Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

October 13 - December 14, 2010

Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System

Yosemite Valley Shuttle System

Location

Visitor Parking

Lower Yosemite Fall

Upper Yosemite Fall Trail

Valley Visitor Center

Visitor Parking

Yosemite Village

2 Mirror Lake Trailhead

Stable

Pines Campground

Camp 4

Upper Yosemite Fall Trail

Yosemite Lodge

Housekeeping Camp

Shuttles run daily every 10-20 minutes depending on the time of day. The Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7:00am - 10:00pm and serves stops in numerical order.

The El Capitan and Express shuttles operate from 9 am to 6 pm. Service may be affected by construction projects. Check shuttle stops for more information.
Whether you’re looking for a cold-weather adventure, a warm fireplace, or a little of both, Yosemite is a magical place in fall and winter!

Winter Weather and Driving in Yosemite

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

Take a Twilight Stroll with a Naturalist

On selected early evenings, take a one-hour leisurely walk with a naturalist through the meadows and forests surrounding The Ahwahnee. Enjoy vivid alpenglow views, glimpses of passing wildlife, and stories of Yosemite’s deep human history during this peaceful way to get up-close and personal with Yosemite. Check the Scheduled Events in Yosemite Valley on page 5 of this newspaper or local listings for exact meeting times and locations.

Tour The Ahwahnee...

Step back to an earlier era of history as you explore the National Historic Landmark that opened in 1927. Notable for its architecture and artful décor, the hotel provides a cozy atmosphere to relax and enjoy a warm drink in. (“Food & Beverage,” page 7.)

... or Curl Up in Front of a Fireplace!

The Ahwahnee has three oversized fireplaces that match the proportion of the structure and that have always provided warmth during the year’s cooler months. Bring a book, a warm drink, or at least a pair of frosty hands for a good warm-up in front of the flames.

Take the Bus!

Free shuttles, including some environmentally-friendly electric/diesel hybrids, are available in Yosemite Valley year-round. Park your car and let an expert drive you to some of the most scenic and historic points in the park. Not only will you be doing your part to cut down on traffic congestion and vehicle pollutants, you’ll also have both hands free for that perfect shot of Half Dome.

Explore a Sequoia Grove

Meet the most massive living trees on earth as you explore a sequoia grove. Yosemite is home to three groves—each within walking distance of a road. Skis or snowshoes are recommended if the trail is snow covered. (See map on page 2 and info on page 7.)

Enjoy the Fall Colors!

Yosemite Valley is a great place to see spectacular fall colors. While each year is different, the end of October through mid-November are often good times to watch the seasons change around you. Trees like dogwood, maple, oak, and alder and plants like Indian hemp and goldenrod help give the Valley a golden glow during the fall. Ask at a Visitor Center to find out where the best seasonal show is happening during your visit!

Visit the Yosemite Museum

Learn about Yosemite Indians by exploring a museum collection that includes remarkable woven baskets and traditional dress. Tour the outdoor Indian Village or talk with an Indian cultural demonstrator. The Yosemite Museum is located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See page 6.)

Take a Photography Class

Learn how to best capture the landscape of Yosemite by joining a photography expert from the Ansel Adams Gallery. Several classes are offered each week. Have some fees, some are free. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 5 and 6.)

Hike to Mirror Meadow

Situated at the base of Half Dome, the site of Mirror Lake frames reflections of Yosemite’s most iconic cliff. (The lake itself is dry until the first significant precipitation of the season, however.) The quiet trail is gentle and follows Tenaya Creek as it winds its way through the eastern Valley. The trail starts at shuttle stop #17. (See Valley map on the back of this Guide.)

Visit the Other Valley: Hetch Hetchy

Hetch Hetchy Valley and its reservoir are located about 40 miles north of Yosemite Valley. The contours of Hetch Hetchy are much like its southern neighbor—with precipitous cliffs and waterfalls. Hiking opportunities abound. (See page 3 for specifics on visiting Hetch Hetchy.)

Drive to Tunnel View

One of the most famous views of Yosemite Valley, Tunnel View has captivated visitors for over 75 years. Newly rehabilitated, it offers expansive views of El Capitan, Clouds Rest, Half Dome, and Bridalveil Fall. (See map, page 2.)

Stroll with a Ranger

Learn about park wonders on a ranger-guided walk. Programs are offered daily in Yosemite Valley focusing on bears, geology, trees, and other topics. (See page 5 for times and places.)

See Half Dome at Sunset

Towering more than 4,000 feet above the eastern end of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome compels eyes to gaze on it. Sunset lights up the cliff face, creating a dramatic and colorful scene. Witness the effect from Sentinel Bridge or one of the meadows near Yosemite Valley or Curry Village. (See the Valley map on the back of this Guide.)

Go Bike Riding or Ice Skating

Rentals at Yosemite Lodge and Curry Village are both open 9 am to 6 pm. Curry Village bike rentals close on Oct. 25. Yosemite Lodge bike rentals close on Nov. 15. Given safe conditions, you can always ride your own bike on paved paths in the Valley, however. Call 209/372-8319 for more information on bike rentals. Ice skating at the Curry Village Ice Rink opens on Nov. 20, weather conditions permitting.

What’s Inside

Page 1   Things to Do
Page 5   Programs and Events
Page 6   Visitor Services, Yosemite Valley
Page 7   Visitor Services, Beyond the Valley
Page 8   Winter Safety
Page 9   Valley Day Hikes
Page 10  Feature Story
Back Page   Shuttle Map
Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Entrance Fees
Reservations are NOT required to enter Yosemite. The park is open year-round, 24 hours/day.

- **Vehicle**: $20
  Valid for 7 days

- **Individual**: $10
  In a bus, on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or horse. Valid for 7 days.

- **Yosemite Pass**: $40
  Valid for one year in Yosemite.

- **Interagency Annual Pass**: $80
  Valid for one year at all federal recreation sites.

- **Interagency Senior Pass**: $10 (Lifetime)
  For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.

- **Interagency Access Pass**: (Free) (Lifetime)
  For permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Reservations
Campground Reservations
877/444-6777
www.recreation.gov

Lodging Reservations
801/559-5000
www.yosemitepark.com

Regional Info
Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)
www.yarts.com

Highway 120 West
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce
800/449-9120 or 209/962-0429
Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
800/944-1333
www.tcvb.com

Highway 41
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
559/683-4636
www.yosemite.sieryear.com

Highway 132/49
Coulterville Visitor Center
209/878-3074

Highway 140/49
Mariposa County Visitor Center
866/425-3366 or 209/966-7081

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

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

Calif. Welcome Center, Merced
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104
www.yosemite-gateway.org

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

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the Yosemite’s high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley. The road stays open as weather permits, although overnight parking along it ends on Oct. 15. When snow covers the road and conditions permit, a system of cross-country ski tracks is maintained on it. From Yosemite Valley, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), then turn left onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating, some might say unnerving, view 3,214 feet down to Yosemite Valley.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park’s South Entrance station. When weather permits, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is a short drive from Wawona. Help reduce congestion by taking the free shuttle from the Wawona Store, available weekends from 9am to 6pm as weather permits. The road to the grove is closed to vehicles after the first big snowstorm, making it a peaceful hike or snowshoe for winter adventurers. See page 7 for Mariposa Grove hiking details. The nearby Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite. Expect delays along the Wawona Road Sunday 9 pm - Saturday 6 am. Additional delays can be expected Sat. 9 pm - Sun. 6 am. Delays will be 30-minutes during the day (up to 60 minutes from 11 pm - 6 am). Call 209/372-0200 for updated road conditions.

Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

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

Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road

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

Hetch Hetchy

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. The area’s low elevation makes it a good place to hike in autumn and winter. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley via Highway 120 and Evergreen and Hetch Hetchy Roads. Hetch Hetchy Road is open limited hours: 8 am to 7 pm through Oct. 31; then 8 am to 5 pm through March 31. The road is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen Road and is a 1 hour and 15 minute drive from Yosemite Valley. Trailers, vehicles over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not allowed on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.

Did you know?

Yosemite has almost 3,000 meadows that make up only 3% of the park, or a little more than 21,000 total acres. These meadows are clustered into a few “hotspots” of large and connected habitat.
Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas in the heart of the park

The Incomparable Yosemite Valley

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

Yosemite Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery before you. See pages 5-6 for more information on program topics and visitor services available.

The base of Lower Yosemite Fall is an easy walk from shuttle stop #6. (Both Upper and Lower Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow return.) This hike features educational exhibits and a picnic area, and is accessible to the mobility impaired. Although Yosemite Falls dries up by the end of the summer, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan.

Note: Please park on the paved road shoulder next to El Capitan Meadow. Delicate meadows are easily damaged by trampling, so please stay on footpaths.

El Capitan, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan.

Self-Guiding Trails

A Changing Yosemite

This one-mile-long walk through Cook's Meadow explores both natural and cultural stories of Yosemite. Brochure available at the Valley Visitor Center.

Mirror Lake

Mirror Lake interpretive trail is a short loop adjacent to Mirror Lake, a seasonal lake on Tenaya Creek. Exhibits focus on the rich natural history of the area and American Indian use. To reach the start of the trail, walk one mile from shuttle stop #17 to the disabled parking spaces near the lake. The trail begins here.

Indian Village

This short loop winds through the Indian Village of Ahwahnee, a reconstructed Miwok-Paiute village. A booklet is available at the trailhead and in the Visitor Center. The trail begins behind the Yosemite Museum.

Curry Village

The Legacy of Curry Village is an easy stroll commemorating the early days of Camp Curry. Pick up a map and guide at the Curry Village front desk or tour desk.

Weather permitting, several motor coach sightseeing tours are available in Yosemite.

To experience the Valley with a guide, take the Valley Floor Tour. This 2-hour tour departs several times daily from Yosemite Lodge. During warm fall days, an open-air tram is used. When weather turns colder, tours travel by motorcoach.

The Glacier Point Tour is a four-hour round trip from Yosemite Valley to Glacier Point, which departs daily from Yosemite Lodge. The Glacier Point Tour also offers a one-way ticket for adventurers to hike back down to Yosemite Valley.

The Grand Tour is an eight-hour combination of Big Trees and Glacier Point tours and departs daily from Yosemite Lodge. Both tours end when snow closes Glacier Point Road.

Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at tour/transportation desks at Yosemite Lodge, Curry Village, or Yosemite Village.

Upper Yosemite Fall in Winter, NPS Photo

Upper and Lower Yosemite Falls will be open by Nov. 20. To learn more: 209/372-8341.

Tunnel View, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, including El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is particularly spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

To experience the Valley on foot, stop by a visitor center for a trail map and the most current trail conditions, or see page 9 for a list of popular Valley day hikes.

To experience the Valley by bike, bring or rent a bike. Weather permitting, rentals at Yosemite Lodge and Curry Village are both open 9 am to 6 pm. Curry Village bike rentals close on Oct. 24. Yosemite Lodge bike rentals close on Nov. 19. Call 209/372-8319 for more information on bike rentals.

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## Events and Programs

**Where to go and what to do**

### Yosemite Valley

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00am Camera Walk: 1½ hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ahnads Adams Gallery.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00am Art Workshop (October 13 only) 6 hrs. See schedule of artists, page 4 (YAECC)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30pm Evening Programs: 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge. Check local postings for venues. (DNC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7:00am Ranger Walk – A Changing Yosemite 1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS)</td>
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<td>2:00pm Evening Program: 1 hr. Brown Bear: A Tale of Two Communities (DNC)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2:00pm Ranger Walk – Yosemite’s First People 1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2:30pm History of Bracebridge Dinner Talk (December 13 only) ½ hr. The Ahwahnee Winter Club Room (DNC)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>7:00pm Ranger Evening Program 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge. Check local postings for venues. (NPS)</td>
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<td>10:30pm Evening Programs: 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge. Check local postings for venues. (DNC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1:00pm “Using Your Digital Camera” Class 4 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ahnads Adams Gallery (TAAG)</td>
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<td>2:00pm Ranger Walk – Trees 1½ hrs. The Ahwahnee, shuttle stop #3 (NPS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2:30pm History of Bracebridge Dinner Talk (December 14 only) ½ hr. The Ahwahnee Winter Club Room (DNC)</td>
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<td>7:00pm Evening Programs: 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge. Check local postings for venues. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8:30 am Camera Walk: 1½ hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ahnads Adams Gallery.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00am Art Workshop (October 14 and 21 only) 4 hrs. See schedule of artists, page 4 (YAECC)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:00 am Children’s Photo Walk: The sign up and meet at The Ahnads Adams Gallery.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1:00pm FAMILY STROLL (November 25 only) 1½ hrs. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC)</td>
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<td>1:30pm In the Footsteps of Ahnads Adams: Seeing Artistically with your Camera 4 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ahnads Adams Gallery. (AAAG) $</td>
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<td>2:00pm Ranger Walk – Yosemite’s Legacy 1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3:00pm STORYTIME (November 25 only) ½ hr. Yosemite Lodge. Check local postings for venues. (DNC)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Evening Programs: 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge. Check local postings for venues. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00pm FRESIDE STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES (October 21, October 28, November 11, &amp; December 9 only) 1½ hr. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge Fire Place (DNC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>10:00am Art Workshop (October 15 and 22 only) 4 hrs. See schedule of artists, page 4 (YAECC)</td>
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<td>10:30pm STORYTIME (November 26 only) ½ hr. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge Fire Place (DNC)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2:00pm Ranger Walk – Geology 1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3:00pm FAMILY STROLL (November 26 only) ½ hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn (NPS)</td>
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<td>7:00pm Film: Ahnads Adams Except October 26: 1½ hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater. Check local postings for venue. (AAAG)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ranger Evening Program: (October 26 only) ½ hr. Yosemite Lodge. Check local postings for venues. (IM3)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 pm NIGHT PROWLS (October 22 &amp; October 29 only) 1½ hrs. Explore Yosemite at Night! Tokachiinfo at any tour desk. (DNC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00am Camera Walk: 1½ hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ahnads Adams Gallery.</td>
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<td>9:00 am WEE WILD ONES (except October 16, October 30, &amp; November 6) 45 min. Stories &amp; activities for kids 6 &amp; under; The Ahwahnee Great Lounge Fire Place (DNC)</td>
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<td>2:00pm Ranger Walk – Bears 1½ hrs. Lower Yosemite Fall, shuttle stop #6 (NPS)</td>
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<td>4:00pm CHILDREN’S STORYTIME 1½ hour. Meet at The Ahnads Adams Gallery. No sign up necessary. (TAAG)</td>
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<td>6:30pm HALLOWEEN FAMILY NIGHT (October 30 only) ½ hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (DNC/RPS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Ranger Evening Program 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge. Check local postings for venues. (NPS)</td>
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<td>Film: Ahnads Adams Except October 30: 1½ hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater Check local postings for venue. (AAAG)</td>
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### Wawona

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### Access for People with Disabilities

- Accessible parking, lodging, tours, and activities are available throughout the park.
- For a complete list of accessible services, recreational opportunities, and exhibits, pick up an updated Yosemite Accessibility Guide which is available at park entrance stations, visitor centers, and online at www.nps.gov/yose/accessibility.htm.
- Programs listed in **ALL CAPS** are especially for children and their families.

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**To reach these, enter the Valley on Southside Drive. Turn left on Sentinel Drive. Turn left on Northside Drive, and follow the blue and white signs.**

**Sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Call 209-372-0296 to request an interpreter. Advance notice of at least 2 weeks is requested.**

**Accessible Listening Devices are available upon advance request. Inquire at a visitor center.**

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**NPS National Park Service**
**DNC DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.**
**AAAG The Ahnads Adams Gallery**
**YCC Yosemite Conservancy**
**YAECC Yosemite Art Education Center**
**$ Programs offered for a fee**
Yosemite Valley

Even when it's cold outside, Yosemite Valley offers great activities and programs for the whole family.

Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

Visitor center and bookstore hours are 9 am to 5 pm, just west of the main post office (shuttle stops #3 and #9). The center offers information, maps, and books in the attached bookstore. Explore the new exhibit hall and learn how Yosemite’s spectacular landscape was formed, how people have interacted with it through the centuries, how wildlife adapts and survives, and how your national park continues to evolve.

Film: Spirit of Yosemite

This inspiring visitor-orientation film is shown every 30 minutes, Monday - Saturday between 9:30 am and 4:30 pm, and Sunday between noon to 4:30 pm in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

Wilderness Permits

The Valley Wilderness Center is open from 8 am to 4:30 pm through Oct. 24. After that date, permits are available by self-registration at the Valley Visitor Center. Bear canister rentals are available at the Valley Visitor Center after Oct. 24. The exhibit is made possible by a grant from the Yosemite Conservancy.

Yosemite Art & Education Center

The Yosemite Art & Education Center offers art workshops from 10 am to 2 pm Tuesday through Saturday through October. Register for classes at the Center in advance, or by calling 209/372-1442 (suggested donation of $5, cost of supplies variable). Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Be prepared to work outdoors.

October 12-Oct 16: Marcy Wheeler, Impressive/Expressive Yosemite w.Acrlics

October 19-Oct 23: Raymond Otn, Plein Air Painting bring your digital camera

Yosemite Cemetery

This historic cemetery is located just west of the Yosemite Museum, across the street. Guide to the Yosemite Cemetery is available at the Valley Visitor Center.

Ansel Adams Gallery

The gallery is located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center and is open daily. Hours are 9 am to 5 pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other fine artists. See page 5 for photo walk and other event times. For more information, call 209/372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com.

Yosemite Bookstore

Open daily from 9 am to 5 pm, may close for lunch.

Indian Cultural Exhibit

Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite’s Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present.

Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center. Open 9 am to 5 pm, may close for lunch.

Halloween Family Night

October 30, 2010 6:30pm to 9pm
Nature Center at Happy Isles
Join park interpretive staff at the nature Center at happy Isles for an evening of SUPER natural fun for the whole family! Stations will be set up investigating some of Yosemite’s nightlife such as spiders, scorpions, bats, and owls. You can also go out on a night walk and enjoy a story finale to the evening with goodides and hot drinks for those attending. The Nature Center is a short walk from shuttle Stop #16, and shuttle service will continue out to Happy Isles until 9:30pm.

Halloween History Stroll

October 29, 2010 2:30pm to 8:45pm
Yosemite Valley Visitor Center
Join a naturalist in front of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for a short walk to the Yosemite Cemetery where we will piece together the story of some of the residents there. Bring a flashlight! Not a scary event.

BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

Yosemite Village
The Ansel Adams Gallery 9am to 5pm
Yosemite Bookstore Inside Yosemite Visitor Center 9am to 5pm
Yosemite Museum Store 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch
Yosemite Lodge Gift/Grocery 8am to 5pm
Curry Village Gift/Grocery 8am to 5pm
Wawona Post Office 9am to 5pm
The Ahwahnee Gift Shop 8am to 8pm
The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop 7am to 10pm
Yosemite Lodge Gift/Grocery 8am to 7pm
Curry Village Mountain Shop 9am to 5pm
Curry Village Gift/Grocery 9am-7pm
Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop 8am to 6pm

WINTER SPORTS

Badger Pass Ski Area and Sport Shop
Scheduled to open December 17, weather and conditions permitting.
Wawona
Wawona Visitor Center at Hill’s Studio

The visitor center bookstore is open 9:30am to 4pm Friday through Sunday November 7th. May close for lunch!

Pioneer Yosemite History Center

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

Evening Programs

Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Wawona Hotel lobby from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm, Tuesday through Saturday, as he performs songs and tells stories from Yosemite’s past.

Wilderness Permits

Visitors can obtain wilderness permits at a self-service kiosk on the porch of the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill’s Studio, adjacent to the Wawona Hotel.

Mariposa Grove

Located near Yosemite’s South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park’s largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees. A few of these giants are visible in the parking area.

Giant sequoias. Photo by Christine White Lodge

Shutters

Open 24 hours
Housekeeping Camp

Laundromat

8am to 10pm

Religion Services

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH 9:15 AM (Sunday School and Nursery available) 6:30 PM Sunday Evening Service/Bible TUESDAY BIBLE STUDIES 7:00 PM Women’s Bible 7:00 PM call for chapel location Men’s Bible Study - Chapel 6:30 PM

THURSDAY MIDWEEK SERVICE Thursday Evening Service 7:00 Thanksgiving Service at 10:00 AM (No evening service on Thanksgiving) Pastor Brent Moore, 209-372-4631

ROMAN CATHOLIC SUNDAY MASS CELEBRATIONS: Saturday, 6:00 pm. Rectory, 9006 Cedar Ct., 200 yds west of Shuttle Stop # 5.

Sunday, 10:00 am Visitor Center Theater, Shuttle Stop # 5 or 9

Sunday, 6:00 PM (Spanish), Cedar Lodge, El Portal DAILY MASS CELEBRATIONS: Call for times, 209-372-4729

CHURCH OF CHRIST (NONDENOMINATIONAL) Parish Chapel/Worship: Sunday 11 am Foresta Road, at top of Chapel Lane Information: 209-379-2100

GENERAL SERVICES

Village Garage NO GAS AVAILABLE IN YOSEMITE VALLEY 8am to 5pm Towing 24 hours. Propane available until 4pm. 209-372-8120

Dental Services

Adjacent to Yosemite Medical Clinic. For hours, call 209-372-4200. If no answer, call 209-372-4637

Yosemite Medical Clinic Emergency care 24 hours, daily Drop-in and urgent care: 2am to 7pm Appointment: 2am to 5pm Mon. through Fri.

Sunday, 7:30 pm: El Portal Dental Services

Service Organizations

Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 pm, Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday DICM General Office Building (Employee Training Center), Yosemite Village AA-ALANON 7:30 pm Tuesday DICM General Office Building (Employee Training Center), Yosemite Village Call Dave M at 209/765-1266, or Janet G at 916-346-9547 for more information or if you need to speak to someone.

Lions Club

Meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at noon, The Ahwahnee. Call 209-372-4475.

Rotary International

Meets Thursday for lunch at noon in The Ahwahnee’s Memorial Room. Visiting Rotarian families and guests welcome. For meeting reservations or information, call 209-372-8459.
Protecting yourself...

Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.

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

**Around Ice and Water**

- Stay off of frozen lakes, rivers and streams and away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards.
- Never swim or wade upstream from the brink of a waterfall, even if the water appears shallow and calm. Each year, unsuspecting visitors are swept over waterfalls to their deaths when swimming in these areas.
- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

**Avoid Hypothermia**

Sierra winters are comparatively mild, but temperatures can drop into dangerous territory with little warning. Winter sports require a high degree of preparation and training. Be prepared to shelter overnight even when out just for the day. Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

Avoid the combination of wetness, wind, and cold. Know symptoms of hypothermia. Carry emergency Preparedness and training. Be prepared to shelter overnight even when out just for the day. Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

**Effects of Altitude**

Altitude sickness may develop in otherwise healthy and fit people who are exposed to rapid increases in altitude. It can develop at altitudes as low as 8,000 feet (Yosemite Valley’s elevation is 4,000 feet). Should altitude sickness develop, descend to a lower elevation. The Yosemite Medical Clinic in Yosemite Valley is experienced in diagnosing and treating this sickness.

**Hiking, Backpacking, Backcountry Snow Travel, and Rock Climbing**

There are no scheduled winter patrols, so be prepared. Be honest about your abilities and plan with the least experienced member of your group in mind. Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back.

- Be prepared for icy travel before conditions arise. Bring crampons, ice axe, climbing skins, and other traction devices.
- Carry and know how to use a map and compass.
- Check weather forecasts. Snow can occur with little warning, and can make route finding very difficult.
- Avoid dehydration or heat exhaustion; carry and drink plenty of water, and bring high-energy food.
- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.
- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

**Wilderness Permit Details**

Free wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Permits are issued at Yosemite Valley, Tioulumne Meadows (road closed after first big snow), Big Oak Flat, Wawona, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station. Self-service permit kiosks are open during the autumn and winter, with an additional permit point open at Badger Pass during snowy months. At Tuolumne Meadows after Oct. 15, permits are available at a self-service kiosk at the Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station. Big Oak Flat Information Station and Wawona’s Hill’s Studio both have self-registration permits beginning October 15th on their porches. The Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center closes for the season on Oct. 24. After October 24th, permits are available at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (9 to 5). Call the park’s main phone line for backcountry information: 209/372-0200.

For summer trips, reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of $5 per permit plus $5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Check the park’s website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740 (starting on Jan. 5).

**More Information**

- [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm)
- [Leave No Trace www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)
- [Friends of Yosemite Search and Rescue www.friendsofyosar.org](http://www.friendsofyosar.org)

**Weather in Yosemite**

Dressing in layers and bringing plenty of water (even during cooler months!) will help you stay safe through Yosemite’s changing weather conditions.

As is true of all mountainous regions, weather in the Sierra Nevada can change rapidly in any season of the year. Elevation plays a major role in temperature and precipitation variability, and Yosemite ranges in elevation from 2,000 feet to more than 13,000 feet above sea level.

Temperatures in winter can range well below freezing up into the 60s during the day. Shady spots on trails and roads can remain icy even during the warmth of the day.
Keeping Bears Wild
(While protecting yourself and your property)

Keep Yosemite’s Black Bears Wild and Alive:
1. Store Your Food Properly. (See table below for details.)

2. If you see a bear, scare it away or keep your distance.
You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away: Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If you get too close, you will be helping the bear become used to being around people. Bears that become comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed.

3. Drive the speed limit.
The most common human-related cause of death for a black bear in Yosemite is being hit by a car. Slow down! Driving too fast is almost always the cause of these accidental deaths.

Red Bear, Dead Bear
Did you notice the red bear markers as you drove through the park? Each of them mark a place where a bear was recently hit. Every year bears, hundreds of deer, and countless other animals are killed while trying to cross park roads. Many of these deaths could have been avoided if drivers observed posted speed limits.

Please remember that Yosemite National Park is a wildlife preserve; by driving the speed limit you are helping to protect the park and its wildlife.

Backpackers: Save Your Food, Save A Bear
Bear resistant food canisters are 2.7-pound containers that can be used to store five or more days of backpacker food when meals are carefully planned. Canisters have an inset lid that bears are unable to open. When used correctly, bears learn that—although they smell like food—the canisters are not worth investigating.

Bear canisters are available for $5 per trip at the Valley Wilderness Center, the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill’s Studio, Big Oak Flat Information Station, Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station. Canisters can be rented and returned at any of these locations.

Report Bear Sightings!
To report bear sightings, improper food storage, trash problems, and other bear-related problems, leave a message for the Bear Management Team at 209/372-0322. Your call can be made anonymously.

For more information regarding bears and proper food storage, visit the park’s website (www.nps.gov/yose/bears).

Never leave unattended food strapped to the outside of a vehicle or in a pickup truck bed.
Experience Your America  Yosemite National Park

Restoring a Meadow

By Elizabeth Munding
Yosemite Writer-Editor

Nearly one-third of Yosemite’s plant species occur in its meadows which still harbor unexplored wonders. Covering just 3% of the park’s land, Yosemite’s biologically rich meadows are the focus of a great deal of scientific attention.

When Euro-American settlers first set their eyes on Yosemite’s meadows in the 1850s, they saw large meadow complexes surrounded by open forests that were home to a huge variety of animals and plants.

As settlers modified the landscape, conditions in some meadows changed. For example, by the mid to late 1800’s, large herds of sheep, cattle, and horses grazed in the meadows, and more palatable grasses and crops were planted. Ditches were dug to channel water or drain the meadows.

In Wawona Meadow, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) dug two mile-long ditches on the sides of the meadow in 1936.

A walk in Wawona Meadow today reveals how these ditches, now deepened to ten feet in some places, have altered meadow hydrology by diverting surface flow, draining groundwater, drying out the landscape, and altering plant communities. Although the lower portion of Wawona Meadow was developed into a golf course in 1918, the upper 165 acres still provide valuable lower montane meadow habitat. Current restoration efforts, which began in September, will fill the diversion ditches with native soil and replant the area with local vegetation. This 2010 restoration of Wawona Meadow is part of a larger effort to keep the park’s meadows healthy.

In simple terms, what defines a meadow? Hydrology, vegetation, and soil characteristics. Meadows are sponges, soaking up water as snowpack melts and holding that water like an underground water tower. Interestingly, the word “meadow” is not so much a technical term as a cultural term. Sierra Nevada scientists who work on meadows have agreed on a definition:

• A meadow is an ecosystem type composed of one or more plant communities dominated by herbaceous species.
• Meadows support plants that use surface water and/or shallow ground water (generally at depths of less than one meter).
• Woody vegetation, such as trees or shrubs, may occur and be locally dense but are not dominant.

Some types of wetlands, namely wet meadows and fens, form what are referred to as meadows in the Sierra Nevada. Yosemite, especially known for its meadow complexes in Wawona, Tuolomne, and Yosemite Valley, supports 3,000 meadows that range in elevation from 3,300 to 12,000 feet and above. Visualize meadows, perhaps, as “islands” of high diversity in a network of habitat patches. Plants, animals and people benefit from Yosemite’s meadows—typically made up of a complex mosaic of wet, moist, and dry areas that support distinctly different communities. For plants, meadows provide sufficient moisture during the late-growing season to nurture them through the critical reproductive stage. Animals—birds like willow flycatchers and small mammals like Belding’s ground squirrels and pocket gophers—depend on meadows to feed or breed. People rely on meadows and other wetlands to preserve water quality and for protection from floods.

What can you do while you are here to protect Yosemite’s meadows? Wherever you go in Yosemite, stay on designated trails, and tread lightly!

Due to the current restoration efforts in the Wawona Meadow, the southside of the Wawona Meadow Loop is closed to hikers from 7:00am to 5:30pm Monday through Friday. This closure is expected to be in place through mid-November, 2010.
Enhance the Visitor’s Experience

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

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

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

Yosemite Institute
Since 1971, thousands of school-age children have benefited from learning in “nature’s classroom” through the residential field-science programs offered by Yosemite Institute (YI). A YI experience strives to foster a life-long connection to the natural world—whether it is in Yosemite, on a city street or in our own backyards. YI also offers professional development for teachers, summer youth programs, backpacking adventures, community outreach programs and service learning projects. For more information, visit www.yni.org/yi.

Yosemite Conservancy
Yosemite Conservancy is the new nonprofit formed by a merger of the Yosemite Association and The Yosemite Fund. The Conservancy has a long history in Yosemite with over 100 years of combined experience supporting the park. Yosemite Conservancy can make the difference you see around you because we are the only philanthropic organization that is dedicated exclusively to Yosemite.

Our mission remains the same: Providing for Yosemite’s future is our passion. We inspire people to support projects and programs that preserve and protect Yosemite National Park’s resources and enrich the visitor experience.

The Yosemite Conservancy has funded over 300 projects through $55 million in grants to help preserve and protect Yosemite National Park’s resources and enrich the visitor experience. The work of the Conservancy can be found in every aspect of the visitor experience from trail restoration, bear-proof lockers and canisters, habitat restoration, outdoor education and so much more. Annually the Yosemite Conservancy recruits over 400 volunteers to work in the park to repair trails, remove invasive species, and provide visitor information.

For more information, visit park bookstores or online at yosemiteconservancy.org

Yosemite Institute

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite
DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite (DNC) operates hotels, restaurants, sightseeing tours, recreational activities, interpretive programs, stores, shuttles and service stations in the park under contract with the U.S. Department of the Interior. DNC encourages its employees to develop a strong relationship with the park during their tenure. For more information and employment opportunities with DNC at Yosemite, visit online at www.YosemitePark.com

Yosemite Conservancy

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Yosemite Institute

Want to get involved?
Yosemite National Park is busy planning for the future. Visit us at one of our regular Open Houses on October 27 or December 1, 2010 from 1pm to 4pm at the Valley Visitor Center Auditorium. Park entrance fees are waived for Open House participants. Sign up for our mailing list and receive emails about current and upcoming plans and projects on our website: http://www.nps.gov/yose/park-mgmt/planning.htm

Above right: Half Dome. Photo: Christine White Loberg