Welcome to the Land of Giants

YOU EXPECT GIANT TREES and huge canyons—and you won’t be disappointed. What may surprise you, however, is that the whole of these parks is even greater than the sum of their famous parts.

Rising from 1300’ to 14,494’ (the highest elevation in the lower 48 states), these parks protect a spectacular elevational range. This span from low to high means dramatic shifts from warm foothills to cool forests to the cold High Sierra. It means diverse plants and animals living in extremely varied conditions. It means steep roads and trails that climb mountains, and cold rivers that plunge down from their heights.

The caretakers of this landscape are also diverse. This is not one, but two national parks—Sequoia and Kings Canyon—managed by the National Park Service as one. A national monument, which is part of a national forest, borders the two parks. Researchers with the U.S. Geological Survey conduct scientific studies on park resources here.

Sequoia Parks Conservancy is our official nonprofit partner. The Conservancy operates bookstores at visitor centers and leads educational programming throughout the parks. Proceeds help fund education, scientific research, and rehabilitation projects.

All park partners, public and private, collaborate to meet a challenging mission—providing for public enjoyment while keeping the parks unimpaired for future generations.

You are the most important partner! Experience these parks and learn all you can. Your help is needed to preserve and share these treasured landscapes.
Finding Information

Telephone & Internet

911 EMERGENCY — DIAL 911
No coins needed in payphones.

To Report a Wildfire — 559-565-3195

Limited Cell Signals & Service
See payphone locations by area, pages 8-9.

Sequoia & Kings Canyon (NPS)
1-559-565-3341 (24 hour): Press 1 for an information menu then press 1 for roads/weather/fire; press 2 for camping/lodging; 4 for wilderness; and more.

GPS, Web & Social Media
GPS programs often misdirect travellers here. Use maps and signs, or ask for directions.
The only official park information sources online are:

The Official Park Website
www.nps.gov/seki

Facebook
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Instagram
sequoikingsnps

Sequoia National Forest/Monument (FS)
1-559-338-2251, fs.usda.gov/sequoia

Yosemite National Park (NPS)
1-209-372-0200, nps.gov/yose

California Road Conditions (CalTrans)
1-800-427-7623, dot.ca.gov

Wi-Fi Locations
Foothills Visitor Center (Sequoia National Park), Kings Canyon Visitor Center (Grant Grove)

Translations

Welcome - You may borrow a Braille copy of the park map & guide at visitor centers.

Bienvenidos - Hay un folleto en español disponible en los centros de visitante.

Bienvenue - Une guide officielle est disponible dans les centres d’information.

Willkommen - Eine Landkarte ist auch in deutscher sprache im Besucher-zentrum erhältlich.

Benvenuti - La traduzione in lingua Italiana della mappa è disponibile in tutti i centri di informazioni.

Visitor Centers, Park Stores, & Information Desks

Each center offers orientation, varied exhibits and films, and many sales items: books, maps, gifts, cards,...

All profits from stores in park visitor centers support these parks!

All visitor centers except Giant Forest Museum have a payphone outside.

Foothills Visitor Center (in Sequoia)
(NPS) Daily 9:00 am-4:30 pm. Exhibits on life in the low elevations. 1-559-565-4212. Muchas veces hay ranger aquí quienes hablan Español. Self-issue local wilderness permits outside the visitor center through 5/25, then find the Wilderness Office.

Giant Forest Museum (in Sequoia)
(NPS) Daily 9:00 am-4:30 pm, then 9:00 am-6:00 pm beginning May 18th. Exhibits on sequoias. 1-559-565-4480. No payphone; closest are outside at Lodgepole Market & Wolverton.

Kings Canyon Visitor Center, Grant Grove
(NPS) Daily 9:00 am-5:00 pm. Exhibits, movie in English & Spanish, & park store. 1-559-565-4307. Self-issue wilderness permits outside. Payphones at market and visitor center.

Lodgepole Visitor Center (in Sequoia)
(NPS) Open beginning May 18th from 7:00 am-5:00 pm. Pay phone outside the market nearby. Local wilderness permits issued starting May 25th.

Cedar Grove Visitor Center (in Kings Canyon)
(NPS) Highway 180 into Cedar Grove opens at noon on April 27, 2018. Visitor center opens 5/23. Daily 9:00 am-5:00 pm. 1-559-565-3793.

Mineral King Ranger Station (Sequoia)
(NPS) Beginning May 25, open daily from 8:00 am-4:00 pm. Wilderness permits issued until 3:15. Payphone in Cold Springs Campground.

Hume Lake District Office (USFS)
35860 Kings Canyon Road (Hwy 180) in the Forest Service office in Dunlap, 19 miles west of the Kings Canyon park entrance at Big Stump. Weekdays 8:00 am-4:30 pm. Maps, books. 1-559-338-2251, www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia

Partners in the Parks

The following work together to protect these lands, provide services, and publish this guide, which was first printed in 1974 as the Sequoia Bark.

- Writer/Editor: NPS - Malinee Crapsey.
- Publisher: SPC (see below).
- Printer: Willems Commercial Printing, Inc.

National Park Service (NPS) - federal agency in the Department of the Interior:
1-559-565-3341

Geological Survey (USGS) - federal agency in the Department of the Interior:
1-559-338-2251

Delaware North Parks & Resorts at Sequoia & Kings Canyon (DNPR) - the concessioner providing lodging & food services: 1-888-252-5757, visitsequoia.com

Sequoia Parks Conservancy (SPC): The official non-profit park partner! Members get a discount on some activities. See below or call 1-559-565-4251.

Connect to your national park!

The Sequoia Parks Conservancy (SPC) works with these parks to enrich your experience and awareness of public lands. It offers educational programs, publications, and financial support for preserving the natural and cultural history of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and nearby Lake Kaweah. Visit sequoiaconservancy.org and exploresequoikingscanyon.com for activities and programs or to donate to a great cause. 1-559-561-4251.

Support the Conservancy as it:
- Seeks funding for park improvement projects, resource protection, and research;
- Provides activities & tour-guide services via the Sequoia Field Institute (SFI; page 5);
- Supports park programs & activities;
- Increases accessibility of park trails;
- Conducts Crystal Cave tours;
- Expands park outreach;
- Accepts donations for search & rescue efforts;
- Manages the Pear Lake Winter Hut; and
- Funds park books, maps, & this guide!
Change: Natural & Unnatural
We often think of parks as outdoor museums. Caretaking a living ecosystem, however, is very different than protecting unchanging objects.

Both natural features and human facilities may be different each time you visit, as both are changing all the time. How we take care of those features and facilities may also affect your visit. You won’t notice the ozone monitor that works 24 hours a day, but you will see other activities such as revegetation, road work, painting, or trail maintenance. Some activities may unavoidably affect you, such as smoke from a prescribed fire, campsite closures due to revegetation, or bear management.

The park staff uses such actions as tools to maintain the landscape and protect its inhabitants and visitors. Your visit gives you but a snapshot of this process; Nature decides the timing of many of these actions. They all share one goal: preservation of these parks for us all, now and in the future.

Fire: A Natural Change
Years ago, we tried to banish fire from the landscape, believing it was destructive. In sequoia groves, that meant putting out lightning-caused fires that naturally start as often as every 5 to 15 years. As time passed, we saw unanticipated consequences from this practice. Fire suppression blocked important natural processes, which led to big problems:

First, sequoias were not reproducing. We learned that fires create the conditions that sequoias need to regenerate: Fires leave behind a seedbed fertilized with ash, open the cones, and open the forest canopy, allowing sunlight to reach the seedlings.

Second, the amount of dead wood and dense growth of small white-fir trees increased tremendously. In the past, frequent natural fires burned these away. Now, after fire’s long absence, these serve as fuels, feeding bigger, hotter blazes that are more dangerous for people, plants, and wildlife.

For over 40 years at these parks, we have studied fire and its effects on the land. To protect human safety and benefit giant sequoia trees, we now work with fire to restore the benefits it brings.

We still put out fires that threaten life and property but, when and where it’s appropriate, we ignite prescribed fires or allow lightning fires to spread naturally, reducing fuels and improving conditions. Strong evidence shows we are succeeding.

Why is this important? The national parks exist to conserve resources “unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.” We once thought that aggressive fire suppression met this goal. A more complete understanding of fire’s effects tells us that excluding this natural agent of change only hurts what we are trying to protect.

For more information on fire management, visit http://go.nps.gov/sekifire. To report a wildfire: 559-565-3195.

Unnatural Change: Alien Invaders
Plants and animals evolve together in communities over time. Often, they keep each other in check.

When species get brought in from other places, the newcomers may multiply wildly. This is because the competitors, predators, and diseases that keep them in check in their home communities are not here. This imbalance breaks links in the local web of life, badly disrupting native species that depend on each other. Sometimes the non-native aliens completely replace local plants and animals.

Practice alien hygiene! Look for seeds and tiny animals attached to shoes, clothes, waders, equipment, tires, and pet fur. Wash mud from under cars and on tires before coming into the parks.

The natives will thank you!

Imminent Alien Threats!
Star thistle is one of the most damaging non-natives in the state. Dense, thorny growth completely excludes native plants and limits wildlife movements. It is not yet established in these parks, but it is close! If you recognize its yellow flower and thorny spines from your home or travels, make sure not to bring it in. If you see it here, tell a ranger.

New Zealand mud snails completely take over and change any waterway that they invade. Due to their biology, just one snail can start a huge population! These tiny light-brown animals—less than 1/8-inch long—stick to your gear. Check boots, waders, and boats thoroughly for this little invader. Common just east of the parks, they could easily be carried into the High Sierra.
Camping

Each standard campsite has a table and fire ring with grill and accommodates up to 6 people and 1 vehicle. There are no RV hook-ups in the parks.

Showers are no longer available in Grant Grove. Public showers are available at Lodgepole and Cedar Grove villages.

You must store food correctly all year due to black bears. The park supplies bear boxes; most are 47” long x 33” deep x 28” high. See page 11.

Summer reservations: See chart for reservable campsites in these parks (NPS) and in Sequoia National Forest (USFS). Reservations are available up to 6 months in advance: www.recreation.gov; 1-877-444-6777 (7am -9pm PST, 3/1-10/31). Customer service: 1-888-444-1474.

Group Sites & Maximum Group Sizes
- Mid-size group sites (7 to 19 people): Reservable at Crystal Springs and Canyon View.
- Large-group sites (15 - 40 people): Reservable at Dorst Creek, Sunset, or Canyon View. Group sites are also available in the national forest.

Fire Restrictions, Campfires, & Firewood
- Gather only dead & down wood; do not cut limbs off trees. Please don’t transport firewood. It can carry insects/diseases that threaten living trees. Find/buy wood close to where you will use it. Please burn any wood you brought in.
- Fires must be out cold before you leave.
- On Forest Service (USFS) land, free fire permits are required. Ask about them at Hume Lake Office, Kings Canyon Visitor Center (Grant Grove), a USFS ranger, or read about and download them at www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia.

Roadside Camping?
Not permitted in the park. Camp only in designated sites in campgrounds. In National Forest & Monument (USFS): Permitted unless posted otherwise; see fire-permit requirement info above.

Quiet & Generator Hours
Music and noise should be audible in your site only. Quiet hours 10pm-6am (no generators). At Lodgepole & Dorst, generator use 8-11am & 5-8pm only.

RV & Trailer Length Limits
Restrictions are in effect; check the back page.

Propane/Fuel Canisters
Recycle fuel canisters at home. Do not put them in park trash cans or leave them here.

Campsites & Campground Descriptions

Mineral King Area

Lodgepole Area

Grant Grove Area
- Azalea - 110 sites Open all year. $18. Self-register near site #89. Flush toilets. Village nearby with food services (no showers).

Cedar Grove Area

Note: Opening and availability may change with weather and other conditions.

Campgrounds: Sequoia National Forest (USFS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Park</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Availability</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Meadow - 43 sites</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>$21 single site, $42 double. Reservable in summer.</td>
<td>Vault toilets. Big Meadow food boxes -47”long, 33”deep, 28”high.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For hours & other details, see pages 8-9.

Three park areas offer lodging, as do several sites in the nearby national forest:

In These National Parks (NPS)

In Sequoia National Park:

Wukaschi Lodge

In Kings Canyon National Park:

Neighboring Towns

Silver City Resort (USFS)

Big Meadows (USFS)

On Private Land within Park

* Note: These lodges, on private land surrounded by national park, cannot be evaluated, regulated, or endorsed by these agencies. Details, pages 8-9.

* Silver City Mountain Resort (private)

Lodging

For hours & other details, see pages 8-9.

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* Silver City Mountain Resort (private)
Review safety advice on page 10, including warnings about tree hazards. Be extra careful near rivers. Carry water and a map (sold at visitor centers). Orient yourself before going and tell someone your plans. Always store food properly before leaving your car or campsite.

The Foothills
The low elevations host more different plants and animals than the rest of these parks combined.

Foothills Visitor Center
Exhibits on the diverse foothills. Hours on page 2.

Marble Falls Trail climbs 3.7 miles (6 km) through chaparral to a waterfall. Park across the highway from Potwisha (no non-camper parking in campground). Near site #14, follow the dirt road across the concrete ditch; the trail starts along the steep bank to the right.

Hospital Rock Picnic Area
Exhibits about the Western Mono people who once lived here. A short trail built by the Civilian Conservation Corps leads to a cascade. Please be careful; drownings occur here too often!

Paradise Creek
Park at Hospital Rock Picnic Area (not in campground). Walk 0.8 miles to Buckeye Flat Campground. Take the path across from site #28 to cross the concrete ditch; the trail starts along the steep bank to the right.

Mineral King - road opens 5/23
Opens at noon on the Wednesday before Memorial Day. The steep, winding road ends at 7800’. No gasoline or electricity. Use the machine at Lookout Point entrance to pay your fee.

Giant Forest
Giant Forest Museum & Lodgepole Visitor Center
Hours and details are listed on page 2.

Big Trees Trail
A level, 2/3-mile (1km) paved loop with trailside exhibits about sequoias. Start your walk at Giant Forest Museum (parking at the trail is only for cars with disability placards). 1 hour round trip.

Congress Trail
A fairly level 2-mile loop (3.2 km) through the heart of the grove. Begins at the Sherman Tree.

General Sherman Tree
Two trails lead to the world’s largest tree:
• Main Trail - This 1/2-mile trail down to the tree has some stairs; the walk back is uphill. Beware of slippery or wet spots. Drive 2 miles north of Giant Forest Museum (past the small Sherman Tree parking lot on the Generals Hwy only for those with disability placards). Turn right on Wolverton Road; follow signs. The trailhead is a shuttle stop starting 5/24.
• Wheelchair-accessible trail from the Generals Highway to the Sherman Tree. Parking here is only for those with disability placards. If you have no placard but can’t walk the main trail’s hill, ask for a temporary placard at any visitor center. Shuttle stop starting 5/24.

Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road
Opens by May 23. This 3-mile dead-end road begins at Giant Forest Museum. The road is closed weekends & holidays starting 5/26, 8am to 7pm, when the shuttle runs:
• Moro Rock - A granite dome with a steep 1/4-mile staircase to the top (300-foot elevation gain). Spectacular mountain views. Two miles from Generals Highway. See lightning warning on page 10. Shuttle stop starting 5/24.
• Tunnel Log - A fallen sequoia that was tunneled through, and the only “tree you can drive through” in these parks. Bypass for larger vehicles. 2.7 miles from the Museum.
• Crescent Meadow - Sequoias surround this fragile wetland. Stay on designated trails; use fallen logs to walk into meadows. Several trails start here, such as the 1-mile (1.6 km) route to Tharp's Log, a cabin in a fallen sequoia; and the High Sierra Trail (60 miles/97 km) to Mt. Whitney (14,500’/4419 m). Shuttle stop starting 5/24.

Sequoia By Shuttle: May 24 - September 9
Check bulletin boards at shuttle stops for details.

Giant Forest: Green Route 1 - Free.
Giant Forest Museum to Lodgepole, stopping at the Sherman Tree in each direction. ½-hour ride one way. First pickups at 8.00 am and 8:30 am; then every 15 minutes 9:00 am - 6:00 pm.

Moro Rock / Crescent Meadow: Gray Route 2 - Free.
Giant Forest Museum, Moro Rock, Crescent Meadow, Giant Forest Museum (stops at Auto Log and Tunnel Log on weekends only). 1/2-hour round trip. Weekdays: 8:00 am, 8:45 am, then every 20 minutes 9:00 am-6:00 pm. Weekends 8:00 am, 8:45 am, then every 10 minutes 9:00 am-6:00 pm. Road closed to private vehicles on weekends & holidays (page 12).

Lodgepole / Wuksachi / Dorst: Purple Route 3 - Free.
Leaves each stop every 20 minutes from 8:00 am - 6:00 pm. The Dorst portion starts when Dorst opens in June.

Wolverton / Sherman Tree: Orange Route 4 - Free.
Connects Wolverton picnic area & trailhead to both the main and the accessible trails to the Sherman Tree every 15 minutes 8:00 am - 6:00 pm.

Giant Forest /Foothills/ Visalia - $15 round trip
Visalia to Giant Forest (no additional park entrance fee). Reservations required; sequoia shuttle.com or 1-877-BUS-HIKE. Buses leave Visalia for Giant Forest every hour from 6am-10am; 2-hour ride each way. Buses leave Giant Forest for Visalia Transit Center every hour from 2:30-6:30 pm.

In-park shuttle questions: 559-565-4436.
Exploring Kings Canyon National Park & Nearby National Forests

Review safety tips on page 10. Be extra careful near rivers, even when water is low. Bring a map or trail guide. Nights are cool; carry layers. Store food properly while you explore. Be safe!

Grant Grove
Kings Canyon Visitor Center (NPS)
Exhibits/film in English & Spanish. Details, page 2.

Grant Tree Trail
General Grant, one of the world’s largest trees, grows along this 1/2-mile (0.8 km) paved trail. The tree is also a living national shrine. One mile (1.6 km) from the visitor center: north on Hwy 180 then follow signs.

North Grove Loop
This lightly traveled, 1/2-mile (0.8 km) trail offers a close look at Big Trees and a quiet forest walk. It’s a great place to see effects from the Rough Fire. Start at Grant Tree overflow-parking area.

Panoramic Point Road
Opens with snowmelt. A narrow road to a trail to a beautiful Sierran vista. Go east through visitor-center parking; follow signs to the paved, accessible trail to an overlook. Park Ridge Trail (4 miles/6.4 km round-trip) begins here. No trailers or RVs.

Redwood Mountain Sequoia Grove
Not plowed; opens with snowmelt. Rugged dirt road to one of the world’s largest Big Tree groves. Research here revealed the positive link between sequoias and fire. Across Generals Hwy from Quail Flat/Hume Lake junction; 7 miles south of Grant Grove. Turn right (west) at Redwood Saddle; 2 miles to parking lot. Loop trails up to 10 miles long.

Big Baldy Ridge
Great views over Redwood Canyon from the top (8200 feet); elevation gain 600 feet (183m). Round trip 4 miles (6.4 km). From Grant Grove, go 8 miles (13km) south on Generals Highway to the trailhead.

Kings Canyon & Cedar Grove
The road to this canyon opens 4/27 at noon, but few facilities open then (see page 9). Many drought-weakened trees here have succumbed to insects. Be very careful with fire!

Canyon View
The “U” shape of this canyon, apparent from this viewpoint, reveals its glacial history. 1 mile (1.6 km) east of Cedar Grove Village Road.

Knapp’s Cabin
During the Roaring ’20s, a California businessman stored gear in this small cabin for lavish fishing trips. Two miles east of the village road.

Roaring River Falls
A very short, shady walk to a powerful waterfall rushing through a granite chute. East of the Village 3 miles. Paved, accessible with assistance.

Zumwalt Meadow
This 1.5-mile (2.4 km) loop passes high granite walls, lush meadows and the Kings River. Parking is 4/4 miles east of Cedar Grove Village road. Buy a trail guide at the visitor center. Allow 1 hour.

Mist Falls
One of the park’s largest waterfalls. Allow 4 - 5 hours; 9 miles (14.4 km) round trip from Road’s End. 600-foot elevation gain in the last 2 miles.

Hotel Creek Trail
Starts .2 mile north of the market at the intersection with the pack-station road. Climbs through chaparral to forest and views from Cedar Grove Overlook. 5 miles (8 km) round trip; 1200-foot/365m elevation gain. Strenuous; allow 3 - 4 hours. Return via Lewis Creek Trail for an 8-mile loop.

National Forest (USFS)
Explore Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest which abuts the park.

Converse Basin
North of Grant Grove 2 miles. Virtually every mature sequoia in this huge grove was felled early in the 1900s. Ask at the visitor center about trails.

Indian Basin
A one-mile accessible trail & one-mile unpaved trail. Take Highway 180 7 miles north of Grant Grove; turn into Princess Campground. Turn left past the dump station to trailhead parking area.

Hume Lake
Formed by a rare, historic dam, this lake supplied water to a flume that floated lumber 67 miles (108km) to Sanger. An easy 2½-mile (4 km) trail circles it. Page 9 lists facilities. Eight miles (12.8 km) north of Grant Grove on High way 180; 3 miles (4.8 km) south on Hume Lake Road.

Buck Rock Lookout
A 1916 tower, still used for spotting fires, offers 360° views. Approximately 6 miles (9.6 km) off Big Meadows Road 14S1, then take Forest Road 13S04.

The Generals Highway
Driving this 80-year-old roadway is part of the park experience. It carries you up almost a mile in elevation and, by connecting the General Sherman Tree to the General Grant Tree, earns its name.

For decades, a skin of pavement barely improved the original wagon road. An effort is underway to build a route that can handle today’s large numbers of modern vehicles, without losing the joys of a mountain road. See page 12 for construction delays.

Wayside exhibits at overlooks along this historic road offer insight into these parks.

Kings Canyon Overlook
View the High Sierra wilderness from this overlook about 6 miles (9.5 km) south of Grant Grove.

Redwood Mountain Overlook
Six miles (9.6 km) south of Grant Grove on the southwest side of the Generals Highway. Views out over one of the world’s largest sequoia groves.

Eleven Range Overlook
South of the Giant Forest, this turnout offers views to the west over the foothills and the distant valley.

Amphitheater Point
View the sweep of life zones from high to low from this spot between Giant Forest and the Foothills.
Facilities: Sequoia

Giant Forest Sequoia Grove
6400’ elevation. Home of the world’s biggest trees.

Giant Forest Museum (NPS)
Hours & details on page 2.

Crystal Cave (NPS)
A major park highlight! Buy tickets in advance at Foothills Visitor Center or Giant Forest Museum. Tours begin May 25th; see details, page 5.

Lodgepole
6700’ elevation. North of Giant Forest along the Marble Fork of the Kaweah River.

Lodgepole Visitor Center (NPS)
Open beginning May 18th from 7:00 am-5:00pm.

Lodgepole Village (DNC)
Limited services:
- Market & Gift Shop: Open daily 9:00 am-5:00 pm. Supplies, clothing, groceries, grab-and-go food, ATM.
- Food Service: The Lodgepole Grill, now being remodeled, is expected to reopen in late spring or early summer.
- SHOWERS & Laundry: Open daily from 7am-6pm. Closed for cleaning daily, 1:00-3:00 pm.

U.S. Post Office
Weekdays 10:30-2:30 pm; lobby 24 hours. Address visitor mail: c/o General Delivery, Sequoia National Park, CA 93262, 1-559-565-3678.

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)
Outside doors to market & visitor center.

Wuksachi Lodge & Dining
7200’ elevation. (DNC) Year-round service, 4 miles north of Sherman Tree.

The Peaks Dining Room: Daily 7:30-10:00 am, 11:00 am-2:30 pm, 5:00 pm & lounge 2-9:00 pm. Reservations recommended for dinner. Box lunches available. 1-559-565-7700.

Wuksachi Lodge
Details on page 5. Desk staffed 24 hours. Pay telephones at main lodge. ATM. Ask about naturalist programs.

Gift Shop
Daily 8am-6pm. Souvenirs and limited supplies.

Wolverton
7200’ elevation. Picnic area & good open space for viewing night skies. Pay telephone on the restroom building, North of Sherman Tree 2 miles. Turn onto Wolverton Road to reach main parking for the Sherman Tree.

Mineral King Area
The road to this area opens at noon on May 23. 7800’ elevation. A steep, narrow, winding road to a subalpine valley. No electricity or gas station. Pay your entrance fee at the machine at Lookout Point entrance. See page 2 for ranger station hours.

Ranger Station (NPS)
Open 8:00 am-4:00 pm through mid-September.

Pay Telephones
Cold Springs Campground, Sawtooth parking area. Cell phones rarely work.

Silver City Mountain Resort (private)

Foothills Area
1300-3500’ elevation. Oaks, chaparral, & river canyons; hot summers and snow-free winters. Fantast-ic wildflowers starting in January. Park headquarters is by the Foothills Visitor Center.

Foothills Visitor Center (NPS)
Open 8:00 am-4:30 pm. See page 2 for details.

Hospital Rock Picnic Area
Exhibits about the Native California Indians who lived here. Store your food from bears.

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)
Visitor Center near front door. Potwisha Campground; Hospital Rock Picnic Area (on restroom).
Facilities: Kings Canyon Area & Nearby National Forests

Exploring on Horseback
Hourly rides, spot trips, or guided trips at three locations. Opening dates depend on conditions:
- **Grant Grove**, mid-June to early September
  - Summer: 1-559-335-9292
  - Off-season: 1-559-799-7247
- **Cedar Grove**, mid-May to mid-October.
  - Summer: 1-559-565-3464
  - Off-season: 1-559-337-2413
- **Horse Corral** at Big Meadows (USFS)
  - Open late May.
  - Summer: 1-559-565-3404
  - Cell: 1-559-667-8499

Grant Grove
6600’ elevation. Experience a pristine sequoia grove and one that was logged in the 1800s.

Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center
See page 2. Movie, exhibits in English & Spanish.

Grant Grove Village
- Market: 8:00 am–6:00 pm. Grab-and-go food. Groceries, supplies, ATM.
- Showers and Laundry: Daily 7:00 am-1:00 pm and 3:00-8:00 pm.
- Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)

Cedar Grove - opens noon, April 27
4600’ elevation. Along the Kings River on the floor of the glacial Kings Canyon. The lodge, market, and grill are closed until May 11.

Basic Rules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Can I...</th>
<th>In National Parks</th>
<th>In National Forests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walk my leashed pets?</td>
<td>Not on any trails. OK 100 feet from roads in developed areas (picnic areas, campgrounds, roads). Certified service dogs only (not assistance or therapy animals); see <a href="http://www.adap%D1%80%D0%B8%D1%81erviceanimals2010">www.adapрисerviceanimals2010</a></td>
<td>Pets can go on trails. In both areas: Pets must be on a leash less than 6 feet (1.8m) long.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collect things to take home?</td>
<td>Leave things where you find them to play their natural role in the ecosystem. In both areas: Archeological sites and artifacts are protected by law.</td>
<td>You may keep a few cones or rocks for personal use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunt?</td>
<td>Not in the Parks. Visitors are responsible for understanding &amp; complying with all applicable state, local, and federal firearms laws before entering this park.</td>
<td>Only during the season with a license: 1-559-243-4005.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drive off-road?</td>
<td>Not in these parks. Stay on roads.</td>
<td>Get specific information on off-highway-vehicle (OHV) routes at USFS Hume Lake office in Dunlap or Kings Canyon Visitor Center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut wood?</td>
<td>Not in these parks.</td>
<td>Call Hume Lake Ranger District for wood permits &amp; guidelines: 559-338-2251.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build fires?</td>
<td>In park, only in fire grills in some campgrounds &amp; some picnic areas.</td>
<td>Free fire permits are required, even for gas stoves &amp; lanterns. Get permits at visitor center in Grant Grove or USFS in Dunlap.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go fishing?</td>
<td>In both areas: Permitted during fishing season. California fishing licenses are required for ages 16 &amp; up. Ask for copies of park regulations.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ride a bicycle?</td>
<td>Keep bikes on roads only, not on any trail (other than the designated bike trail in Cedar Grove). In both areas: Under 18 years old must wear helmets.</td>
<td>Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowmobile?</td>
<td>Not in these parks.</td>
<td>Only on designated snowmobile routes. Trailheads are at Cherry Gap, Big Meadows, &amp; Quail Flat. Information: 1-559-338-2251.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fly a drone?</td>
<td>Not in any national park.</td>
<td>Only in accordance with FAA guidance, and not in wilderness areas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cedar Grove Visitor Center (NPS)

Pay Telephones (cell phones do not work)
Pay phones are located in the village and outside both the market and the visitor center.

Village Center, Lodge (DNC): Opens May 11
- Grill: Limited-service snack bar. Daily 7:00-10:00 am, 11:30 am-2:30 pm, 5:00-9:00 pm. BBQ 11:30 am-5:00 pm.
- Gift Shop/Market: Daily 7:00-10:00 pm.
- Groceries, supplies, souvenirs.
- Showers and Laundry: Daily 7:00 am-1:00 pm and 3:00-8:00 pm.

Wilderness Permits (NPS)
At Road’s End, 6 miles east of the village. Self-register until 5/27; then permits daily 7:00 am-3:30 pm.

National Forest & Monument

Hume Lake & Big Meadows areas are in Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest. You pass through the monument when you drive between Lodgepole and Grant Grove and between Grant Grove and Cedar Grove.

USFS Hume Lake District Office (USFS)
35860 Kings Canyon Road (Hwy 180) 19 miles west of park entrance. Weekdays 8am–4:30 pm. Maps, books, 1-559-338-2251; www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)
- Between Wuksachi Village & Grant Grove: Summer near the Big Meadows trailhead.
- Between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove: Hume Lake (year round; see Hume Lake below).

Hume Lake (on private land)
Open all year. Hours vary, generally 9:00 am-noon and 100-5:00 pm on weekdays, open until 7:00 pm on Fridays and Saturdays. Gas is sold when the store is open. Pumps may close for inspection.

Montecito-SEQUOIA Resort (USFS permitted)
All year. Daily. On Generals Highway 9 miles south of Grant Grove. All-inclusive lodging, meals, and activities. Meals 7:30 am–9:00 am, 12:00–1:00 pm, and 6:00–7:30 pm. Cabins, hotel, children’s camp; winter activities. 1-800- 227-9900; 1-559- 356-3388.

Stony Creek Resort (USFS permitted)
You are Responsible for Your Safety

Natural areas present hazards. Cold temperatures, icy or uneven ground, wild animals, and changing weather all pose dangers. Rocks roll, trees topple, and limbs drop without warning. People create other hazards via campfires, traffic, snowplay, and poor decisions. GPS directions may mislead you here.

Water is the main cause of death here. In addition to swimmers, many drowning victims walking or climbing near rivers unexpectedly fall in.

The National Park Service works to reduce risks, but your safety is in your own hands. Keep alert. Read warnings and ask a ranger for advice.

DROWNING
The #1 cause of death in national parks! Be careful around water; falling in is as dangerous as swimming. Once in a river, getting out can be nearly impossible: Rocks are smooth and slippery; swift, cold water rapidly saps your strength. Currents are always stronger than they appear, even during low water. Ask at visitor centers about river conditions.

PLAGUE, HANTAVIRUS & WEST NILE
Do not feed or touch ANY wild animals. Avoid areas of rodent activity, as fleas on rodents can carry plague and deer mice feces can carry hantavirus. West Nile virus is passed by bites from infected mosquitoes. Human illness is not common, but take steps to avoid mosquito bites.

TICKS are common in foothill and Kings Canyon grasses; check yourself for these little animals after a walk. Their bite is painless, but some carry Lyme disease. Remove them carefully with tweezers and seek a doctor’s advice.

GIARDIA
This protozoan in lakes and streams causes intestinal upset. Iodine and other chemicals may not be as reliable as heat in killing bacteria and Giardia, but can be effective if used properly. Boil drinking water from waterways for at least 3 minutes.

POISON OAK
A common shrub up to 5000 feet elevation. Red leaves and whitish berries in fall; bare in winter; shiny green leaves in groups of three in spring. If you touch any part of it, wash skin and clothes right away.

HYPOTHERMIA
This life-threatening condition can occur year-round. Stay dry; snack often. If others don’t react to the need for warmer clothes or are stumbling, forgetful, or extremely tired and drowsy, get warm sugary drinks into them immediately. Get them into dry clothes, sleeping bags, and shelter. Especially keep an eye on children who are wet or cold.

RATTLESNAKES
Found in much of these parks; especially common in the foothills, in the Kings Canyon, and near water. Watch where you put your hands and feet! Do not harass or kill them; this is when most bites occur. Bites are rarely lethal, but tissue damage can be severe. If bitten, avoid panic and call 911.

LIGHTNING
See dark clouds or lightning? Hear thunder? Get inside a large building or a vehicle (not convertible), if possible. Do not stand under trees or in shallow caves. Avoid projecting above your surroundings, such as standing on a ridge, on Moro Rock, or in open meadows. Stay away from open water, wire fences, and metal railings, which can carry lightning from a distance.

CARBON MONOXIDE
This odorless, colorless gas can be fatal. Never burn charcoal in closed spaces such as a tent or RV.

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OZONE POLLUTION
See air-quality forecasts in visitor centers. Most ozone rises into the Sierra Nevada on warm winds. Levels of this colorless gas are highest from May to October, peaking in late afternoon. The peaks sometimes reach “unhealthy” state/federal standards, and can affect respiratory systems. Ozone forms from gases in car and factory exhaust.

DRINKING WATER
We test the 13 park water systems to ensure that they meet federal and state standards. Annual Consumer Confidence Reports are available.

ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES
Keep parks safe, natural, and free from illegal activities, including marijuana growing and fireworks! Report suspicious activities: 1-888-NPS-CRIME.

KEEP ANIMALS SAFE
Pets are vulnerable to wildlife, ticks, and overheating in vehicles. Keep wildlife safe from pets, too.

TREE HAZARDS
Branches and trees may fall, whether or not they are dead, even when there is no wind. Keep eyes and ears open. Run if you hear cracks or snapping from roots, trunks, or branches (sometimes there is no sound). Don’t linger under dead, cracked, broken, or hanging branches. Avoid spending any time under trees that are rotten at the base or have cracked bark that is peeling off the trunk.

Explore Safely
- Avoid going alone, and tell someone your plans and return time.
- Take a map, water, flashlight, and layers of clothes.
- Watch and listen for potential hazards above, around, and on the ground.
Bears can grab unattended food or easily break into cars that have food in them. They become bold and sometimes aggressive in attempts to get more. Too often these bears must be killed.

This is why you may be fined if you do not store food properly. Follow the rules below to reduce (but not eliminate) the risk of a bear break-in.

Drivers
Never leave any food or scented item in cars where food-storage boxes are provided.

Picnickers
Never move away from coolers and tables when food is out. Stay within arm’s length of food.

Lodge Guests
Remove food from your vehicles.

Your entrance fee helps the Parks!
Most of your entrance fee goes to projects related to your visit here. Save time at the entrance by paying your fee in advance at www.yourpassnow.com/parkpass and showing it as you go in. Ask about Every Kid in a Park passes for 4th graders!

Passes to National Parks & Interagency Federal Recreational Lands Nationwide
- Annual: $80. Valid for entrance fees nationwide.
- Annual Military: Free to active-duty members and their dependents with a CAC or DD214. Crystal Cave has its own fee, but offers a discount.
- Seniors: $80 one-time fee buys lifetime entrance for U.S. citizens & permanent residents 62 or older.
- Accessibility: Free to blind or permanently disabled U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Take appropriate documents to entrance stations.

Passes are not valid for Crystal Cave tickets.

Over 800,000 acres of these parks are designated wilderness. They offer outstanding opportunities for you to enjoy both solitude and challenge. Thank you for following minimum-impact, no-trace guidelines to protect the wilderness!

Wild places include hazards, and help may not be available. Be prepared to be fully self-reliant. Many trees have died from drought, which may increase hazards from falling trees and branches; be careful where you linger or camp. See Be Safe, page 10.

Wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips. Permits are required for all overnight trips, and they are limited during the summer quota period (May 24 through September 22, 2018). The permit fee during that time is $10 plus $5/person. Permits can be reserved by email or U.S. mail beginning March 1. Outside of the quota period, permits are free and can be self-issued at the permit station or visitor center closest to your trailhead (see page 2).

Jennie Lakes & Monarch wildernesses in the National Forest (USFS): Permits are not required but please complete a registration card at Jennie Lakes trailheads; information is used to manage the wilderness effectively. USFS requires a free fire permit for any open flame; downloadable from www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia.

Camping in the park’s “frontcountry” is permitted only in campgrounds. Camping or sleeping in vehicles is not allowed in parking lots, pullouts, picnic areas, or trailheads in the park.

See nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/wilderness or:
Wilderness Permit Reservations
Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks
4090 Generals Highway Unit 60
Three Rivers, CA 93271
1-559-565-3766
seki_wilderness_reservations@nps.gov

Seasonal Wilderness Lodging

- Pear Lake Winter Hut (SPC): Winter only. This historic cabin is high above Lodgepole at an elevation of 9,200 and sleeps ten people. Six strenuous miles on skis/snowshoes get you to its cozy stove and 10 bunkbeds. Reservations are required: 1-559-565-4451.
Gas Up Outside the Parks
No gas stations are within the park boundaries. Fill up in Three Rivers (5 miles from Hwy 198 park entrance), Clingan’s Junction (20 miles outside the Hwy 180 park entrance), or at:
- Hume Lake Christian Camp: 559-305-7770. Open all year. Facility hours vary, generally 9:00 am-noon and 1:00-5:00 pm on weekdays, open until 7:00 pm on Fridays and Saturdays. Gas is sold when the store is open.
- Stony Creek Village: 1-559-565-3909. Starting in mid-May, gas is available 24 hours with credit card. Other services are listed on page 9. The village is between Wukaschi & Grant Grove on Generals Highway.

Go Slow for Wildlife!
Never feed animals by the road. Cars often hit wildlife that waits for handouts on roadsides.

Rules & Recommendations for Traveling in the Parks

Don’t Lose Your Brakes
Keep a foot on the brake for too long, and brakes may fail. Instead, always downshift when going downhill. In automatic vehicles, put the gearshift on 1, 2 or L. The engine gets louder.

Prevent Car Fires
Hot brakes & mufflers easily start car and forest fires. Stop only on paved areas, not on grasses.

Bicycles
Ride on roads, not trails. Obey traffic rules. Wear light colors at night. Under age 18: helmet required.

Emergency Car Repairs
For a tow, call 1-559-625-7700. Expect traffic delays between Hospital Rock and the Giant Forest. Vehicles longer than 22 feet are prohibited in the construction zone. Construction hours and delay schedules may change depending on weather conditions and other factors.

Generals Highway Road Construction
Monday-Thursday from 6:00 am - 7:00 am
Up to 20 minute delays. Traffic lights will control traffic, uphill traffic first.

Monday-Thursday from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm
Mostly 20-minute delays, but may be up to 1-hour delays. Uphill traffic first, downhill traffic will follow after the uphill traffic has successfully cleared the construction zone. Once both lanes of traffic have been cleared, the construction zone will close to all traffic, until the top of the next hour.

Monday-Thursday from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Up to 20 minute delays. Traffic lights will control traffic, uphill traffic first.

Monday-Thursday from 8:00 pm – 6:00 am
Both lanes will close for 10 hours, one pass-through at 8:00 pm and another at 11:30 pm, uphill traffic first.

Weekends (Including Fridays) and Holidays
No delays when both lanes are open. When highway is limited to one lane, expect delays up to 20 minutes. Traffic lights will control traffic.

See bulletin boards at visitor centers, www.nps.gov/seki, or contact the park for updates. Always use low gear on downhills. Beware of narrow, rough roads in construction areas.

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Monday-Thursday from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Up to 20 minute delays. Traffic lights will control traffic, uphill traffic first.

Monday-Thursday from 8:00 pm – 6:00 am
Both lanes will close for 10 hours, one pass-through at 8:00 pm and another at 11:30 pm, uphill traffic first.

Weekends (Including Fridays) and Holidays
No delays when both lanes are open. When highway is limited to one lane, expect delays up to 20 minutes. Traffic lights will control traffic.

See bulletin boards at visitor centers, www.nps.gov/seki, or contact the park for updates. Always use low gear on downhills. Beware of narrow, rough roads in construction areas.

Driving Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When roads are clear and open:</th>
<th>From Giant Forest to:</th>
<th>1 hour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lodgepole</td>
<td>1 hour minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Visalia</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mineral King</td>
<td>1½ hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| From Giant Forest to Grant Grove via Generals Hwy | 1 hour |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From Grant Grove to:</th>
<th>1 hour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Grove</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno</td>
<td>1½ hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite south entry</td>
<td>3 hours (via Hwy 41)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: GPS often misdirects travellers in this area. Follow signs, use maps, or ask.