Become a Volunteer

I HAVE BEEN COMING TO Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks since 1976 when my parents drove our little family here to show us what nature meant. I have wandered the trails of these mountains ever since.

It is my second home, what I think of as my true home, the place I dream of when my semester of teaching becomes difficult. I have discovered the nature my parents wanted me to find.

When I began volunteering, I came to know this place in a new way. I had always seen the High Sierra through the lens of my ego, but by re-seeing it, it has become a part of me.

Volunteer, and it will become a part of you, too.

The meadows have more significance when you help to reseed them with native grasses, the trails an added dimension when you maintain them, the forest more depth when you monitor and protect its health.

You gain so much from these scientists, historians, trail crews, naturalists, cave guides, and rangers when you give a little of your time.

- JOHN BRANTINGHAM

For more information about volunteering in Sequoia and Kings Canyon, email seki_volunteer@nps.gov, call 559-565-4287, or ask at any visitor center.

Moro Rock, Dawn

Your children crouch to follow the progress of the blue-black beetle working its way on granite.

Above, birds dive to catch moths, whose wings are left behind to come down like ash.

This morning view is yours alone. It stretches as far as it can toward the sea.

John Brantingham is the first poet laureate for these parks. Each summer, he and his wife Ann, lead creative workshops and restoration service projects.

In Cedar Grove, you may notice tiny trees marked with yellow and green flags. Park volunteers planted these seedlings this spring to replace trees killed by drought, insects, and wildfire. Please avoid stepping on them! And if you can donate an hour or two of time to help with watering, look for information at Cedar Grove campground kiosks.

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**EMERGENCY — DIAL 911**
No coins needed in payphones.

To Report a Wildfire — 559-565-3195

Limited Cell Signals & Service
See pay phone 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
  sequoiakingsnps

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

WiFi 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 e’ disponibile in tutti i centri di informazioni.

**Visitor Centers**

Each offers different exhibits and films. They all sell a variety of fun and educational items including books, maps, shirts, and postcards. All purchases support the parks!

**Cedar Grove Visitor Center**
(NPS) Open daily from 9:00 am-5:00 pm. Explore natural history and browse the park store. Pay phone and restrooms are available nearby. 1-559-565-3793.

**Foothills Visitor Center**
(NPS) Open daily from 9:00 am-5:00 pm. Explore natural history and browse the park store. Pay phone and restrooms are available nearby. 1-559-565-3793.

**Giant Forest Museum**
(NPS) Open daily from 9:00 am-6:00 pm. Browse exhibits on sequoias and shop at the park store. 1-559-565-4480. There is no pay phone; the closest is outside at Lodgepole Market.

**Kings Canyon Visitor Center**
(NPS) In Grant Grove. Open daily from 8:00 am-5:00 pm. Browse exhibits on sequoias and shop at the park store. 1-559-565-4307. Local wilderness permits are issued from 8:00 am-4:30 pm. The nearest pay phones are at the visitor center and market.

**Lodgepole Visitor Center**
(NPS) Open daily from 7:00 am-5:00 pm. Watch a movie about bears and browse the park store. The nearest pay phone is nearby at the market. Local wilderness permits are issued here. 1-559-565-4436.

**Mineral King Ranger Station**
(NPS) Open daily 8:00 am-4:00 pm. Wilderness permits are issued here until 3:45 pm. Pay phone is in Cold Springs Campground.

**Support the Conservancy as it:**

- Seeks funding for park improvement projects, resource protection, and research;
- Provides activities & tour-guide services through their Field Institute;
- 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, and 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.

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.

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.

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

Each standard campsite has a table and fire ring with a 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 * on chart for reservable campsites in the parks (NPS) and in Sequoia National Forest (USFS). Reservations are available from 6 months to 2 days before your stay: www.recreation.gov; 1-877-444-6777 (7am -9pm PST, 3/1-10/31). Customer service: 1-888-448-1474.

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 bring 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.

Campgrounds: Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks (NPS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campground</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Sites reservable until</th>
<th>Charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheep Creek - 111 sites</td>
<td>Open until noon on 9/19/2018.</td>
<td>$18.</td>
<td>Flush toilets. Food, pay showers &amp; laundry nearby in summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canyon View: 16 group sites</td>
<td>No RVs or trailers.</td>
<td>$40 mid-size groups (7-15); *$50 large groups (15-30); *$60 large groups (15-40).</td>
<td>Flush toilets. Food, pay showers &amp; laundry nearby. *Large-group sites open and reservable until 9/26/18, and mid-size group sites until 9/5. Some sites will be closed for restoration in 2018. No standard sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moraine - 121 sites</td>
<td>Open until noon on 9/5/18.</td>
<td>$18.</td>
<td>Flush toilets. Food, pay showers, laundry nearby.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Campgrounds: Sequoia National Forest (USFS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campground</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Sites reservable until</th>
<th>Charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tenmile - 11 sites</td>
<td>Open all year.</td>
<td>$21 single, $42 double Reservable in summer.</td>
<td>River &amp; sequoias nearby. Vault toilets. No potable water. Reopens when snow melts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stony Creek - 48 sites</td>
<td>Open all year.</td>
<td>$27 single, $54 double. Reservable in summer.</td>
<td>Flush toilets. Pay phone, food, laundry, showers nearby at lodge (summer). Extra car $7. Food-storage boxes ~47&quot;long, 17&quot;deep, 16&quot;high.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Meadow - 43 sites</td>
<td>Open all year.</td>
<td>$23 single site, $46 double. Reservable in summer.</td>
<td>Vault toilets. Big Meadow food boxes ~47&quot;long, 33&quot;deep, 28&quot;high.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lodging

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:**

Wukasachi Lodge

Cedar Grove Lodge in the Kings Canyon
Mid-May to mid-October. Hotel, restaurant, lounge, gifts, ATM. Register at the John Muir Lodge. 6500’ elevation. 1-539-335-5500.

**In Kings Canyon National Park:**

Sequoia National Forest (USFS)

Montecito Sequoia Lodge (FS permittee)

Stony Creek Resort (USFS permittee)

Big Meadows Cabin (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)

**Neighboring Towns**

Three Rivers, Lemon Cove, Squaw Valley & others offer year-round lodging & camping. Ask at visitor centers or see www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit.

Programs & Tours

**Crystal Cave Tours**

Reserve tickets online at www.recreation.gov at least 48 hours in advance. Need a ticket today? Check first thing in the morning at Lodgepole or Foothills visitor centers (not at the cave). **Plan time for delays in getting through the park entrances, especially on weekends and holidays.**

Crystal Cave Road is 15 miles from Sequoia Park’s entrance at Hwy 198; 3 miles south of Sherman Tree. Maximum vehicle length on this narrow road is 22’. Use parking-lot restrooms; the cave has none. Wear sturdy shoes for the steep 1/2-mile trail to the cave. Wear a jacket; it’s 50°F (10°C) inside. No strollers, tripods or bags/packs are permitted inside the cave (They can be used on the trail from the parking area but must be left unattended during the tour.). No flash/lighted photography/video. Not wheelchair accessible. Tour times are subject to change. For school tours & large groups, visit sequoiaparksconservancy.org/crystalcave.

**Family Cave Tour Daily - 45 minutes**

Extra tours on holiday weekends (Friday-Monday).

May 25 - June 15:
- Weekdays: Tours on the hour, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Weekends: Tours on the hour, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm, and on the half-hour 11:30 am - 1:30 pm.

June 16 - August 26:
- Weekdays: Tours on the hour, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Weekends: Tours on the hour, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Saturdays: Every 1/2 hour 10:30 am - 5:30 pm
- Sundays: Every 1/2 hour 10:30 am - 4:30 pm

Ticket prices: Age 5-12 $8; 13-61 $16; 62 & up $15. Ask about SPC member discounts! National Park Interagency passes do not apply.

**Free Ranger Walks & Talks**

Free programs are offered in the Foothills, Giant Forest, Lodgepole, Grant Grove, Mineral King, Cedar Grove, and other locations! Check bulletin boards for schedules of ranger-led activities.

**Free Junior Ranger Program**

Pick up a free booklet at any visitor center, complete the activities, & earn your badge!

**Field Institute**

Over 60,000 visitors annually explore the parks and Lake Kaweah with Sequoia Parks Conservancy’s Field Institute. These experts guide you through the night sky, Crystal Cave, and park trails. They even bring park history to life! SPC members may get a discount on Field Institute activities. 559-565-4251; sequoiaparks.org.

**Teachers & Parents, Take Note!**

Expand your classroom: Invite a ranger to your class, visit the parks with your school group, download lesson plans, and participate in distance learning. All education programs are standards-based and free! Visit nps.gov/seki/learn/education.

**Exploring on Horseback**

Hourly rides, spot trips, or guided trips:

- **Grant Grove Stables:** Open daily for one-hour and two-hour rides from June 9 - September 4, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. 1-559-335-9292.
- **Cedar Grove Pack Station:** Pack trips and horseback rides. Open daily from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm through September 30. 1-559-565-3464.
- **Horse Corral** near Big Meadows (USFS): Open until September; call 1-559-565-3404 or 559-338-2251.

**Programs & Tours**

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- Sundays: Every 1/2 hour 10:30 am - 4:30 pm

Ticket prices: Age 5-12 $8; 13-61 $16; 62 & up $15. Ask about SPC member discounts! National Park Interagency passes do not apply.

Special tours for special interests:

Junior Caver Tour 6/22-8/17, Fridays 1:00-3:30 pm. Ages 10 to 15. $30.

Discovery Tour 6/17-8/19. Mon-Fri at 4:30 pm, Sundays at 5:00 pm (except holiday weekends). $18.

Family Tour Age 13 & up. 6/18-8/26. Daily at 10 am, 12:30 pm, 3:30 pm (except holiday weekends). $18.
Exploring Sequoia National Park

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
Browse the park store and exhibits on the foothills.

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 0.6 miles to Buckeye Flat Campground. Take the path across from site #28 to cross a footbridge over the Middle Fork. Follow Paradise Creek (not the Middle Fork) for 1 mile (1.6 km) until the trail grows faint.

Mineral King
The steep, winding road ends at 7800’, the park’s highest road. No gasoline or electricity. Use the machine at Lookout Point entrance to pay your fee. Protect your vehicle from marmot damage, especially in early summer. Check online for details at nps.gov/seqi/planyourvisit/marmots.htm.

Giant Forest
Giant Forest Museum & Lodgepole Visitor Center
Free shuttles from Lodgepole and Dorst campgrounds stop at both visitor centers.

Big Trees Trail
A level, 2/3-mile (1 km) 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.

Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road
This 3-mile dead-end road begins at Giant Forest Museum. It’s closed on weekends & holidays from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, until 9/9. It leads to:
- Moro Rock - Climb a steep stairway to the top of this granite dome for spectacular mountain views. See the lightning warning on page 10. Shuttle stop.
- 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, highest in the lower 48 states. Shuttle stop.

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. Drive 2 miles north of Giant Forest Museum (past the small Sherman Tree parking lot on the Generals Highway only for those with disability placards). Turn right on Wolverton Road and follow signs. Shuttle stop.
- Wheelchair-accessible trail from the Generals Hwy to the Sherman Tree. Parking here is only for those with disability placards. If you have no placard but can’t walk the hill on the main trail, ask at a visitor center for a temporary permit. Shuttle stop.

Congress Trail
This fairly level 2-mile (3.2 km) loop leads through the heart of the Giant Forest sequoia grove. Begin at the Sherman Tree.

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

In-park shuttle questions: 559-565-4436.
All buses are wheelchair-accessible.

Grant Grove
Kings Canyon Visitor Center (NPS)
Browse exhibits and watch a park film.

Grant Tree Trail
This ½-mile (5 km) paved trail visits one of the world’s five largest living trees. President Coolidge named it the Nation’s Christmas Tree. The trailhead is one mile (1.6 km) from the visitor center; go north on Hwy 180 then follow signs left.

North Grove Loop
This lightly traveled, 1½-mile (2.4 km) trail offers a close look at Big Trees and a quiet forest walk. Start at the Grant Tree overflow-parking area.

Panoramic Point Road
A narrow road to a trail to a viewpoint with beautiful Sierran vistas. RVs and trailers are not permitted in the road. The road begins beyond the visitor center parking. Park Ridge Trail (4 miles/6.4 km round-trip) also begins here.

Big Stump Basin
Stumps in this meadow from late 19th-century logging include the Mark Twain Stump. You can climb steps to see the growth rings of this giant. Slabs of this tree are on display in museums in New York and London. 1.5 miles, easy.

Big Baldy Ridge
Great views over Redwood Canyon from the top (8209 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
Cedar Grove Visitor Center (NPS)
Explore natural history and browse the park store.

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 on Highway 180.

Knapp’s Cabin
During the Roaring ’20s, a California businessman stored gear in this small cabin for lavish fishing trips. Look for signs on Highway 180 two miles east of Cedar Grove Village.

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 1½-mile (2.4 km) loop passes high granite walls, lush meadows, and the Kings River. Parking is ½ mile (7.2 km) east of Cedar Grove Village. 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 views from Cedar Grove Overlook. 5 miles (8 km) round trip; 1200-foot/365 m elevation gain. Strenuous; allow 3 -4 hours. Return via Lewis Creek Trail for an 8-mile (12.9 km) loop.

National Forest (USFS)
Explore Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest. Despite the similar name, the forest is managed separately from Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

Converse Basin
Virtually every mature sequoia in this huge grove was felled early in the 1900s. Walk the 2-mile (3.2 km) Boole Tree loop, 6 miles north of Grant Grove to a monarch they spared, or the ½-mile (.8 km) loop to the Chicago Stump, cut for exhibit at the 1893 World’s Fair (2 miles north of Grant Grove).

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, the 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. Six miles (12.8 km) north of Grant Grove on High way 180; then 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 14S11, then take Forest Road 13S04.

The Generals Highway
Driving this 80-year-old roadway is part of the experience of these parks. It carries you up almost a mile in elevation, and connects the General Sherman Tree to the General Grant Tree, thereby earning its name.

An intense effort to upgrade the highway is underway. For decades, a skin of pavement barely improved the original wagon road. Today’s work is building a route that can handle today’s large numbers of modern vehicles, without losing the joys of a mountain road. See page 12 for road information.

Wayside exhibits at overlooks along this historic road offer insight into these parks. Stop, read, and enjoy the views at these and other overlooks:

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 of 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.
Facilities: Sequoia

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

Foothills Visitor Center (NPS)
Open daily 8:00 am-4:30 pm. WiFi is available.

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

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)
Foothills Visitor Center; Potwisha Campground; Hospital Rock Picnic Area (on restroom wall).

Giant Forest Sequoia Grove
6,400’ elevation. Home of the world’s biggest trees.

Giant Forest Museum (NPS)
Beautiful exhibits on the amazing giant sequoias.

Mobile Food Cart: Main General Sherman Parking Area. Open daily beginning 6/4, 11:00 am-5:00 pm.

Wolverton
7200’ elevation. This picnic area and trailhead offer good open space for viewing night skies. The Wolverton Road junction is two miles (3.2 km) north of the Sherman Tree. Look for access to the main parking area for the General Sherman Tree Trail along Wolverton Road. The picnic area and trailhead are at the end of the road.

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

Lodgepole Visitor Center (NPS)
Watch a bear film and explore the park store.

Lodgepole Village (DNC)
- Market & Gift Shop: Open daily from 8:00 am-9:00 pm. Shop here for camping supplies, clothing, groceries & grab-and-go food. ATM.
- Food Service: The new Lodgepole Grill is open daily from 8:00-11:00 am & 11:30 am-8:00 pm.
- Showers & laundry: Open daily from 7:00 am-1:00 pm & 3:00-9:00 pm.
- Pay telephone is outside market.

U.S. Post Office
Mail drop only. Full postal services at Grant Grove.

Wuksachi Lodge & Dining
7200’ elevation. Year-round service. (DNC)

Wuksachi Gift Shop
Open 8:00 am-9:00 pm. Supplies and souvenirs.

The Peaks Dining Room
Daily 7:00 am-3:00 pm, 5:00-10:00 pm. Reservations recommended for dinner. Box lunches available. 1-559-625-7700. The lounge is undergoing renovations and will reopen in late summer.

Wuksachi Lodge
The front desk is staffed 24 hours. Pay telephones and ATM. Ask about naturalist programs.

Mineral King
7800’ elevation. A narrow, winding road to a sub-alpine valley. Pay your entrance fee at the machine at Lookout Point entrance. Pay phones are at Cold Springs Campground and Sawtooth Trailhead.

Mineral King Ranger Station
Open daily from 8:00 am-4:00 pm.

Silver City Mountain Resort (private)
Cabins, gifts, showers. No gas. Store, restaurant/bakery. Open 8:00 am-8:00 pm from Thursday - Monday, and 8:00 am - 7:00 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday. 1-559-561-3223, silverscityresort.com.
**Grant Grove**

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

**Kings Canyon Visitor Center (NPS)**

Park film, exhibits in English & Spanish, WiFi. River in the glacially carved Kings Canyon.

**Grant Grove Village (DNC)**

- Market: Daily 7:00 am–9:00 pm. Grab-&-go food, groceries, supplies, ATM.
- New restaurant: Open daily from 7:00–10:00 am and 11:30 am–10:00 pm, with last seating at 9:00 pm. Enjoy the meadow views!
- Gift Shop: Open daily from 8:00 am–9:00 pm. Souvenirs, supplies, clothing, ATM.
- John Muir Lodge: 1-559-335-5500. Meadow Camp Cabins and Tent Cabins are also open.
- Showers are no longer available in Grant Grove. The nearest public showers are at Stony Creek, Lodgepole, and Cedar Grove.

**U.S. Post Office**

Monday–Friday 9am–4pm; 24-hour lobby. Send visitor mail c/o General Delivery, Kings Canyon NP, CA 93633. 1-559-335-2499.

**Pay Telephones**

In the village outside the visitor center & market.

**Cedar Grove**

4600’ elevation. On the South Fork of the Kings River in the glacially carved Kings Canyon.

**Cedar Grove Visitor Center (NPS)**

Open daily from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

**Pay Telephones** (cell phones do not work)

Available at visitor center and Cedar Grove Village.

**Village Center & Lodge (DNC)**

- Grill: Limited food service daily from 7:00-10:00 am, 11:30 am-2:30 pm, and 5:00-9:00 pm.
- Gift Shop/Market: Daily 7:00 am-10:00 pm. Groceries, supplies, souvenirs.
- Showers & Laundry: 7:00 am–1:00 pm, 3:00 - 8:00 pm. Showers are open during renovation.

**Wilderness Permits at Road’s End (NPS)**

Permits for overnight backpackers are issued here from 7:00 am-3:30 pm.

**National Forest & Monument**

Hume Lake & Big Meadows 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.

Lodging details are on page 5.

**Sequoia National Forest Hume Lake District Office (USFS)**

35860 Kings Canyon Road (Highway 180), 19 miles west of the Big Stump national park entrance. Open weekdays from 8:00 am–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 year-round to the public. Gas is sold when the store is open. The general store is open daily: Sundays from 8:00-10:30 am, then 12:30-10:30pm, Mondays-Wednesdays from 8:00 am - 10:00 pm, Thursdays from 9:00 am–9:00 pm, Fridays from 8:00 am-9:00 pm, and Saturdays from 7:00 am-7:00 pm. These hours are subject to change. Travel 6 miles north of Grant Grove on Highway 180, then turn right and travel 4 miles on Hume Lake Road to reach the market. 1-559-305-7770.

**Montecito Sequoia Resort (USFS permittee)**

Open daily all year. On the Generals Highway 9 miles south of Grant Grove. Buffet meals are available from 7:30 am–9:00 am, noon–1:30 pm, and 5:30–7:00 pm. Cabins, hotel, and children’s activities. 1-800-227-9900 or 1-559-565-3388.

**Stony Creek Resort (USFS permittee)**

Market 8:00 am–7:00 pm; restaurant 4:00–6:30 pm (later on Friday & Saturday). Showers & laundry 9:00 am–6:00 pm. On the Generals Highway 13 miles south of Grant Grove. Gasoline is available when the market is open, and may be available after hours with a credit card. 800-227-9900; 559-565-3909.

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**Facilities: Kings Canyon Area & Nearby National Forests**

**Grant Grove**

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

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- Market: Daily 7:00 am–9:00 pm. Grab-&-go food, groceries, supplies, ATM.
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In the village outside the visitor center & market.

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4600’ elevation. On the South Fork of the Kings River in the glacially carved Kings Canyon.

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Open daily from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

**Pay Telephones** (cell phones do not work)

Available at visitor center and Cedar Grove Village.

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- Grill: Limited food service daily from 7:00-10:00 am, 11:30 am-2:30 pm, and 5:00-9:00 pm.
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Open year-round to the public. Gas is sold when the store is open. The general store is open daily: Sundays from 8:00-10:30 am, then 12:30-10:30pm, Mondays-Wednesdays from 8:00 am - 10:00 pm, Thursdays from 9:00 am–9:00 pm, Fridays from 8:00 am-9:00 pm, and Saturdays from 7:00 am-7:00 pm. These hours are subject to change. Travel 6 miles north of Grant Grove on Highway 180, then turn right and travel 4 miles on Hume Lake Road to reach the market. 1-559-305-7770.

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**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.ada.gov/service_animals_2010">www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010</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>Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles.</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>
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.

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.

GPS & WEAK CELL SIGNALS
Cell phones rarely work here, and GPS may misdirect you. Don’t rely on them. Note location of pay phones (pages 8 & 9), and use maps.

MOUNTAIN LIONS
Cougars roam throughout these parks, but you are unlikely to see one. Attacks are rare, but be aware. Watch children closely; never let them run ahead. Cautiously move away if you find a partially buried animal carcass. If you see a cougar, convince it that you are not prey:
• Don’t run; that may trigger pursuit. Pick up children.
• Try to appear as large as possible. Don’t crouch down.
• Hold your ground or back away slowly while facing the cougar.
• If the cougar acts aggressively, wave your hands, shout, and throw stones or sticks at it.
• If attacked, fight back! Report any sightings.

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.
Bear Habitat: Proper food storage is the law!

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.

Campers
Store food day and night in the metal boxes provided (avoid bringing coolers that won’t fit; most boxes are 47” long x 33” deep x 28” high. Store ALL food, coolers, related items, and anything with an odor (even non-food) — including unopened cans and bottles. Latch the box completely. Food not stored properly will be impounded. Where boxes are not provided, seal food to reduce odors, cover it well, and close the windows. Keep a clean campsite. Deposit garbage immediately in bear-proof containers or store it like food. Take baby seats out of cars; the smells they absorb may attract bears.

Backpackers
Hanging food often fails! Store all food in a portable container. Less than 3 pounds, it holds up to 5-day’s food for one and fits in a pack. Metal boxes in a few wilderness locations offer backup storage. Rent/buy a container at visitor centers or markets.

Everyone
Don’t let bears approach you or your food, picnic area, or campsite. Wave your arms, make loud noises, and throw small rocks toward them (avoid hitting the face or head). Keep a safe distance but be persistent. Easily abandoning your food teaches bears that it is acceptable to approach humans; it may hurt someone in the future. If a bear does get food, however, never try to take it back.

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 limited during the summer quota period (May 25 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). No permits are needed for dayhikers.

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 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/seqi/planyourvisit/wilderness or:

- Wilderness Permit Reservations
  Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks
  47050 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: 1-559-565-4251.

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 DD1173. 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.
Gas Up Outside the Parks

No gas stations are within 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. Year-round gas and diesel when the store is open. 11 miles north of Grant Grove via Highway 180.
- Stony Creek Village: 1-559-565-3909. 24 hours with credit card (other hours on page 9). Gas & diesel. On Generals Hwy between Wuksachi & Hwy 180; 13 miles south of Grant Grove.

Rules & Recommendations

Don’t Lose Your Brakes
Keep a foot on the brake for too long, and brakes will fail. Instead, always downshift when going downhill (in automatic vehicles, put the gearshift on 1, 2 or L). The engine gets louder but it saves your brakes and prevents accidents.

Use Turnouts & Prevent Car Fires
Hot brakes & mufflers easily start car and forest fires. Stop only on paved areas, not on grass, and let cars behind you pass.

Emergency Car Repairs
For a tow: 559-565-3341 then press 9 (24 hours). In Sequoia Park only, 24-hour AAA for lock outs, jump starts, out-of-gas, minor repairs: 1-559-625-7700.

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

Firearms in these National Parks
Visitors with firearms are responsible for understanding and complying with all applicable California, local, and federal firearms laws. People who can legally possess firearms under federal, California, and local laws may possess them in this park.

Go Slow for Wildlife!
And never feed them.

Parking in Giant Forest

In summer, parking may be difficult to find in popular areas. Use this map to find parking options. Free park shuttles stop at each of these parking areas every 10-20 minutes from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm.

A Giant Forest Museum
This lot usually fills by 10:00 am.
B Main Sherman Tree Parking
Take Wolverton Road and follow signs.
C Wolverton Picnic Area & Trailhead
This lot is at the end of Wolverton Road.
D Lodgepole Campground
Park just beyond the entrance kiosk.
E Wuksachi Restaurant & Lodge
Continue past the lodge for parking.

Fire Danger & Restrictions

Early summer heat or drought conditions may result in the enactment of fire restrictions. Please check with park rangers about fire restrictions in specific locations you plan to visit. Locations where wood or charcoal fires are prohibited will be signed, especially in park campgrounds.

Restrictions may increase through summer as fire danger increases. Check for updates on park bulletin boards, at visitor centers, or by visiting www.nps.gov/seki.

Generals Highway Road Construction
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.

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 30-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.

Driving Times

When roads are clear and open:

From Foothills to:
- Giant Forest 1 hour
- Lodgepole 1 hour minimum
- Visalia 1 hour
- Mineral King 1½ hours

From Giant Forest to Grant Grove via Generals Hwy 1 hour

From Grant Grove to:
- Cedar Grove 1 hour
- Fresno 1½ hours
- Yosemite south entry 3 hours (via Hwy 41)

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