372-1403 Dinner: 5pm to 9pm

Pavillion

Breakfast: 7am to 10am Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm Closed Oct 22 through Oct 26 Limited dining services beginning Oct 29 No lunch available during construction Pizza Deck

11am to 10pm, closes for the season Oct 28 **Coffee Corner** 6am to 11am, closes for the season Oct 28

Half Dome Village Bar 12pm to 10pm, closes for the season Oct 28

Store

8am to 8pm, closes for the season Oct 8 **Shower House**

7am to 10pm, closes for the season Oct 8

Closes for a few weeks after Nov 25 Breakfast: 7am to 10am, closes Nov 25 Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm, closes Nov 25 Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm, closes Nov 25 Call (209) 375-1425 for dinner reservations Lounge Service: 5pm to 9:30pm, closes Nov 25

Gift/Grocery 8am to 8pm

Village Store

8am to 8pm beginning Oct 8

Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm

Gift Shop and Snack Stand

9:30am to 5pm, closes for the season Oct 21

Big Trees Lodge Store

8am to 7pm

Gift/Grocery

9am to 5pm, Closes for the season Oct 28 or when Tioga Pass closes

NO gas in Yosemite Valley

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

9am to 6pm. Diesel & propane Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card, Diesel

Bike Rentals

10am to 6pm, closes for the season Oct 14 Yosemite Mountaineering School 8:30am to Noon, 1pm to 5pm,

closes for the season Nov 11

Opens Nov 16, weather permitting **Daily Hours** 3:30pm to 6pm and 7pm to 9:30pm

Weekends and Holidays 8:30am to 11am, in addition to daily hours.

Bike Rentals

10am-6pm until Oct 21, then 10am-4pm Closes for the season Nov 11

Visitor Services

Beyond Yosemite Valley



Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. Photo by Christine Loberg

Wawona

VISITOR CENTER AT HILL'S STUDIO

Open 8:30am to 5pm, until October 8 when it closes for the season at 5pm. The visitor center offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, books, maps, and bear canister rentals. Located on the grounds of Big Trees Lodge, Hill's Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19thcentury landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the hotel or park by the store. Wilderness permits for Wawona and Glacier Point trailheads will then be available by selfregistration on the front porch.

EVENING PROGRAM

Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Big Trees Lodge lobby from 5:30pm to 9:30pm, Tuesday through Saturday, as he performs songs and tells stories from Yosemite's past. Historical programs are available by request and are usually given at 8:30pm. To request a program, drop by the piano early in the evening. The Big Trees Lodge will close beginning November 26.

JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM

Join a 15-minute ranger-led Junior Ranger Talk at the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio on October 6 and 7 only.

PIONEER YOSEMITE HISTORY CENTER

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

EXPERIENCE HORSE-DRAWN TRAVEL

Horse-drawn stage rides are available between 10am and 2pm, October 5-8. Purchase tickets at the Stage Office in Pioneer Yosemite History Center, \$5 adult/\$4 children, ages 3-12.

Mariposa Grove

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

NATURE WALK IN THE MARIPOSA GROVE

Surround yourself by some of the rarest and most remarkable living things on the planet, giant sequoias! Take a walk through the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias with a ranger and get all your sequoia questions answered. This 1.5 hour program is offered at 10am and 2pm, October 3-7, and at 2pm only on October 9. Meet at the Mariposa Grove Arrival Area.

FREE SHUTTLE TO MARIPOSA GROVE

A free shuttle provides service from the Mariposa Grove Welcome Plaza to the Mariposa Grove. Private vehicles may only enter the Mariposa Grove when the shuttle bus is not operating. Only vehicles displaying an accessibility placard are permitted to drive into the Mariposa Grove at any time. Pets are not allowed on trails in the Grove.

Mariposa Grove Shuttle Schedule: May 15 - Oct 14: 8am to 8pm.

Oct 15 - Nov 30: 8am to 5pm. Dec 1 - Mar 15: No shuttle service available.

Big Oak Flat **INFORMATION STATION**

wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. The center is located just inside the park entrance on Hwy 120W. The station will close for the season October 15 and then wilderness permits for the Tioga Road and Tuolumne Meadows trailheads will be available by self-registration on the front porch.

MERCED GROVE

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

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.

Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center

Open 8am to 5pm. Visit the wilderness center to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, rent bear Open from 8am to 5pm. The visitor center canisters and get general park information. offers information about park activities, The Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center is located just south of Tioga Road, along the road to Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, across from shuttle stop #3. The center will close for the season on October 15 and then wilderness permits will be available for the Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road trailheads by selfregistration on the front porch.

YOSEMITE VILLAGE GARAGE 8am to noon, 1pm to 5pm. Towing 24 hours. Propane available until 4:30pm

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

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

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Pastor Brent Moore - Resident Minister (209) 372-4831 • www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org www. Yo semite Valley Chapel Weddings. org

SUNDAY SERVICES in the YOSEMITE CHAPEL: 9:15am - Sunday School and Nursery Available 6:30pm - Evening Service/Bible Study in Chapel THANKSGIVING Service (Nov 22) - 10:00am

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY 7pm, Call for location WEDNESDAY MID-WEEK SERVICE 7pm, at the Chapel VARIOUS BIBLE STUDIES IN THE PARK Call for times and locations

Alcoholics Anonymous Yosemite Valley Chapel Sunday: 8pm to 9pm

Tuesday and Thursday: 7:30pm to 8:30pm

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

Protecting yourself...



A couple descending steps on the Mist Trail. NPS Photo

Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.

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

ENJOYING AUTUMN IN YOSEMITE

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

SUNLIGHT

Fall may create some outstanding outdoor opportunities but can also pose unique challenges. With days becoming shorter, it is important to PLAN outdoor activities accordingly. Always carry a flashlight and/or headlamp in case you're out llate.

WEATHER

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

- Base layer synthetics, wool, or silk, never cotton. This layer will pull moisture away from your skin so that you will feel dry.
- Mid layer insulation to keep warm. Many outdoor enthusiasts enjoy fleece or wool.
- Outer layer/shell protects you from rain and snow. Newer materials are designed to reduce sweating and keep you dry.
- Hat to keep your head warm and dry. A good knit hat that is long enough to cover your ears can make a big difference.
- Shoes wear sturdy hiking boots that will protect your feet from getting wet. Thick wool or synthetic socks help keep your feet warm and dry. Boots should not be tight or you will lose circulation which will make your feet cold. Carry extra socks
- Gloves Keep a pair or two in your pack in case you need to keep your hands warm.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

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

YOSEMITE'S ROADS

Yosemite's roads are just as dangerous as in your home town, however, other hazards such as rock fall, distracted motorists, and abundant wildlife also exist. Moreover, there are many sites to distract you. If you cannot devote 100% of your attention to your driving, please pull completely off the road into designated pull-offs and parking areas. Buckle up! Park rangers enforce California's Motor Vehicle Code on park roads. Also, as we approach the winter months, be mindful of icy road conditions.

FOR ALL SEASONS

- Stay on established trails do not take trail shortcuts or approach the water. Almost all of Yosemite's non-traffic related serious injuries occur off trail.
- Rock scrambling leave this to the critters.
- Water and food Stay hydrated and snack frequently take extra food and water.
- 10 hiking essentials including a flashlight, sunglasses, sunscreen, navigation, and a signaling method (mirror and whistle).
- Let someone know leave travel plans, including intended route and estimated time of return, with a trusted person.

TREE HAZARD AWARENESS

Diseases, insects, soil moisture, wind, fire, and snow combine with human activities to create hazard trees (trees with outwardly visible defects that could fall and strike a person or property). While the National Park service seeks to identify and reduce threats from hazard trees, trees without apparent defects also fail, and tree hazards cannot always be immediately identified and mitigated. Several catastrophic tree failures have left visitors seriously or fatally injured in Yosemite, in addition to property damage totaling over \$1,000,000. Be aware of your surroundings, especially away from developed areas, and keep in mind that trees may fail at any time.

FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Due to high fire danger and continued hot and dry weather, Yosemite National Park, is under fire restrictions. Campfires are allowed only in designated campgrounds and picnic areas. Portable stoves are permitted throughout the park. Smoking except within an enclosed vehicle, a building which allows smoking, a campground where wood fires are allowed, or a designated smoking area. Call (209) 372-0200 or email yose_fire_info@nps.gov if you have question or wish to talk to a ranger.

WILDERNESS PERMIT DETAILS

Wilderness permits are required year round for all overnight trips into Yosemite's Wilderness. Permits are issued and bear canisters are available for rent in Yosemite Valley during hours of operation. Wilderness permits are also available at the Hill's Studio in Wawona, the Big Oak Flat Information Station, the Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station. Call the park's main phone line at (209) 372-0200, or check the web at www. nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits. htm, for additional information. For summer trips, reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of \$5 per permit plus \$5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Check the park's website for trailhead availability and call (209) 372-0740, Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm, starting on November 12.

HALF DOME PERMIT INFORMATION

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are required seven days a week when the cables are up for 2018, May 11 through October 9, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 lottery day permits have already been issued for 2018. In addition, a daily quota of 75 Half Dome permits will be available to overnight users with an appropriate wilderness permit (use fee applies). These permits may be acquired through early reservations (50 per day) or day before walk-up (25 per day). Rock climbers who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area may descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit. More information is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/ hdpermits.htm. For backpackers more information is available at: http://www.nps. gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdwildpermits.htm.

HANTAVIRUS INFORMATION

Mice are an important part of the ecosystem, but can carry diseases harmful to humans. Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) is a rare but serious disease spread to humans via the droppings, urine, or saliva of infected rodents. Not all rodents are infected with hantavirus, but infected rodents have been found throughout the US. You may come into close proximity to rodents during your visit, so it is important you take steps to protect yourself from HPS. HPS risk is greater inside of buildings or other enclosures where deer mice are present. If staying in guest lodging, please tell the housekeeping staff if you see evidence of mice in your accommodations. Do not clean up the area yourself. Keep doors to guest lodging shut and do not bring food into your cabin that is not in a sealed container. If you are camping and backpacking, do not pitch tents near rodent burrows or droppings. HPS begins with flulike symptoms such as fever, and chills, one to seven weeks after exposure, progressing to cough and difficulty in breathing. Seek medical attention if you experience these symptoms and mention any 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 animals including humans. To protect yourself from plague, never feed wildlife, avoid dropping food 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 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 if given antibiotics in time.

...and Yosemite



Keeping Bears Wild

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

BEARS IN YOSEMITE

You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area, act immediately to scare it away: Make noise and yell. If in a group, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear. If you see a bear anywhere else, consider vourself luckybut keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will be helping the bear become used to being around people. Bears that become comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed.

DRIVE THE SPEED LIMIT.

The most common human-related cause of death for a bear in Yosemite is being hit by a car. Slow down! Driving too fast is almost always the cause of these accidental deaths. To report bear sightings, call (209)372-0322.

STORE YOUR FOOD PROPERLY.

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

"Food" includes any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This may include items that you do not consider food, such as canned goods,

WHY?

bottles, drinks, soap, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unwashed items used for preparing or eating meals.

PETS

- 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.
- pet owners are responsible for cleaning up and depositing pet feces in trash bins.
- · Pets are not allowed on shuttle busses.
- · 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.

In the Yosemite area, bear canisters are the only effective and

proven method of preventing bears from getting human food.

YOSEMITE GUARDIANS

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park's most important guardians. With nearly 4 million people watching over its special plants, animals, historic, and archeological sites, imagine how wellprotected these park resources could be! During your visit to Yosemite be aware that there are people who either unknowingly or intentionally harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:

- · Feeding or approaching wildlife
- Collecting plants
- Hunting animals
- Collecting reptiles and butterflies
- · Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads
- Using metal detectors
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Biking off of paved roads
- Camping outside of designated campgrounds
- Possession of weapons inside federal facilities
- · Possessing or using marijuana, including medical marijuana
- · Operating an unmanned aircraft system ("drone")

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

How to Store Food

LOCATION

Backpacking in the

Wilderness

Your Vehicle	You may store food in your car (with windows closed) during daylight hours, not after dark: use a food locker. Clear your car of food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats.	Bears can smell food, even if it's sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into vehicles!
Your Campsite or Tent Cabin	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.
Picnic Areas & on the Trails	Do not leave food unattended. Always keep food within arm's reach. Don't turn your back to your food.	Bears may investigate picnic areas or backpacks for food even when people are present, so be alert.

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

FOOD STORAGE

Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the

Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite.

TRAIL DESTINATION	STARTING POINT	DISTANCE/TIME	DIFFICULTY
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 round-trip, 1 hour	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	same as above	5 miles round-trip, 5 to 6 hours	Strenuous 1,900-foot gain
Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point - One Way (Closed in winter)	Southside Drive	4.8 miles, 3 to 4 hours	Very Strenuous, 3,200-foot gain
Valley Floor Full Loop	Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6	13 miles, 5 to 7 hours	Moderate

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

Celebrating 50 Years:

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and National Trails Systems Act Story by Park Ranger Eric Smith



Tuolumne River at sunset. Photo by Ryan Alonzo.

As you walk a trail by the river, consider the reflection in the trembling current. Along with the cloud-feathered sky, swaying grasses and willows, and inspiring sweep of patterned rock masses, in 2018 we reflect on the foresight of leaders in the past.

Fifty years ago, the United States Congress passed two important laws. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act declared that "dams and other construction…be complemented by a policy that would preserve…selected rivers…in their free-flowing condition."

Water in Yosemite's snowfields, meadows, and streams gather and tumble through miles of wilderness to become two powerful rivers designated under this law. The biota and beauty of this park are inseparable from these two veins of life---the Tuolumne River to the north, and the Merced River to the south.

The rivers of Yosemite National Park carry important stories. Both the Merced and Tuolumne Rivers flow through valleys, plains, and meadows lived in for many thousands of years by indigenous people who continue to protect, steward, and enjoy them. Both feature outstanding stair-step geologic features, including waterfalls. Both rivers support vibrant and unique plant and animal communities as they descend through the Sierra Nevada.

That same year, in 1968, Congress passed another law, this one promoting the free-

flowing condition of human beings on trails. The National Trails System Act promotes our universal access to trails, which can be designated scenic, historic, or for recreation. The Act officially selected the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) as a National Scenic Trail. Connecting Mexico to Canada, this footpath flows right through Yosemite National Park, from Donahue Pass in the southeast, through Tuolumne Meadows, deep into the northern park wilderness.

"Walking on trails we become like rivers, pouring through channels of discovery. Beyond each step and bend we encounter the strange and wonderful..."

Not all stretches of stream or parts of trail fall under these legal categories, but all trails and all rivers carry stories for those who will listen. Some connect us to the Buffalo Soldiers in the U.S. Army who cared for this place and built trails when the National Park was new-born. Other trails have borne people for thousands of years through these mountains, travelling to trade, meet, and enjoy. Sometimes we find ourselves on animal trails, our feet and minds sharing intentions with wild creatures we may never see.

Walking on trails we become like rivers, pouring through channels of discovery. Beyond each step and bend we encounter

the strange and wonderful; plants and animals, our own deepest thoughts, and the hard work and intentions of people that passed this way before become our companions.

Both the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the National Trails System Act protect rivers and trails not only for us, but for people of the future. For the sake of our future, and to honor these veins of connection, we do all we can to keep our trails and rivers clean and strong:

- Always travel 200 feet from any water or trails before peeing or pooping in the wilderness. Never burn, bury, or leave behind toilet paper--bring a bag and always pack it out!
- Keep your feet on the trail, not beside the trail. If you travel off trail, do so with care and intention--spread your group out so that a new trail does not form behind you.
- Never use soap, and refrain from applying chemicals to your body before swimming or dipping in the clean water of Yosemite National Park.
- Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Don't worry about the "best" trail or "best" photo spot; be ready to discover your best self, and all will open up before you.

These places are not protected by accident but by the effort. We leave them to future generations so that the stories, beauty, and opportunities for discovery and adventure remain.

Fun Facts about Yosemite Rivers & Trails:

- Yosemite National Park features 2
 Wild & Scenic Rivers, the Tuolumne
 & Merced. The Merced River's
 designation includes not only the
 stretch that flows through the Yosemite
 Valley, but also the South Fork of the
 Merced.
- The headwaters of both the Tuolumne and Merced Rivers begin on different slopes of the tallest peak in Yosemite National Park, Mount Lyell (13,114 ft.). Find it on your park map!
- Try it! Trace the three rivers, the Merced, the South Fork of the Merced, and the Tuolumne on your map in colored ink. Next, trace their tributaries. See how far upstream you can trace. Compare the land that drains into these rivers and streams to the park boundary.
- There are over 1,300 National Recreational Trails, including a National Water Trails system. They occur in all 50 states.

"And the world cannot be discovered by a journey of miles, no matter how long, but only by a spiritual journey, a journey of one inch, very arduous and humbling and joyful, by which we arrive at the ground at our own feet, and learn to be at home." -- Wendell Berry, The Unforeseen Wilderness: Kentucky's Red River Gorge

Supporting Your Park

Providing for Yosemite's Future

ENHANCE THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE

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

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



Half Dome, Christine White Loberg

The Ansel Adams Gallery

ANSEL ADAMS GALLERY

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

CONTACT US

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The Ansel Adams Gallery

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Yosemite Hospitality L.L.C.

PO Box 306 Yosemite, CA 95389 (888)304-8993 www.aramarkleisure.com

Yosemite Conservancy

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

NatureBridge

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

Yosemite Hospitality LLC



Yosemite Hospitality, a subsidiary of Aramark, operates lodging, food beverage, retail, recreational activities, tours, interpretive programs, transportation, and service stations 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 for more information.

Nature Bridge



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

Yosemite Conservancy



Yosemite Conservancy inspires people to support projects and programs that preserve Yosemite National Park and enrich the visitor experience. Thanks to generous donors, the Conservancy has provided \$119 million in grants to the park to restore trails and habitat, protect wildlife, provide educational programs, and more. The Conservancy's guided adventures, volunteer opportunities, wilderness services and bookstores help visitors of all ages connect with Yosemite. Learn more: yosemiteconservancy.org or (415) 434-1782.

YOSEMITE VOLUNTEERS: SERVING YOSEMITE

Over 10,734 volunteers donated more than 139,520 hours of service to Yosemite last year, restoring native habitat, working in visitor centers, serving as camp hosts, studying wildlife, cleaning up litter and more. Would you like to serve? We have group and individual volunteer opportunities, both short term and long term. Learn more at: www.nps.gov/yose/getinvolved/volunteer.htm or call the volunteer office at (209) 379-1850.



YOSEMITE ZERO LANDFILL INITIATIVE

Help make Yosemite the first Zero Landfill park in the country. Through the Zero Landfill Initiative, Yosemite is reducing the amount of trash sent to the landfill every year. In partnership with Yosemite Hospitality, we are making it easier to participate by adding more recycling containers with better labels.

Here are 3 things you can do to help:

- 1. Toss excess packaging before leaving home by repacking food in reuseable containers.
- 2. Use a refillable water bottle/travel mug. Camping? Use refillable propane canisters.
- 3. Put trash/recycling in correct bins.



YOSEMITE NAME CHANGES

The names of the following facilities in Yosemite have changed:

- 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_lostand-found@nps.gov.